

KINGS ASH
ACADEMY

Newsletter

1st April 2026

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Welcome

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding term, I want to take a moment to celebrate the fantastic achievements across our school community.

Our TSAT takeover performance was a true highlight—an evening filled with talent, confidence, and teamwork. Every pupil involved should feel incredibly proud of what they accomplished on stage.

On the sports field, our teams demonstrated superb determination and sportsmanship in the football fixtures against Oldway. Their hard work in training really shone through, and they represented our school brilliantly.

Classrooms have also been buzzing with creativity as pupils continue to embrace Thinking Tools to deepen their learning. It has been inspiring to see how confidently they are applying these strategies to solve problems and think critically.

A special mention goes to our Unsung Heroes—children who quietly makes a big difference every day. Thank you for your dedication and the positive impact you have across our community.

Finally, we are thrilled to celebrate the completion of our Community Café and sensory play area. These new spaces will offer wonderful opportunities for connection, inclusion, and hands-on learning, and we look forward to seeing them come to life next term.

Thank you to all our pupils, staff, families, and supporters for another fantastic term. We wish everyone a restful break and look forward to the exciting opportunities ahead.

Mr Fitzsimmons

End of Spring term

Please be reminded that school finishes at the EARLY time of 2pm on Thursday 2nd April.

(there will be NO afterschool clubs on Thursday 2nd)

Children return on Monday 20th April at 8:40am

Summer school activity clubs for the next term - available to book from Thursday 2nd April

Key dates for Summer 1

April

- 21st April - 5HW continue swimming
- 23rd April - Sports Festival at Paignton Academy - 4NE
- 30th April - Sports Festival at Paignton Academy - 2LC

May

- 5th May - 4NE Swimming commences
- 7th May - Sports Festival at Paignton Academy - 6LH
- 11th May - Year 6 - SATS week
- 15th May - Swimming Gala (invite only)
- 15th May - Devon County Show - School trip (invite only)
- 22nd May - Half term holiday - return to school Monday 1st June

June

- 11th June - Note for diary - WHOLE school Sports Day (reserve date 18th June)

EXTENDED WRAP-AROUND CARE

Supported by Torbay Council



Delivered safely with appropriate resources and supervision

Includes all activities and snacks
3:20pm - 4:20pm: £4
3:20pm - 5:00pm: £6

Activities offered every day after school
3:20pm - 5:00pm

Engaging, themed sessions tailored to children's interests

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to share that our wrap-around care at Kings Ash Academy will be extended from after February half term. This enhanced provision, will offer a wider range of engaging, themed activities every day after school from 3:20pm–5:00pm.

All sessions include activities, supervision, and a snack.

Reception to Year 6 pupils

As part of this expansion, we must introduce a revised pricing structure to ensure the provision remains sustainable. From after half term:

- 3:20pm – 4:20pm: £4
- 3:20pm – 5:00pm: £6

Families can sign up via Arbor, and we encourage anyone interested to register as soon as possible.

(On Arbor you will see two options for the 3:20 to 4:20pm slot, please select the last slot)

Monday*	15:20 - 16:20
	15:20 - 16:20
	15:20 - 17:00
	15:20 - 16:20

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

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Engaging, themed sessions tailored to children's interests



Jellyfish & Pre-school

Wraparound Provision and Charges from Monday 20th April

All wraparound care will now be charged in accordance with our standard hourly rates for nursery children. This includes:

- Breakfast Club (8:00–8:45am)

Jellyfish - £4.50 per session

Pre-school - £3.95

- After School Wraparound (3:15–5:00pm) – there will be an option to book until 4:20pm & 5pm

Jellyfish to 4:20pm - £6.50 per session

to 5:00pm - £10.50 per session

Pre-school - to 4:20pm - £5.75

to 5:00pm - £9.20

Further information can be found here:

[https://www.kingsashacademy.org/site-](https://www.kingsashacademy.org/site-kingsash/assets/files/3204/dfe_chargable_extras_template_for_kaa_website.pdf)

[kingsash/assets/files/3204/dfe_chargable_extras_template_for_kaa_website.pdf](https://www.kingsashacademy.org/site-kingsash/assets/files/3204/dfe_chargable_extras_template_for_kaa_website.pdf)

Use of facilities during the school day

To help us maintain the highest standards of safeguarding, we have recently reviewed our procedures around the use of toilet facilities on the school site.

As these facilities are located within the secure area of the school building, anyone needing to use them will now be required to sign in and out at the school office as a visitor and be accompanied by a member of staff.

