



Kington St Michael

CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 1 – Thursday 17th September

We have enjoyed a very positive start to the Autumn Term, and it has been lovely to see the children settling back into school and getting stuck into the new academic year.

A very warm welcome to our new Blackbirds Class, who have already been busy getting to know their new surroundings and joining in with school life. They have enjoyed a variety of fun activities, including making blackbird biscuits, and it has been wonderful to see them gently settle in to school life as they begin their time at KSM. A big thank you to our Year 6 buddies, you have done a brilliant job settling in our new Blackbirds.

We are particularly pleased to have now completed our new EYFS garden. The children are already very excited about having a new space to explore, play and learn in, and we are looking forward to seeing how they make the most of it throughout the year.

A big thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support at the start of what promises to be a busy and exciting academic year. We look forward to sharing more of the children's learning and achievements with you as the term progresses.

With best wishes,

Mrs Victoria O'Brien
Head Teacher

Diary Dates

Friday 9 th October 9am	Blackbirds Class Stay and Play
Tuesday 15 th October 9-10am	Parents' Coffee Morning – please let the office know if you would like to join us
Thursday 16 th October AM	PFA Non-Uniform Day - £1 Donation
Wednesday 21 st October	Harvest Festival Church Service – parents of Blackbirds, Sparrows and Eagles Classes are welcome
Wednesday 21st October	Last day of term 1
Monday 2nd November	First day of term 2
Monday 9 th November	Flu Vaccinations – All Years
Tuesday 9 th November	Book Fair at School
w/c Monday 16 th November	**No Teacher led clubs this week**

Celebrating Our Academic Success 2025/26

We are absolutely delighted to share our academic results across all year groups with you.

Across the school, our children have excelled in every area, achieving results that are well above both National and Wiltshire averages.

A huge congratulations to our wonderful children, we are enormously proud of all that you have achieved. Your success is a testament to your resilience, commitment and the joy you bring to your learning.

A shout-out to our amazing KSM staff team. You really are an exceptional bunch! Your dedication, care and commitment to our children make such a difference every single day.
What a brilliant school we have.



Exciting News - Our New EYFS Outdoor Play Area is Complete!

We are delighted to announce that our brand-new EYFS outdoor play area is now complete!

We were incredibly fortunate to have access to ring-fenced funds previously donated to the school, which have enabled us to completely refurbish and transform our outdoor space.

The area is used predominantly by our EYFS children and their Year 6 buddies, providing them with an exciting and stimulating environment in which to play, explore and learn. However, we are also pleased that other children across the school will have opportunities to benefit from and enjoy this wonderful new space. The project has involved careful planning and consideration to ensure that the area meets the needs of our children and provides a range of opportunities for outdoor learning and play. We are absolutely thrilled with the finished result!

A huge thank you to everyone who has helped make this project possible. We are so excited to see the children enjoying their fantastic new outdoor environment.



September 2027 Admissions

We have been busy showing prospective parents around our school who would like their children to join KSM in September 2027. If you would like to book a tour, please email admin@ksm.wilts.sch.uk

Applications for September 2027 can be made online through Wiltshire Council's website, or you can download a paper application. The recommendation is for parents to apply online:

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/1657/Apply-for-a-school-place>

The deadline dates are: Primary Reception 2027 entry – 15th January 2027 and Secondary Year 7 2026 entry – 31st October 2026

Allergy Awareness and Safety

At KSM, the safety and wellbeing of our children is always our priority. We are therefore following the new Benedict's Law allergy safety requirements, introduced to strengthen allergy awareness, staff training, emergency response procedures and support for children with allergies in schools across England.

To help us provide the best possible care for every child, we ask **all parents and carers to inform the school if their child has a diagnosed allergy or any allergy-related medical needs**. Once we receive this information, a member of staff will contact you to discuss your child's specific requirements and ensure that appropriate plans and support are in place to keep them safe while at school.



Harvest Donations – Supporting Doorway Charity in Chippenham

As September comes around once again, Doorway's stores of non-perishable food are running low, and they are appealing to our school community for harvest donations to help replenish their supplies for the year ahead. Food is at the heart of Doorway's service, providing welcome, comfort, warmth and essential nourishment to those facing difficult circumstances. Donations are used to provide weekly food bags and emergency supplies, with items suitable for people with or without access to a kitchen. Some donations also help provide their Monday cooked breakfast and Thursday drop-in lunch.

We would be incredibly grateful for any donations from KSM families from Monday 5th October, which will help Doorway continue supporting people in our local community while making their financial resources stretch further. In preparation for our Harvest Festival church service, we will be collecting tins and packets of food which will be donated to the Doorway Charity in Chippenham; details of donations needed will be attached.

Our Harvest Festival Service will be held in St. Michael and All Angels Church on Wednesday 21st of October at 2pm. We would like to invite the parents of Blackbirds, Sparrows and Eagles classes to join us in this celebration.

Drop Off Reminder

Can we please remind parents and carers that children need to be dropped off at the gate in the morning to make their own way to their classroom. Thank you for your support with this.

Musician of the Month

Our Musician of the Month celebrates a different well-known musician each month. During our music lessons and assemblies, pupils will learn about the musician, listen to and appraise their music, and explore the musical features that make their work unique.

