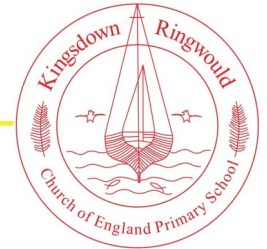




Autumn Term
Newsletter 2
Friday 18th September 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Today, we are focusing on a vital ingredient for your child's happiness and success: school attendance. For children to reach their full educational potential, consistent school attendance is essential. We want to work in partnership with you to give your child the best possible start in life.

Why is Regular Attendance So Important?

When children miss school, they miss out on much more than just a single lesson. Regular attendance is key because it directly impacts:

Academic Achievement: There is a proven, direct link between high attendance and strong academic progress. Children who attend school consistently find it much easier to keep up with the curriculum.

Preventing Learning Gaps: Lessons build on top of each other like building blocks. Missing even a few days creates gaps in learning that can make it incredibly difficult for a child to catch up later.

Social Development: School is where lifelong friendships are made and key social skills are built. Regular attenders find it easier to maintain friend groups and feel included in the school community.

Life Routines: Arriving on time every day teaches children self-discipline, time management, and responsibility. These are crucial life skills that set them up for secondary school and adult life.

Sometimes, missing "just a day here or there" doesn't seem like much, but it adds up quickly:

Attendance Percentage	Days Missed Per Year	Impact on Education
100%	0 days	Best chance of academic and social success.
95%	9 days (nearly 2 weeks)	Your child is meeting the national average expectation.
90%	19 days (nearly 4 weeks)	Persistent Absence. This missing month makes it very hard to keep up.
85%	29 days (nearly 6 weeks)	Significant gaps in learning that severely impact progress.

How You Can Help: We know that children get sick, and absences cannot always be avoided. However, you can significantly boost your child's attendance by following these simple steps:

Establish strong routines: Ensure regular, predictable bedtime and morning routines so your child is well-rested and ready for the day.

Book appointments wisely: Please try to schedule medical and dental appointments outside of school hours or during school holidays whenever possible.

Avoid term-time holidays: Term-time holidays cannot be authorised by the school and disrupt your child's education right in the middle of a term.

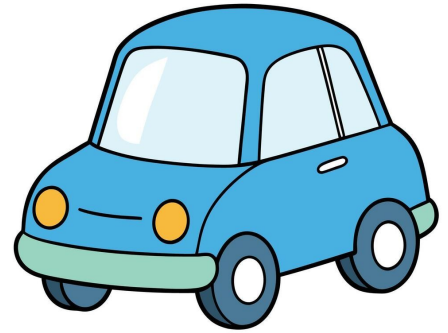
Talk to us early: If your child is anxious about coming to school, or if your family is facing difficulties that impact attendance, please contact the school office. We are here to support you.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our children attend today so they can achieve tomorrow!

Jo Hygate

Driving Carefully

We have received reports from parents regarding some erratic driving during the school run. We appreciate that navigating Kingsdown can be challenging at times, but we kindly ask all members of our school community to take extra care and drive considerately, particularly around the school, for the safety of our pupils. Thank you for your continued support.



Snacks



A gentle reminder that morning playtime snacks should be limited to fruit and vegetables, please. This week, we have seen a few snacks such as crisps and chocolate buttons coming into school.

We do not confiscate food from children, but following this simple guideline helps to make things easier and fairer for everyone. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Coats

As the weather begins to change, please remember to send your child to school with a coat each day.

If it is only lightly raining, we will still head outside for playtimes. Having a coat means that children can enjoy their time outdoors without having to spend the rest of the day in damp clothes!

Thank you for helping us to keep our children happy, comfortable and ready to learn.





Harvest Festival

On Friday 25th September, we will be celebrating Harvest Festival and collecting donations of food for Deal Area Foodbank. The school community has always been so generous in the past and we know that our support is invaluable to this local charity. During the week, we will be completing Harvest activities and learning about why we

celebrate Harvest Festival.

Thank you in advance for your kind donations and thank you to Deal Area Foodbank for supporting those in our community.

Deal PANTRY

HARVEST FOOD DRIVE

Deal Area Foodbank
Together with Trussell

YOUR HELP, FEEDS OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY
PLEASE HELP US BY DONATING AN ITEM OR TWO

THE ITEMS WE REALLY NEED AT THE MOMENT ARE:

- PASTA
- UHT MILK
- SPREADS
- RICE PUDDING/ CUSTARD
- HOT TINNED MEAT
- TINNED VEG
- MICRO RICE
- CEREALS
- BISCUITS

ITEMS CAN BE HANDED IN
AT LOCAL CHURCHES, SCHOOLS
& SUPERMARKETS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

OR DONATE
£5 HERE



**THE WEATHER ON SUNDAY IS
LOOKING PERFECT FOR JUNIOR
PARKRUN!
COME AND JOIN IN THE FUN
9AM AT
BETTESHANGER PARK**



Dont forget to register!



Newly added dates have been marked with an asterisk.

Wednesday 23rd September — Film Night for Years 1-6 (letter attached).

Friday 25th September — Harvest Festival. Donations of food gratefully received.

Tuesday 29th September — Year 5 to Kent Life.

Wednesday 30th September — Year 6 trip to London.

Friday 2nd October — Year 2 to Kent Life.

Wednesday 7th October — Drop In. Come and see your child's work in class 3.15-4.00pm

***Thursday 8th October** — Phonics workshop for Year R parents in the hall at 2.15pm.
Come and see how your child is taught to read and write.

Friday 9th October — Year 2 class assembly. Gates open 2.30pm.

Monday 12th October — Individual and sibling photographs.

Tuesday 13th October to Thursday 15th October—Parents' Evening (Years R-5)

Friday 16th October—Year 6 Parent Consultations throughout the day, following secondary test results.

