



KPSA Christmas Raffle

We are delighted to announce that tickets for the KPSA Christmas Raffle will go on sale next week! Thanks to the wonderfully generous support of local businesses, we have 15 fantastic prizes ready to be won.

Raffle tickets are £2 each and will be available to purchase at all nativity performances, at Café de la Poste in Chadlington, and at the school gates on Friday 12 December.

This year's amazing prizes include:

- A Daylesford Notting Hill Hamper (worth £180), donated by Daylesford Organic
- A Burford Christmas Hamper (worth £200), donated by Maxwell Douglas Estate and Lettings Agent
- A Burford Christmas Hamper (worth £100), donated by Maxwell Douglas Estate and Lettings Agent
- A Soho House Cowshed Hamper (worth £180), donated by Soho Farmhouse
- A Lazy Lake Session for Two (worth £140), donated by Soho Farmhouse
- A £150 Sand & Stone Escapes voucher, donated by Sand & Stone Escapes
- Six Breakfast Hampers with coffee donated by New Ground and honey donated by FarmEd
- Admission for one adult and one child to Cotswold Wildlife Park & Gardens, donated by Cotswold Wildlife Park & Gardens
- A £50 Christmas Tree, donated by Bunkers Hill Garden Centre
- A £20 Burford Garden Company voucher

Thank you for supporting our school community.

Remember - **you've got to be in it to win it!**

Christmas Jumper Day

You're warmly invited to come to school on Friday 12 December wearing your favourite Christmas jumper, along with any festive accessories you'd like to add. We kindly ask for a £2 donation per child, and all funds raised will be shared between Save the Children and the Kingham Primary School Association to support their important work.



Junior Carol Concert

Our annual Junior Carol Concert at All Saints Church in Churchill is on Tuesday 16 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.

House Orienteering

We have organised a fun orienteering quest in mixed year group house teams on Friday 12 December for all students in Reception to Year 6.

Children do not need to bring in any sports clothes or colours but must bring in their trainers and coats.

Value of the Month: Responsibility

Responsibility:

is being fair
is doing my share of the work
is taking care of myself, others and the planet

Head's Blog – The Power of Saying 'no'

"Long-term well-being always trumps short-term peace."

Recently, I've noticed a shift in parenting, with many of us feeling pressure to keep our children happy at all times. The moment a child cries or looks unhappy, we rush to fix it. What often gets missed is how quickly children learn to influence these situations, not to be difficult, but because that's how they test boundaries and understand the world.

Saying "no" sounds simple but can be surprisingly difficult. In school, I say it dozens of times a day: "No, you can't run!" "No, you can't eat that pencil!" But at home, when everyone is tired and a meltdown feels imminent, "no" suddenly becomes "maybe" or "just this once." Yet the more I work with children, the more convinced I am that they need to hear "no" just as much as they need sleep and clear structure. A calm "no" gives them security. Children settle when adults set boundaries. And something I've learnt over many years is this: if you don't tighten boundaries now, you will pay for it later. A small issue at 4 becomes a much bigger one at 8 or 12. Boundaries don't get easier with time; they get harder.

If "no" has been avoided for a long time, it's normal for children to struggle at first. They will push, question and protest because they're learning what firmness means. It takes time. Whatever their need, ability or diagnosis, every child eventually settles when routines are predictable and consistent. Part of boundary-setting is learning not to negotiate everything. There's a place for choice and explanation, but when every instruction becomes a discussion, children become uncertain. Sometimes they simply need, "No, we're not doing that," or, "Now it's time for this."

Dr Leonard Sax, in *The Collapse of Parenting*, argues that many challenges children face today stem from a loss of adult authority - not old-fashioned harshness, just the guidance children rely on. Sax's ideas echo what I see daily: children thrive when adults offer warmth, nurture, firmness and boundaries. Sax's work is only one viewpoint, but his message about calm, confident leadership rings true.

In school, I talk to teachers about clear language. When adults say "Ok?" after an instruction, or "Would you like to...?" when the decision is already made, children hear a choice where none exists. Short, calm instructions make them feel more secure, not less. "No" also teaches children to cope with disappointment. Without small frustrations, they struggle with bigger ones. We live in a world of instant everything, and a child who can tolerate not getting what they want immediately is better equipped for friendships, learning and life. They may not thank you, but parenting and education are long games, and long-term well-being always trumps short-term peace.

One thing I see in school is that although teachers say "no" constantly, it's not where our real energy goes. The real impact comes from catching children being good—kindness, effort, honesty, respect. Praising good choices shapes behaviour far more effectively than correction. "No" keeps them safe long enough for positive habits to grow. At home, it's the same. A boundary gives shape; praise gives direction. A child who hears "no" when it matters and "well done" just as often learns not just how to behave, but why it matters.

None of this makes saying "no" easy. But "no" isn't rejection. It's guidance. It prepares children for real life, where they won't always get what they want and where self-control and resilience matter greatly. Children who grow up with calm, loving boundaries become adults who understand that being loved doesn't mean getting everything they ask for, but being given what they truly need.

Saying "no" doesn't make us strict. It makes us parents—good ones. And while our children may not appreciate it now, they will grow because of it.

Top Ten Times Tables Rockstars (TTRS)

Congratulations to the following students for their hard work on TTRS over the last 7 days – 50 house points each.

Fran	OTTERS	Angus	STAGS
Kit	OTTERS	Felix	STAGS
Grace	STAGS	August	ROBINS
Evie	OWLS	Sam	ROBINS
Rudi	OTTERS	Annabelle	STAGS `

Diary Dates

Tues 9 Dec	Infant Nativity Performance 2pm
Tues 9 Dec	CNPS U11s Literary Quiz
Weds 10 Dec	Infant Nativity Performance 2pm
Thurs 11 Dec	Infant Nativity Performance 5pm
Thurs 11 Dec	Choir at Kingham Lunch Club
Fri 12 Dec	Christmas Jumper Day (£2)
Fri 12 Dec	Christmas Dinner (pre-ordered)
Fri 12 Dec	Interhouse Orienteering
Mon 15 Dec	Rock Bands Concert (9:30am)
Tues 16 Dec	Junior Carol Concert (Churchill Church 6pm)
Wed 17 Dec	Pantomime in the School Hall (am)
Thurs 18 Dec	Infant Christmas Parties (am)
Thurs 18 Dec	KPSA Junior Disco (pm)
Fri 19 Dec	Rec-Y6 at Kingham Church Service (am)
Fri 19 Dec	Last day of Autumn Term (finish at 2pm)
Mon 5 Jan	INSET Day
Tues 6 Jan	First day back

Cotswolds Arts Through Schools

Cotswolds Arts Through Schools (CATS) brings free arts, music and drama opportunities to local primary schools in our area (including Kingham Primary). From artist-led workshops to whole-school projects, music teaching, singing, dance, African drumming, creativity days

and more. CATs are now working with 60+ schools and have reached over 10,000 children since launching in 2023.

This week they are taking part in the *Big Give* Christmas Challenge, where every donation is doubled thanks to generous match funding from two trusts.

The *Big Give* runs until 9 December. If you are able to support, your gift (large or small) will have twice the impact.

Donate here:

[The Big Christmas Give.](#)

To learn more about CATS visit:

www.cotswoldsartsthroughschools.com

