



<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 March</b>	
<b>Wednesday 4th March</b>	Y6 Booster Group: 15.05 - 15.45
<b>Thursday 5th March</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Book Day (more details below)</li> <li>Football match: KARo v Grange (awaiting for confirmation)</li> </ol>
<b>Friday 6th March</b>	Non-uniform day and cake bake sale to raise funds for Dance Live
<b>Monday 9th March</b>	Dance Live rehearsals
<b>Wednesday 11th March</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y6 Booster Group: 15.05 - 15.45</li> <li>Football match: KARo v Elson</li> </ol>
<b>Friday 13th March</b>	Gift Shop for Ladies (see below)
<b>Wednesday 18th March</b>	Y6 Booster Group: 15.05 - 15.45
<b>Friday 19th March</b>	Non-uniform day in exchange for chocolate for the Children's Chocolate Raffle (see below)
<b>Monday 23rd March</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dance Live rehearsals</li> <li>Raffle tickets on sale for Chocolate Raffle 23rd March - Thursday 26th March.</li> </ol>
<b>Tuesday 24th March</b>	Y5 visit to St Mary's Church
<b>Wednesday 25th March</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maple and Hazel art workshops</li> <li>Y6 Booster Group: 15.05 - 15.45</li> <li>Football match: KARo v Alver Valley</li> </ol>

<b>Friday 27th March</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chocolate Raffle</li> <li>2. Last day of term. School finishes at 2pm.</li> </ol>
<b>Upcoming dates for April (Please note dates will be added to this list in the next newsletter)</b>	
<b>Monday 13th April</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Return to school</li> <li>2. Football match: KARo v St Mary's</li> <li>3. Dance Live Rehearsals</li> </ol>
<b>Monday 20th April</b>	Dance Live rehearsals
<b>Thursday 23rd April</b>	Dance Live Finals @ Portsmouth Guildhall
<b>Thursday 30th April</b>	Football match: KARo v KAGomer

### Dance Live Finals

After months of rehearsals and preparation, our Dance Live Team participated in their heat event at Portsmouth Guildhall on Friday 6th February. They were excellent ambassadors for our school and the judges were in awe of their performance, so much so that we came **second place in** our heat and will be performing in this year's final on **Thursday 23rd April**. We could not be more proud of the children.

To help raise vital funds for the finals, we will be holding the following events on **Friday 6th March**:

1. Non-Uniform Day All children are invited to wear non-uniform on this day in exchange for a £1.
2. After-School Cake Sale

**Location:** Playground (Sett/Forest School), weather dependent.

**Cost:** All cakes/bakes will be sold for 50p.

**Donations Needed:** We kindly ask for donations of homemade or shop-bought cakes, traybakes, or cupcakes.

**How to Help:** If you are able to support the fundraiser by baking or donating cakes, please email Rowner Enquiries at [enquiries@kgarowner.uk](mailto:enquiries@kgarowner.uk) (FAO Mrs Knoll).

### Easter holiday

Our last day of the Spring Term is **Friday 27th March 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 **Monday 13th April**.

### Friends of Rowner events at King's Academy Rowner

#### Gift Shop for Ladies:

On Friday 13th March children will have the opportunity to buy **up to two small gifts** for any special ladies in their lives to give on Mothering Sunday. Gifts will range in price, with the team aiming to keep prices low (No more than **£4** will be required).

#### Easter:

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 23rd March - Thursday 26th March:** 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 27th March** Chocolate Raffle.

**Whilst we have had a few parents coming forward, we still need more parents on our Friends of Rowner committee.**

This vital role supports in the running of key 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 Miss Tuckley via [enquiries@kgarowner.uk](mailto:enquiries@kgarowner.uk)

## Pupil survey

This term, our pupils have completed a survey allowing them to share their voice on safeguarding matters.

### I feel safe in school - 84%

The children identified the following in what would make them feel safer in school: higher walls / gates, more fire drills, having a class pet and blocking the fox holes

### I know who to speak to if I'm upset - 94% and I know how to report a concern - 85%

Pupils specifically cited the "I Wish My Adult Knew" boxes and named specific staff members, demonstrating a high level of trust and clear communication channels.

### Children are treated equally - 89%

Pupils feel treated equally regardless of background. Comments suggested that pupils recognize a culture of fairness where "everyone is treated the same."

### Schools teaches me online safety - 95%

Education around Online Safety and Mental Health is highly effective. Children feel empowered with the knowledge to stay safe both digitally and emotionally.

### Bullying is dealt with effectively. - 92%

Children felt that bullying either never happened or was rare.

It was pleasing to see that the children see that the school has a **strong safeguarding culture** where the vast majority of the children feel heard and protected.

## Online safety - WhatsApp and other social media platforms

As a school we are aware that many of our young people use WhatsApp and other social media platforms 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 rated 13+.

### Common issues that are raised by parents with school include:

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

This week your children have been learning about how to keep themselves safe online. 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](#)

## Red vs Blue

You may have seen or heard about social media posts called 'School Wars: Red vs Blue.' These posts try to split schools into teams and encourage young people to meet and fight, sometimes on certain days. Some posts even suggest bringing items to use as weapons. This could include everyday objects such as a compass or a metal comb, but also dangerous items like fireworks or knives. Carrying anything to use as a weapon is illegal and very serious.

At this time, there is no specific link to our community. To help please talk to your child about if they see **anything** online that worries them so this can be worked through. In the unlikely event they mention anything in regards to the above we recommend talking to your child about:

- Understanding that these posts are not created by schools and are designed to cause trouble
- Knowing that bringing or carrying an item to use as a weapon is dangerous and against the law
- Walking away from any large groups or situations that feel unsafe
- Calling 999 if someone is in immediate danger

We will continue to keep a close watch on this and will update you if needed.

## Secondary school places

Secondary School places for Y7 September 2024 will be announced on **Monday 2nd 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 is and earrings are either taken out or covered.

## 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 as a character from a book on this day (*from an age appropriate children's book*) 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.