



Christmas Elves Postal Service

The Kingham School Christmas Postal Service opens on Monday 2 December. All students who wish to send out Christmas cards to their friends or teachers should place them in the post box outside the school office, and our Year 6 elves will deliver them daily.



Remember to put the person's name you are sending to, and their year group on the envelope, even if it is for someone in your own class, or our elves may struggle to find you. Please do not hand out cards at registration or in the playground – please use this postal service instead.

Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 13th December

Wear your favourite Christmas jumper, and any other Christmas accessories, to school on Friday 13th December. Please bring a donation of £2 per child for taking part. The money raised will be shared equally between Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group and KPSA fundraising for an astro pitch..

Christmas Events Coming Soon

Movie Night:

Tickets must be purchased on Parentmail by midday on Monday 2nd December. Students who attend will need to be picked up from the playground (via the after-school clubs entrance) between 4:50pm and 5pm.

Junior Carol Service

Our annual Junior Carol Concert at All Saints Church in Churchill will take place on Tuesday 17th December at 6pm. All Junior students, choir members and parents are invited to attend this concert, which is always a memorable, festive occasion in a beautiful setting.

Nativity Tickets

Our thanks to all those who have reserved tickets for the Nativity this year. We are pleased to announce that on Monday we will be able to offer **1 more** ticket per family for those families who were hoping to secure more. A Parentmail will be sent on Monday morning with details about how to book.

Tinsel:

The Infant team is still seeking donations of gold and silver tinsel for their production. If you think you can help (even just one piece) please pass tinsel to the office or any of the Infant staff as soon as possible.

Smartphone Free Childhood

94% of primary school parents think Smartphones are harmful; 70% believe they impact negatively on family life. So why do we allow our children to freely access this harm? Possibly, because resisting peer pressure becomes almost impossible when children's social lives migrate online.

Many of us recognise that smartphones are fuelling a mental health crisis. A recent and global study of 27,969 young adults (*Sapiens Labs, 2023*) showed that the younger they got their first smartphone, the worse a young person's mental health today. As parents, we know that having unrestricted access to the internet in your pocket creates a gateway to extreme content and viewpoints that we'd never dream of exposing children to in real life, but nowadays, children are so over-protected in real-life, and under-protected online. In fact, since young people first gained access to smartphones there have been 70% less outdoor accidents and 93% more incidents of self-harm in children. This is a staggering statistic (*NHS Data*).

"I can tell you as a GP, it's much easier to mend a broken bone than a broken mind." (Susan Davies, founder of Papaya Parents)

Earlier this week, there was a local event delivered by *Smartphone Free Childhood*. We were pleased to hear that some of our parents were able to make the presentation, as we know that as parents, we are in an almost impossible position. Either we give our children access to something that we know is harmful, or we risk alienating them from their peers! We also know that childhood is fleeting and we simply do not have time to wait for world leaders to do something.

If you haven't yet read the book *The Anxious Generation*, by Jonathan Haidt, we strongly recommend you get a copy and read about how you can protect your child. Haidt suggests that parents of children who are friends should make agreements together to help end the pressure we feel as parents.

Smartphone Free Childhood is a growing UK movement of parents coming together to delay giving children access to technology and rather than being anti-tech, they are 'pro-childhood'. Their 'Parent Pact' is a way to unite to delay getting your child a smartphone until at least the end of year 9. It's all about strength in numbers – if your child knows that other kids in their class won't be getting a smartphone for a few years either, the peer pressure instantly dissolves. It takes 30 seconds to sign the 'Parent Pact' – and you can see how many others in your child's class, school and county have signed on the live leaderboards and connect with them via the Smartphone Free Childhood regional WhatsApp groups.

To view slides from the [presentation on Monday click here](#)

Click to sign the Parent Pact: www.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk

Click to order a copy of [Jonathan Haidt's book on Amazon](#)

To do nothing, is no longer an option.

