



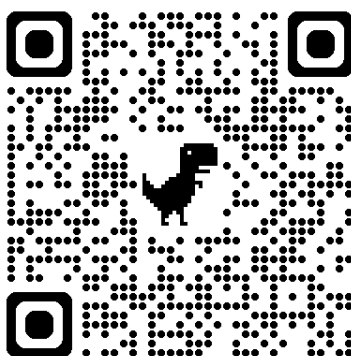
Newsletter 7 - March 2025

YEAR GROUP TEACHING STAFF	YEAR GROUP PE DAYS
Year 3 - Miss Faulds (Poplar) and Miss Finn (Chestnut) <i>Mrs Freeland provides additional teaching support through a three-way split in the morning</i>	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 4 - Mrs Thomson (Rowan) and Miss Brind (Willow)	Tuesday (swimming) and Wednesday
Year 5 - Miss Daly (Hazel) and Miss Winzar (Maple)	Wednesday and Friday
Year 6 - Miss Harding (Sycamore) and Mrs Walton (Redwood) <i>Mrs Lovisetto provides additional teaching support through a three way split in the morning</i>	Monday and Friday
Key dates for January The dates below are for your diary and are also included on the electronic calendar; occasionally they are subject to change	
Tuesday 4th March	Y4 swimming
Wednesday 5th March	Y5 children working with BP pupils and staff (PE)
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day - children are invited to wear their PJs or onesies on this day (see below)
Friday 7th March	Girls Biggest Ever Football Session - participating girls to have trainers in school
Friday 7th March	Dance Live fundraiser - Cake Bake Sale and Lucky Dip (after school)
Tuesday 11th March	Y4 swimming
Wednesday 12th March	Y5 children working with BP pupils and staff (PE)
Tuesday 18th March	Y4 swimming
Wednesday 19th March	Y5 children working with BP pupils and staff (PE)
Tuesday 25th March	Y4 swimming

Wednesday 26th March	Y5 children working with BP pupils and staff (PE)
Friday 28th March	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Y5 and 6: Mobile Planetarium from Wonderdome (in school) 2. Non-uniform day in exchange for chocolate gifts for our raffle. 3. Year 3 Charity Fundraiser
Upcoming dates for April (Please note dates will be added to this list in the next newsletter)	
Monday 31st March - Thursday 3rd April	Raffle tickets on sale for Children's chocolate raffle (20p a ticket)
Tuesday 1st April	Y4 swimming
Thursday 3rd April	Groundforce day
Friday 4th April	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children's chocolate Raffle 2. Last day of term - Easter holidays
Monday 7th April - Monday 21st April	Easter holiday
Tuesday 22nd April	Return to school
Thursday 24th April	Dance Live finals
Friday 25th April	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Y4 swimming (PM) 2. Military Child Day (more information to follow in April newsletter) 3. Dance Live celebration day (more information to follow in April newsletter)
Wednesday 30th April	Y3, 4 and 5 attending BAE Roadshow at Brune Park

AI GENERATED PODCAST

The school have been learning how to use AI in creative and practical ways. To support our learning—and to make life a little easier for our busy families—we've transformed this newsletter into a podcast! Using AI, we've generated an audio version of the newsletter, making it a fun and bite-sized way to stay up to date with what's happening in March. You'll notice that the voices have American accents—this is because, at the moment, it is the only option available. We have also discovered that the AI has struggled with some of our dates so we will look to learn how to manage this better. The podcast is designed to complement the written newsletter, offering an alternative way to access key information. We hope you find it helpful, and we'd love to hear your thoughts - maybe click the 'thumbs-up' on the YouTube link..? To listen to the podcast visit [here](#) or use this QR code:



Age Appropriate Materials

Recently, we have had an increasing number of children talking about the Netflix TV show - Squid Games. Whilst the premise is that contestants are playing 'children's games' the show has a rating of 15 due to its violent nature and sexual content and is therefore not age-appropriate for our pupils.

