



Knebworth Primary School Newsletter

9th January 2026

A message from the Headteacher

Welcome back to the start of the Spring Term! I do hope all of our families had a restful, magical and festive winter break. It has so been wonderful to welcome the children back to school, full of enthusiasm for the new term, and I know our annual Take One Book (TOB) project has already inspired so many of them.



This year's TOB text, *It Fell From the Sky* by Devin Fan, has captured the children's imaginations and filled our lessons with excitement, awe and wonder. When a mysterious spherical object appears in the world of insects, each character has their own ideas about what it could be. Inspired by this story, the children will be creating their own recounts for competition entries, both within our school and alongside other participating North Hertfordshire schools. To continue the theme of awe, wonder and magic, Mrs Cooke has chosen this as the January spotlight in our school library and I know some of these books have caught the children's eye!



We are delighted to invite you to our TOB exhibition on **Wednesday 4th February, from 3:20–6:00pm**, where you can enjoy the children's magical writing and artwork. Please be sure to add this date to your diaries — we look forward to welcoming you.

Yesterday, I had the privilege of hosting a group of visiting headteachers and senior leaders from schools across the county to support them with the teaching of maths within their own settings. As part of the visit, we spent time in a maths lesson in Brontë Class, where our visiting colleagues were incredibly impressed by the children's excellent behaviour for learning, their strong growth mindset in mathematics, and the positive culture of learning within the classroom. One colleague kindly took the time to email this morning with the following feedback: *"It was a privilege to be there with such thoughtful professionals, all working to improve their maths offer. Such brilliant teaching and it really showed how they are building solid foundations for secondary school."* We know that Knebworth is a magical place to learn and grow, but it is always wonderful to receive such affirming feedback from fellow professionals. A huge well done to Brontë Class and Miss Knappett for being so truly magical!

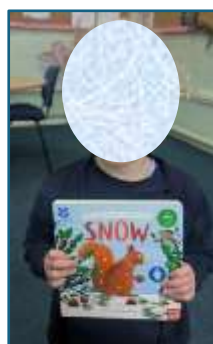
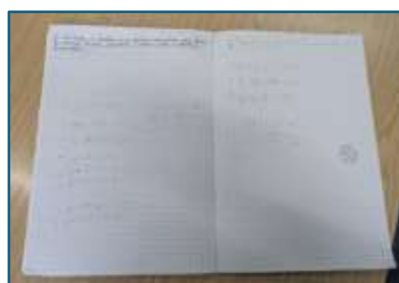
As most of you will be aware, due to the forecasted adverse weather conditions, the team and I had to make the difficult decision this morning to cancel this afternoon's OPAL Parent Play Day. We so understand that this will have been disappointing for many children and families, please be assured that this was not a decision taken lightly. While we had hoped the weather would be kinder to us today, the safety and wellbeing of our children, families and staff will always be our top priority — and sadly, the Great British weather doesn't always cooperate! We will be in touch as soon as possible to share a new date and we look forward to welcoming you into school then. We are aware that a small number of parents and carers did not receive the recent email sent via Arbor. As outlined in our school communication strategy, which was developed following parental feedback, Arbor is our primary method for sharing all important school information. **We therefore kindly ask all parents and carers to ensure they are signed up to Arbor and that their email addresses and phone numbers are kept up to date.** This will help ensure you receive all communications and remain fully informed at all times.





The first week back of term has seen magical learning occurring across the school! Well done to Nellie in Nadal Class who shared with me her wonderful writing where she had worked so brilliantly to include a range of verbs and adverbs. Well done to Jack in Brontë Class who has worked so diligently on his maths learning which has involved writing fractions as a decimal calculation and also being able to recognise equivalent decimals and fractions. Well done to Jacob in Nightingale Class who shared his most beautiful sketch where he had used contours to

aid his shading. It was so lovely to award you all a Magical Work stamp on the very first week of the new term - you should be so proud!



Thank you to Lyra, Elysa and Albie in Packham Class, Louisa in Nursery, Alba in Johnson Class and Una in Coelho Class for donating such beautiful Birthday Books to the school – we cannot wait to read and explore these in school!

This week, we have been delighted to welcome some new additions to The Knebworth Team. Mrs Hudson is working across both Year 5 classes as an Inclusion Assistant. Mrs Etchie has joined the teaching team and will be teaching Chandi Class on Thursdays and Fridays. Finally, Mr Cook has joined us for the half term as a Trainee Teacher, based in Zephaniah Class. I am sure you will all join me in wishing them a very warm welcome to the school. We are so pleased to have them all on board and know they will be a wonderful addition to our school community.