Eco-Warrior Competition

Our newly formed Eco Warrior committee have been hard at work already this term. As we have been filling in the environmental review for our school, we have noticed that we could be much better at switching off lights.



Our Eco Warriors are therefore holding a poster competition (*yes, another one!*) to raise awareness around the importance of conserving energy. We would like posters to focus on simple, low-cost ideas just like turning off lights or closing windows etc. All posters must be on A4 paper, be eye catching and informative, and the closing date is Monday 9th December. The Eco Warrior committee will judge the posters, and the winners will be announced on Friday 13th December. Good luck!

Outer Space VR Workshop

On Tuesday, Year 5 students experienced an exciting virtual reality workshop based on our topic of Space. We learnt interesting facts about our Solar System and all about the planets.



During the workshop, wearing headsets, we experienced orbiting around the planets and learning about their features. In the second half, we focussed on Earth and its place in the Milky Way. We also looked at the effect of fossil fuels and the importance of renewable energy.

Overall, the workshop was an amazing way to look at the universe! *By Seb and Ernie, Year 5*

Performers in Assembly

If your child plays a musical instrument and they are confident to play in a Friday assembly, we would love to add them to our list of Friday performers next term. Performers do not need to be advanced, as playing in front of an audience will give them valuable experience, whatever their level. Our audience is always kind and appreciative of all our musicians. Well-rehearsed singers are also welcome to sign up. If your child is ready and wishes to sign up, please complete this form: [Perform in assembly Google Form](#), and we will come back to you with a date in the new year.

Times Tables Rockstars (TTRS)

Congratulations to the following students for their hard work on TTRS over the last 7 days.

Most minutes:

Gold	150pts	Sky	OWLS
Silver	100pt	Bella	ROBINS
Bronze	50pts	Ezra	OTTERS

Highest minutes by class: Year 6

Highest scores by class: Year 5



Value of the Month: Forgiveness

Forgiveness:

is understanding that everyone makes mistakes
brings peace of mind and frees me from anger

Diary Dates

Tues 3 Dec	KPSA Christmas Movie Night
Weds 4 Dec	Reception trip to Oxford Story Museum
Weds 4 Dec	CNPS Y3/4 Ball Skills Festival
Thurs 5 Dec	CNPS U11 Literary Quiz
Fri 6 Dec	Year 6 Class Assembly (2:45pm)
Mon 9 Dec	Infant Nativity 1 (2pm)
Tues 10 Dec	Infant Nativity 2 (5pm)
Weds 11 Dec	Infant Nativity 3 (2pm)
Thurs 12 Dec	Choir at Kingham Lunch Club
Fri 13 Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Fri 13 Dec	School Christmas Dinner
Mon 16 Dec	Rock Band Concert (9:30am)
Tues 17 Dec	Nursery trip to the Post Office (9:15am)
Tues 17 Dec	Aladdin Pantomime (pm)
Tues 17 Dec	Junior Carol Concert, Churchill (6pm)
Weds 18 Dec	Infant Christmas Parties (am)
Thurs 19 Dec	KPSA Junior Disco (1:15pm)
Fri 20 Dec	Christmas Service at St Andrew's (9am)
Fri 20 Dec	Last day of Term (School closes at 2pm)
Mon 6 Jan	INSET Day
Tues 7 Jan	First day back

Family Christingle Service

St Andrew's, Kingham
4pm on
Sunday 1st December
ALL WELCOME



Photography Competition Waters of the Cotswolds



SUBMISSION: Chose up to 2 themes : Submit 1 photo per theme

THEMES:

- Wildlife
- Reflections
- Troubled Waters
- Portraits by the River
- Historical Perspectives

PRIZES: Prizes for winners and runners-up

CATEGORIES:

- Under 11's
- 11-16 year-olds
- Open (16+)

DEADLINE: Sunday 5th January 2025

CONTACT: Evenlode@cotswolds-nl.org.uk



Cotswolds
National
Landscape



Evenlode
Catchment
Partnership



Free to
Enter