Tuesday 20th October—Last day of term. Normal pick up time.

Term 2

Monday 2nd November — First day of Term 2. Clubs restart.

***Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th December**—Infant Nativity (Years R, 1 and 2) to parents 2pm (gates open at 1.45pm)

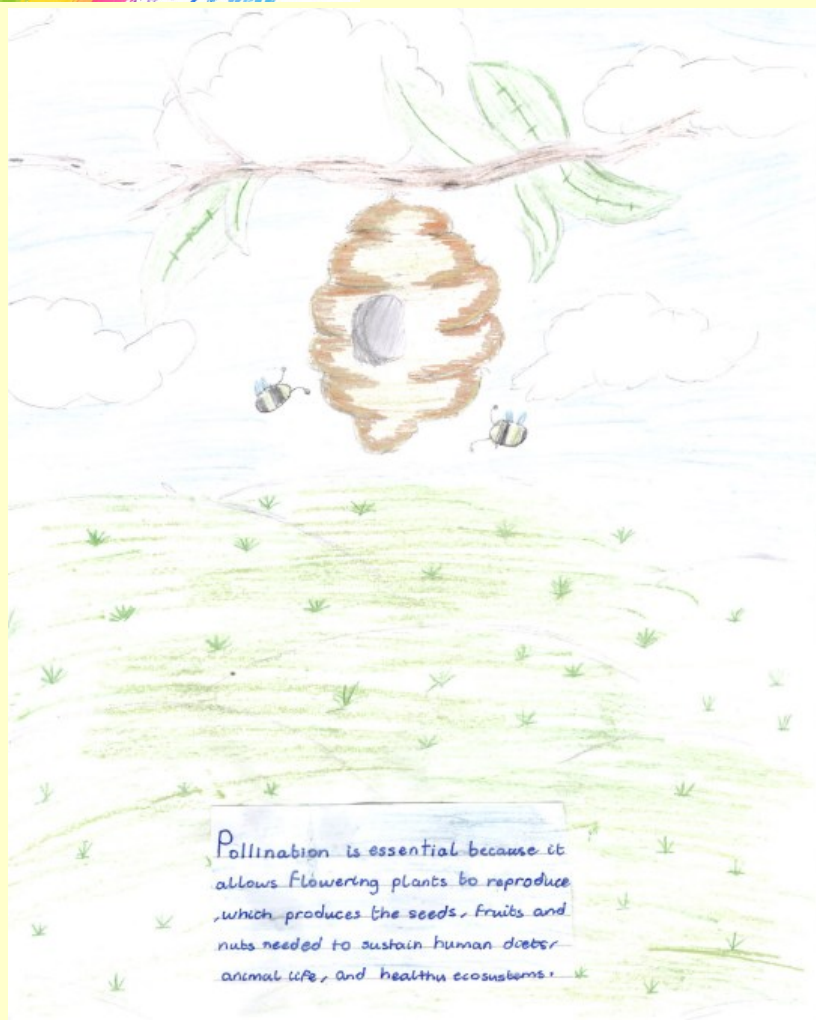


Well done to Danial and Lucca for their wonderful pictures of pollinators!

Competition Number 2—Plastic-Free Ocean

Draw, paint or build an underwater scene showing what a healthy ocean should look like.

Write a sentence about why it is important to keep our ocean healthy!





School Tours

**If your child is due to start school in September 2027,
we would love to invite you for a tour of our school
with our headteacher or assistant headteachers.**

**To book an appointment, please call 01304 373734
or email**

schooloffice@kingsdown-ringwould.kent.sch.uk



Wednesday 23rd September

3.15—5.15pm

(pick up outside at 5.15pm)

Includes a hot dog, snacks
and drink!

Cost £5

Toy Story 5 (PG) Film Night

I agree for my child to attend the film night on Wednesday 23rd September 2026.

I give permission for the adult in charge of the group to agree to the administration of an anaesthetic or any other urgent medical treatment which may prove necessary.

Any dietary requirements.....

☐ (Please tick) I enclose a contribution of £5 to cover the cost of the food and drinks.

Emergency Contact Number **for this date**.....

Name of Contact

Signature (Parent / Carer)

28A THE HIGH
STREET, DEAL,
CT14 7AE

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Craft
Club

A string of colorful triangular bunting flags in various patterns (solid, checkered, polka dots, stripes) hangs across the top and sides of the poster. The background is a solid orange color.

Kingsdown Village Market

St John's Kingsdown Village Hall

- First Wednesday of the month -

Starting Wednesday 7th October

8am — 12noon

Cakes & Cheesecakes - Ceramics - Dog Treats - Skincare - Tote Bags
African Biltong - Cleaning Products - Greetings Cards - Usbourne Children's Books

PLUS A CHARITY RAFFLE

For more information email MrsMop1962@outlook.com

Every book
you buy earns
FREE
BOOKS
for our school*

COME TO OUR BOOK FAIR

And find your next favourite read!



3 for
£10.00



DATE: 12-16 Oct

TIME: 3.15

LOCATION: School Hall

**GO
ALL
IN.**

National
Year of
Reading
2020

Academic Year 2026-2027

Term 1

Finish - Tuesday 20th October

INSET - Wednesday 21st October

INSET - Thursday 22nd October

INSET - Friday 23rd October

Term 2

Start - Monday 2nd November

Finish - Friday 18th December 2pm

Term 3

Start - Monday 4th January

Finish - Friday 12th February



Term 4

Start - Monday 22nd February

Finish - Thursday 25th March 2pm

Term 5

Start - Monday 12th April

Bank Holiday - Monday 3rd May

Finish - Friday 28th May

Term 6

INSET - Monday 7th June

Start - Tuesday 8th June

Finish - Wednesday 21st July 2pm