

# KENN C OF E NEWSLETTER

## March 2026

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Tues 31<sup>st</sup> March - Year 3 Forest School

Weds 1<sup>st</sup> April - Easter Celebration at the church 9:00am

Weds 1<sup>st</sup> April - Easter Egg Hunt 3:30pm

Thur 2<sup>nd</sup> April - last day of school

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April - Easter break begins

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April - term begins

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April - Year 2 Forest School begins (4 sessions)

Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> April - Worship led by the RNLI

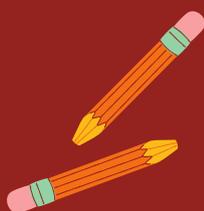
Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> April - Trial Sats for Year 2

*We are Kenn, We are Ivy* week begins - Mon 27<sup>th</sup> April



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## A Marvellous March

Dear Families,

I hope this email finds you well. I'm delighted to share with you a newsletter highlighting the wonderful activities and achievements from what has been a truly busy and enriching half term.

Time really has flown, and we have so much to celebrate. The children have been engaged in fantastic learning across the school, and we've been fortunate to enjoy some lovely weather that has allowed us to make full use of our wonderful outdoor spaces for both playtime and PE sessions. We've also welcomed some exciting visitors to the school, which has further enriched our pupils' experiences. The choir performed at the Ivy Music Event at Langstone Cliff yesterday, where they joined seven other schools in a wonderful celebration of music. Their performance was incredible - well done!

### Outdoor Space Improvements

One of the highlights for me has been witnessing how our children have flourished in our outdoor environment. We have been busy improving our Early Years Foundation Stage area, and whilst this remains a work in progress, our aim is to refurbish the outdoor space with new equipment and flooring by July. I would like to extend our sincere thanks to the PTA for their continued support with this project. As with all schools, we are mindful of being cost-effective, and wherever possible, we reuse or repurpose materials. It is an exciting time for our Reception children.

Additionally, we have welcomed contractors into school to quote on replacing the decking area outside Class 2, enlarging the space, and adding a roof. This will create an additional learning space for our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils – something we very much look forward to.

### SATs Preparation and Beyond

Our Year 6 pupils have been working diligently on their SATs preparation, whilst maintaining a healthy balance across the curriculum. It was wonderful to see many of our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils participate in the Rotary Club Quiz this week, competing against other local schools. It was a thoroughly enjoyable event, and I was particularly impressed by the children's geographical knowledge – they answered some very challenging questions with real confidence. As a geographer myself, I was immensely proud!

The school has been selected to administer Year 2 SATS (Maths) this year. This will mean that the children will sit two short papers, and these will be sent off to be marked. The purpose of this is for the STA to test questions for future tests and we do not receive any scores for these. Staff will support the children through the process. If you have any questions do get in touch.

### Community Week and Upcoming Events

Looking ahead, we have our 'We are Kenn, We are Ivy' community week coming up. I do hope that if you have some time available, you will be able to support the children during this special week. The focus is on our pupils giving back to their school and community, and we have some lovely events planned.

Our Class 4 pupils will be receiving scripts for a production of The Lion King over the Easter break, with auditions taking place after SATs. We would very much love to see as many of you as possible at our Easter service next Wednesday, where the children will showcase the hard work they've been putting into their singing. It really is a joy to hear them and to share this special time together as a school family.

We also have some excellent Trust Sports Impact Days to look forward to.

Please do enjoy this newsletter, which includes highlights from the term and information about the weeks ahead.

Warm regards,

Lorraine Curry

# Easter Service at St Andrew's Church

We are looking forward to celebrating Easter on Wednesday of next week with our school community. To help us organise this special occasion smoothly, I wanted to share some important details and ask for your support.

## Timing and Drop-off

Please could you arrange to drop your child at the church by 8:50am for a 9:00am start. The service should last approximately 40 minutes.

## Transport Arrangements

If your child attends breakfast club or requires transport in our minibus, please let us know as soon as possible so we can organise this appropriately. This will help us ensure every pupil can participate in this wonderful celebration.

## Return to School Following the Service

If you are able to drop your child back to school that will help us, but if not, we will walk pupils back if they are in Classes 3 and 4. Pupils in the other two classes will be transported by minibus if you are unable to drive them. Thank you in advance if you can help. You will only be able to drive your own child.

We very much hope you will be able to support us in making this a memorable Easter celebration for all our pupils. If you have any questions or need to discuss transport arrangements, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

## Flourishing at Kenn



Miss Laing has introduced our lovely Flourishing Books to the pupils, and Class 3 have already begun to add to theirs with wonderful enthusiasm. These are class books that belong to everyone – children and staff alike – and serve as a collaborative space where we can celebrate flourishing in all its forms.

