


SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



NOV 1
UPDATE
TERM 2

WHAT'S
NEW?

Welcome back to
Term 2

I hope you all had an enjoyable and restful half-term break. The holidays already feel like a distant memory as it's been a jam-packed first couple of weeks back with so much happening across the school!

Next week we host the first of our Open Mornings for prospective families joining us in September 2026. We are absolutely thrilled with the amount of prospective families coming to visit; to hear about and take a look around our wonderful school. If you know anyone who would like to visit, please do share the school's contact details so that Mrs Mead can help them book a place.

The school has been awarded the Music Mark of Recognition for Dedication and Improvement in music education in the school. Well done to Mrs Bland for all of her hard work as Music Lead in the school.

We are looking forward to our Lunsford X Factor competition later this term. Please read on in the newsletter to find out more regarding our guest cello visitor last week.

Last week we welcomed Karen Slade to our school as our School Improvement Adviser from The Education People. It was a pleasure to share our recent Nurture UK award with her as well as take a tour of the school to see how the implementation of the Literacy Tree English programme was going. She was particularly impressed with our phonics results last year and the quality of writing on display.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you next week.

Mr Anscombe



Attendance matters



Week Ending

10th October

Panda Class 91.7%

Elephant Class 94.67%

Giraffe Class 90.34%

Lion Class 93.00

Koala Class 89.67%

Tiger Class 95.33%

Zebra Class 94.52%

Week Ending

17th October

Panda Class 95.98%

Elephant Class 95.33%

Giraffe Class 88.28%

Lion Class 94.67%

Koala Class 91.33%

Tiger Class 96.33%

Zebra Class 96.77%

Whole School Attendance Target 97%

Whole School Attendance This Week 95.22%

Whole School Attendance this year 95.02%

Week Ending

31st October

Panda Class 98.68%

Elephant Class 96.67%

Giraffe Class 92.76%

Lion Class 96.33%

Koala Class 91.33%

Tiger Class 91.67%

Zebra Class 93.87%

Supporting School Attendance for Children with SEND

It may take some time for children with SEND to adjust to the new school routine. Click the link below for resources and advice to assist in this process.

<https://news.kent.gov.uk/articles/supporting-school-attendance-for-children-with-send>



Safeguarding Focus

Be Bright, Be Seen!

We are always mindful for the safety of our children near roads and conscious of how vulnerable they can be. At this time of year, with reduced visibility for drivers your child is even more vulnerable near roads. With new bikes and scooters arriving at Christmas for some, the temptation to go out in the evening will be even stronger so we have included some safety tips below so that you can discuss with your child/ren how important it is to be visible when near roads.

These tips emphasise how wearing brightly coloured clothing shows up well in daylight but, as it gets dark, reflective clothing and accessories are far more effective in signalling pedestrians or cyclists to drivers.

If you're a driver, remember it will be more difficult for you to see pedestrians and cyclists when it's dark. Unlike this image, not everyone will be dressed in bright colours or reflective clothing. Children and others often wear dark coloured school uniform, winter coats or blazers.

There's a child in the same position on both photos (left). Which one is easier to see?



How can my child be seen more easily?

ON DULL DAYS...

- Children can wear bright or fluorescent colours
- High-visibility tabards and other clothing can be purchased from many retailers
- Fluorescent armbands can worn over coats and other clothes
- Use bags in bright colours or with high-visibility strips

AT NIGHT...

- Reflective clothing reflects light from car and bike headlamps
- Reflective armbands, clothes and accessories should be placed on bags and clothing, or over it
- Remember that fluorescent colours don't show up in the dark

HOW TO STAY COOL...

- For older children who may see fluorescent and reflective items as 'uncool', stickers for bags or coats can be purchased

For more information and activities to do around this topic with your child(ren) please visit:

<https://www.think.gov.uk/resource/be-bright-be-seen-game/>

As ever, if you require any support, guidance or further information, please do not hesitate to contact a member of DSL team: Mrs Lomax (Deputy Head); Mr Anscombe (Headteacher); Ms Beckett (SENCO); Amy Taylor (FLO)

All can be contacted via the school office.

