



Knebworth Primary School Newsletter

19th December 2025

A message from the Headteacher

As we reach the close of another wonderfully busy and exciting term, I would like to take this opportunity to share my deepest gratitude with everyone who makes the Knebworth Community so special.

To our pupils – thank you for being truly magical. Your curiosity, love for learning, and passion shine through every day, and it's a joy to watch you grow and flourish.

To our incredible staff – thank you for your unwavering dedication, for going above and beyond each day, and for nurturing our pupils so that they can blossom, thrive, and shine their brightest.

To parents and carers – thank you for your constant support and partnership. The respect and trust we share make our school community strong, and it's a privilege to work alongside you.

To the FOKS team – thank you for your tireless efforts in raising funds and supporting our school. Your commitment makes a real difference for every child here.

I feel so lucky to lead a school where children are truly at the heart of everything we do, and where the school itself is at the heart of the community. Reflecting on this term, I'm reminded of so many magical moments – from our ongoing CommUNITY events and enhancements to our OPAL provision, to the Bedtime Story evening, our spectacular Christmas performances, and the wonderful sporting experiences our pupils have enjoyed. I am so excited to see what 2026 has in store for us – I just know it's going to be another amazing year!

On Monday, it was KS2's turn to shine at their annual Carol Concert, and for those who attended, I'm sure you'll agree—it was absolutely spectacular! The children captivated us with their heartfelt singing, the narrators delivered their lines with great confidence, and several pupils provided wonderful musical accompaniment. We were also treated to poems and a rap written entirely by the children, which were a real delight to hear. A HUGE thank you goes to Mr. Williams for once again orchestrating such an outstanding concert, and to the parents and carers who joined in at parts of the concert as part of our community choir. It truly got us all into the festive spirit!



On Tuesday and Wednesday, Mr. Williams and the KS2 Choir visited Constance Place, Lowe House, Monread Lodge, and Knebworth Care Home to share Christmas carols and spread festive cheer to the residents. Once again, our children made us proud with their beautiful and heartfelt performances, creating a truly joyful experience for everyone!

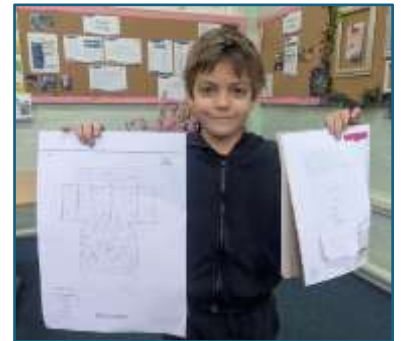
Thank you to Leo in Packham Class for donating such a beautiful Birthday Book to the school. Such a wonderfully festive story!



Well done to **House Bulwer** for being the Winning House this Autumn Term! I know the children in this House have enjoyed their treat today.



For magical work this week I have seen Daisy and Finley in Henson Class who shared a book their class created which contains so many humorous and descriptive poems based on the popular book *Oi Frog* – well done Henson Class! Sebastian in Henson Class came to show me the learning he had been doing at home and it was so lovely to see this responsibility for his learning outside the classroom. Robin, James, Anthony and Stanley in Chandi Class and Arla, Olivia, Ivy and Zoe in Henson Class all came to see to share their spectacular Snow Queen stories. I was so impressed with the varied sentence openers used, the adjectives and their retelling of the story – these were so magical to read! Ashley-Paul and Theo came to share their recent French learning and they have really been enjoying the new online platform we have been using to enhance teaching and learning in this area. Lastly, Edward in Thunberg Class came to share his wonderful DT work where he has been working hard to design and create a 3D Christmas box. Thank you to all the magical work children – it has been a joy sharing in your learning during the last week of term.



Over the past few weeks, link classes across the school have been coming together for some wonderful collaborative activities. Here's a snapshot of what they've been up to! Coelho Class had a fantastic time making paper plate angels with Nadal Class, letting their creativity shine in every design. Reception and Year 6 classes teamed up for reading sessions, with the younger children sharing their favourite books with their buddies, spreading a love of reading throughout the school. Zephaniah and Seacole Classes enjoyed exchanging stories with one another, while Turing Class lent a helping hand to Chandi Class as they painted their New Year calendars. Chandi Class then shared the Snow Queen stories they had been working so hard on with Turing Class. Meanwhile, Johnson Class proudly showed their Christmas cards to Henson Class, who in return shared their own Christmas stories. It was truly magical to see such wonderful learning and relationships flourishing across the school.



OPAL Star of the week!



This term The OPAL Play Ambassadors have made such an impact on lunchtime play. They have taken their role incredibly seriously and have been holding fortnightly meetings to discuss ideas they would like to introduce. On Wednesday they held an assembly, reminding the children of the OPAL rules that all of the children in the school had created as well as discussing positive play. They have also decided to introduce an OPAL Star of the Week and this week this honour has been awarded to Albie in Thunberg Class who was seen to be using the equipment safely whilst also using his imagination - The Play Ambassadors were so impressed. We look forward to hearing who the next OPAL Star of the Week will be.

As previously mentioned, we have our OPAL Parent Play Day on Friday 9th January. This will start at 1:30pm with a short presentation in the hall detailing our OPAL journey to date and then afterwards parents and carers will have the opportunity to play with the children in our OPAL provision. Our OPAL Mentor, Sam, will also be in school on this date sharing in all the magical parts of OPAL. We will then aim to finish by 3:00pm, just in time for the end of the school day. This is for children in Reception to Year 6 and due to space available, we can only accommodate one adult per child. We look forward to seeing lots of you there.

