



KINGS ASH  
ACADEMY

# Newsletter

July 2026



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## Welcome

As another fantastic school year comes to an end, I would like to thank our wonderful children, staff and families for all their hard work and support.

We have so much to celebrate, our Year 6 children gave us a wonderful send-off with their brilliant production of I'm an 11 Year Old, Get Me Out of Here! and we wish them every success as they move on to secondary school.

Thank you to all our parents and carers for your increased engagement this year. It has been fantastic to see so many of you attending school events and performances.

A huge thank you to Mr Apps, Mrs Devonport and Mrs Apps for organising an incredible Arts Week, providing a wealth of enriching opportunities for our children. Congratulations also to all those who performed at the TSAT Takeover at Palace Avenue Theatre and One Night Only at Torquay Boys' Grammar School.

We wish you all a safe, restful and enjoyable summer holiday and look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Thursday 3rd September.

Should you have any safeguarding concerns over the summer, please contact

[kaa-safeguarding@tsatmail.org.uk](mailto:kaa-safeguarding@tsatmail.org.uk).

Have a wonderful summer!

Mr Fitzsimmons  
Head Teacher

## **End of Summer term**

**Please be reminded that  
school finishes at 2:00pm on  
Friday 17th July 2026.**

**Children return on Thursday  
3<sup>rd</sup> September at 8:40am**



# YOU SAID, WE DID



**KINGS ASH  
ACADEMY**  
BELONG, ENGAGE, SUCCEED

## LISTENING TO PARENTS. IMPROVING TOGETHER.

At Kings Ash Academy, we value the views of our families.  
You shared your feedback and we have taken action.



### CURRICULUM & LEARNING

#### YOU SAID...

“ We would like to know more about what our children are learning and how we can support them at home.



#### WE DID...

- ✓ Published curriculum overviews on our website so families can see the bigger picture of learning.
- ✓ Sent parent overviews of curriculum focus each term which are also available on our website.
- ✓ Continued to provide guidance and support for learning at home.



### PARENT ENGAGEMENT

#### YOU SAID...

“ We would like more opportunities to see learning and understand how our children are progressing.



#### WE DID...

- ✓ Increased the sharing of learning through newsletters.
- ✓ Introduced parent drop-in events where learning can be shared.
- ✓ Created more opportunities to celebrate children's achievements and successes.



### CLEAR COMMUNICATION

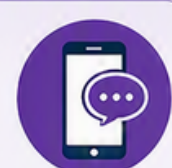
#### YOU SAID...

“ Communication can sometimes be unclear, lengthy or difficult to access.



#### WE DID...

- ✓ Reviewed our communication with families.
- ✓ Made key messages shorter, clearer and easier to access.
- ✓ Used a wider range of communication methods to ensure important information is not missed including visual posters summarising key messages posted on Facebook.



### ARBOR & SCHOOL UPDATES

#### YOU SAID...

“ We would like better communication about incidents and day-to-day information.



#### WE DID...

- ✓ Introduced Arbor app to improve communication to and from school into one platform.
- ✓ Begun uploading and sending all accident report forms on the Arbor app.



### COMMUNITY & CONNECTION

#### YOU SAID...

“ We would like to feel more connected to the school community.



#### WE DID...

- ✓ Opened our Snack Shack Café to provide parents with a regular opportunity to feel welcomed and socialise with other parents in a friendly environment.
- ✓ Encouraged further community belonging by creating a space where connections can grow.



### OUR COMMITMENT

#### Your voice matters.

We will continue to listen, respond and work in partnership with our families to ensure that Kings Ash Academy remains a welcoming, inclusive and ambitious school for every child.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK – YOUR VOICE HELPS SHAPE OUR SCHOOL.