Elephant Class visit Pizza Express



On Wednesday 5th November we took a very excited and extremely hungry Elephant Class to Pizza Express in Maidstone.



They had an amazing time learning about how pizzas are made and the ingredients that are used to make proper authentic Italian pizzas.

We really enjoyed shaping our dough, spreading on the passata sauce and piling our pizzas high with lots of yummy cheese.

We're not sure who enjoyed it more though; the children or our lovely helpers! A big thank you goes out to all those who came along with us and we hope you enjoyed your pizzas as much as we did.

Elephant Class Pumpkin Day

On Wednesday 29th October Year 1 celebrated all things pumpkin!

They had a great time designing and carving their own pumpkins, making and trying pumpkin soup and making 3D pumpkins using orange card.

A huge thank you goes out to the adults who came in to help make sure the carving of 30 pumpkins went smoothly and that no one lost any fingers in the process!

We are so proud of how sensibly the children behaved and hope they enjoyed themselves as much as we did.



Kent Life

Lion Class had a fantastic trip to Kent Life for a Roman Day experience! They engaged with lots of exciting activities to do with the Roman times such as making amulets using old leather and letter-printing techniques to represent someone special to them. When in the workshops, the children wowed all the grownups with their knowledge on aqueducts and roman roads which helped when they were required to work as a team to build such things on the trip.

They also practiced mark-making with Roman numerals and met some fascinating Roman characters, including Boudicca and a real centurion soldier. The centurion demonstrated army techniques such as the tortoise formation, where soldiers used their heavy curved shields to create walls and a roof for defence. Some pupils even tried on Roman Armour and helmets! The class also met a Roman slave and learned about the food they prepared and what life was like for them. To end a fun and educational day, everyone enjoyed visiting the farm animals at Kent Life. The trip was a brilliant way to bring our Roman topic to life!



Lion Class - DT Day

Lion Class absolutely loved their Design and Technology project this week and were amazing at working together and solving problems! They began with a fun starter challenge — using a range of materials to lift a book without touching it with their hands. This led into an exciting exploration of pneumatics.

The children discovered where pneumatic mechanisms are used in the real world and experimented with syringes and tubes to see how air pressure can make things move. Then, putting on their engineer hats, they were given a design brief: to create a colourful, sturdy toy for a 5-year-old, using sustainable materials and a pneumatic mechanism.

Each child first sketched their own design before teaming up in groups of three to combine their ideas and bring their toys to life. Their creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving skills were truly impressive!



WELL DONE TO OUR NEW

Digital Leaders

Bethany
Eleanor
Mathulika
Lily D
Olivia
Isaac

Maths Ambassador

Jacob R
Nicol
Jack Wa
Lydia
Jack We
Sam D
Oliver

Parents Evening - 19th November 2025

Thank you to the parents who have already booked their slots for the Autumn Parents Evening.

If you have yet to secure your appointment, please visit the Guardian Consultation section on your Arbor main page.

Booking Deadline: Thursday, 13th November 2025.

If you cannot attend a consultation with your child's class teacher, kindly inform them directly to arrange an alternative consultation either after school or via phone.

We are pleased to announce that Becky Steele, our new Emotional Wellbeing Practitioner, will be available from 2:20 PM to 3:20 PM, and Ellie Terry from IMAGO - Young Carers will be present from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM outside the Music room on the day.

Additionally, several School Governors will be available for a chat during the event.

Korfball

Eight children from Lion Class took part in an exciting Korfball event, where they had the chance to learn a brand-new sport!

Everyone was especially enthusiastic to discover that Korfball is a game where boys and girls of different ages can all play together on the same team.

The children worked hard to master new footwork patterns, understand the many rules, and develop their shooting skills before finishing with an energetic hour of match play.

By the end, there were plenty of red cheeks and tired smiles! Their teamwork, sportsmanship, and enthusiasm throughout the day made me incredibly proud, especially in how they engaged with each other, the adults, and pupils from other schools.

Back at school, their excitement continued—before long, they were teaching their friends and organizing their very own Korfball match on the playground at lunch!



Meet the Musician



On Friday 31st October we had the first visitor for our new, 'Meet the Musician' assembly. John Manley brought in his cello and played a mixture of folk and classical pieces for KS2. The children had opportunities to ask him questions and they posed some very interesting ones.