As the term draws to a close, I have a few staffing updates for you. On Wednesday, we said goodbye to Mrs Taylor, our Behaviour Lead. I would like to thank Mrs Taylor for the magic, care and kindness she has brought to our school we well as her passion and unwavering commitment to ensuring that each and every child under her care has flourished both socially and academically – she will be most sorely missed. We have also welcomed Mrs Staddon to Knebworth who is working in Packham Class as their Inclusion Assistant. Mrs Staddon is a highly experienced EYFS practitioner and we are so pleased that she has joined The Knebworth Team and I know the children have loved having her in class this week.

Thank you to all those families that donated so generously to the Food Shed collection – we know that this will be really appreciated by our community.

Have a lovely, restful Christmas and New Year everyone. I hope you all have the most magical time spending time with your loved ones and making precious memories. I look forward to seeing all children back in school on Tuesday 6th January 2026.

Best Wishes,
Miss Bains





WINNERS:

Turing Class

Y1 Coelho 86.1%	Y1 Zephaniah 92.1%	Y2 Chandi 95.4%	Y2 Henson 92.7%	Y3 Nadal 94.1%	Y3 Thunberg 94.8%
Y4 Johnson 95.6%	Y4 Turing 100%	Y5 Nightingale 97.1%	Y5 Seacole 92.6%	Y6 Bronte 93.6%	Y6 Byron 92.3%

Knebworth Silver Values Certificates

These will continue in 2026!

HOUSE POINTS



Aschil 115



Bulwer 111



Eudo 108



Lytton 80

Top House Point Earners

Y1 Coelho Freddie Isaac	Y1 Zephaniah Nava	Y2 Chandi Anthony	Y2 Henson Daisy	Y3 Nadal Adam	Y3 Thunberg Pascal
Y4 Johnson Coco	Y4 Turing Henry Stanley	Y5 Nightingale Joseph	Y5 Seacole Nathan	Y6 Bronte Albie	Y6 Byron Violet

This Week's Pencrafters

These will continue in 2026!



Healthy Eating Spotlight

A big thank you to Caroline Farrell (Registered Nutritionist) for providing our weekly healthy eating spotlights!

Chocolate Orange Ginger Truffles

These truffles are naturally sweetened with dates, making them relatively low in sugar. They are a fun activity to enjoy with children and make a lovely homemade gift for friends and family.

Ingredients

- 1 cup Pitted Dates
- 1/2 cup Candied Ginger
- 2 tbsp Coconut Oil
- 1/2 cup Desiccated Coconut
- 1 tsp Orange Extract
- 1/2 tsp Sea Salt
- 1/2 cup Cacao Powder (divided)
- 1/3 cup Dark Chocolate Chips



Method

1. Add the dates, ginger, coconut oil, desiccated coconut, orange extract, salt and one quarter of the cacao powder to a food processor. Blend until the mixture comes together into a smooth, sticky dough.
2. Fold in the dark chocolate chips. Roll the mixture into small balls.
3. Place the remaining cacao powder into a small bowl and roll each truffle until lightly coated.
4. Transfer to a plate or container and refrigerate for at least two hours, or until firm.

Enjoy!



Message from The FOKS Team

The FOKS Ambassadors have been a huge help to us these past few weeks. Firstly, they manned our pop-up Christmas shop in the playground after school last Friday and raised £78.80. This week they have played the part of our FOKS Elves, delivering class Christmas gifts across the school, sprinkling Christmas cheer and magic wherever they went.

With £756, we've donated these resources personally chosen by their teachers for their classes:

Nursery - 2 x Inno Pad Educational Learning Tablets

Reception - Outdoor play equipment

Y1 Zephaniah - Peg boards and pegs

Y1 Coelho - Wooden construction shapes

Y2 Chandi - Outdoor play and sports equipment

Y2 Henson - 1-20 Numberblocks and Mathlink Cubes

Y3 Nadal - Bean bag chair for the calm reading area

Y3 Thunberg - Cuddle Cushion and fidget toys for the Zen Den, plus Christmas Scratch Art

Y4 Turing & Johnson - 30 x headphones for each class to use with the Chromebooks

Y5 Nightingale - Bean bag chair for the calm area

Y5 Seacole - 3 x Usborne Factual Books

Y6 Byron - Seismograph to help when studying Earthquakes in topic learning next year

Y6 Bronte - Whole Class Escape Room game to play



It's always worth the planning and prep of all of our events when we get to see the huge smiles on the faces of the children. We've also donated £2,145 to cover contributions for Bikeability, Swimming Lessons and the upcoming Y6 Harry Potter trip.



Thank you as ever to those who support us and make all this possible. We wish the whole school community a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you at more events and initiatives in the New Year.

Liz & Katie

PS If you'd like to join the committee, have a say in what we do and what we spend, please come and see us in the playground, or email your contact details to FOKSchool@outlook.com



Key Dates for your Diary – Autumn Term 2025

Details for upcoming events will be sent nearer the time where and when applicable
New/amended dates are highlighted in yellow

Date/Time	Event
5 th January 2026	INSET Day (School Closed)
6 th January 2026	Spring Term Begins
9 th January 2026 1:30 to 3pm	OPAL Parent Play Day An opportunity for parents and carers to come into school to find out more about the school's OPAL journey and play with their child! Further details to follow.
<p>Knebworth School Term Dates can be accessed here: https://www.knebworthprimaryschool.org.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=39</p>	