What should parents do? It might be tempting to, but don't directly raise Squid Game with your child – they might be unaware of it, and mentioning it could make them more likely to seek it out.

Do let your child know they can talk to you about anything they see online that they find upsetting. If you hear them talking about Squid Games or if they mention it to you, talk to them about how the show isn't meant for young children.

For more pointers on talking to your child about online safety, see this page on the NSPCC website:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talkingchild-online-safety/>

We'd encourage you to take this opportunity to check your Netflix settings for your child's profile. You can set maturity ratings so that your child only sees TV shows and films that have a rating suitable for their age. To do this:

- From a web browser, go to your account page
- Open the 'Profile and Parental Controls' settings for the profile you want to manage
- Change the 'Viewing Restrictions' setting
- Enter your Netflix password
- Set the maturity rating level for the TV shows and films you want to allow in that profile
- Select 'Save'
- You'll need to have set up a profile for your child in your account to do this. See how to do this here:

<https://help.netflix.com/en/node/114275>

Adult Supervision

A reminder that children **must be supervised** on both the Junior and Infant school site. There should be no-one on the school site before 08.40, especially unsupervised pupils. After school, if you have children on the infant school site, your junior child should remain with you and not use the infant play equipment. This ensures that your child is safe and that they have a positive end to their day.

Attendance Counts

We have always closely monitored the attendance of every child. Each learner's attendance contributes to their overall attendance mark, which we review on a monthly basis. As part of our ongoing efforts to promote attendance awareness, we continue to send home letters to families whose children have an overall attendance rate less than 90%. We also send letters to children with an overall attendance between 90% and 95%. This letter is simply a notification to inform parents or caregivers that their child is nearing the 90% threshold. We also send letters to congratulate children on attendance. We want to ensure that everyone is aware of the importance of regular attendance at school. Thank you for your continued efforts to ensuring your child is in school - our school attendance target is **96%** - we are currently **94.8%** so we are keen to improve this and see all children in school, everyday, to avoid learning being missed.

100%	0 days off school
97%	5 days off across the school year
95%	10 days off across the school year
90%	20 days off across the school year
85%	30 days off across the school year

British Science Week

British Science Week takes place 7th-16th March. King's Academy Rowner will be taking part in activities over the week. If you wanted to find out more about this event, please follow the link to the [homepage of the British Science Week 2025](#)

Dance Live Finals!

After months of rehearsals and preparation, our Dance Live Team participated in their heat event at Portsmouth Guildhall on Friday 7th February. They were excellent ambassadors for our school and the judges were in awe of their performance, so much so that we came **third place in** our heat and will be performing in this year's final on **Thursday 24th April**. We could not be more proud of the children.

To help raise vital funds for the finals, we will be holding a Cake sale after school on **Friday 7th March** on the main playground. **Donations are most welcome!**

Devolution for Hampshire

In recent weeks, you may have seen on the news regarding the recent announcement by the Deputy Prime Minister that Hampshire County Council, Southampton and Portsmouth City Councils, and Isle of Wight Council have been accepted on Government's Devolution Priority Programme which will see extra powers and funding transferring from Westminster to the local area.

The consultation runs for eight weeks from 17th February 2025 to 11:59pm on 13th April 2025.

It can be found here: [Hampshire and the Solent devolution consultation - GOV.UK](#)

Hampshire County Council are encouraging school communities to have their say in helping to shape the future of our region. If you wish to contribute to the consultation, the following link will take you to the [online form](#).

Easter events at King's Academy Rowner and Friends of Rowner

This year the following events will be taking place to enable fun community social events and raise funds for our children:

- **Friday 28th March:** Non-school uniform day in exchange for chocolate. A reminder that no football/sporting kits are to be worn. Children are invited to bring in an item for the chocolate raffle, Easter egg, chocolate bar etc.
- **Monday 31st March - Thursday 3rd April :** Children can purchase tickets towards the Chocolate Raffle, 20p a ticket. As per previous raffles, we will once again be doing an electronic raffle, so physical tickets **will not** be handed out to children. Their names will be added onto the electronic raffle related to the number of tickets they require e.g. 5 tickets purchased and their names will be put into the raffle 5 times.
- **Friday 4th April:** Chocolate Raffle.