What an achievement

Huge congratulations to Mr Murray our Koala Class Teaching Assistant who ran the Amsterdam Marathon, completing the course in 3:52.



Playtimes and Lunchtimes

As we announced previously, this year we are excited to be focusing on improving the quality of our break and lunchtime provision for all the children.

The children have been really excited to use our new recently purchased equipment. Skipping has proved particularly popular and we have recently chosen some Y6 playground buddies who have been helping to support with this and other play on the infant playground.

FOLS have helped the school to revamp our creative sheds on both playgrounds which allow the children opportunities for reading, writing, drawing and colouring.

Our Y5 monitors have been working hard to keep the sheds tidied and well stocked!



If you are having a pre-Christmas clear out, we are currently looking for donations of the following items to help further enhance play opportunities at break and lunch.

- Toy cars
- Dolls
- Lego or Duplo (does not need to be complete sets)
- Building / Construction sets
- Action Figures
- Happy Land toys / Playmobil
- Plastic animals / dinosaurs
- Dressing up clothes (all sizes)
- Unused or nearly unused colouring books / puzzle books
- Large plastic storage boxes (with lids)
- Old tyres

Any donations can be passed directly to Mrs Lomax, a member of FOLS or to the School Office.

Driving onto and Parking on School Grounds

We regret to inform parents once again about the parking regulations on school property. With the exception of a few parents who have received special permission, driving and parking on the school site is not allowed.

The following examples are not acceptable reasons for driving onto school grounds:

- “I will only be here for a moment.”
- “Everyone else does it; why can’t I?”
- “I have other children in the car that I don’t want to get out.”
- “I’m running late.”
- “Well, they don’t look disabled; why can they park there?”

It saddens us to report that our staff members have been subjected to verbal abuse regarding parking issues.

Therefore, we must remind all parents that this is a **ZERO TOLERANCE ZONE**. Inappropriate language, threats, or aggressive behaviour towards staff will not be tolerated. Anyone behaving in this manner will be asked to leave, and their actions may be reported to the authorities.

Dogs on the premises

Just a reminder that dogs (with the exception of assistance dogs) are not allowed on the school site, this includes the driveway. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.



Glow stick Bangles or
Lanyards available £1.00
purchase via your
Arbour shop)

Tickets £2.50
includes a drink &
snack book via your
Arbor account

Infants 5.15pm - 6.15pm
Juniors 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Christmas Disco



26th November 2025



🎨 Craft Sheds Refresh! 📚

FoLS have been busy giving the playground craft sheds a big tidy-up and restock – and they're ready for the children to enjoy again!

Inside you'll now find:

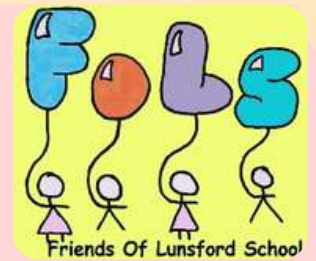
- 🌈 Colouring sheets
- 🎮 Activity pages & word searches
- 📖 Books
- ✏️ Pencils and more creative bits!

We kindly ask that everyone helps to keep the sheds tidy, so they stay lovely for all to use. 😊

FoLS will be popping in each month to check & top up supplies where needed.

We hope the children love using them again!

FoLS



Christmas Wreath making
 27th & 28th November 7pm.
 £25 pp. This is adults only.

Please note that this is a fun event and we are not professional florists. We will supply an instructional sheet for reference.

🎄 Christmas Wreath Making - Final Spaces! 🎄

Get into the festive spirit and join us for a fun and creative evening making your very own Christmas wreath!

We now have only 1 place remaining for the Friday session and just 6 spaces left for Thursday – so if you'd like to come along, be quick!

Please email fols2016@outlook.com to book your spot before go!

🎁 Christmas Gift Evening - NEXT WEEK! 🎁

Just a reminder that our Christmas Gift Evening is happening next Thursday, 13th November, 7–9pm.

Come along for a festive evening of browsing unique gifts, supporting small local businesses, and helping us raise valuable funds for our children. Hot drinks and snacks will be on sale too!

