



NEWSLETTER 14

3rd July 2026

VALUE OF THE TERM – FRIENDSHIP

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." The Bible - John 15:12-15



Dear Parents and Friends of the school,



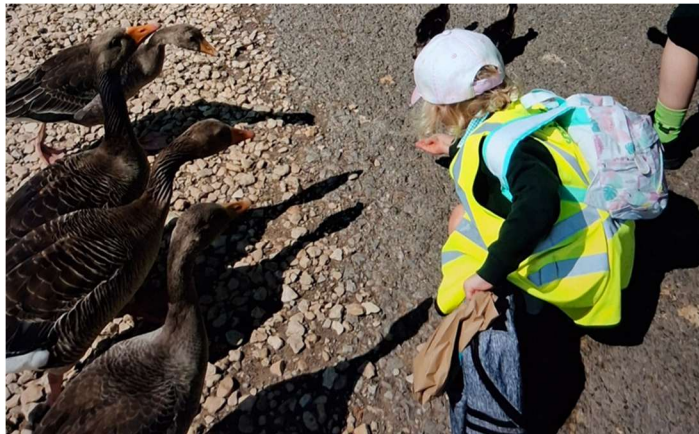
Share My Learning

It was wonderful to see so many adults looking at the evidence of learning that is apparent in children's books. Holding this outdoors made it really special – though indoor shade was available for those who needed it.

Mud Madness

A huge "Congratulations" go to the 'Friends' team and staff who organised and helped to run the muddy madness last Saturday. We will let you know the grand total shortly. Next week I'll include some photos and news of the extra-ordinary fundraising efforts of one young lady in particular!

Slimbridge WWT



The children had a wonderful time at the Slimbridge WWT centre. The coach journey took over an hour but once we were in we were given free reign over the large grounds, exploring Arctic tundra, North American and other 'zones' where birds of all shapes and sizes, colours could be spotted, some in the distance and others eating out of our hands – literally! There was an opportunity to learn about otters and a chance to cool off in the play park where most children had a paddle under the watchful eyes of the 19 adults – staff and parents - who accompanied us. We were given a bag of bird food each which was another gift from the Friends of Kempford School. We are all very grateful. "Thank you."

Area Finals



Congratulations to all our athletes who made it to the Area Finals on Thursday. Competing against many other schools, Kempsford managed this impressive tally: Noah – 4th in the 50m sprint, Lewis 6th in the same event. Ava was 4th in her 50m sprint. Aldo 1st in his 50m sprint. Sienna was 3rd in her heat for the 80m sprint, Be was second in his 80m sprint. Our Year 6 relay team came FIRST! Well done to you all.

Book Fair

Thank you to all those who came to the book fair and spent money on books that excited their children. Buying a book really is an investment in a child's future, but the support doesn't stop there – take time to read with your child – "Readers are made on the laps of their parents!"

Year 6 SATS Results Delayed

The Secretary of State for Education has written to all primary schools alerting us to a problem with the release of National Tests Results. This has been set back to 16th of July, our last pupil day this year (some counties will have finished already by then!) Because of this I have decided to release 'half' of each Y6 report – teacher comments etc - as an interim measure, at the same time as the rest of the school's reports, followed by the whole thing (both grades and comments) when the results become available. Can I remind parents that all reports will be distributed by email this year.

Parent Survey

The Parent Survey is now closed, with 37 respondents. Thank you. The Governors will consider the results on the 6th July, with the conclusions shared with the public shortly after.

Safeguarding

I hope many of you have taken the time to view the updated Safeguarding pages on the school website – <https://www.kempsfordschool.com/our-school/safeguarding/>

One of the resources I highly rate is Common Sense Media – a site where you can read Independent reviews from users and their parents. By searching for an app, game or movie you can find out what other parents think and what any associated dangers might be, about the tech your children use (or want to use!)

