



## Knebworth Primary School Newsletter

13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

### A message from the Headteacher

What a success Children's Mental Health Week has been! Classes across the school have used A-Life to explore ways of keeping our minds healthy, as well as enjoying movement breaks throughout the day. Circle times focused on feeling good, understanding what makes us feel safe at school and at home, and sharing kindness with others. In Year 6, pupils reflected during RE on what it means to be a Year 6 child in 2026. They thoughtfully discussed the stresses the remainder of the year may bring, strategies for coping, and the importance of talking to someone if things ever feel overwhelming. Year 3 explored the theme of giving in their RE lessons, making meaningful links to Ramadan. Year 4 kindly supported Year 2 with their sewing, demonstrating wonderful collaboration and care. Creative expression has also been a highlight of the week. Through art projects in link classes, children reflected on the people and places that make them feel at home, including writing heartfelt letters to those who help them feel safe and supported. Although this week provided a special focus, the children's feedback shows just how much they already understand about their wellbeing — truly impressive. A BIG thank you to Ms Salmon for facilitating such a thoughtful and inspiring week, full of engaging and meaningful experiences for the children.



On Monday, Years 3–5 took part in an exciting Geography workshop using VR headsets to enrich their learning experiences. Year 3 explored a range of active and dormant volcanoes from around the world, bringing their learning vividly to life. Year 4 visited famous landmarks and challenged themselves to identify the cities, countries and continents in which they are located. Meanwhile, Year 5 journeyed through a variety of biomes, including the rainforest, desert, tundra and savanna, gaining a deeper understanding of these diverse environments. The immersive experience sparked curiosity and enthusiasm across all year groups. Poppy in Turing Class and Luca in Thunberg Class both rated the workshop 10/10 showing how much they enjoyed the opportunity to “travel” the world in such an interactive way. A BIG thank you to Mrs Isaac-Romani for organising such a fantastic opportunity to enhance classroom learning through innovative technology – an experience we know the children will not forget!

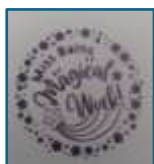
Also on Monday, Miss Breckenridge and a team of children from Years 3 and 4 represented the school at the Stevenage Sporting Futures Team Rapid Fire Cricket Festival. The team performed brilliantly, finishing second in our heat and earning a well-deserved place in the finals later this month — a fantastic achievement! In addition to their sporting success, the children demonstrated outstanding character throughout the event and were proudly awarded the School Games Values Award for Honesty. This recognition reflects not only their skill but also their integrity and sportsmanship. We are incredibly proud of the team and look forward to cheering them on in the finals. Well done to everyone involved!



On Tuesday, as part of Internet Safety Day, children across the school participated in live lessons focused on AI chatbots. During these sessions, they learned how AI chatbots are created, how to use them and most importantly how to stay safe when interacting with them online. The children engaged thoughtfully with the topic and demonstrated a growing awareness of how to navigate the digital world safely and sensibly. Well done to all involved.

Also on Tuesday, Year 4 visited St Martin's Church to learn more about how Christians worship. Reverend Charles gave the children a tour of the Church so they could learn about the different parts of the Church such as the altar, font and organ area and some children even had a go at playing the organ! We learned that Christians worship through prayer, song and coming together as a community. Thank you, Reverend Charles!

On Thursday, Year 6 enjoyed an amazing rowing workshop led by Chris Bull from FitKidz. Considering many of the children have never rowed before, they all did a great job. Chris helped them to perfect their rowing techniques, played some solo and team games with them and immersed the children in a fun, competitive environment. Well done to all involved!



This week, for Magical Learning, I am delighted to celebrate Isabella, Emmeline and Emily in Nadal Class for their fantastic problem-solving in Maths. They demonstrated excellent understanding and confidence when using the number line method to divide numbers – well done girls! I have seen Luyanda and Reuben in Johnson Class and Georgi, Hattie, Henry, Izzy, Jayda and Jayden from Turing Class for their excellent holiday brochures which used an array of persuasive techniques to persuade people to visit their holiday destinations – I was most definitely persuaded!



I had the pleasure of talking to Bella, Poppy and Violet in Nightingale Class who shared with me the wonderful class assembly they had planned and delivered on the theme of reading. It was a real joy to see the confidence with which they presented and the clear thought and care that had gone into their planning. Most of all, their passion and genuine enjoyment of reading



shone through — inspiring for everyone who watched. I have seen Arthur in Henson Class for his superb set of instructions on how to catch a fire giant – I think these would most definitely do the job! This writing has also earned him the title of KS1 Pencrafter of the Week! I have seen Darcy in Byron Class for her podcast linked to Take One Book – this was such a joy to read with some really impressive vocabulary choices.



