



Kewstoke Primary School

Happy Children, Successful Learners, Growing Together

7th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I was delighted to welcome all our existing and new pupils and families back to school at the start of the new academic year this morning. I hope you have enjoyed a restful summer break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the term ahead. It is always a pleasure to see the school come alive again with energy, enthusiasm and a shared commitment to learning.

As we begin the year, we look forward to working in partnership with you to support every child in achieving their best. Our staff have been preparing carefully to ensure a positive and productive start, and we are eager to provide a safe, caring and stimulating environment in which pupils can thrive. We are also pleased to welcome our new Learning Support Assistant, Mrs Kelly Alder, to the team.

We would like to thank you for your continued support, which plays such an important part in your child's education and well-being. Clear communication between home and school is essential, and we encourage you to keep in touch if you have any questions or concerns throughout the term. We are committed to working together to ensure that every pupil feels valued, supported and able to succeed.

Please also ensure that all pupils attend school in the correct uniform each day. Wearing the full uniform helps to promote a sense of pride, belonging and readiness for learning. We would be grateful for your support in making sure that items are clearly named and that children are prepared for school each morning. If you are unsure of uniform requirements, please have a look at our uniform policy on the school website. It was a pleasure to see such smart children in assembly today, I hope they stay looking as smart, particularly on Friday when we have individual photographs taking place.

As a reminder, please ensure that no toys, fidgets or other items from home are brought into school. This helps us to maintain a focused learning environment and ensures that pupils can concentrate fully on their work and activities. Each classroom space has a sensory box with resources for children who need something to stay regulated.

Please also note that, apart from Squirrels Class in the Early Years Foundation Stage, children should be dropped at the front gate and not walked into school. This is to follow our updated safeguarding practises of adults on site, and the opportunity for pupils to develop independence as they start their new school year.

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In addition, to be in line with the new statutory guidance on mobile phones in school, all mobile phones belonging to both pupils and adults must be handed in to Miss Taylor on arrival. This includes parents who are bringing their EYFS child through the front entrance and up to class.

Although we do not set regular homework, we expect children to read and practise spellings every day. Weekly spelling tests will continue to take place, along with regular reading sessions with staff in school. Times tables also remains a key focus for us as a school. All pupils from Year 3 will have a Time Tables Rockstars login, and there is an expectation along with the reading and spelling practise, to spend some time every day logging in to TTRS and practising their times tables. This is particularly important for children in Year 4 as they will be taking part in the statutory Multiplication Tables Check in June 2027.

As you will have seen, there have been some developments in school with regards our fencing and decking areas at the top of the school grounds. The decking work has yet to be completed, so the fencing contractors are going to be on site for the next few weeks. Due to the access to our site, they are having to park by the school gate to transport all material on and off site by hand. Although this is not an ideal situation, it is necessary to ensure the works can be completed as soon as possible. Can I please ask that at drop off and pick up times, you try and park as far away from school as possible, so that pupils/families crossing the road outside of school are easily visible and we respect the space needed by our neighbours to access their driveways.

We look forward to a successful and rewarding year ahead and to sharing many achievements with you and your children. Please continue to check for important updates and reminders from school via email or class dojo, and thank you once again for your support as we begin this new term.

Best wishes,

Neil Champs
Headteacher

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