Knypersley News

Learning Together, Learning for Life...

Friday 13th November 2026

A message from Miss Leese...

This week has been full of memorable moments across school. Year 1 started the week with an exciting visit to St John's Church, where they enjoyed exploring the building and learning about its special features. We are very grateful to the church for making us feel so welcome.

Thank you to everyone who showed such respect during our Remembrance Day silence on Wednesday. It was wonderful to see our Scouts, Beavers, Brownies, Guides and other uniformed groups proudly wearing their uniforms and helping to lead our act of remembrance. We were incredibly proud of them all.

Yesterday, Year 2 stepped back in time for their Victorian Day. The children looked fantastic and fully immersed themselves in the experience. A huge thank you to staff for creating such a memorable day and to families for supporting with costumes.

Thank you also for your support with today's PTFA non-uniform day and for the generous donations towards our Christmas fundraising. We truly appreciate every ounce of support you give to our school.

Finally, Nativity lines and parts have been sent home today. If you have not received a letter, please let your child's class teacher know. If you need any support with costumes, please speak to a member of staff who will be happy to help.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend.

With best wishes,
Miss Leese and Team Knypersley xx

SCAN ME

Mark YOUR Calendars

Coming up next week...

Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	

Please see our website calendar for all future dates...

SCAN ME

Next week we are on week 3 of our lunch menu

A HUGE thank you!

A HUGE thank you to Martin and Claire from Stage Management Services, who are spending their evening at school alongside Mr Sheldon-Gwinneth to prepare our stage for the upcoming Nativity rehearsals.

Martin and Claire generously volunteer their time throughout the year, supporting our school discos, Nativity performances and many of our PTFA fundraising events. Their dedication and willingness to help behind the scenes makes a huge difference to our school community.

I'm sure you will join me in thanking them for their continued support, time and commitment.

Stage Management Services

Our Weekly Attendance Spotlight...

Learning Together, Learning for Life





Hey, did you know the info below?

Class	Attendance
Nursery	95.7%
Busy Bees	95.8%
Creative Caterpillars	95.1%
Class 2	96.9%
Class 3	94.2%
Class 4	95.8%
Class 5	96.5%
Class 6	98%
Class 7	90.7%
Class 8	92.5%
Class 9	95.6%

Children First
Learning Partnership

Family Support

Useful resources and support for families, including parenting advice, local services and community support.

Staffordshire Family Hubs

Parenting support, family advice, financial guidance and access to local services.

Visit the Staffordshire Family Hubs website

Staffordshire Connects

Directory of local family support services, activities and community resources.

Visit the Staffordshire Connects website

Staffordshire Family Information Service

Information on childcare, parenting courses and family support.

Visit the Family Information Service website



Our whole school attendance target is 96%.

This week, our school attendance was: 95.17%

HERE
EVERY DAY
READY
ON TIME

Staffordshire County Council

Let's Celebrate!









Class	Star Reader	3B Champion	Handwriting Hero	Swimmer of the Week
Nursery		James		
Busy Bees	Zelda	Ivy-Rose	Whole class	Rosie
Caterpillars	Elsie-Mae	Ralph	Whole class	Macie
Class 2	Noah	Rosie	Gracie	George
Class 3	Sophie	Edith	Harlow	Arthur
Class 4	Nancy	Ruby	Harley	Albie
Class 5	Matthew	Violet	Willoe-Rae	Ollie
Class 6	Jaxon	Riley	Ivy-Rose	James
Class 7	Leo	Michael	Florence	Connor
Class 8	Laurence	Muzammil	James	Joey
Class 9	Michael	Brooke	Seb	George



Archie C – For showing the upmost respect both in school and during the Remembrance Parade in Biddulph on Sunday!

Wider Achievements

A huge well done to all of our children who have brought in their home achievement awards this week! We are so proud of each and every one of you and love celebrating your achievements outside of school. It is always a joy to hear how you earned your awards and to see the dedication, talent and community spirit you show through your local clubs and groups. Keep up the fantastic work!

Knypersley News...

Healthy Snacks

We kindly ask all parents and carers to review the snacks their child brings into school for playtime. We have noticed an increasing number of less healthy snack choices being brought in. Please provide only a small, healthy snack such as a piece of fruit, vegetable sticks or a cereal bar.

We would also like to remind families to be mindful of the nut allergies within our school community and ensure that snacks brought into school are nut-free.

Thank you for your support in helping us promote healthy habits and keep all children safe.

Nativity Plea

We would love to offer recordings of our Nativity and Christmas performances again this year, but unfortunately we do not currently have anyone in school with the capacity or expertise to film all performances across the week and prepare them for sharing with families.

If you have experience with filming and would be willing to volunteer your time to record our performances and help us make them available to parents and carers, we would be incredibly grateful.

Please speak to the school office if you feel you could support us with this. Your help would allow many families to treasure these special memories for years to come.

Uniform Reminder

As a gentle reminder, please ensure that children attend school in the correct uniform in line with our school uniform policy (Policies - General - Uniform Policy 2026).

