

01/05/2026



The 'Knypersley News'

Learning together, learning for life!



A message from Miss Leese...

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've enjoyed another week of lovely weather, and the children have made the most of it. We opened up our Reading Ranch, where our fantastic Reading Sheriffs have been supporting the lunchtime reading offer. It has been a real pleasure to see so many children reading in the sunshine.

This week we also welcomed external agencies into school. Their visit focused on observing and capturing the highly effective, quality first learning that takes place every day. It was wonderful to see lessons in action and to celebrate the high aspirations and exceptional learning behaviours our children demonstrate.

A big thank you to all Year 1 parents and carers who attended the Phonics Screening Workshop. It was great to hear your thoughts and questions. If you were unable to attend, please do speak to staff during their weekly drop in sessions. The workshop PowerPoint is now available on the Year 1 page of our school website.

As a gentle reminder, **toys should be left safely at home**. Losing or breaking a special toy can be very upsetting, and toys in school can cause unnecessary distractions from learning. To help your child stay focused and ready to learn, we ask for your support in keeping toys at home.

Next week, we will be celebrating **Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday**. This special event will give us the chance to reflect on his incredible work and the important messages he continues to share. The children have a full day planned, exploring his career and the difference he has made. We hope the day inspires them to recognise the part they can play in protecting our planet.

Finally, a reminder that **school will be closed on Monday** in line with the Bank Holiday

Have a wonderful weekend!

Miss Leese and Team Knypersley x

Important dates

4.5.26 May Bank holiday

5.5.26 Reception height/weight check

11.5.26 Mental Health Week whole school non-uniform day

15.5.26 Reception Forest School Parent Engagement

Busy Bees— 9.30am

Caterpillars— 1.30pm

21.5.26 PTFA summer disco

Reception 2.15-3.15

KS1 3.15-4.15

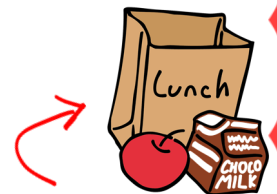
KS2 4.15-5.15

Class	Attendance
Nursery	92.9%
Creative Caterpillars	98.5%
Busy Bees	100%
Class 2	95.3%
Class 3	98.1%
Class 4	97.9%
Class 5	97%
Class 6	89.7%
Class 7	95.4%
Class 8	97.8%
Class 9	97.9%



Our whole school attendance target is 96.5%
This week, our school attendance was: **96.3%**

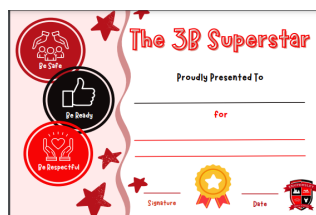
This Week's winner is: **Busy Bees**



Please follow the following link <https://www.knypersley.staffs.sch.uk/lunch-menu/> to find our school lunch menu.

On our return we will be following **week 2** of the new **Feb-July** menu.

Rewards and Celebrations



Creative Caterpillars— Sienna

Busy Bees- Harlow

Class 2- Isabelle

Class 3- Mila

Class 4- Marnie-Rae

Class 5- Ronnie

Class 6- Ryan

Class 7- Thea-Rai

Class 8- Qamar

Class 9- Charlie

Nursery— Ivy-Rose

Creative Caterpillars— Myles

Busy Bees- Chloe

Class 2- Violet

Class 3- Arthur

Class 4- Charlie-Ann

Class 5- James

Class 6- Marnie

Class 7- Muzammil

Class 8- Sienna

Class 9- Rosie

Nursery- Indie

Creative Caterpillars- Noah

Busy Bees- Tilly

Class 2- Blessing

Class 3- Dougie

Class 4- Lucan

Class 5- T-arna

Class 6- Carter

Class 7- Grace

Class 8- Seb

Class 9- Logan W



Swimmer of the week

Cc: Emily

Bb: No swim

2: Isabelle

3: Harley

4: Ollie

5: Ronnie

6: Olivia

7: Grace

8: Emilie

9: William

Achievements Outside of School...



