



Kendall Church of England
Primary School

'We Strive for a Bright and Wonderful Future!'

14th February 2025

Newsletter 21 Spring Term 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,



Happy Valentines! As we wind down for the break, we look forward to the second half of our spring term which will bring fantastic new learning opportunities for your children along with, I hope, some much needed sunny weather!

New Lateness Protocol

It has come to our attention that a number of children are persistently arriving late to school. I would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents and carers that if your child arrives after the school gates have closed, we will expect your child to be accompanied into school and complete a lateness slip at the office. This is an essential safeguarding measure to ensure that all children arrive safely and are accounted for. Please note that the school does not conduct immediate first-day calling for absent children. Therefore, it is crucial that parents take responsibility for ensuring their child enters the school safely if they arrive late. Once the gates are closed, staff are unable to monitor arrivals in the same way. Between school and parents, it is important that we work together to ensure the safety and well-being of all children. Knowing where children are at all times is a fundamental part of our safeguarding duty. Additionally, identifying the reasons for lateness allows us to provide support where necessary to help improve punctuality. We kindly ask for your cooperation in this matter to ensure the best possible outcomes for all children. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Year 3 Visit to Colchester Zoo

On Monday, Year 3 went to Colchester Zoo to kick start their Amazon Rainforest topic. The children walked round the rainforest route, visiting lots of the animals. They experienced a rainforest workshop to learn about the layers of the rainforest and were able to touch animal skulls and animal furs. Once the workshop had finished, we visited more of the animal enclosures before heading back to school!



10 Reads

Don't forget your child needs to complete 10 reads by Friday 28th February to be entered in the reading raffle!

East of England Co-op Local Giving Winter Campaign

We would like to say a huge thank you to the East of England Co-op on Old Heath Road, who raised £290.73 during their winter Local Giving Campaign for Kendall. They will be adding an additional £150 to this amount making a total of £440.73 for our Kendall PTA. We are incredibly grateful for the generous support received through nominations at our local Co-op store. The funds raised have allowed us to purchase vital resources for our Forest School and outdoor learning areas, creating enriching experiences that will benefit all our pupils for years to come. Thank you for making a difference in our school community!



Hold the date for World Book Day!

Launching on Thursday 6th of March with the popular 'dress up as your favourite book character' day, we have a week of activities planned to celebrate the joy of reading! Watch this space... Please see attachment!

School Dinner Pricing from Summer Term

We would like to inform you that, due to rising operational and food costs, the price of school dinners will increase to **£2.75**, effective from **22nd April 2025**. We believe this offers great value for money and ensures your children will continue to get a hot nutritious meal and a dessert. Children entitled to free school meals (FSM) will not be affected. If you think you may qualify for FSM please contact Mrs Nicholson (admin@kendall.essex.sch.uk) in confidence, and she will be able to carry out an eligibility check for you.

Communication-Friendly Setting Status

Nationally accredited by Elklan and OCN London



We are pleased to share that our school has become a **Communication-Friendly Setting**. This means that we are committed to creating an environment where communication is as easy, effective, and enjoyable as possible for all children. Our approach actively supports every

child in expressing themselves and being understood, with particular consideration for those with speech, language, and communication needs (SLCN).

As a Communication-Friendly Setting, we ensure:

- **Accessibility for all:** Every child has opportunities to participate in conversations, express themselves, and be listened to, regardless of their communication abilities.
- **A supportive environment:** We use strategies such as visual aids, clear instructions, and appropriate pacing to reduce communication barriers.
- **Positive communication practices:** Our staff are trained to use clear, simple language, actively listen, and provide constructive feedback to support understanding.
- **Adaptability to individual needs:** We accommodate different communication styles, including the use of assistive technology where needed.
- **A focus on language development:** We actively promote language skills through modelling, prompting, and providing regular opportunities to practise communication.

