

## *The Knowledge*

Monday 3rd February





*1 - Every child matters. Every moment counts.*

**Welcome back to a brand new school week.**

We hope that you have had a wonderful weekend.

This week in school, we have a number of important and exciting events taking place. Over the course of the week, we are taking part in national Children's Mental Health Awareness Week with the theme being '**Know Yourself, Grow Yourself.**' In classes, we will be speaking with children about the importance of looking after ourselves, our minds and bodies. If you would like to take part in activities related to Mental Health Awareness Week at home, [please follow this link for lots more information.](#)

On Tuesday morning, all children will be taking part in Picture News' live assembly which focuses on Mental Health and builds on the theme of the week.

On Friday, we will take part in the NSPCC Number Day. All children are invited to arrive in school in maths-themed MUFTI. We are looking for creative ideas - anything linked to maths in a fun way e.g. numbers, patterns or shapes. Please send your child into school with a small donation to made to the NSPCC in exchange for wearing MUFTI.

Over the day, children will be focusing on speedy times table recall and practicing their focus facts! We are taking part in a nationwide Times Table Rock Stars competition so the more participation the better!

If you would like some more information about the NSPCC and Friday's theme, [please follow this link](#).

### **Our Parliament are visiting Parliament!**

On Thursday, 14 of our Year 6 children who are in the Pupil Parliament, will be making their way to London by train. They will take part in lots of site seeing activities including visiting the Cambridge Theatre to watch Matilda. On Friday, they will visit Parliament, including the House of Lords and House of Parliament. They will walk past Downing Street and Buckingham Palace. An action-packed few days to say the least.

### **Here are some highlights from last week**

Our Year 1/2 Football team went over to Shakespeare with Mr Rickard to take part in their cross-school training session before match this week. The children conducted themselves perfectly with Mr Rickard singing high praise for their efforts. Hopefully, a positive result will follow this Thursday after school.

Running Club is now 3 weeks in and the children who are taking part have completed 1.5 miles towards their goal of 12.1 miles before the Plymouth Schools Challenge. They are recording their progress on their own distance logs so that we can keep pace with all of their efforts. If your child is in running club, they can come into school on Friday dressed in PE kit or alternatively, can bring their trainers into school to get changed. Running club takes place at lunchtime. On Friday this week, Mrs Gough will lead running club with Mr Norris being in London with the Parliament group.

Star of the week on Friday was a great success! As always, it fills me with pride to see our stars beam with delight as they collect their certificates and hear the words of encouragement in assembly on Friday afternoon. This week, there was not only themes of success in learning but also a consistent recognition of hard work and kindness. With kindness and ambition being two of our school values, it is so encouraging to hear that our children are doing their best across the whole school. A special well done to Amelia, Dalton, Ronnie, Reaya, Pearl, Lana, Percio and Elsie who are this week's stars. I would also like to include a special mention to last week's stars who are also appearing on this newsletter!

### **Goodbye and good luck to Miss Palmer!**

We are very sad to be saying goodbye to Miss Palmer who is one of our teaching assistants in the Year 5/6 Team. Miss Palmer has been an incredible member of our team since 2014 - over 10 years of service to the children and families of Knowle is an incredible achievement. Miss Palmer works with children across the whole school through her phonics teaching, Mealtime Assistant role and class teaching assistant. The children who work with Miss Palmer are sad to

see her leave and the staff team are equally disappointed that she will be departing. Many of our staff members have worked closely with Miss Palmer over the years and have formed fantastic working partnerships with her.

Miss Palmer will be taking up a new role which will start after half term. We wish her the very best of luck in her new job and chapter. If you see Miss Palmer over the next 2 weeks, please do with her well!

### **Spring Term Menu - this week is Week 3 from the Menu!**

Here is the all-important link to lunch menu: [Cater Ed Menu](#). Please ensure that you have talked through the options with your child before they arrive in school so that they are happy with their order.

**Clubs - we are underway with clubs this term.** We have spaces in Year 1/2 Football Club so please sign your child up at the office for Tuesday after school Football Club. This will run from 3:15 to 4:15pm with Mr Rickard.

### **Breakfast Club and the beginning of the school day**

A reminder that Breakfast Club continues to be free for all children. Doors open at 8am and your child will be met and registered by a member of our Breakfast Club team. This is a fantastic way to start the day and be ready for school. If your child struggles at the beginning of the day, starting school in a more relaxed manner at 8am may help them to have a strong start when they enter class at 8:30am.

Our gates will close at 8:15am until 8:30am when classroom doors open for our Knowle Super Start!

Attendance continues to be a whole-school priority and we look forward to seeing all children in school every way, where possible. Please speak with either myself, Tania or Nikita if you would like support with your child's attendance, morning routines or making a positive start to the school day.