Whilst we love to see children express themselves, we ask that large headbands, bows and other accessories are saved for non-uniform days and special occasions. Keeping our everyday uniform consistent helps to maintain routines, reduce distractions and provide predictability for all children, particularly as we move through seasonal changes.

If you require any support with school uniform, please don't hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher. We are always happy to help.



If you have any questions please call on: 01782 973810

CFLP Trust News...



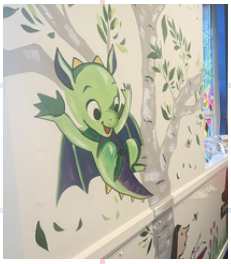


The Knypersley Difference

At Knypersley First School, learning doesn't stop at the classroom door. As part of our "Learning Together, Learning for Life" offer, we believe children learn best when lessons are enhanced by real-life experiences that inspire curiosity, build confidence and deepen understanding. Each week, we shine a light on one of the many opportunities that make our school a special place to learn, grow and belong.

This weeks theme is: Love for Reading!





At Knypersley First School, we are passionate about developing a lifelong love of reading. Over the past 12 months, Mrs Booth has led Team Knypersley in reviewing and refreshing our reading offer, and we would like to share some of the exciting improvements made possible with your support.



Thanks to the fantastic fundraising from last summer's Read-a-thon, we were able to invite an artist into school to create a wonderful reading mural in our library. Featuring our reading mascots, it has transformed the space and even allows passers-by to spot The Gruffalo peeping through the window!

We have also introduced a new library management system, with class librarians using barcode scanners to check books in and out. This helps us monitor our collection and maintain our growing range of books.

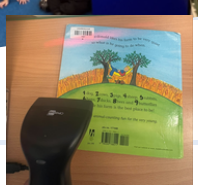


Reading mascots and featured authors have been introduced across school to broaden children's knowledge of different authors, genres and styles of writing. Staff have also reviewed the core texts used in lessons to ensure they are engaging, inclusive and support learning as effectively as possible. We also celebrate reading at home through our half termly raffle ticket draws where children who complete their weekly three reads are entered into a prize draw to win their own copy of their class authors book!



Children continue to enjoy reading in our popular Reading Ranch, which Mrs Booth was able to refresh and reopen thanks to support from both the PTFA and the Read-a-thon fundraising.





We would like to thank all of our families for their continued support of reading at Knypersley First School. Whether through supporting the Read-a-thon, encouraging reading at home or working alongside us through our library agreements, your partnership plays a vital role in helping our children develop a lifelong love of books. Together, we are creating a community of confident, enthusiastic readers.


PTFA
WINTER
FAYRE
FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER.
3/30-5PM - ENTER VIA THE MAIN OFFICE
£1 per family donation on entry.
This year we invite you to have fun and celebrate the winter season with us. We will have many activities and games for your child to engage with such as: Face painting, Winter games, Hot drinks, Tombola and much more!
Stalls are cash only and range from 50p-£1.50

Community Notice Board





What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

WHATSAPP

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE RESTRICTION 13+ In the UK

WhatsApp is a free messaging app owned by Meta, that allows users to send messages, share multimedia, make calls, and participate in group chats. In September 2025, WhatsApp announced new optional parental controls for teenagers, including privacy settings, group notifications, and restrictions on AI content, which parents and educators should be aware of.

GROUP CHAT PRESSURES

Group chats help young people stay connected, but they can also leave them feeling excluded or overwhelmed. Negative comments can escalate quickly, and frequent notifications can create a sense of needing to be constantly available. WhatsApp's new parental controls notify parents when teenagers join or leave groups, or when a group grows significantly in size.

HARMFUL CONTENT ON CHANNELS

WhatsApp Channels allow users to receive updates from public figures, organisations, and content creators; however, some Channels may expose young people to misinformation, harmful ideologies, or age-inappropriate material. New optional parental controls allow adults to restrict which Channels teenagers access, including limiting them to approved Channels.

SCAMS TARGETING YOUNG USERS

Scammers may use WhatsApp to trick young people into sharing personal information, sending money, or sharing security codes. They may impersonate friends or family members, using convincing stories about emergencies or urgent requests for help. New parental controls can help manage who contacts teenagers; however, they cannot prevent all scams or fraudulent messages.

UNWANTED CONTACT AND LOCATION SHARING

WhatsApp allows users to share their live location, profile information, and Status updates. Without appropriate privacy settings, this information could expose young people to unwanted attention or reveal their whereabouts. New parental controls enable adults to manage certain privacy settings, including who can view account details and add teenagers to groups.

DISAPPEARING AND HIDDEN MESSAGES

WhatsApp features such as disappearing messages and Chat Lock can make conversations harder for adults to identify. Although these tools are designed to protect privacy, they may also make it harder for adults to recognise inappropriate exchanges or harmful behaviour. WhatsApp's new parental controls do not give adults access to teenagers' private messages or calls.

COMMERCIAL AND AI CONTENT

WhatsApp includes advertising in parts of its Updates section and offers Meta AI, an integrated AI assistant. Young people may encounter sponsored content, misleading AI responses, or information which is unsuitable for their age. New parental controls offer a stricter 'Limited Content' setting for Meta AI; however, this cannot guarantee that every response will be accurate or appropriate.