Currently we do not have any parents on our Friends of Rowner committee. This means that it has become increasingly more challenging to run other events such as school discos, Summer Fayres etc. We really do need your support to continue to raise additional funds for the school and your children. If you are interested, please make contact with Ms Sewell/Miss Tuckley via enquiries@kgarowner.uk

Easter Holiday

Our last day of the Spring Term is **Friday 4th April with a 14.00 finish**. We do hope the weather is fine and that all families have some time together to rest. We look forward to welcoming you all back to school on **Tuesday 22nd April** - Monday 21st is a bank holiday due to the Easter weekend.

Governor Vacancy

We are currently seeking enthusiastic and committed co-opted governors and a parent governor to join our friendly governing body here at King's Academy Rowner. Governors play a vital role in supporting the strategic leadership of the school, ensuring we continue to provide the very best education and opportunities for our children. This is a fantastic opportunity to make a difference in your local community, develop new skills, and be part of a team dedicated to the success and well-being of our school. We welcome individuals from all backgrounds who can bring fresh perspectives, skills, and enthusiasm to the role. If you know someone who would be interested, please:

- Visit our school website for more information about the role and how governors support our school.
- Speak to the school office if you have any questions or need further details.
- Contact our Chair of Governors, Sue McAdam, directly to express interest or learn more about how you can get involved. smcadam@governor.kgahampshire.uk

Please help us spread the word! If you know anyone who might be interested in becoming a governor, we'd be delighted if you could encourage them to get in touch. Thank you for supporting us as we look to strengthen and grow our governing body.

Girls Biggest Ever Football Session - Friday 7th March

We are keen to encourage as many girls as possible to play football. In 2022, The FA set an ambitious target for 75% of schools to deliver equal access to football in PE lessons. Whilst this target has been met, there is still a long way to go to break down long-term barriers and ensure girls and young women believe they belong in football and do not drop out. On Friday 7th March 2024, the fourth *Biggest Ever Football Session* will be taking place in schools across England. King's Academy Rowner are all signed-up! During lunchtime, girls across the school will be invited to play football and participate in football skills with Mr Hill. This will be a fun session and is a great way to celebrate International Women's Day. Our local MP, Dame Caroline Dinenage intends to visit the girls and see them - we will ask her to play. So, if this is not your daughter's PE day please send them into school with their trainers.

Parent / Teacher Meetings and Report Cards

For parents/carers of year 6 children, Parent/Teacher meetings will be held w/b 31 March. This is to ensure parent/carers have a full overview of their child's progress prior to the Easter break, when children might want to focus on certain areas prior to their SATs. Learning review meetings for parents of children in Year 3, 4 and 5 will occur after the Easter break. Booking details for all of these will follow soon. Report cards, providing a snapshot of your child (this is different to the summer annual report) will be shared with families by the end of the term.

Online Safety - WhatsApp

As a school we are aware that many of our young people use WhatsApp as a way to communicate with their friends. WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps, used by over 2 billion people in 180 countries. It allows you to send and receive messages, as well as make voice and video calls. You can connect with people individually or join group chats where lots of people can contribute. It is important to note that WhatsApp is rate 13+

Common issues that are raised by parents with school include:

- Inappropriate language;
- Unkind or threatening language;
- Parents commenting within WhatsApp groups.