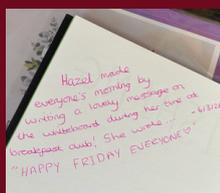
The Flourishing Books are designed to be a place where we recognise and celebrate:

- Learning achievements in the classroom
- Moments of growth and progress
- Acts of kindness and care
- Successes at home and in our wider community

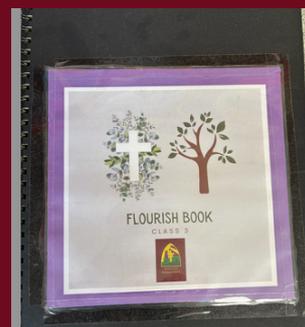
We are excited to see how these books develop over time, and we very much hope that they become a real focal point in our classrooms – a space where children can spend time reflecting on their own achievements and celebrating the achievements of their peers.

We would love for families to contribute to this celebration of flourishing. If your child has experienced a moment of achievement, learning, or personal growth at home, please do share it with us so that we can add it to our Flourishing Books.

We look forward to watching these beautiful collections grow and to seeing the positive impact they have on our school community.



## Easter Egg Hunt



# We are Kenn, We are Ivy Community Week

## 27th April - 1<sup>st</sup> May

I'm delighted to share details of Ivy Week, taking place from Monday 27th April to Friday 1st May. This is an exciting opportunity for our pupils to engage in meaningful activities that celebrate community, creativity, and care for our world.

### What's Happening During Ivy Week

Our pupils will be involved in a range of activities designed to benefit both our school and the wider community:

- Gardening and Grounds Improvement
- Some pupils will be painting the school fence by the Class 2 area
- A parent volunteer will be helping us to redesign and improve the landscaping by the office and refresh our plant pots

### Community Support

Some of our children will visit Playbox to support younger children in our community

### Kindness Rocks Project

Every child will paint kindness rocks or pebbles, adding their own memories, prayers, or messages of hope. We'll display some within school and place others around the village as tokens of positivity.

### Sustainability Focus

Pupils will create bird feeders and planters from recycled materials, furthering our commitment to climate awareness and sustainability.

### Charity Work

We're collecting donations for St Petrock's. Children will make cards for helpers and visitors to the centre.

### Cream Tea Celebration

On Friday 1st May, we'll host a cream tea for local residents and members of St Andrew's congregation. All proceeds will support the Ripple Effect, a charity supporting families in Africa.

### How You Can Help

We would be genuinely grateful for your support. If you're able to assist in any of the following ways, please do let us know:

Gardening and painting – we'd welcome extra hands for the fence painting and landscaping work.

Cream tea contributions – homemade scones, cream, or jam would be wonderful.

Pebbles for painting – each child will need a flat rock or pebble to decorate. These should be large enough to draw and paint on, but not so heavy that your child cannot carry it comfortably.

Items to support the bird feeders and planters.

We will provide all art materials for the painting activities.

Class teachers will reach out after Easter with more specific requests for help, so please do watch out for their communications.

We very much look forward to working alongside you during this exciting week, as we come together to think of others and make a positive difference to our community.



## Always Club



## Always Club Winners

Our Autumn Term Always Club winners recently enjoyed a well-deserved reward trip to the cinema in Exeter, where they watched the film Dog Man. The visit was a fantastic opportunity for the children to relax and celebrate their consistent effort, positive attitudes, and commitment to always doing their best in school.



## Sponsored Read

Dear Parents/Guardians,  
Thankyou so much for taking part in the sponsored read!  
I hope you've seen the kids have fun and enjoy reading

## Rotary Club Quiz

The children in Class 4 enjoyed an exciting after-school event this week, where they competed against other local schools for the coveted quiz trophy. It was brilliant fun, and Gordon from the Rotary Club was a superb quizmaster! Well done to the children at Kenn, who came second with an impressive 131 points out of a possible 150. We are proud of their achievements and their competitive spirit. We'll try again next year to reclaim the trophy, but a huge thank you to Dawlish Rotary for providing this fantastic experience every year.



Just a reminder to send all sponsorship money raised across to me by the 30th March (as per the details on the original letter provided). To make life easier, I will pop my details here:

Account holder: Emily James  
Account number: 60594256  
Sort code: 041450

And then please ask the children to take their forms (reading log and sponsorship form) into school and feel VERY proud of their and achievements!

If you have any questions - please feel free to contact me.

## Year 5 Football

Well done to our Year 5 pupils who recently visited Dawlish College to take part in a football event alongside pupils from other local schools. The session began with a series of skill-building activities, giving the children the opportunity to develop their passing, teamwork, and game awareness in a supportive environment. This was followed by a number of friendly competitive matches, where pupils demonstrated great enthusiasm, determination, and sportsmanship throughout.



If you missed the book fair and online event but want to purchase some books to have at home (and have it count towards the total to claim free books for Kenn Primary) then you can browse online and contact me with your order for me to manually add onto the school order next week.