House Points





Knypersley in the Spotlight...



Staffordshire Connects

Staffordshire Connects is a valuable resource that we use frequently in school for direction to agencies that can support both professionals but also families too!

This week I would like to direct you to the ['Keeping Safe'](#) section of the webpage.

This page will direct you to advice and support around keeping yourself and other people/ children within your community safe. If you have a safeguarding concern relating to a young person or adult please read the information on this section carefully.

If you would like support accessing any of the offered support within the page please contact a [DSL listed on our school webpage](#).

Makaton Sign of the Week

We are working to become a communication friendly school. Some of the children that attend our school use Makaton as a way of communicating. To aid whole school communication we will be teaching the whole school a sign a week in partnership with Makaton.org.

Please see the below link to join in with our learning to aid communication across our school/ community.

[Earth](#)



Sun Safety Reminder

As the weather becomes warmer, please ensure that long lasting, full day sun cream is applied before school on hot days. For most children, this will provide sufficient protection throughout the day.

If your child requires additional sun cream because full day protection is not suitable for them, the bottle must be signed in at the main office. This process helps us safeguard children with specific allergies and ensures appropriate supervision when creams are reapplied. Once signed in, the sun cream can remain in school, clearly labelled with your child's name.

If temperatures reach extreme heat, we will limit time spent in direct sunlight and make full use of shaded areas to keep children safe.

Nut Allergy Reminder

We'd like to remind all families that our school is a nut free environment to help keep every child safe. Some pupils have severe nut allergies, and even small traces of nuts can cause serious reactions.

Please check all snacks and packed lunch items carefully before sending them into school. Products such as Nutella, peanut butter, cereal bars, and some chocolate spreads contain nuts and must not be brought in.

According to Allergy UK, the safest approach is to read ingredient labels every time, as recipes and packaging can change. If a product says "may contain nuts" or "made in a factory that handles nuts", please choose an alternative.

Thank you for helping us keep our school a safe and inclusive place for every child. Your care and attention make a real difference.

THIS SCHOOL IS NUT FREE





Swimming in Knypersley First...

We have been incredibly impressed with the children's effort and enthusiasm during swimming this term. A huge thank you to all parents and carers who encourage their children to take part each week. Your support makes a tremendous difference and helps ensure every child has the opportunity to develop confidence and enjoyment in the water.

We are very fortunate to have our own swimming pool on site, and it is a resource we value deeply. Not all schools have access to such a facility, and it allows us to offer high quality swimming provision as part of our curriculum. Swimming is not only an essential life skill but also a wonderful way for children to build resilience, improve physical fitness and develop vital water safety awareness.

As part of the **national curriculum**, swimming forms part of the **compulsory two hours of our PE curriculum each week**, and all children are expected to participate. Regular attendance is important to ensure pupils make steady progress and gain the skills they need. For this reason, children should only miss swimming sessions for **medical reasons**.

We are always happy to support children who may need adjustments, such as specific resources or protection for skin conditions. If your child requires this, please speak to their class teacher so we can ensure the right support is in place.

Thank you for your continued support in helping every child benefit from this essential part of our curriculum.

Our swimming timetable:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	Nursery		Reception		
PM	Year 1	Year 4	Year 2	Year 3	Nursery
After school	EYFS	KS1	KS2		

Guidance for PE swimming kit:

One piece swimming costumes to be worn by girls, and trunks, not shorts, by the boys.

All children need 2 towels. a small one to stand on and one to dry themselves with.

Swimming caps must be worn by girls and boys.

No jewellery to be worn. Verruca socks or appropriate pool shoe to be worn until the condition has cleared.

Late Arrival Monitoring Sessions

Over the next few weeks, members of the senior leadership team will be based at the main office carrying out Late Arrival Monitoring Sessions.

