HIGH ASPIRATIONS

KNEBWORTH
Primary and Nursery School

Deep Roots High Aspirations

Knebworth Primary School Newsletter

16th October 2026

A message from the Headteacher

We can hardly believe we're nearing the end of Autumn 1 already – doesn't time fly! We're looking forward to welcoming lots of you to our Parents' Evening consultations next week. It will be a lovely opportunity to share how the children have settled into the new school year and celebrate their progress so far.

The Knebworth Way

I am delighted to share the launch of our new **Values Board**, which I introduced to the children during Monday's assembly. The updated board reflects our Relational Behaviour Policy and Behaviour Curriculum and underpins *The Knebworth Way*. It reinforces the values, attitudes and behaviours that make our school such a magical place to learn and grow. Most importantly, it reminds us all what it means to be a valued member of our school community and how we can contribute to creating a positive, respectful and supportive environment. **These are the expectations we have of all our children as they learn, grow and thrive together.**

An A4 hard copy of the Values Board will be available for all families at Parents' Evening. I would encourage you to take this home and use it as a reference point for conversations with your child about our school values and the behaviours we expect. By working together and maintaining consistency between home and school, we can strengthen our home-school partnership and ensure that our children receive a shared, clear message about how we treat one another and what it means to live *The Knebworth Way*.



DEEP ROOTS

Attendance

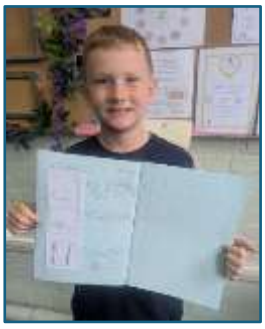
Congratulations to Henson Class for achieving an excellent **100% attendance** this week! A fantastic achievement!

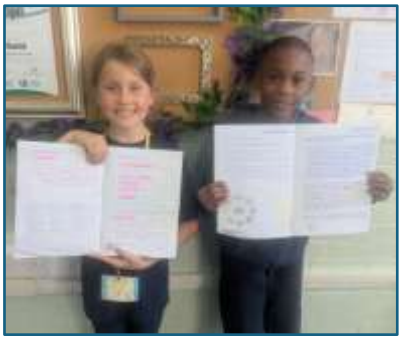
Magical Learning

This week, I had the pleasure of seeing Roxanne, Lucas, George, Archie, Pascal, Bronte, Alana, Rafe and William in Thunberg Class and Adam, Mason, Roisin, Emmeline and Sahana in Nadal Class all for their wonderfully written persuasive texts. They had all used emotive language, rhetorical questions and exaggeration to superb effect and it was clear they had all really enjoyed this English unit. I have seen Freddie in Coelho Class for his beautiful poem all about Autumn where he had used expanded noun phrases so wonderfully for description – it was a real joy to read his poem, well done Freddie! I have seen Harry in Johnson Class for his excellent writing on describing a scene. He had focussed so superbly not only on his handwriting but also on his use of adjectives. Mohsina in Johnson Class and Sylvie in Turing Class both came to share with me their spectacular pieces of descriptive writing where they had both used expanded noun phrases and varied sentence structure to really bring their writing to life – they were both a joy to read and Sylvie's writing has gained a place in one of my Magical Frames! Sylvie also came to see me to share her work on using adverbials correctly so it has most definitely been a magical week for her! Lastly, I was delighted to see some fantastic Science writing from Jayden in Turing Class. As part of his learning, Jayden was challenged to write a clear, well-reasoned opinion on whether life exists on Mars. He made superb use of sentence openers and his scientific knowledge to communicate his ideas effectively. Well done, Jayden – a wonderful example of thoughtful writing and excellent subject knowledge!







Stevenage Sporting Futures Team Opportunities

Our reception classes had a wonderful time taking part in a Wild About Nature session with the Stevenage Sporting Futures Team. The children explored different ways of moving, using music and shapes inspired by animals and the natural world. They thoroughly enjoyed this fun and engaging experience! Selected children also had a fantastic time taking part in the Crystal Maze Festival this week. Working together as a team, they tackled a range of exciting challenges, using their problem-solving skills and cooperation to earn crystals along the way. They had the most magical time! A huge thank you to the Stevenage Sporting Futures Team for facilitating such superb sporting opportunities and providing our children with memorable experiences that help build confidence, teamwork and a love of being active.

Show Racism the Red Card Day

This week, our school was a sea of red as we came together to recognise Show Racism the Red Card Day. Children across the school took part in a range of activities to explore what it means to be anti-racist and why it is so important to stand up against racism. Here's a snapshot of some of the wonderful learning that took place! Nursery have been learning about Black history throughout the week, taking time to explore the book *My First Heroes: Black History*. The children made thoughtful links between the people they read about and their own red clothing, explaining that wearing red showed our support for those who worked hard to make life fair for everyone, regardless of their skin colour. Key Stage 1 explored what being anti-racist means through different scenarios, discussing how kindness and our actions can help others. They also enjoyed listening to *Coming to England* by Floella Benjamin and discussing the important themes within the story. Year 4 learned about Show Racism the Red Card, why the campaign was established and the importance of being anti-racist. They then put their learning into action by creating posters to share ways in which we can all challenge racism and promote equality. Year 6 explored the history of Show Racism the Red Card through the story of Shaka Hislop. They discussed racism in football and the impact it has on both players and fans before creating their own posters and artwork to highlight the importance of standing together against racism. It has been wonderful to see our children engaging so thoughtfully with such an important message At Knebworth, we are proud to call ourselves an Anti-Racist school and want every child to feel valued, respected and included, and we are proud to be helping our children understand how their words, choices and actions can make a positive difference. Together, we can stand up to racism and help make our school and wider community a fairer place for everyone.