Some of the ways we support communication in school include:

- ✓ Using visual cues and pictures to aid understanding
- ✓ Breaking down complex information into smaller, manageable steps
- ✓ Giving clear instructions and encouraging open-ended discussions
- ✓ Encouraging turn-taking and active listening in conversations

By fostering a communication-friendly environment, we aim to ensure that every child feels confident in their ability to express themselves and engage with learning. If you would like more information about how we support communication at school or how you can reinforce these strategies at home, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

ACL Community

There has been a significant increase in the number of parents across Essex seeking an ADHD or ASD diagnosis for their child. Currently, the wait time for an initial consultation is approximately 15 months. The East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust (ESNEFT) now expects that school referrals should only be made when a child's behaviour directly impacts their learning within the educational setting. Where it does not, referrals are less likely to reach the criteria for assessment. Additionally, prior to seeking diagnosis, parents are expected to have accessed Tier 1 community support, such as the ACL courses listed below. Our school also provides a leaflet outlining alternative early support services available to families in our area. If you would like a copy, please contact the school office. Please be assured that if we have any concerns regarding your child's special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), the class teacher will inform you at the earliest opportunity. As a Communication-Friendly setting (see above), we are well-equipped to support children with a range of SEND, including ADHD and autism, whether formally diagnosed or not. Having a diagnosis will not affect the way we support your child in school. Please visit the [ESNEFT](#) website for more information about the range of referral pathways.



Join Our Community – ADHD & ASD!

Become part of a community that understands and supports. Our FREE online ADHD, and ASD sessions are more than just learning opportunities—they're a chance to connect, grow, and thrive together.

Understanding ASD in children	(a bitesize, online, 1 week session)
Understanding ADHD in children	(a bitesize, online, 1 week session)
Understanding ADHD & ASD In Girls	(online, 4 sessions over 4 weeks)

Whatever your situation, our non judgemental sessions have got it covered.

Sign Up!
Scan the QR code, or
Visit our website [aclessex.com](https://www.aclessex.com)
and type **ASD** or **ADHD** in to the
'Find a course...' box



SCAN ME

COMMUNITY & FAMILY LEARNING



Quick links to important policies!

We thought it would be useful to provide parents with quick links to some of our key policies in our weekly newsletter. Therefore, please find our **Attendance Policy** [HERE](#). Please find our **Homework Policy** [HERE](#). Please find our **Administering Medicines Policy** [HERE](#). Please find our **Mobile Phone Policy** [HERE](#). Please find our **Uniform Policy** [HERE](#). Please find our **Food Policy** [HERE](#). Please find our **Behaviour Policy** [HERE](#). A link to our school webpage that has all of statutory policies uploaded is [HERE](#).

Forest School Diary 14th February 2025

During last week's session with EYFS, we decided it was time to learn how to use a peeler. The children were given a demonstration by the Forest School team before finding themselves a suitable stick to whittle. A few of the children were quick to express it was a little tricky at first, but after a short while they were whittling sticks like professionals. Well done to all the children for trying hard and not giving up.



This week Year 1 tapped into their creative side and created some natural art work using resources such as shells, pine cones, wood slices and anything else that they could find in the woodland.



Year 2 were busy in the woods making potions using all things natural, using the hand tools to create small bug hotels and even finding the time to craft a couple of small mallets out of scrap wood found on the woodland floor, great work Year 2!



This week Year 3 have been practising tying a reef knot. This is a skill that will come in useful for many activities as the children progress through KS2. Once the group were confident with this, we then put it to the test to form a ring of trust by tying all ropes together. We finished off the session having some well-earned fun on the rope swing!



This week Year 4 worked together to build encampments in the woodland just like those that were needed during the siege of Colchester. The children erected shelters, built small camp fires and even dug out a latrine.



This week some of Year 5 wanted to build their 'wormholes' using one of their many hillsides as a base. We discussed the pros and cons of this construction method. The children still wanted to try to make it work. Unfortunately, it turned out to be a little tricky, but we gave it our best shot. Next, we moved on to the annual 'Forest School Crate Challenge' which went very well. Lots of rewards were earned for qualities such as resilience, teamwork, kindness and sportsmanship. All in all, it was a brilliant heart-warming session on this otherwise cold and drizzly morning!