We have noticed a recent increase in children arriving late, and we would like to better understand the reasons behind this. These sessions will give us the opportunity to:

Identify what is impacting arrival times

Offer support to help families overcome barriers

Ensure every child has a calm, settled start to their learning day

If you feel your child may need support before these sessions take place, please speak to your class teacher or Mrs Taylor in the office. We are more than happy to help and can arrange support in advance.

Thank you for your continued support in helping all children arrive on time and ready to learn.



 **Be a HERO!**

 **Here
Everyday
Ready
On Time** 

Help your child become a HERO
by building good habits now!



Knypersley in the Spotlight...

We will be taking part in **'No Pens Day'** on 20th May. Alongside the intent outlined below, our school focus will be to launch our consistent pre verbal visual supports, PECS and Makaton.

We hope that having an agreed set of preverbal supports in school will ensure that children can communicate not only with adults, but with one another too.

NO PEN DAY

20TH MAY 2026



**TO RAISE AWARENESS FOR
ORACY AND OTHER
COMMUNICATION-FRIENDLY
APPROACHES**

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

1 VALUE ALL READING

When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand, why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Jet down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.

2 WIDEN THE SELECTION

Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.

3 GIFT A BOOK

One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.

4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS

Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school/bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using free resources such as Authorly and Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live.

5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of this topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.

6 TALK BOOKS

There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.

8 GO DIGITAL

With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, translate, and track their reading goals with resources like Polyino and apps like Goodreads for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.

9 RECONNECT

There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading focus of 'Go All in' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.

10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Share why you enjoy it. Is it to relax, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.

Meet Our Expert

Carl Pattison is a literacy adviser and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See it first on our website

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/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

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Community Wall

Design an Attendance Postcard Competition

We are running a competition to design an attendance postcard.

These special postcards will be sent home to celebrate great attendance or improved attendance.

Please return your designs to your class teacher by Monday, 18th May.

Your design could include:

- *A landscape layout
- *Bright, eye-catching colours
- *Our school logo
- *The CFLP log
- *The H.E.R.O. message: Here, Every day, Ready, On time

Have fun, be creative, and good luck! 🌟🌟



Families' Health and Wellbeing

NHS
Midlands Partnership University
NHS Foundation Trust

School Nurse Community drop in

2nd
Friday
of the month
1.15pm – 4.00pm



For parents/
carers of 5-19's
and young
people not in
education

The School Nurse is here to help your child feel healthy, happy and safe during their school years and to get the best from their education. If you have any concerns about their health call in for a chat at ➔

Staffordshire Moorlands Family Hub
Albert Street
Biddulph
Staffordshire
ST8 6DT
01782 297970

We provide a confidential and friendly service

www.mpft.nhs.uk/services/health-visiting-and-school-nursing

CFLP School Term and Holiday Dates 2026/2027

Autumn Term 2026

INSET DAYS 1 : Tuesday 1st September 2026 (Staff only)

Pupils: Wednesday 2nd September - Friday 23rd October

October Half Term Holiday: Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October

INSET DAY 2 Monday 2nd November (Staff only)

Staff and Pupils: Tuesday 3rd November - Friday 18th December

Christmas Holiday: Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January 2027

Spring Term 2027

Staff and Pupils: Monday 4th January 2027 - Friday 12th February

February Half Term: Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February

INSET DAY 3 Monday 22nd February (Staff only)

Pupils: Tuesday 23rd February - Thursday 25th March

Easter Holiday: Monday 29th March - Friday 9th April

Summer Term 2027

Staff and Pupils: Monday 12th April - Friday 28th May

May Bank Holiday - School Closed: Monday 3rd May

Half term: Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June

INSET DAY 4: Monday 7th June (Staff only)

Pupils: Tuesday 8th June - Tuesday 20th July

INSET DAY 5- Wednesday 21st July (Staff only)

Summer Holiday for pupils: Wednesday 21st July -Wednesday 1st September 2027

Our Summer Bookshelf!



Nursery



Reception



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3



Year 4