This term, your children are learning about how to keep themselves safe on social media. As a parent, you also have a vital role in teaching your child how to navigate the online world. This might include:

- **Healthy boundaries:** Agree clear rules about your child's phone use. Encourage them to be part of the decision making process especially in regards to what Apps/Games they access ensuring they are age appropriate and why this is important.
- **Encourage your child to think about digital citizenship:** It is helpful for you to talk with your child about how they will engage with other people when they are using their phone. This could include what's okay to share as well as how to treat others online.
- **Phone number:** Agree with who they can and cannot share their numbers with.
- **Be a positive role model:** Model the practices that you are wanting from your child in their online/phone use.
- **Regular and open conversations:** The key to building trust and helping your child to stay safe online is about agreeing to have regular conversations together.

As well as our monthly newsletter, here are some other websites that you can access for support on this particular area:

[Keeping children safe online - NSPCC](#)

[Is Whatsapp safe for my child - NSPCC](#)

[Phone safety for your family - NSPCC](#)

Print and Sew

You will be aware that Print and Sew is our new uniform supplier. We are excited to be working with them and we are pleased their uniform is priced more competitively than Skoolkit. Their address:
55-57 Stoke Rd, Gosport PO12 1LS

Phone: [023 9243 2737](tel:02392432737)

The plan was for Print and Sew to start supplying our uniform after Easter. Now that Skoolkit has sold all their supplies Print and Sew are endeavouring to start supplying us sooner. So, please watch this space and we will update you as soon as we know our uniform is ready - fingers crossed for next month.

Secondary School Places

Secondary School places for Y7 September 2024 will be announced on **Monday 3rd March**. If you applied online, you will be sent an email confirming the outcome of your application on the notification date. You can also log into the online system to view the outcome. If you applied using a paper form, you will be sent a letter on the notification date by post. Please allow 2 to 3 working days for your letter to arrive. There is no need for you to accept the place offered to your child at any Hampshire school. However, please let HCC know in writing if you no longer need the place so that it can be offered to another child. If you have not been offered a place at your preferred school, your child will be added to the waiting list. You also have a right of appeal against the refusal. Our transition programme will be comprehensive and we have already been working with our secondary colleagues on transition matters.

Summer Uniform

Summer Uniform is welcome in the Summer Term - after the Easter holiday (if it is warm enough for your child). Local supermarkets already have our dresses in stock but you may like to double check our uniform list before you purchase. In the Summer Term **maroon gingham** dresses or playsuits are allowed. Red items are not welcomed because these **are not** on our uniform list. The Summer school uniform list also stipulates that formal grey or black shorts, skirts, shorts or culottes can be worn, with a short-sleeved white shirt, blouse or polo. Gingham blouses **are not** part of our uniform list. Children wanting to wear sandals in hotter weather must do so only when also wearing socks and these must have a back. This is for health and safety reasons. PE uniform continues to be plain white round necked t-shirt and unbranded **black** shorts or sport trousers (unbranded) with trainers. Please also ensure that hair, which can be tied back and earrings are either taken out or covered.

World Book Day

World Book Day is on **Thursday 6th March** and as always we are keen to encourage the children to be enthusiastic readers, book owners and book borrowers. Children are invited to come to school in their: school uniform, PJs/onesies or World book Day costumes on this day, then they are welcome to do so. Dressing up is not obligatory and school uniforms can be worn if your child does not wish to dress up. This year's theme is 'Read your Way' so we would love children to share photos of themselves reading 'their way' - this might be in the garden, in a restful spot in a park or somewhere more wacky. Year groups have adapted their timetable and will use the day to immerse children into the exciting world of books. Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success, more than family circumstances, parents' educational backgrounds or income.' Just 10 minutes daily shared reading benefits every child's future.

You said.....we did

You told us that cars are using the space in front of the car park for dropping and turning at the start and end of the school days. For those families dropping their child to school by car, to keep pedestrians exiting the school safe, we need to stop cars using the space at the front of school for stopping and dropping at the start of day. To remind drivers, cones will be positioned at the front of the school at the start and end of the day. Sorry for any inconvenience - please do use the ample space just outside the school grounds for the purpose of dropping-off.