Please be aware that there may be times when you will need to wait for a member of staff to become available. To avoid any awkward situations for all involved, **we kindly urge parents and carers not to request to use the school facilities unless it is a genuine emergency.**

Your support helps us keep our pupils safe and carefully monitor access to the school site.

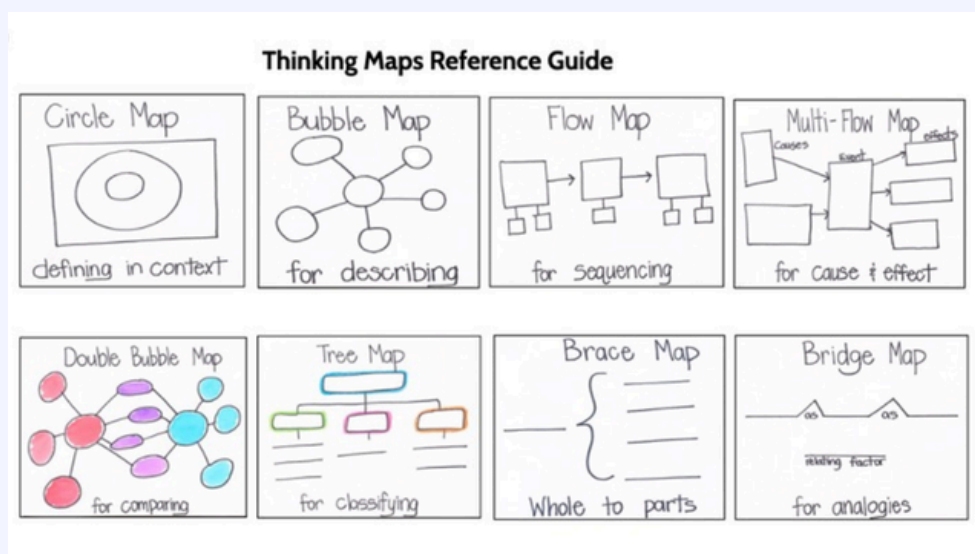
Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



Our Thinking Journey at Kings Ash Academy

This year, we've continued strengthening how we help children think, learn and solve problems. Our approach is closely aligned with the Thinking Schools values of Child First, Aspire, Challenge and Achieve, which focus on creating safe learning environments, encouraging ambition, building strong thinking habits and supporting pupils to become confident, independent learners.

Using tools such as thinking maps, reflection prompts and structured discussion routines, pupils are becoming more confident in organising their ideas, explaining their reasoning and choosing strategies that help them succeed.



6 HATS → 6 STYLES OF THINKING



White Hat

Data, facts,
information known
or needed



Red Hat

Feelings, hunches,
instinct and intuition



Black Hat

Difficulties, potential
problems, why something
may not work



Yellow Hat

Values and benefits,
why something may
work



Blue Hat

Manage process,
next steps, action
plans



Green Hat

Creativity, solutions,
alternatives, new
ideas

What pupils are telling us

- “The maps help me see all my ideas at once, so I don’t get stuck.” – Year 4
- “Using the Thinking Hats makes it easier to talk about big problems because we all look at it in the same way.” – Year 6
- “I like knowing which strategy to use. It helps me feel more confident before I start.” – Year 3
- “It’s easier to explain my answers because the tools help me remember the steps.” – Year 5
- “When I reflect at the end, I can see what I did well and what to try next time.” – Year 2



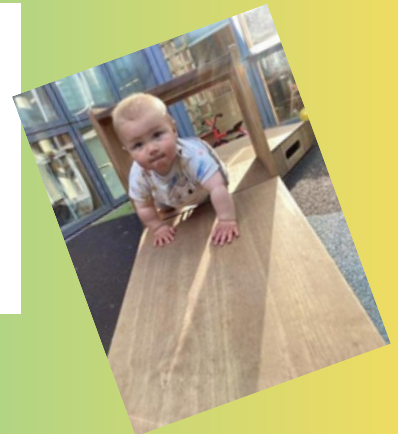


LITTLE THINKERS NURSERY



Lighting Up Learning

As a 'Thinking' nursery we understand the importance of developing thinking skills. In our setting we employ strategies to develop the strengthening of memory as well as a curriculum that encourages curiosity and develops questioning skills. We use the term 'I wonder' to help the children recall facts and think about events and objects in different ways.



How much does it cost to send my child to Little Thinkers?