Year 6 also took part in the crate challenge this week. This is something that the children have not attempted since they were in Year 5, so some were a little rusty to begin with. However, all children got stuck in and had fun whilst trying to navigate their way safely across the woodland balanced on planks of wood! As you will see from our photos it was extremely close towards the end with one team just crossing the finishing line before the other. Impressive teamwork demonstrated by all that took part.



Online E-Safety Magazine for parents

#DITTO is a free online safety newsletter in PDF format to keep parents up to date with online safety risks, issues, advice and guidance related to keeping children safe online, enjoying and learning about technology. You can sign up for this newsletter at <https://www.esafety-adviser.com/latest-newsletter/>

Food Bank Vouchers

Please don't forget that the school is an agent for food bank vouchers. Please speak in confidence to a member of the school office or Mrs French if you need to use this service.

Safety on the School Road

Please be reminded that as per the road signage, parents should not be driving along the road that accesses Kendall, Scarlett's and ECL at any time. The landowner, other local establishments and the school have worked together to ensure that the traffic congestion and resulting danger to the children is, thanks to all our efforts, a thing of the past. Please be aware that stopping at any time along the private road can lead to a penalty notice being issued. If you would like a free parking pass for the Port Lane Recreation Ground car park that can be used at school drop off and pick up times, please speak to the school office.

Happy Birthday!

Please join us in saying happy birthday to:

Rudi B, Darcy R, Ayla K, Winifred G, Kalani S, Nathan L, Reggie G, Polly O, Isla P and Truc Lam T



Headteacher Cups

Congratulations to the following who were awarded a Headteacher Cup in assembly this week:

Harrison F, Arthur G and Freddie FS

Golden Awards

Congratulations to the following who were awarded a Gold Award in assembly this week:

Noah F, Sophie SY, Daniel M, Joris S, Freddie B, Wesam F, Dexter EB, Theo K, Antoni D, Polly R, Mirella S, Truc Lam T, Archie H and Makaanaka M

Maths Challenge

Don't forget to enter!

Writer of the Week

Congratulations to **Grace** in **EYFS** who received our Writer of the Week award and took home a new stationery set and journal – keep up that good writing!

Kendall Team Points

Congratulations to the joint Weekly Team Winners: **Elm and Birch!**

Elm	Ash	Birch	Yew
1st	3rd	1st	2nd

Amazing Attendance? Free Tuck Friday!

Free Tuck Friday – All classes who have achieved the required attendance of at least 96% are highlighted in green. Well done, **Year 3** for having the best attendance this week!

EYFS	96%	
Year 1	93.7%	
Year 2	93.3%	
Year 3	98.1%	★
Year 4	96%	
Year 5	94.7%	
Year 6	96.9%	
Overall Attendance		95.55%

(Week ending 07/02/2024)

Reminder! No Chocolate Spread in Home Packed Lunches

Please remember that chocolate spread is not allowed in packed lunches due to the risk it poses to children with nut allergies. Details are in our prospectus and the School Dinner page of our website.

Thank you for all your support.

Have a lovely half term break!



Clare French
Headteacher

Schedule of Trips and Visits 2024/2025

Budgeting £20 a quarter (£80 a year – or approximately £2 a term-time week) should cover the cost of trips. Where a trip is more expensive, for example £40, we will always try to make sure that over the academic year, the cost for all 4 Quarters comes to no more than £80 for the trips and visits we organise. Sadly, with school funding being at an all-time low in real terms, the school is financially unable to subsidise trips and visits to the extent it has done in the past. If we do not receive enough contributions to cover the cost, we will reluctantly have to cancel trips or visitors to the school. As promised, to help you with budgeting, please see Mrs Nicholson's schedule and the associated charge for each trip for the next quarter below