Zachary in Nadal Class proudly shared the fantastic explanation text he has written all about how bees make honey with great use of the features of the text type – this has earned him the title of KS2 Pencrafter of Week and a spot in one of my magical frames, well done Zachary! Imogen and Jude in Seacole Class shared with me setting descriptions which were a true joy to read and it was so lovely seeing them both so proud and confident of their writing. Lastly, I have also seen Lucas, Max, Toby, Hannah, Sara and Zoe from Henson Class who proudly shared with me the most excellent puppets they have created as part of their recent DT topic – these looked so magical!



Thank you to Grace, Arthur and Finley in Henson Class, Mikey in Nursery, Immy in Seacole Class, Takara in Packham Class and Ezra in Coelho Class for donating such terrific Birthday Books to the school – these have taken pride of place in our school library. A special mention to Brooke in Nightingale Class, who very thoughtfully chose to donate one of her own books to the school because she felt others would enjoy reading it too. What an incredibly kind and generous gesture, Brooke. Your thoughtfulness and love of reading will no doubt inspire others – we are so proud of you!



To continue our focus on reading, KS2 were delighted to welcome a visit from author Rashmi Sirdeshpande today. She spoke to the children about her latest book, *Hari Kumar, Ultimate Superstar*, which was released just yesterday. Rashmi shared insights into her life as an author, speaking openly about her ADHD and autism, and how she embraces these as her superpowers when writing. Her honesty and positivity were truly inspiring, and the children were captivated by her experiences and creative process. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed hearing about her journey and learning more about her newest book. It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate reading and to show how individuality and creativity go hand in hand. For those children who pre-ordered a copy of *Hari Kumar, Ultimate Superstar*, she kindly met with them in the school library to personally sign their books.





It was such a special opportunity for the children to meet the author face-to-face and to receive a signed copy — creating memories they will surely treasure. We still have a few signed copies of her book available. The link has been reopened on Arbor, so if you would like your child to have a copy, please make your payment there. All books ordered will be distributed to children after the half-term break — a wonderful keepsake for any young reader!

Thank you to all the parents and carers who took the time to complete the recent drop-off and pick-up survey. Your feedback is greatly appreciated. However, we had hoped for a higher response rate, so we will be running a further survey during Parents' Evening in March. This will give us the opportunity to consult as many members of our school community as possible on this important topic. Thank you in advance for your continued support and co-operation.

Please be aware that **Swangleys Lane will be closed from 25th February to 3rd March** due to essential electricity works in the area. We kindly ask that you make alternative arrangements for drop-off and pick-up during this period to ensure safety and smooth access for all families.

Lastly, a date for your diaries — **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March** for our OPAL Parent Playday, **1:30 to 3pm** — we look forward to seeing lots of you there!

Thank you all for your continued support throughout this half term. I hope you and your families have a lovely, restful break — a well-deserved opportunity to relax and recharge. Enjoy the half-term, everyone!

Best Wishes,  
Miss Bains





**WINNERS:** *Coelho Class*

Y1 Coelho 98.6%	Y1 Zephaniah 93.7%	Y2 Chandi 95.4%	Y2 Henson 96.3%	Y3 Nadal 93.5%	Y3 Thunberg 92.9%
Y4 Johnson 85.25	Y4 Turing 96.9%	Y5 Nightingale 97.1%	Y5 Seacole 95.8%	Y6 Bronte 93.6%	Y6 Byron 95.4%

## Knebworth Silver Values Certificates

Nursery  
*Ralph & Rosalie*

Ayling-Ellis  
*Eva*

Packham  
*Reuben*

Coelho  
*Annabelle*

Zephaniah  
*Grayson*

Chandi  
*Bonnie*

Henson  
*Keith*

Nadal  
*To be revealed after half term*

Thunberg  
*Seren*

Johnson  
*Alba*

Turing  
*Seb*

Nightingale  
*Bella H*

Seacole  
*Tallulah*

Bronte  
*Lacey-Mae*

Byron  
*Damon*

## HOUSE POINTS



Aschil 124



Bulwer 120



Eudo 102



Lvtton 93

## Top House Point Earners

Y1 Coelho Howell Sofia	Y1 Zephaniah Eric	Y2 Chandi Aidan	Y2 Henson Max	Y3 Nadal Esmae-Louise	Y3 Thunberg Albie Ava Ronnie
Y4 Johnson Harry	Y4 Turing Jayda Jayden Bea Harry	Y5 Nightingale Jacob	Y5 Seacole Imogen	Y6 Bronte Albie	Y6 Byron Matilda

## This Week's Pencrafters

*Arthur in Henson Class*  
*Zachary in Nadal Class*





## Message from The FOKS Team

We've spent this half term behind the scenes planning, prepping and researching our fundraising activities and enrichment opportunities for the rest of this academic year and beyond. Please look at our new dates added to the calendar for Spring 2 to see what we've got in store. More information will follow after half term.

Izzy, Imogen, Sylvie and Finley from Year 4 hosted a Cake Sale last week and raised an incredible £138.30! Thank you so much for being so responsible you four; and thank you to those who helped with baking and buying, it is much appreciated. The children loved it so much we thought we'd re-instate the monthly Cake Sales run by each year group to create a bit of competition and raise vital funds for FOKS at the same time! Year 3 have kindly volunteered for the next one on Friday 6 March - please watch out for messages from your year group rep for further details on how you can get involved. Other year groups, be primed for your turn too when it comes!