[usborne.com/gb/partner/booksforcurious\\_cubs](https://www.usborne.com/gb/partner/booksforcurious_cubs)

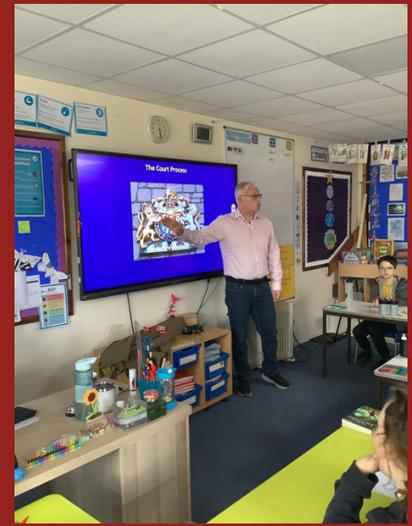
07940963352 - Emily James



## Magistrate Visit



We were delighted to welcome a local magistrate to our school who spoke with the children about their important role in the justice system. During the visit, pupils learned about how courts work, the meaning of fairness and responsibility, and how decisions are made to help keep communities safe. The children were highly engaged, asking thoughtful questions and showing great interest in the discussion. It was a valuable experience that helped deepen their understanding of the law and the role it plays in everyday life.



## PE Impact Day



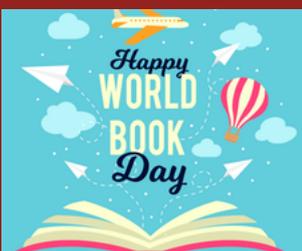
Each class took part in an engaging and enjoyable PE Impact Day with Mr Jack Baxter, centred around the theme of sports from around the world. Pupils participated in a range of structured activities and challenges, designed to develop their skills across different sporting contexts.

It was a pleasure to see all children demonstrating enthusiasm, making progress, and building confidence, while also enjoying the experience.

## World Book Day



What a fantastic World Book Day we had! Children and staff enjoyed a truly wonderful day filled with reading, imagination, and storytelling. Throughout the school, pupils were fully engaged in a variety of reading-based activities that celebrated the magic of books and the joy that stories bring to our lives.



## Pedestrian Safety Training



Our Key Stage 2 children recently took part in Child Pedestrian Safety training, designed to help them develop the skills and confidence needed to stay safe when out and about in our local area. With expert guidance, pupils practised how to navigate roads safely, learned where and how to cross correctly, and explored potential risks and hazards they may encounter as pedestrians.

The sessions were practical, informative and highly engaging, giving the children the opportunity to apply their learning in real-life contexts. They discussed the importance of staying alert, making safe decisions, and understanding how to reduce risks when near traffic. This training is an important part of helping our children grow in independence while ensuring they know how to keep themselves safe in the community.

## Forest School



Class 3 have been enjoying their exciting adventures at Forest School, which take place at Methley Meadow with Gin, our highly trained Forest School expert. The children participate in a wide range of outdoor activities that nurture creativity, build resilience and support positive mental health. Through teamwork challenges, problem-solving tasks, nature exploration and hands-on learning, pupils develop confidence, independence and strong communication skills. Forest School also encourages curiosity about the natural world, improves physical coordination, and helps children learn how to assess risks safely. These sessions provide brilliant, memorable experiences that allow the children to thrive outside the classroom while developing valuable life skills.



## Dropping off in the mornings

We want to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all our pupils. Children in Year 5 and below must remain with a parent or designated carer until 8:40am, when school supervision officially begins.

If you are finding it difficult to arrange supervision before 8:40am, we have spaces available in our breakfast club. This provides a safe, welcoming environment for your child. Please contact the school office for further information or to book a place.

## Arbor

Just a reminder that in order to purchase items on Arbor, you need to be in credit. All Breakfast Club and After School Club bookings should be paid for in advance rather than retrospectively.

# Attendance Reminder

Regular attendance is fundamental to a pupil's success and well-being. When pupils are in school consistently, they:

- Benefit from quality teaching and learning experiences
- Build strong relationships with their peers and staff
- Develop confidence and resilience
- Make the most of the opportunities we provide

Every day in the classroom counts, and even small absences can impact a pupil's progress and sense of belonging within our school community.

## How you can help

We would be grateful if you could:

Ensure your child attends school every day, unless they are genuinely unwell

Plan appointments outside of term time where possible

Inform us promptly of any absences

Work with us to address any barriers to attendance

Your partnership in this matter is invaluable, and together we can ensure every pupil has the best possible start to their day.



## A Prayer for Courage

Dear God,

We ask for courage for the children of Kenn School—courage to try new things, even when they feel uncertain. Courage to be kind when it would be easier to turn away. Courage to speak up, to ask for help, and to believe in themselves.

Help them to know that mistakes are part of learning, and that being brave doesn't mean never feeling scared. It means doing the right thing, even when it's hard.

Guide their hearts and minds as they grow. Strengthen them with confidence, surround them with supportive friends and caring adults, and help them see the unique gifts they each bring to our school.

We are grateful for their resilience, their laughter, and their wonderful spirits. Amen.