ONLINE

...ONLINE

SECRET CODE

Advice for Parents & Educators

EXPLORE NEW PARENTAL CONTROLS

WhatsApp's new optional parental controls are being rolled out gradually, giving families more ways to manage teenagers' privacy and interactions. Teenagers will need parental approval using a parent-set PIN to relax any protected settings. Keep the conversation open and set up the controls together, remembering that parents can adjust or switch them off at any time.

MANAGE CHANNELS AND AI

Explore the new settings for Channels, Status updates, and Meta AI. Parents can restrict Channels to approved selections or prevent teenagers from viewing them. They can also choose Meta AI's stricter 'Limited Content' option, which restricts certain topics. Remind young people that AI can produce inaccurate information and encourage them to question responses rather than accepting them at face value.

MONITOR GROUP ACTIVITY SAFELY

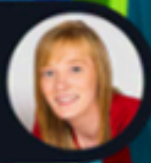
New parental controls notify adults when teenagers join or leave groups, or when a group grows significantly in size. These alerts can help identify potentially concerning interactions without revealing private messages. Encourage young people to discuss unfamiliar groups, uncomfortable conversations, or pressure from other members and that they can leave, mute, or report if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

PRIORITISE TRUST AND COMMUNICATION

Parental controls should support conversations about online safety, not replace them. Explain that WhatsApp's new features do not give adults access to private messages or calls, helping teenagers understand that their privacy remains protected. Reassure young people that they can speak openly about upsetting content, unwanted contact, or pressure from other group members.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Knypersley First School Term Dates 2026-2027

Please use our term dates to plan holidays outside school time; term-time holidays cannot be authorised. Attendance support including medication management is available just speak with your child's class teacher or headteacher.

Term	Term & Holiday Dates	Staff Training (INSET)
Autumn Term 2026	**Pupils attend:** Wed 2 Sept to Fri 23 Oct **Half Term:** Mon 26 Oct to Fri 30 Oct **Pupils attend:** Tue 3 Nov to Fri 18 Dec **Christmas Holiday:** Mon 21 Dec 2026 to Fri 1 Jan 2027	**INSET Day 1:** Tue 1 Sept 2026 (Staff only) **INSET Day 2:** Mon 2 Nov 2026 (Staff only)
Spring Term 2027	**Staff & Pupils attend:** Mon 4 Jan to Fri 12 Feb **Half Term:** Mon 15 Feb to Fri 19 Feb **Pupils attend:** Tue 23 Feb to Thu 25 Mar **Easter Holiday:** Mon 29 Mar to Fri 9 Apr	**INSET Day 3:** Mon 22 Feb 2027 (Staff only)
Summer Term 2027	**Staff & Pupils attend:** Mon 12 Apr to Fri 28 May **May Bank Holiday:** Mon 3 May (closed) **Half Term:** Mon 31 May to Fri 4 June **Pupils attend:** Tue 8 Jun to Tue 20 Jul **Summer Holiday begins:** Wed 21 Jul	**INSET Day 4:** Mon 7 Jun (Staff only) **INSET Day 5**: Wed 21 Jul 2027 (Staff only)



Non-Uniform Dates

British Heart Foundation

P.T.F.A
PARENT, TEACHER, FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

This overview includes non-uniform days that have been planned by the PTFA and our School Councillors. Any additional non-uniforms and events will be communicated as soon as they are planned.

Sept

25.09.2026
Colour Run non-uniform

If your child is taking part please can they come into school in their white top and sports kit ready to run. If they are not taking part they are welcome to take part in a non-uniform day.

Oct

9.10.2026 - Break the Rules Day (more info to follow)

22.10.2026 - Autumn Disco (non-uniform day)

Nov

13.11.2026 - Xmas Hamper Non-Uniform
Non-uniform day in exchange for Hamper gifts (xmas celebrations raffle hampers)
EYFS: Chocolate/Mince Pies
Year 1 and 2: Sweets/Mince Pies
Year 3 and 4: Bottles/Mince Pies

Dec

10.12.2026 - Xmas Jumper Day (non-uniform)

17.12.2026 - Xmas Party Day (non-uniform)

18.12.2026 - Y1-Y4 Panto Day
EYFS: Magician Day

Jan

22.1.2027 - PJs, Hot Chocolates/ Milkshake Day

Feb

12.2.2027 - Easter Hamper Non-Uniform Day

Mar

4.3.2027 - World Book Day (details to follow)

10.3.2027 - Easter BINGO

19.3.2027 - Non-Uniform Day

Apr

22.4.2027 - Spring Disco

May

10.5.2027 - Wear Bright Colours - Healthy Minds Week

June

18.6.2027 - Knypersleys Got Talent (more details to follow)

WB 21.6.2027 - Sponsored Swim-a-thon week

25.6.2027 - PTFA Summer Sports Festival 3:30pm

July

16.7.2027 - Splat the Teacher

19.7.2027 - Summer Party Day

Over the year the PTFA will be running a number of sales such as Father's Day, Mother's Day and Tuck Shop Fridays they will keep you informed ahead of time!

Keep your eyes out for morning coffee shops on the playgrounds too!