[Common Sense Media: Age-Based Media Reviews for Families | Common Sense Media](#)

On a separate topic, can parents leaving the school site via the small 'pedestrian gate' please check that the magnetic lock has fully engaged behind them. Thank you.

Transition Mornings

There was a lovely, excited 'buzz around the school on Tuesday and Wednesday morning as the children experienced their new classes for the first time. It was great to see Mrs Barrett back in school and working with the children.

Am I Dreaming?

Year 5 & 6 have been focussed on their summer production – ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ which they will present to an appreciative audience on Thursday 9th at 9:30 p.m. and then again at 6:30 p.m. (The date and time changes are due to the expected heat). We are very excited!

Guitar, Ukulele and Brass Lessons

There are places available for guitar, ukulele and brass lessons from September. Mr. Meade teaches at Kempsford on Wednesday mornings. Individual and small group lessons are available.

If you would like to know more, Mr. Meade will be pleased to send information and answer any questions. Taster sessions can be arranged. To find out more, please contact Mr. Meade – davidmeadeguitar@gmail.com

School Governor Role

We have a Parent Governor role, which we would like to fill as soon possible. If you are interested in becoming a Parent Governor, please complete a nomination form. Further details are on our Recruitment Page (see above).

New Policies

Currently with Governors for review, amendment, adoption and publication are the following policies:

- Acceptable Use of IT Policy 2026
- Admissions Policy 2027-28
- Allergy and Anaphylaxis Policy 2026
- Children with Health Needs who Cannot Attend School Policy 2026
- Children missing education policy 2026
- ECT Induction Policy 2026
- Equality Objectives 2026
- Equality Policy 2026
- GDPR Policy 2026
- Governors Allowances Policy 2026
- Code of Conduct 2026
- Letting Policy 2026
- Offer of Early Help Policy 2026
- Remote Education Policy 2026
- Safe Recruitment Policy 2026
- Supporting Children with Medical Conditions
- Suspension and Exclusion Policy 2026

Free School Meals (FSM): who's eligible?

From **September 2026**, eligibility for free school meals (FSM) will be extended to all pupils from households receiving Universal Credit. Please ask for a confidential conversation with myself if you feel this might include you.

Website update

The update continues, with new or improved pages on our Newsletters, Values, Pre-school and Policies.

THINK. It is ILLEGAL TO PARK on zig zag lines outside a school. Potentially, it endangers all our children.

FROM GCC - Improving Support for Children and Families in Gloucestershire

“We’re making changes to how we work that will make it easier for children and families to get the right support. We wanted to share an early update with you so you know what’s coming and what it will mean for you and the children you work with.

What this means for parents and families

Over the coming months, Gloucestershire County Council Education Services will be introducing improvements to our systems and processes to better support children and families. These are designed to:

- **Provide a more joined-up experience** – reducing the need to share the same information multiple times across different services
- **Ensure quicker access to support** by improving how information is shared across education, SEND, and early help services
- **Improve communication**, making processes clearer and easier to navigate

- **Support better outcomes for children** through earlier identification leading to more coordinated support.”

Hopefully we will see the changes produce real, positive improvements for our children.

Important Dates, Term 6, Summer 2026

Find the school year dates on our website – <https://www.kempsfordschool.com/school-hours-and-term-dates/>

Monday 6 th July	• Sport’s Day	Details sent via Ping
NEW DATES & TIMES Thursday 9 th July 9:30 a.m. and 6: 30 p.m.	• Class 3 performance of ...	A Midsummer Night’s Dream
Monday 13 th July	• LAST SWIM for Years 3, 4 & 5	
Monday 13 th July	• Projected release of end-of-year reports	See above
Tuesday 14 th July	• Y6 Leaver’s Service at Church	We meet at 10:00 a.m. in St Mary’s Church
Thursday 16 th July	• End of Term 6 for pupils. Pickup at 1:30 please.	Have a wonderful summer!
17 th and 20 th July	• Teacher INSET days.	Final record keeping, data analysis training, policy revision and preparing for the next chapter!