Birthday Books





Thank you to Lysander in Ayling-Ellis Class and Noah in Chandi Class for donating such magical Birthday Books to the school. I really enjoyed hearing all about your birthday celebrations and exploring your chosen books.

Year 1 Nature Walk



Year 1 enjoyed a wonderful nature walk on Wednesday as part of their Geography topic on the seasons. The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the natural world around them and were a real credit to our school, demonstrating our school values throughout their walk. On their return, they were bursting with excitement and couldn't wait to tell me all about the different things they had spotted in nature. It was lovely to see their enthusiasm and curiosity shining through! Well done, Year 1! You made us very proud!

Welcome to The Inclusion Team

A very warm welcome to Miss Barter, who joined our Inclusion Team this week and has already been busy supporting children across the school. We are delighted to welcome her to our school community and look forward to the knowledge, care and enthusiasm she will bring to the team. Welcome to Knebworth, Miss Barter!

Have a lovely, restful weekend everyone.
Best Wishes,
Miss Bains

Children's Achievements









A huge well done to Eve in Johnson Class, who is immensely proud of her swimming achievement! Eve has progressed from Stage 7 (purple hat) to Stage 9 (black hat), which is fantastic progress. We are incredibly proud of her determination and perseverance, demonstrating our school value of resilience beyond the school gates. Well done, Eve – keep up the brilliant work!

We also have some exciting news to celebrate about Sophia, also in Johnson Class! She was selected as one of the winners of the Herts Summer Reading Challenge and has received a signed book from author Gareth P. Jones. With around 17,000 participants in the prize draw, this is a truly wonderful achievement! We are so pleased that Sophia's love of reading has been recognised in this way. Congratulations, Sophia! What a fantastic reward for your enthusiasm for reading!

A huge well done to George in Nadal Class, who has been excelling in swimming recently. George has achieved an incredible three gold medals and a bronze medal – a fantastic accomplishment! We are incredibly proud of his hard work, dedication and determination. Well done, George – what a fantastic achievement!

We are delighted to celebrate Maya in Nightingale Class, who has been shining in gymnastics! Her hard work and dedication have been recognised with a trophy and a certificate of achievement, celebrating her fantastic effort, determination and skill. Superb news!

Lastly, a huge congratulations to Hallie in Packham Class, who competed in her club championships recently and performed brilliantly, bringing home an incredible three medals! Hallie achieved 1st place on floor, 3rd place on trampette and 3rd place overall – what a fantastic achievement! We are incredibly proud of Hallie and all the hard work she has put into her gymnastics. It was wonderful to see her confidence, determination and enthusiasm shine through, and even lovelier to hear how proudly she celebrated her success afterwards. Well done, Hallie – you are an absolute superstar!

Key Dates for your Diary – Autumn 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
21st & 22nd October 3:40 – 6:40pm	Autumn Term Parents Evening Consultations These will be face to face unless a virtual appointment is required. A 10-minute appointment with your child's class teacher to discuss their first half term of the academic year.
21st October 9:15 to 10:15am	Prospective Parents Open Morning An opportunity for potential future Knebworth families to see the school before applying for their school places.
26th October to 30th October	October Half Term (School Closed)
3rd November 5pm	People's Emergency Briefing screening event A chance for one parent per child to come into school to experience the magic of teaching and learning at Knebworth.
6th November 9:15 to 10am	CommUNITY Event – Phonics & Spelling Focus A chance for one parent per child to come into school to experience the magic of teaching and learning at Knebworth.
9th November 8pm	FOKS 2026 AGM To be held at the Station Pub, Knebworth
13th November	Children in Need
18th November 4:30 – 5:30pm	Bedtime Story Event Families are invited into school to hear some engaging stories shared by our amazing teacher team.
20th November	Knebworth Village Christmas Light Switch On
27th November 9:15 to 10:15am	Prospective Parents Open Morning An opportunity for potential future Knebworth families to see the school before applying for their school places.
4th December	Occasional Day (School Closed)
7th December 11:30am	Nursery Christmas Show to Parents & Carers Parents only need attend one of the two performance dates.
7th December 2pm	Reception Christmas Show to Parents & Carers Due to health and safety regulations, only two adults per child are permitted to watch the performance.
8th December 2pm	Year 1 Christmas Show to Parents & Carers Due to health and safety regulations, only two adults per child are permitted to watch the performance.
9th December 2pm	Year 2 Christmas Show to Parents & Carers Due to health and safety regulations, only two adults per child are permitted to watch the performance.
10th December 9:15 to 10:15am	Prospective Parents Open Morning An opportunity for potential future Knebworth families to see the school before applying for their school places.

11th December	Children's Christmas Lunch Children can order a Christmas dinner for their normal school lunch.
11th December	Christmas Jumper Day Children are invited to wear a Christmas/Winter themed jumper with their school uniform on this day.
11th December 11:30am	Nursery Christmas Show to Parents Parents only need attend one of the two performance dates.
14th December 1pm Years 3 & 4 2pm Years 5 & 6	KS2 Carol Concert at St Martin's Church KS2 children perform Christmas songs at the church and parents and carers are invited to attend – always a highlight of the school year!
18th December	FOKS Non-Uniform Day
18th December	End of Autumn Term 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 1:15pm – KS2
4th January 2027	INSET Day (School Closed)
5th January	**Spring Term Begins**
Knebworth School Term Dates can be accessed here: **https://www.knebworthprimaryschool.org.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=39**	