THINKING SCHOOLS  
ACADEMY TRUST

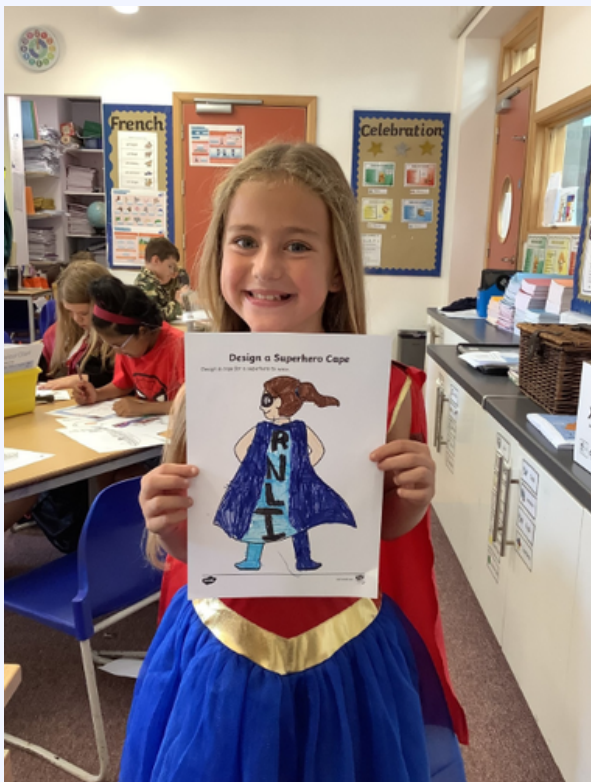
### RNLI

**As part of the Thinking Schools Academy Trust's We Are One initiative, our School Council selected the RNLI as the charity we wanted to support this year. This decision was driven by pupil voice and reflects our commitment to making a positive difference in our wider community.**

**The whole school came together for a fun-filled day of fundraising, including a beach-themed dress-up day and cake sale. Pupils, families and staff embraced the event with enthusiasm, demonstrating what can be achieved when we work together towards a common goal.**

**We are delighted to have raised over £250 for this fantastic cause. The RNLI carries out lifesaving work around our coasts and waterways, and we are proud to contribute to such a worthwhile charity.**

**A huge thank you to everyone who donated, baked, dressed up and supported the event. It was a wonderful example of our We Are One values in action – one school community working together, having lots of fun and making a real difference.**



### Arts week

As part of Arts Week, Year 4 and Year 5 enjoyed an inspiring visit to Torre Abbey. The trip gave pupils the opportunity to explore the historic abbey, discover fascinating artwork and learn more about local heritage and architecture. For many children, this was their first experience of visiting a museum and gallery setting, making the day a valuable opportunity to develop cultural capital while bringing their learning to life beyond the classroom. The visit sparked curiosity, thoughtful discussions and plenty of creative inspiration.



### Arts week

Year 6 pupils demonstrated outstanding creativity and individuality through the production of their self-portraits. Using a range of artistic techniques, children carefully reflected on their identity, personality and artistic style to create pieces that were both thoughtful and expressive. The finished artwork showcased not only their growing technical skills but also their confidence as young artists. The results were truly impressive and provided a wonderful celebration of each pupil as they approach the next stage of their educational journey.



### Arts week

**Year 3 & Year 4 had the exciting opportunity to work with a visiting artist from the Double Elephant Print Workshop during Arts Week. Pupils took part in a hands-on printmaking workshop, exploring creative techniques and producing a series of vibrant prints inspired by an 'Under the Sea' theme. The workshop introduced children to specialist artistic processes that many had never experienced before, encouraging experimentation, creativity and problem-solving. Pupils were incredibly proud of the prints they produced and thoroughly enjoyed learning from a professional artist.**



## **MINI MARATHON**

**120 children took part each week - running 3 laps of the school field each week for 3 weeks, completing a mini marathon!**

