



<b>DATES FOR SEPTEMBER:</b> The dates below are for your diary and are also included on the electronic calendar; occasionally they are subject to change	
<b>YEAR GROUP TEACHING STAFF</b>	<b>YEAR GROUP PE DAYS</b>
<b>Year 3</b> - Miss Dymond and Mrs Dadd (Poplar)	Thursday and Friday
<b>Year 3 &amp; 4</b> Mrs Thomson (Chestnut)	Tuesday and Thursday
<b>Year 4</b> - Mrs Freeland (Willow)	Tuesday and Thursday
<b>Year 5</b> - Miss Brind (Hazel) and Miss Winzar (Maple)	Monday and Tuesday (swimming)
<b>Year 6</b> - Mrs Revis (Sycamore) and Mrs Walton (Redwood)	Wednesday and Friday
<b>Key dates for February</b>	
<b>Monday 2nd February</b>	Dance Live rehearsals
<b>Tuesday 3rd February</b>	Y5 swimming
<b>Wednesday 4th February</b>	Y6 Booster Group: 15.05 - 15.45
<b>Friday 6th February</b>	DANCE LIVE @ The Portsmouth Guildhall
<b>Monday 9th - 15th February</b>	Mental Health Week (more information to follow)
<b>Tuesday 10th February</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Internet Safety Day</li> <li>2. KARo Local Governing Board meeting</li> </ol>
<b>Wednesday 11th February</b>	Y6 Booster Group: 15.05 - 15.45
<b>Thursday 12th February</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Year 6 Height &amp; Weight</li> <li>2. Children welcome to wear PJ's as part of Children's Mental Health Week (more information to follow)</li> <li>3. Parent Event as part of Mental Health Week 14.45-15.00 (more information to follow)</li> <li>4. Friends Disco</li> </ol>
<b>Friday 13th February</b>	INSET day - school closed to children
<b>Monday 16th - Friday 20th February</b>	Half term
<b>Monday 23rd February</b>	Return to school
<b>Wednesday 25th February</b>	Y6 Booster Group: 15.05 - 15.45

Upcoming dates for March <i>(Please note dates will be added to this list in the next newsletter)</i>	
Wednesday 4th March	Y6 Booster Group: 15.05 - 15.45
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Wednesday 11th March	Y6 Booster Group: 15.05 - 15.45
Wednesday 18th March	Y6 Booster Group: 15.05 - 15.45
Tuesday 24th March	Y5 visit to St Mary's Church
Wednesday 25th March	Y6 Booster Group: 15.05 - 15.45
Friday 27th March	Last day of term

### Academic year 2025/2026 Calendar Dates

Autumn Term 2026	Spring Term 2027	Summer Term 2027
<b>Start:</b> Tuesday 1st September 2026 <b>Finish:</b> Friday 18th December 2026 <b>Half term:</b> 26th October – 30th October 2026	<b>Start:</b> Monday 4th January 2027 <b>Finish:</b> Thursday 25th March 2027 <b>Half term:</b> 15th – 19th February 2027	<b>Start:</b> Monday 12th April 2027 <b>Finish:</b> Wednesday 21st July 2027 <b>Half term:</b> 31st May – 4th June 2027

The academic year begins on **Tuesday 1st September 2026** for all teachers and support staff INSET

**Wednesday 2nd September 2026 - All year groups return to school**

Professional Learning INSET Dates:

- Tuesday 1st September 2026
- Friday 4th December 2026
- Friday 5th February 2027
- Monday 19th July 2027
- Tuesday 20th July 2027

### Attendance

Our attendance currently sits at around **95%**, and we are keen to work together to increase this further. Every school day matters, and even small improvements make a real difference. Good attendance provides the strongest foundation for success at school. Learning builds day by day, and time missed in class can quickly add up, making it harder for children to keep up with learning, feel confident and fully engage with school life.

**What does the evidence tell us?**

- National data consistently shows that pupils who attend school regularly achieve stronger outcomes than those who are persistently absent.
- Children with higher attendance are more likely to meet expected standards by the end of primary school.
- Regular attendance also supports wellbeing, helping children build secure friendships, routines and a strong sense of belonging.

### What does improving attendance look like in practice?

If a child currently has an attendance rate of 90%, this means they have already missed the equivalent of around four weeks of school. Between now and July 2026, there are approximately 120 school days (240 sessions) remaining. To raise attendance into the mid-90% range, this would mean attending almost every session.

In practical terms, this looks like:

- Being in school **every day where possible**
- Avoiding term-time holidays
- Arriving on time for both morning and afternoon sessions
- Talking to school early if attendance becomes a concern

Improving attendance is a shared responsibility. Thank you to our parents and carers for your continued commitment to attendance and for valuing every school day.