Thank you, as always, for your support

Mr. Norris

### **Dates for the term ahead**

School Parliament Visit to London on Thursday 6th and 7th February

NSPCC Number Day (Maths-themed MUFTI) on Friday 7th February

Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 11th February

Valentine's Discos for EYs / KS1 (3:15-4pm) and KS2 (4:15 - 5pm) on Thursday 13th February

School Closed for staff training day on Friday 14th February

Half Term - Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February

World Book Day on Thursday 6th March (Book-themed MUFTI)

Class Photos on Wednesday 12th March

Red Nose Day on Friday 14th March

Parents Meetings on Tuesday 18th and Thursday 20th March (appointments to be made through Arbor after half term)

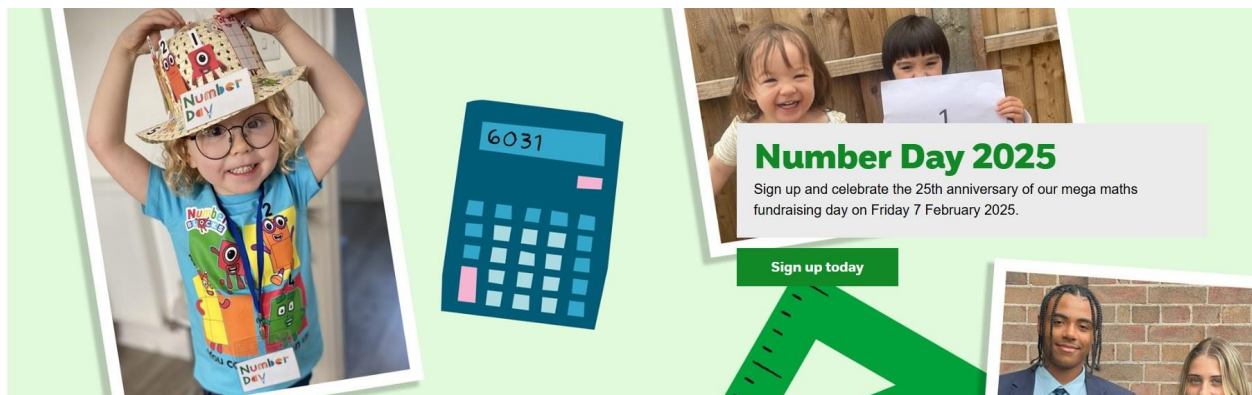
Art and DT Exhibition of Learning on Friday 28th March at the end of the school day (this will take place in the hall)

Last day of term (full day in school) on Friday 4th April

Easter Holidays - Monday 7th to Friday 18th April

Bank Holiday Monday on Monday 21st April

Children back for Summer Term on Tuesday 22nd April



## We're partnering with Here4You, supported by The Walt Disney Company!

Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week 2025 is joining forces with Here4You to explore the importance of self-awareness and expressing emotions.

Here4You is supported by The Walt Disney Company, and through the characters of Pixar's *Inside Out* and *Inside Out 2*, the resources encourage children and young people across the UK to discover how getting to know who they are can help them build resilience, grow and develop.

Throughout our resources and website, you might spot some of your favourite *Inside Out 2* characters, helping us explore our theme of **Know Yourself, Grow Yourself**.







Knowle VFFA  
Valentines  
Disco

Thursday 13th February

Reception & Key stage 1 - 3.15 to 4pm

Key stage 2 - 4.15 to 5pm

Professional DJ

Tuckshop

Free unlimited squash

Small treat for every child that attends

Tickets available from 7th February

Youth Speaks - Knowle children talk about Climate Change and Global Warming



# Our Attendance Matters

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Every day our school opens for free breakfast club at 8am for all children



Classroom doors open at 8:30am and close at 8:45am. **All children must be in school by 8:45am.**

From 9:20am, any child arriving late will be marked as an unauthorised late (U).



Registration takes place at 8:45. Children arriving after 9am will be marked as late (L).



We will always call on the first and second day of an unreported absence.

Please call the office if your child is unwell and not going to attend school that day. This helps us to record their absence accurately and monitor their health and wellbeing.



If we have not been provided with a reason for an absence after 3 days, a member of our safeguarding team will carry out a home visit.

After 10 consecutive days of absence that is unreported, we will contact Plymouth City Council to report your child missing out on education. If attendance drops below 50%, the same referral will be made.

## Our Attendance Matters | Please check your Arbor app to review your child's attendance



You can seek advice from Nikita Conniss, Tania Chapman, Mr Norris or Jo Watts, our Educational Welfare Officer (EWO)

## Our Attendance Matters | The importance of arriving in school on time



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### What happens in class at 8:30am?

#### Our Knowle Super Start

Check-in with your teacher

Spelling ✓

Times tables ✓

Reading ✓

School ready! ✓

Watch our Super Start



### What happens in class at 9am?

Every child reads at 9am to 9:45am every day



Your child will take part in phonics or Reading Masters lessons every day at 9am. Being late to school means that they miss vital minutes of learning to read. Being able to read well is a right for every child!

This week's Knowledge has a special feature on attendance and the importance of your child being in school every day. Within this section of the newsletter, you will see some different statistics and figures that reflect where we are as a school with our improvement in attendance.

Here are some headline figures to help you to understand why attendance is such a priority for us here at Knowle.

Average attendance across England: 94.5%

Average attendance across Plymouth: 94.5%

Average attendance at Knowle: 92.1%

You can see here that our children are in school less than their peers from across Plymouth and the wider country. It is important that they are in school every day possible so that they can make the most possible progress in their learning.

We are proud of the 'Super Start' that we provide your child every day at Knowle. [Here is a link](#) to remind you of what takes place in school every day from 8:30 to 9am!

**Last week, Pankhurst Class were in school 99.2% of the week which is FANTASTIC!!**

**As a treat for improved attendance across classes, I will be joining the winning class at 8:30am on Monday morning for hot chocolate!**

Stars of the Week





















Headteacher Awards from last week



These times tables stars have been shining brightly (and rocking out loudly) on TTRS!!!





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