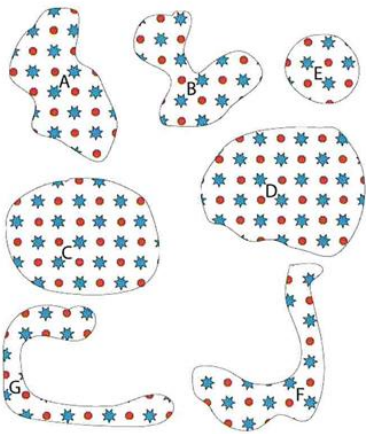
Quarter 3

Year Group	Trip/Visit	Cost per child
EYFS	Boydells Farm	Approx £24
Year 1	No paid trips/visits this quarter	n/a
Year 2	Local walks	n/a
Year 3	Colchester Zoo	£18.60
Year 4	Local walks	n/a
Year 5	Ancient Egyptians Day	Approx £20
Year 6	No paid trips/visits this quarter	n/a

Dates for your Diary

February 2025	
Monday 17 th to Friday 21 st	Half Term
Thursday 27 th	Year 4 Swimming Lesson 6
March 2025	
Tuesday 4 th	Year 5 Ancient Egyptian Day
Tuesday 4 th	Parent Consultations 3:30pm-6pm
Thursday 6 th	Year 4 Swimming Lesson 7
Thursday 6 th	World Book Day
Wednesday 5 th	Reading Parent Information Event (PIE)
Wednesday 5 th	Parent Consultations 5:30pm-8pm
Wednesday 12 th	Kendall SEND Support Group
Thursday 13 th	Year 4 Swimming Lesson 8
Thursday 20 th	Year 4 Swimming Lesson 9
Thursday 27 th	Year 4 Swimming Lesson 10 (Last one)
Thursday 27 th	Mother's Day Gift Shop (lunchtime)
Friday 28 th	Mother's Day Gift Shop (lunchtime)
April 2025	
Friday 4 th	Easter Service at St Stephen's Church 10am
Monday 7 th to Monday 21 st	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 22 nd	First Day of Summer Term
May 2025	
Monday 5 th	Bank Holiday Monday
Friday 9 th	Kendall SEND Support Group 1pm-3pm
Monday 12 th – Thursday 15 th	Year 6 KS2 SATs
Monday 26 th to Friday 30 th	Half Term
June	
Friday 6 th	Rainbow Day
Friday 6 th	EYFS Bake Sale 3:15pm
Friday 13 th	Year 5 Bake Sale 3:15pm
Monday 16 th	Class Photos
Friday 20 th	Year 4 Bake Sale 3:15pm
Tuesday 24 th	Kendall SEND Support Group 9am-11am
Friday 27 th	Year 3 Bake Sale
Monday 30 th	Sports Day & Family Picnic
July	
Friday 4 th	Year 2 Bake Sale 3:15pm
Thursday 10 th	KS2 Production 7pm
Friday 11 th	Music Festival 9:30am & 10:30am
Friday 11 th	KS2 Production 1:30pm & 7pm
Friday 11 th	Year 1 Bake Sale 3:15pm
Thursday 17 th	Year 6 Treat Trip
Friday 18 th	Leavers' Assembly
Friday 18 th	PTA Summer Disco
Friday 18 th	Last Day of Term

Kendall KS1 Fortnightly Maths Challenge



Here are 7 pieces of wallpaper.

Which piece of paper is the **largest**?

If you think you know, write your name and answer on a slip of paper and post it into the correct box on the table. The winner will be announced at the end of the week.

Good luck!

Kendall KS2 Fortnightly Maths Challenge



Mandeep's watch loses two minutes every hour.

Adam's watch gains one minute every hour.

They both set their watches from the radio at 6:00 a.m. then start their journeys to the airport. When they arrive (at the same time)

their watches are 10 minutes apart.

At what time (the real time) did they arrive at the airport?

If you think you know, write your name and answer on a slip of paper and post it into the correct box on the table. The winner will be announced at the end of the week.

Good luck!