Lastly, thank you to those who completed our Village Day survey and those who have sent us or talked to us about fundraising ideas - we really appreciate your input and you've helped us create some fantastic events and initiatives that will be coming up! Attached is a summary of the funds we raised in the Autumn term and also a summary of what we've spent them on in school. As you can see, we raised an impressive **£3,830.50** and spent **£3,895.51** supporting enrichment activities and resources for school. We couldn't have done it without you so we thank you for your support.

Have a lovely half term,  
Liz & Katie, FOKS Co-Chairs



## Healthy Eating Spotlight

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

### Almond Butter Blueberry Pancakes

Pancake Tuesday is this month, and these almond butter blueberry pancakes are a great school day breakfast.

The egg and almond butter provide protein, which helps keep blood sugar levels steady. This means children are more likely to have sustained energy and focus during the school day. Blueberries are rich in natural antioxidants, including compounds that support brain health. Research links regular blueberry intake with benefits for memory, concentration and cognitive function.

#### Ingredients (serves 2)

- 1 Egg
- 1/4 cup Almond Butter
- 2 tbsp Milk
- 1 1/2 tsp Maple Syrup
- 1/2 tsp Baking Powder
- Olive Oil (for the pan)
- 1/4 cup Blueberries (fresh or frozen)



#### Method

1. In a bowl, whisk together the egg, almond butter and milk until smooth.
2. Stir in the baking powder and maple syrup.
3. Heat a frying pan over a medium heat and lightly grease with oil.
4. Spoon small amounts of batter into the pan to form pancakes.
5. Sprinkle over the blueberries and cook for 3–5 minutes on each side until golden.



## 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
16 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term (School Closed)
24 <sup>th</sup> February	<p><b>NO WRAPAROUND CARE OR AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS</b></p> <p>As part of our statutory requirements, all staff and volunteers will be undertaking safeguarding training after school on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February.</p> <p>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.</p>
2 <sup>nd</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> March	<p><b>FOKS Mother's Day Online Shop Opens</b></p> <p>Order a special gift for that wonderful woman in your life via our SumUp Online Shop. Pre-ordered gifts will then be handed out at school on Friday 13 March. Further details to follow after half term.</p>
5 <sup>th</sup> March	<p><b>World Book Day</b></p> <p>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.</p>
6 <sup>th</sup> March 9:15 to 10am	<p><b>Geography CommUNITY Event</b></p> <p>A chance for one parent per child to come into school to experience the magic of Geography at Knebworth.</p>
6 <sup>th</sup> March	<p><b>FOKS Y3 Cake Sale</b></p> <p>Cakes &amp; Treats available to buy after school, organised by Year 3 children and parents.</p>
11 <sup>th</sup> March	<p><b>FOKS Enrichment Activity - KS2 assembly by Knebworth House's Education Officer: "Lady Constance Lytton and Women's Suffrage", in conjunction with International Women's Day.</b></p>
12 <sup>th</sup> March 1:30 – 3pm	<p><b>OPAL Parent Play Day</b></p> <p>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>
14 <sup>th</sup> March 10am to 12pm	<p><b>Litter Pick with Knebworth Environmental Group</b></p> <p>A voluntary litter pick throughout the village and school. Do come along to help keep Knebworth clean and tidy!</p>
19 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Year 3 Trip to St Albans Cathedral</b>
23 <sup>rd</sup> March – 26 <sup>th</sup> March	<p><b>Year 4 Bikeability</b></p> <p>Children in Year 4 will be offered the opportunity to take part in a Level 1 Bikeability session which focuses on key cycling skills. <b>This is kindly subsidised by FOKS.</b></p>
24 <sup>th</sup> and 25 <sup>th</sup> March 3:40 – 6:40pm	<b>Parents Evening Spring Term Consultations - these will be face to face unless a virtual appointment is required</b>





	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. FOKS pre-loved uniform will also be on sale.
27 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>FOKS Non-Uniform Day</b> 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.
27 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>FOKS Easter Bonnet/Hat Competition</b> <i>Spring into step and get your creative juices flowing to create an Easter bonnet or hat! Prizes will be awarded to EY/KS1 and KS2 Winners as judged by our FOKS Ambassadors. £1 to enter, further details to follow.</i>
27 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Spring Term Ends</b> 12pm – Nursery - a 1pm pick up can be accommodated on this date, please let Miss Leatham know if you require this. 1:10pm – Reception & KS1 1:20pm – KS2
30 <sup>th</sup> March to 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	<b>FOKS Easter Trail around Knebworth</b> <i>Solve riddles, find letters around the village and unscramble them to reveal a secret word to claim your prize! More details to follow.</i>
13 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>INSET Day (School Closed)</b>
14 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Summer Term Begins</b>