**Top fundraisers:  
Klover Riches - £450**



**Archie Bull - £425**



**AMAZING TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED -  
£2541.50**

**Prizes and vouchers also shared with 5 special pupils**

**A MASSIVE THANK YOU to all children, families & staff that hepled make this event such a fantastic scuccess!**

**We are already looking forward to 2027**



# LITTLE THINKERS NURSERY

Spaces available for  
September 2026



**Did you know you may be entitled to  
up to 30 hours of free childcare?**

|                                     | Times              | Session Only | To include meals and snack       | Cost    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Full week (Monday to Friday)</b> | 8am to 5pm         | £360         | Breakfast, snacks, lunch and tea | £384.25 |
| <b>Full Day</b>                     | 8am to 5pm         | £75          | Lunch and tea                    | £79.85  |
| <b>School Day</b>                   | 8:45am to 3:15pm   | £50          | Snacks and lunch                 | £25.25  |
| <b>AM Session</b>                   | 8:45am to 11:45am  | £24.50       | Snack                            | £25.25  |
| <b>PM Session</b>                   | 12:15pm to 3:15pm  | £24.50       | Snacks                           | £25.25  |
| <b>Brakfast Club</b>                | 8am to 8:45am      | £6.75        | Breakfast                        | £6.75   |
| <b>Lunch Club</b>                   | 11:45am to 12:15pm | £4.50        | Lunch                            | £6.50   |
| <b>Tea Club</b>                     | 3:15pm to 5pm      | £15.75       | Tea                              | £17.10  |

Enquire now  
0333 360 2263

[office@kingsash.littlethinkers.org.uk](mailto:office@kingsash.littlethinkers.org.uk)

# IMPROVING ACCESS & SAFETY

## AT OUR ACADEMY



SAFER ACCESS  
FOR EVERYONE,  
EVERY DAY

Over the summer, we will be carrying out important works on site to continue to improve access and safety for all pupils, families and visitors.



### ADDITIONAL SECURITY GATES

A new set of gates will be installed to improve site flow and keep vehicle movements safe and unobstructed.