	Times	Cost (with own food provided)	To include meals & snacks	Cost (including meals)
Full Day	8.00 am - 5.00 pm	£63.90	Breakfast/Lunch/ Tea & Snacks	£72.15
School Day	8.45 am - 3.15 pm	£46.15	Lunch/Snacks	£50.75
Breakfast Club	8.00 - 8.45 am	£5.35	Breakfast	£7.00
AM Session	8.45 - 11.45 am	£21.30	Snack	£22.60
PM Session	12.15 - 3.15 pm	£21.30	Snack	£22.60
After School Club	3.15 - 5.00 pm	£12.45	Tea	£14.45



Can my child receive any free hours of childcare?

If your child is eligible for government funding, they can receive the following hours free from:

15 hours (9 months - 2 years) - free from Little Thinkers

15/30 hours (2, 3 and 4 years) - free from Curledge Street Academy/Kings Ash Academy Nurseries

Contact us at office@kingsash.littlethinkers.org.uk

WELL DONE

Independence
Collaboration
Creativity
Respect

Unsung Hero Award Winners Spring 2026



**** always tries her very best and has made fantastic progress across all areas of her learning this year. She is kind, caring and considerate, always happy to help her friends and the adults in the classroom. **** positive attitude and thoughtful nature make her a wonderful role model, and she truly deserves to be recognised for difference she makes in our class every day. Kalli has grown in confidence this year and I cannot wait to see what she will achieve in the coming months.



***** an outstanding member of the class who always tries her best. She is a kind and caring girl who always thinks about other people before herself. We are so proud of how far **** has come this year and she is shining bright! She perseveres with tricky tasks and is always brave and has a go at everything. She is a role model for Year 1 and is determined to do her best. It is a pleasure to have **** in the class and always shares wonderful ideas. We are so proud of you **** Keep it up and you will achieve amazing things.



**** is a kind, caring and thoughtful member of our class. She is always ready to help others and loves being everyone's friend. This term, she has shown a huge improvement in her confidence, especially when tackling new learning. Even when something feels tricky at first, she keeps trying, listens carefully, and never gives up. Her perseverance has helped her make fantastic progress, and we are so proud of how much she has grown. **** is a joy to have in Year 2.

Well done, ****!





*This award is proudly presented to **** for the wonderful growth he has shown in his learning journey. Over time, **** has become increasingly confident in sharing his ideas during class discussions and is now eager to join in and contribute. He approaches lessons with greater alertness and enthusiasm, showing a real willingness to participate and engage. Most impressively, **** has developed stronger resilience when faced with challenges and consistently demonstrates a positive attitude towards his learning. His quiet determination and steady progress have not gone unnoticed. **** truly embodies what it means to be an Unsung Hero, and we are incredibly proud of the progress he has made*



***** is always a pleasure to have in class. He consistently makes good choices, participates actively and thoughtfully in class learning, and makes positive contributions to group activities. **** is diligent, focused, sincere, and positive in his approach to learning. He is ready to accept challenges and relate new ideas to prior learning. He is curious about the wider world and makes interesting and insightful contributions to class discussions. Congratulations **** on being an inspiring example of a true learner!*



***** is an absolute unsung hero! He is a respectful, kind and hard-working member of the class. There is never a day that goes by where **** is not trying his very best at everything he does. **** is a fantastic member of our school football team and is completely dedicated to school life. **** is a credit to our school, and I could not think of anyone who deserved this more!*

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***** is an incredibly hardworking member of Year 6 who always tries his utmost best in everything he does. He sets himself high standards and is determined to succeed, constantly pushing himself to improve. Chosen by his peers as our School Council representative, **** shows leadership, responsibility and maturity beyond his years. He is respectful to all adults and demonstrates excellent sportsmanship, particularly when playing football, which he thoroughly enjoys. **** is excelling in maths and is challenging himself to surpass previous SATs scores through dedication and perseverance. He is truly a pleasure to have in the class and a fantastic role model for others. Well done!*

Community Fundraising Impact – Thank You!

Thanks to the incredible support of our school community, the Opportunities Fund continues to make a real difference for all our children. Your fundraising efforts have helped us purchase more books for our library, install new football goals on the field, and provide outdoor play equipment across all three playgrounds.

The fund has also contributed towards our community café trailer, helping us bring families together in new ways.

Importantly, these funds also continue to subsidise all school trips, ensuring they remain affordable and accessible for every pupil.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to enriching the experiences and opportunities we can offer. We are truly grateful.



World Book Day

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, our Year 6 children had the opportunity to share stories with our EYFS pupils. It was a fantastic experience for both classes, with the younger children thoroughly enjoying the stories and the older pupils showing great confidence and care as role models.