This month, we will be discovering the music and life of **Bob Marley**, exploring his reggae style and the messages of peace, love and unity found in his songs.

Can you discuss Bob Marley at home?

- What do you already know about Bob Marley?
- Can you listen to one of his songs together? What do you notice about the music?
- What instruments can you hear?
- What message do you think the song is trying to share?
- Which Bob Marley song do you like best, and why?

Please see the attached September Musician of the month PDF for more information.

Governor News

There is currently a vacancy on our governing board for a Non-Parent Governor. If you or someone you know may be interested in the role or finding out more then please speak to Mrs Davis in the school office for more information.

New Friendship Bench Sponsorship

We are delighted to invite parents and families to support our school by sponsoring a new outdoor friendship bench for our grounds.

The bench will provide a lovely space for children to sit, chat, read and enjoy the outdoors, while also adding to our school environment. We would be very grateful to any parent or family who would like to sponsor the playground Friendship bench which will cost approximately £200 and make a lasting contribution to the school.

If you would be interested in sponsoring an outdoor bench, or would like further information about the cost and arrangements, please contact the school office.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and generosity. Your contributions help us to create a wonderful environment for our pupils to learn, play and grow.



KSM Flag

A huge thank you to Mrs Claire Pearce, Sienna's grandmother for fixing our KSM school flag. It will be back flying high soon.

Pupil Responsibilities

Congratulations to all the year 6 pupils who made fantastic applications to volunteer for a number of roles in school. We look forward to seeing them take on their new responsibilities at KSM. A big thank you to:

House Captains

Romans: Sienna
Tudors: Noah
Saxons: Hannah
Vikings: Phoebe

Sports Captains

Romans: Phoenix
Tudors: Darcey
Saxons: Callum
Vikings: Harvey & Emily

School Council

Chair: Pandora
Secretary: Esme

Ambassadors

Charity: Kayla, Joel & Felicity
Mental Health: Lorelei & Sienna
Maths: Annabelle & Harvey
English: Emily
Science: Freddie

Librarians: Natasha & Elliott

Digital Leaders: Joshua & Lily-Mai

Bus Prefects: Lorelei, Harvey, Pandora, Hannah & Freddie

Eco Ambassador (Year 5): Rose, Evelyn & Florence

Forest School Leads (Year 5): Samuel, Darragh, Robin & Lucy

Our School Council and Worship Council members will be announced in assembly tomorrow afternoon.

Assembly Theme - Perseverance

Each term we focus on a different Christian Value. We discuss the meaning, use and benefits of the Value in assemblies and circle time and encourage its use around school. We look at what the word means, different words meaning the same thing, and why it is important in our lives. This term our value is Perseverance, we have attached information with this newsletter about how you can support us at home with this.

SEN/ELSA Updates

The latest Wiltshire Family Hub newsletter is now live on the website at

<https://wiltshirefamilyhubs.org.uk/events/newsletters/> and contains information about a new course for families with children aged 0-5 years. This is in addition to their other parenting courses which include Teens and SEND.

Wiltshire Council's free* online sessions are designed to support parents and carers in understanding anxiety and school-related challenges that can affect children and young people. Participants will gain practical tips and strategies to help them provide positive support at home.

Helping My Child with Anxiety and Worry

Thursday 17 September 2026, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Suitable for parents and carers of primary school-aged children.

Supporting My Teen with Anxiety

Friday 18 September 2026, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Supporting parents and carers of teenagers to understand anxiety and develop practical strategies for supporting emotional wellbeing.

Understanding School Anxiety: Early Signs of Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA)

Monday 12 October 2026, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Thursday 26 November 2026, 10:00am - 12:00pm

An opportunity for parents and carers to learn about the early signs of school anxiety, practical support strategies, and ask questions to an Educational Psychologist.

***Funding Info**

Courses are no cost to learners who meet our eligibility criteria. Learners must be aged 19+ years, have a Wiltshire postcode, and meet residency requirements. Learners must also be able to tick **one** of the following criteria: individual income less than £26,800 a year; in receipt of benefits (other than child benefit); be a care leaver, foster carer or carer; be a military family or ex-armed forces personnel; have refugee or asylum seeker status; have a learning difficulty or disability; be looking to work, now or in the future.

Bookings can be made via the QR codes on the attached posters, by emailing familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk, or by calling **01225 770478**.

The Nest Wraparound Care

There have been some **updates** to our Nest Club timings and cancellation process. Please see below for more information.

The Breakfast Club:

7.40am-8.40am - £4.50 per session - includes breakfast

8.15am-8.40am - £3.00 per session - does not include breakfast

After School Club:

Monday - Thursday

3.25pm-5.00pm - £9.00 per session. Includes a welcome snack and a drink

3.25pm-6.00pm - £14.00 per session. Includes a welcome snack, drink and a light tea

Friday

3.25pm-5.00pm - £9.00 per session. Includes a welcome snack and a drink

Booking a place and payment are to be made through SCOPAY. The Nest also accepts payment using childcare vouchers.

If you require a booking at short notice, please contact the school office. Should you need to contact The Nest staff during club hours please call 07483 325482.

Please note that places cannot be cancelled with less than 24 hours' notice. Thank you for your understanding.