### Dance Live!

After months of rehearsals and preparation, our Dance Live Team will be taking place in their heat event at Portsmouth Guildhall on Friday 6th February. We wish them all the very best of luck, but most importantly to enjoy the fantastic opportunity that performing live in front of family and friends brings. Go Team Rowner!

We would also like to extend a big thank you to the Hermes Lodge, who very kindly donated £200 towards Dance Live!

### Friends Disco

Friends of Rowner are holding a 'Friends disco' for the children on **Thursday 12th February**. **Volunteers are required, please**, to enable the running of this event. Please email or speak to reception if you can offer your support. Tickets £1 on the door. Hotdogs, sweets and drinks on sale. Light sticks, friendship bracelets and glasses are available to buy too. Prices range from 50p-£1. Your child will not require any more than £3.

### Healthy Snacks Please

We've noticed that some children are still reaching for crisps at breaktime rather than saving them for lunch. To help reinforce healthy habits and ensure children have a balanced intake throughout the day, please ensure that your child has healthy **snacks** for breaktime. Recommended snacks include:

- ✓ **Fruit and raw vegetables**
- ✓ **Low-sugar savoury options** like pretzels, rice cakes, or popcorn
- ✗ **Crisps and chocolate covered biscuit bars are better suited for lunchtime.**

Also, a reminder that we are a **nut-free school**. Nuts and products that contain or may contain nuts (especially peanuts) are not permitted. Sweets are also not allowed for packed lunches. Thank you for helping us promote healthy eating habits and keeping our school environment safe for all.

### Internet Safety Day

**INTERNET SAFETY DAY** Safer Internet Day helps us reinforce our commitment to online safety and empower pupils to manage their digital lives responsibly. **Tuesday 10th February** is Safer Internet Day, and to mark this, we will hold a whole-school assembly on **Thursday 5th February** to remind pupils how to keep themselves safe online. Pupils will also take part in short classroom activities designed to encourage discussion and shared experiences. The online world is constantly evolving and, when used safely, can be a powerful and positive tool. For further information, including practical tips and conversation starters, please visit the [UK Safer Internet website](#). We also encourage you to read the monthly online safety newsletter emailed at the start of each month.

## Parental Conduct

At King's Academy Rowner, we know that strong relationships between home and school make a real difference to children's learning and wellbeing. Our [Parental Conduct Policy](#) sets out how we work together respectfully and positively, because we are here to help and support every family.

We kindly ask that all conversations, emails and interactions with staff, other parents and pupils are conducted with courtesy and kindness. We understand that things don't always go smoothly, and if a concern arises, we will always work with you to find a constructive solution. In return, we ask that all members of our community treat one another with respect so that we can continue to nurture a safe, supportive and positive environment for our children.

We also respectfully remind families that concerns should be raised directly with the school, rather than shared on social media. Online criticism can cause unnecessary distress and does not help us resolve issues effectively. If something isn't right, please talk to us and we will always aim to put things right and work in partnership with you.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for modelling the kindness and respect we promote every day at school.

## Times Tables

Times Tables are essential for developing strong mental maths skills. Knowing them fluently helps children move beyond using their fingers and solve calculations quickly and confidently. Please encourage your child to practise on TTRS at least weekly. This is especially important for Year 3 and Year 4, with Year 4 pupils taking a national times tables assessment in June 2026 where each question must be answered within 4 seconds. TTRS forms part of weekly home learning and can be accessed via Google Drive. Regular practice has been shown to boost confidence and success in maths lessons.

## Uniform

At King's Academy Rowner we have a school uniform because we recognise that a consistent uniform approach increases children's identity and self-esteem, impacting positively on behaviour. It puts the children in the right frame of mind for working and ensures that pupils are not differentiated from one another **This extends to our PE uniform**. We kindly request that your child is in the correct uniform on both PE and non-PE days.

The table below shows what our uniform policy says in regards to the correct PE uniform.

Item of Clothing	Colour
Shorts, full-length cycling shorts e.g. covering more than the buttocks or skirt	Black (no visible branding)
Round-necked t-shirt	White
King's Academy Rowner branded zipped sports jacket or School jumper or cardigan	Maroon with KA Rowner logo in house colour
Base layers - optional	Black (no visible branding)
Tracksuit - optional	Black (no visible branding)
Socks	Black or white
Trainers	Black or other

## World Book Day

World Book Day this year is on **Thursday 5th March** and as always we are keen to encourage the children to be enthusiastic readers, book owners and book borrowers. We have lots of exciting activities planned for WBD. If children would like to dress themselves or one of their dolls/teddies/characters as a character from a book on this day (*from an age appropriate children's book*) then they are welcome to do so. Or, they may like to wear onesies or pjs to help with a snuggly read. Dressing up is not obligatory and school uniforms can be worn if your child does not wish to dress up. Year groups have adapted their timetable and will use the day to immerse children into the exciting world of books. Book tokens will be made available to your child on the day. More information to follow...