Football @ Kings Ash Academy

This Term Kings ash academy 5/6 girls football team competed in the Devon school girls' cup. The girls showed a fantastic attitude and showed great collaboration throughout the tournament against some great teams. They also embraced world book day with the team dressed as characters from Despicable Me.



Latest News

Also this term here at Kings Ash Academy we hosted some competitive football friendlies against Oldway primary school with all four teams showing a great attitude and brilliant sportsmanship and was a fantastic evening for all involved with plenty of goals scored.

Results where as followed:

KAA 10-0 Oldway

Harrison    

Orlan 

Rhys   

CJ  

KAA 6-2 Oldway

Harrison   

CJ 

Rhys  

KAA (2) 7-1 Oldway

Mason    

Keigan   

KAA (2) 3-1 Oldway

Archie



Early Years

This half term, Reception and Preschool have been busy planting seeds as part of their learning about the life cycle of plants.

The children have explored how seeds grow, what plants need to survive, and enjoyed watching their plants begin to change and develop. It has been wonderful to see their curiosity and excitement as they care for their growing plants!



KSI Traditional Tales from Around the World



Flute Concert and RockSteady



RockSteady



Violin Performance



IMPORTANT NOTICE:

NO PARENT PARKING IN THE SCHOOL CAR PARK!



 **Staff & Visitor Parking Only**

 **Don't Block the Gates**

 **Keep Clear for Emergencies**

 **Children Walking - Keep Safe!**

 **Please Park Outside the School Grounds**

 **Keep Our School Safe!**



Term Dates 25-26

Term:	Autumn 2025
Non pupil days	Monday 1 & Tuesday 2 September 2025
Term starts	Wednesday 3 September 2025
Non pupil day	Friday 17 October 2025
Half term	Monday 20 October – Friday 31 October 2025 inclusive
Non pupil day	Monday 3 November 2025
Term finish	Friday 19 December 2025 @ 2pm
Term:	Spring 2026
Term starts	Monday 5 January 2026
Half term	Monday 16 – Friday 20 February 2026 inclusive
Term finish	Thursday 2 April 2026 @ 2pm
Term:	Summer 2026
Term starts	Monday 20 April 2026
Bank holiday	Monday 4 May 2026 – school closed
Half term	Monday 25 – Friday 29 May 2026 inclusive
Term finish	Friday 17 July 2026 @ 2pm

Term dates 26/27

Term:	Autumn 2026
<i>Non pupil days</i>	<i>Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd September 2026</i>
Autumn Term 1 starts	Thursday 3rd September 2026 to Thursday 15th October 2026
<i>Non pupil day</i>	<i>Friday 16th October 2026</i>
<i>Half term</i>	<i>Monday 19th October – Friday 30th October 2026 inclusive</i>
<i>Non pupil day</i>	<i>Monday 2nd November 2026</i>
Autumn Term 2	Tuesday 3rd November 2026 to Friday 18th December 2026 @ 2pm
<i>Christmas Holidays</i>	<i>Monday 21st December 2026 to Friday 1st January 2027</i>
Term:	Spring 2027
Spring Term 1 starts	Monday 4th January 2027 to Friday 12th February 2027
<i>Half term</i>	<i>Monday 15th – Friday 19th February 2027 inclusive</i>
Spring Term 2 starts	Monday 22nd February 2027 to Thursday 25th March 2027 @ 2pm
<i>Easter holidays</i>	<i>Friday 26th March 2027 to Friday 9th April 2027 inclusive</i>
Term:	Summer 2027
Summer Term 1 starts	Monday 12th April 2027 to Friday 28th May 2027
<i>Bank holiday</i>	<i>Monday 3rd May 2027 - school closed</i>
<i>Half term</i>	<i>Monday 31st – Friday 4th June 2027 inclusive</i>
Summer Term 2 starts	Monday 7th June 2027 to Friday 16th July 2027 @ 2pm
Term Finish	Friday 16th July 2027 @ 2pm

New Summer Menu's - We return on week 2, W/C Monday 20th April - Choices can now be made on ARBOR

MENU WEEK 2

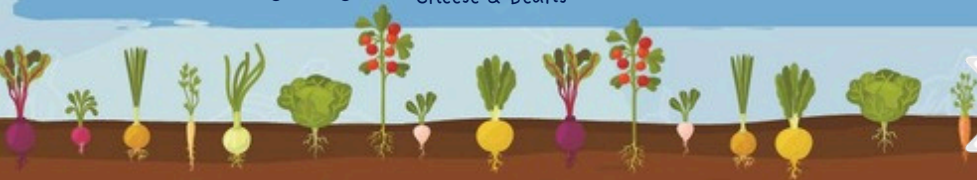
SERVED W/C: 20th Apr, 11th May, 1st June,
22nd June, 13th July