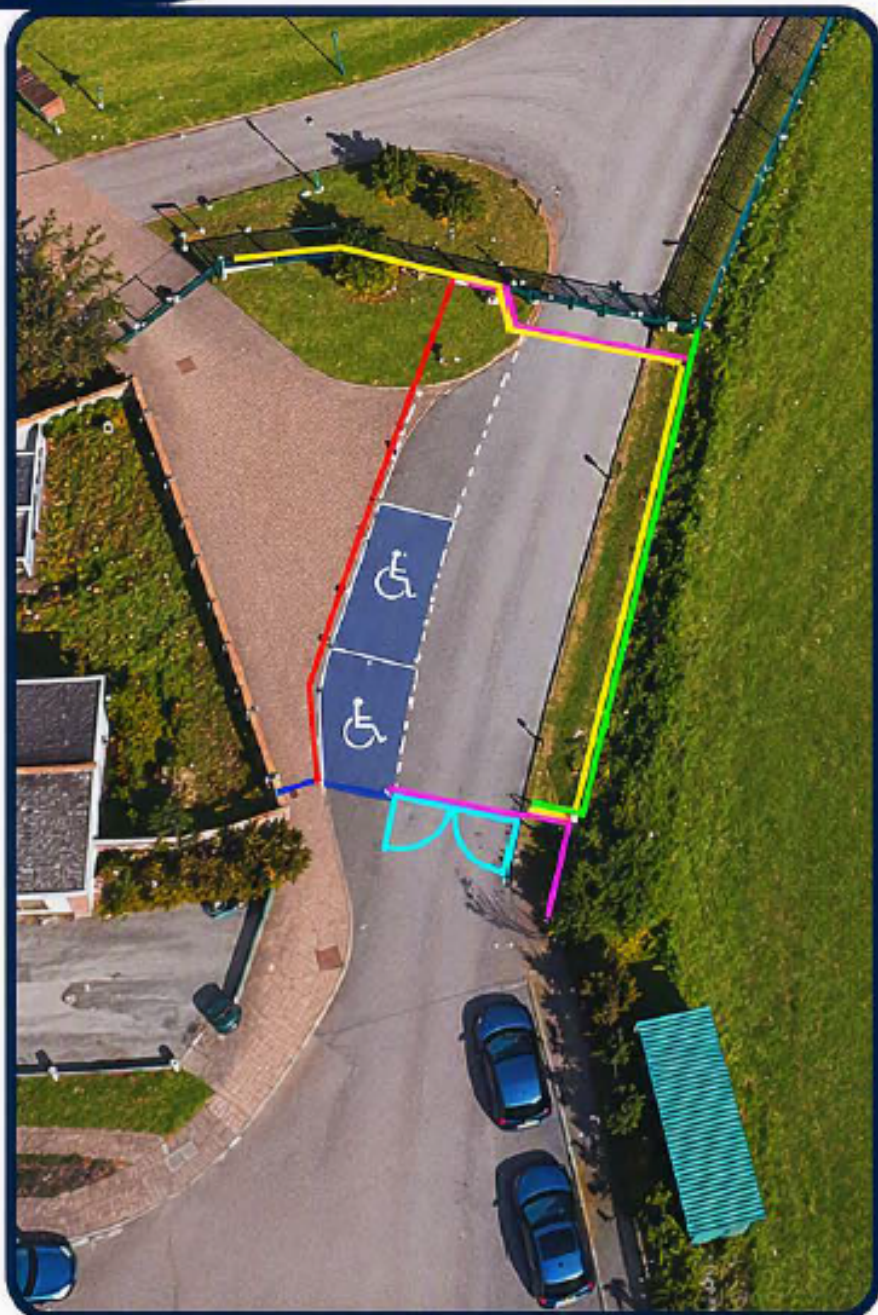
### DESIGNATED DISABLED PARKING BAYS

New accessible parking bays will be created close to the entrance to provide safer, easier access for those who need it most.



### SAFETY FOR OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

These improvements will help ensure that our car park movement remains free and safe during the busiest times of the school day for all of our children.



**OUR COMMITMENT:** We are dedicated to providing a safe, accessible and welcoming environment for everyone at Kings Ash Academy.



# OUR 4 STAGES OF ATTENDANCE LETTERS

Good attendance. Better learning. Brighter futures.

We work in partnership with families to improve attendance.  
Our 4-stage system helps us provide the right support at the right time.

## STAGE 1 LIGHT GREEN

EARLY  
AWARENESS



### WHAT IT MEANS

Attendance is starting to fall below our expectations.  
We want to work together early to prevent this becoming a bigger issue.

### WHAT HAPPENS

- ✓ First attendance letter sent home
- ✓ Information and support provided
- ✓ Attendance monitored

## STAGE 2 YELLOW

PERSISTENT  
ABSENCE  
CONCERN



### WHAT IT MEANS

Attendance remains a concern and is causing a negative impact on learning and progress.

### WHAT HAPPENS

- ✓ Formal concern letter sent
- ✓ School may request medical evidence
- ✓ Meeting with school to discuss and review

## STAGE 3 AMBER

SERIOUS  
ATTENDANCE  
CONCERN



### WHAT IT MEANS

Attendance continues to be a serious concern.  
Your child is missing important learning and progress is being affected.

### WHAT HAPPENS

- ✓ School meeting or home visit
- ✓ Agreed actions to improve attendance
- ✓ Follow up letter sent

## STAGE 4 RED

SEVERE  
ATTENDANCE  
CONCERN



### WHAT IT MEANS

Attendance is causing significant concern and impacting your child's education and wellbeing.

### WHAT HAPPENS

- ✓ Formal notice to improve attendance
- ✓ Local Authority involvement
- ✓ Possible penalty notice or court order

### WHAT THE COLOURS MEAN



#### SUPPORT

We are here to support and help you.



#### CONCERN

We need to work together to improve.



#### SERIOUS CONCERN

Action is needed to stop this getting worse.



#### FORMAL ACTION

Statutory action may be taken if attendance doesn't improve.



## EVERY DAY COUNTS

Together we can help your child succeed and achieve their potential.



Be in school on time every day



Maximise learning opportunities



Build friendships and confidence



Achieve your full potential

# Term dates 26/27

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