£2 entry on the door (adults only – not suitable for under 12s). We hope to see you there for some Christmas shopping! 🎁

Lunsford Primary School
Christmas Gift Evening
 13th NOVEMBER 2025
 FROM 7PM - 9PM
A chance for you to find the perfect Christmas gift from small local business owners.
 Hot drinks and snacks on sale
 Not suitable for under 12s
 £2 payable on entry

Annual Policing Survey 2025

Have your say on policing in Kent.

Our annual Policing Survey is now live! Share your views on how safe you feel, how much you trust Kent Police, and how well you think Kent Police are performing. Your feedback helps shape the future of policing in your community.

<https://www.kent-pcc.gov.uk/get-in-touch/consultations/>



Flu Immunisation

If your child missed the flu immunisations held in school recently and you would still like them to have it, please click on the link below for the relevant NHS form

<https://www.kentimmunisations.co.uk/>

use the school code : KT118516

Once the form has been completed you will receive an email from the Immunisation Team, with details of local clinics



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SKILLS for LIFE



Calling All Super Heros! Who is the Super Hero in your Community?

Captain America's Burger 1,5,6

Bolt's Cheese and Tomato Puff 1,7 v

Hulk Smashes Jacket Potato with a choice of fillings 7,8,9

Spider Web Wedges
Power Packed Medley of Vegetables

Secret Superpower Chocolate Cake 1vG

Superhero Cookies 1vG

Wonder Woman's Fruit Pots vG

13th NOVEMBER



GROW WITH US
NOURISH



Admission to

Primary school in Kent 2026

Apply online at

[kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](https://www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

Opens Friday 7 November 2025 and closes at
midnight on Thursday 15 January 2026

For children born between
1 September 2021
and 31 August 2022,
Transferring to Primary school
in September 2026

What to do

Choose a school

It's important to find out more about the schools you are interested in before you decide to name them on the application form.

Read the guide to Primary admissions at www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions.

You can name up to three Primary schools, inside or outside of Kent, but you must name them all on the same application.

Apply for a school place

A simple, fast, convenient process which opens **Friday 7 November 2025** and closes at midnight on **Thursday 15 January 2026**.

You will first need to set up an online account. The applicant is you, the parent/carer; you will then need to add your child's details before starting an application. You will receive a confirmation email that your application has been correctly submitted.

You can log back in at any time to view the information submitted.

Receiving your offer

On offer day (**Thursday 16 April 2026**) an email will be sent after 4pm informing you of your offer.

You must accept or decline the school place you have been offered by **Thursday 30 April 2026**.

A link to a guide with information you will need to provide the school with will be in your offer email.

If it has not been possible to offer your child a place in your preferred school, you have the right to appeal. You can also add their name to the school's waiting list.

Moving house during the application window will likely complicate your application and we therefore advise you to pay special attention to key dates in the admissions process. KCC has no discretionary authority to vary the process for parents who cannot complete address moves in time to make use of them for admissions purposes. If you have queries relating to this, please email the team on one of the email addresses below.

Key dates

Friday 7 November 2025	Online application process opens. Go to www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions to register and apply.
Thursday 15 January 2026	Online application process closes for the main round. Any amendments after this date must be emailed to kentonlinedmissions@kent.gov.uk
Thursday 16 April 2026	Offers of school places sent to parents via email after 4pm.
Thursday 30 April 2026	Parents should contact the school to accept/refuse the place that has been offered and can use the link in the offer email to ask for their child to be added to the waiting list of schools named on the original application.
Wednesday 13 May 2026	Appeals need to be lodged by this date to be heard before September – appeals information can be found at www.kent.gov.uk/schoolappeals . You can only appeal for schools that were named on the application form.

Need help?

Email primaryadmissions@kent.gov.uk

Full information booklet can also be viewed online at [kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](https://www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

Only one application per pupil will be accepted. If you apply online, do not complete any other form of application. Keep your login details safe and use your registered email address for all communication with the team.

The confirmation email may go to your junk/spam folder of your email – please check here before contacting our team for confirmation.

Please note applications can only be made via Kent County Council if the child resides at a Kent address. If your child does **not** reside at a Kent address, you must make an application via your Local Authority.