Innovate IFG



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
OPTION 1	Margherita pizza & oven baked wedges	Pea-powered vegetable pie & new potatoes	Cheesy cauliflower pasta bake	lentil & sweet potato dahl with vegetable rice	Vegetable sausages, chips & tomato ketchup
OPTION 2	Tomato, spinach & salmon pasta	Chicken & vegetable pie with new potatoes	Roast turkey breast, roast potatoes & gravy	Lemon & herb chicken with chickpeas & vegetable rice	Fish & chips with tomato ketchup
Veggies	Broccoli	Peas	Carrots & cauliflower	Selection from the salad bar	Peas
Pasta	Penne pasta with a creamy cheese sauce	Penne pasta with house tomato sauce	Creamy pesto penne pasta	Penne pasta with a creamy cheese sauce	Penne pasta with house tomato sauce
Filled Rolls	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Cheese Tuna mayo
Sweet Treats	Watermelon Wedge	Oaty apple crumble & custard	Chocolate Mousse	Carrot cake with orange glaze	Raspberry jelly & mandarins

Available Every Day - Crunchy Colourful Salad Bar & Jacket Potatoes with Cheese, Beans, Tuna Mayonnaise & Cheese & Beans



KEY Wholegrain Vegetarian
Nutritionist's Choice Vegan

MENU WEEK 3

SERVED W/C: 27th Apr, 18th May, 8th June, 29th June

Innovate IFG



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
OPTION 1	Pea-powered mild chilli with rice	Vegetable sausages & mashed potatoes with gravy	Roast Quorn fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	Baked creamy mac 'n' cheese	Quorn dippers, chips & tomato ketchup
OPTION 2	Mild beef & lentil chilli con carne with rice	Pork sausages (beef casing) with mashed potatoes & gravy	Roast chicken breast, roast potatoes & gravy	BBQ chicken loaded mac 'n' cheese	Fish fingers, chips & tomato ketchup
Veggies	Sweetcorn	Peas & carrots	Broccoli & carrots	Selection from the salad bar	Baked Beans
Pasta	Penne pasta with a creamy cheese sauce	Penne pasta with house tomato sauce	Penne pasta with a creamy cheese sauce	Penne pasta with house tomato sauce	Creamy pesto penne pasta
Filled Rolls	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Cheese Tuna mayo
Sweet Treats	Chocolate Shortbread	Apple & summer berry crumble with custard	Strawberry yogurt & strawberry sauce	Raspberry jelly & mandarins	Chocolate fruit crispie cake

Available Every Day - Crunchy Colourful Salad Bar & Jacket Potatoes with Cheese, Beans, Tuna Mayonnaise & Cheese & Beans



KEY Wholegrain Vegetarian
 Nutritionist's Choice Vegan

MENU WEEK 1

SERVED W/C:

13th Apr, 4th May, 15th June,
6th July

Innovate IFG

Main Meal

OPTION 1



OPTION 2

Veggies

Pasta




Filled Rolls

Sweet Treats

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
OPTION 1	Margherita pizza & oven baked wedges 	Mixed bean bolognese with penne pasta   	Vegetable sausages with roast potatoes & gravy 	Pea-powered vegetable stir fry with carrot rice  	Vegetable nuggets, chips & tomato ketchup 
OPTION 2	Pepperoni pizza & oven baked wedges	Beef & lentil bolognese with penne pasta  	Roast gammon with roast potatoes & gravy	Creamy coconut chicken & chickpea curry with carrot rice  	Fish fingers, chips & tomato ketchup
Veggies	Broccoli 	Carrots & peas 	Carrot & cabbage 	Broccoli & Cauliflower 	Baked beans 
Pasta	Penne pasta with house tomato sauce 	Penne pasta with a creamy cheese sauce 	Creamy pesto penne pasta 	Penne pasta with a creamy cheese sauce 	Penne pasta with house tomato sauce 
Filled Rolls	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Cheese Tuna mayo
Sweet Treats	Lemon shortbread biscuit 	Chocolate & banana brownie sponge 	Orange jelly & mandarins 	Baked apple & cinnamon sponge 	Strawberry yogurt & strawberry sauce 

Available Every Day - Crunchy Colourful Salad Bar & Jacket Potatoes with Cheese, Beans, Tuna Mayonnaise & Cheese & Beans



KEY Wholegrain  Vegetarian 
Nutritionist's Choice  Vegan 