Academic Year 2024-2025

September 2024							October 2024							November 2024							December 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	X	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	X	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	X	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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January 2025							February 2025							March 2025							April 2025						
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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May 2025							June 2025							July 2025							August 2025							
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	X	X	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
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							30																					

= Schooldays = School holidays = Bank holidays = Weekends = Non Pupil Days

= Schooldays
 = School holidays
 = Bank holidays
 = Weekends
 = Non Pupil Days

Academic Year 2025-2026

September 2025							October 2025							November 2025							December 2025							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
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X	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	X	4	5	6	7		8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	X	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	X	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
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January 2026							February 2026							March 2026							April 2026							
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			1	2	3	4							1							1			1	2	3	4	5	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				
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May 2026							June 2026							July 2026							August 2026							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	X	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
																					31							

 = Schooldays

 = School holidays

 = Bank holidays

 = Weekends

 = Non Pupil Days

Week 2 School Dinner Menu

Week 2	MONDAY (meat free)	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main	Deep pan Margherita pizza (v)	Oven baked sausages	Oven roasted chicken	Chicken and vegetable korma curry	Birdseye Omega 3 fish fingers
Vegetarian (V) Or Vegan (Ve)	Vegetable pasta served with a fresh herb, garlic and tomato sauce (ve)	Veggie sausages Vegan sausages (v) (ve)	Vegetable medley in vegan puff pastry (v, ve)	Vegetable and lentil sweet potato curry (ve)	Quorn dippers (v) Vegetable fingers (ve)
Sides	Sweetcorn Vegan Coleslaw Freshly prepared salad – lettuce, tomatoes and cucumber	Creamy mashed potatoes, garden peas, vegan gravy (ve)	Roast potatoes, stuffing, Yorkshire pudding, fresh carrots, cabbage, broccoli, vegan gravy (ve)	50/50 rice Warm naan bread Freshly prepared salad – lettuce, tomatoes and cucumber	Chips Baked beans Freshly prepared salad – lettuce, tomatoes and cucumber
Dessert	Strawberry Angel Delight or fresh fruit	Iced Chocolate brownie or yogurt	Honeydew melon and Watermelon Pineapple or yogurt	Autumn fruit cake sponge and custard or yogurt	School Cookie or fresh fruit

Please let us know what you would like to see on our school dinner menu. We would love to hear your ideas! Email us: admin@kendall.essex.sch.uk



Kendall Book Weeks 6th – 20th March 2025.

Launching on World Book Day 2025, we have a busy schedule of events planned.

Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day/Book Week launch	Come to school dressed as your favourite book character.
Thursday 6 th March	Book in Box competition launch/ Eco-Council Book Exchange launch	Create a 'book in a box' – see below. Bring in any good condition children's books that you would like to donate.
Friday 7 th March	'20 Books to Read in Year X'	Launch of 20 recommended reads for each year group (in classes).
Tuesday 11 th March	Library visit	Year 2 visit to Greenstead Library. TBC
Tuesday 11 th March	Eco-Council Book Exchange	Our popular book exchange. Visit the exchange after school to select a free pre-loved book.
Wednesday 12 th March	Author visit	Author James Campbell to visit Kendall.
Tuesday 18 th March	Book in a Box entry display and closing	Children and parents/carers invited to view all entries after school.
Thursday 20 th March	Book in a Box	The winner of each class announced.



Book in a Box Competition



Our Kendall Book Week Competition this year is to create a 'book in a box'.

You will need a box, which can be a cereal box, shoe box or equivalent.

Please speak to your class teacher if you need a box provided. Choose your favourite book and decorate your box (inside and out) to represent the different parts of the book.

You could:

- draw or cut out pictures of the characters or significant objects from the book
- recreate a scene from the book inside
- include interesting quotes from the text
- make it as colourful and exciting as you can.

Don't forget to include the title and author of the book, your name and class. All entries need to be handed to your class teacher by **Tuesday 18th March**. The winning entry from each class will be announced on **Thursday 20th March**.