A gentle reminder that parking at St Martin's Church is kindly available for **school drop-off only** between **8:30am and 9:00am during term time**. Unfortunately, the church car park is not available for school collection or for parking during school events outside of these times. Thank you for your understanding and continued support. Please do refer to the separate letter sent earlier today for further information.

Lastly, we warmly encourage you to take a look at the Spring Term dates at the end of the newsletter and pop them into your diaries so you don't miss anything exciting! Have a lovely, restful weekend everyone.

Best Wishes,
Miss Bains





WINNERS: *Zephaniah & Johnson Classes*

Y1 Coelho 96.0%	Y1 Zephaniah 99.1%	Y2 Chandi 94.7%	Y2 Henson 95.4%	Y3 Nadal 91.4%	Y3 Thunberg 94.0%
Y4 Johnson 99.1%	Y4 Turing 99.0%	Y5 Nightingale 98.8%	Y5 Seacole 95.8%	Y6 Bronte 93.5%	Y6 Byron 97.6%

Knebworth Silver Values Certificates

To resume next week

HOUSE POINTS



Aschil 30



Bulwer 45



Eudo 50



Lvtton 48

Top House Point Earners

Y1 Coelho Arthur Reggie Edward	Y1 Zephaniah Elsie	Y2 Chandi Ronnie	Y2 Henson Fabian	Y3 Nadal Emmeline	Y3 Thunberg Roxanne
Y4 Johnson Georgia	Y4 Turing Henry	Y5 Nightingale Oliver Mia	Y5 Seacole Penelope	Y6 Bronte Amelia Bow Florence Ilda	Y6 Byron Matilda

This Week's Pencrafters

To resume next week



Key Dates for your Diary – Spring Term 2026

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

Date/Time	Event
14 th January to 25 th March <i>(Wednesday afternoons)</i>	Top Up Swimming for selected children in Years 5 and 6
21 st January	Young Voices Choir Trip to The O2
22 nd January	Year 5 Trip to Stem Centre
26 th January	Year 6 Trip to Harry Potter Studios
4 th February 3:20 to 6pm	Take One Book Exhibition A chance for parents and carers to come into school to see their child's magical work on display!
9 th February	Virtual Reality (VR) Workshops for Years 3 to 5 Using cutting-edge virtual reality headsets, children will be able to explore different geographical locations and environments from around the world - all from the comfort of their classroom! Separate letter to follow.
16 th to 20 th February	Half Term (School Closed)
24 th February	NO WRAPAROUND CARE OR AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS As part of our statutory requirements, all staff and volunteers will be undertaking safeguarding training after school on Tuesday 24 th February. As a result, unfortunately, we are unable to run any after school clubs or wraparound care on this date. If your child normally stays after school, please do make alternative arrangements for this date.
5 th March	World Book Day Children are invited to come to school dressed in any of the following ways - in full fancy dress as a character from a book, in their pyjamas with their favourite book or wearing their school uniform with their favourite book. We are looking forward to having an array of reading events on offer for the children.
6 th March 9:15 to 10am	Geography CommUNITY Event A chance for one parent per child to come into school to experience the magic of Geography at Knebworth.
14 th March 10am to 12pm	Litter Pick with Knebworth Environmental Group A voluntary litter pick throughout the village and school. Do come along to help keep Knebworth clean and tidy!
19 th March	Year 3 Trip to St Albans Cathedral
23 rd March – 26 th March	Year 4 Bikeability





	Children in Year 4 will be offered the opportunity to take part in a Level 1 Bikeability session which focuses on key cycling skills.
24 th and 25 th March 3:40 – 6:40pm	Parents Evening Spring Term Consultations - <i>these will be face to face unless a virtual appointment is required</i> A 10-minute appointment with your child's class teacher to discuss their progress as we reach the end of the second term of the academic year.
27 th March	Spring Term Ends 12pm – Nursery - <i>a 1pm pick up can be accommodated on this date, please let Miss Leatham know if you require this.</i> 1:10pm – Reception & KS1 1:20pm – KS2
27 th March	FOKS Non-Uniform Day Children are invited to come to school in non-uniform on this day for a £1 donation to FOKS. Our fantastic FOKS team will be on the playground before and after school to collect donations. All funds raised will go directly towards enrichment activities and resources for the children.
13 th April	INSET Day (School Closed)
14 th April	Summer Term Begins

