



Dates for Your

DIARY



Thursday 23rd March 2023

World Maths Day

Wednesday 29th March 2023

Parent Consultations

Thursday 30th March 2023

Parents Consultations

Friday 31st March 2023

Children's last day of school

Monday 17th April 2023

Children return to school

Friday 21st April 2023

Class Photo Day

Monday 1st May 2023

Bank Holiday - school closed

Monday 8th May 2023

Additional Bank Holiday - school closed

Tuesday 9th—Friday 12th May 2023

Year 6 SATs week

NEWSLETTER

A message from the Principal



Dear Parents and Carers,

I am sure you will all agree, this half term is racing by and it will be the Easter break before we know it. I would like to start by thanking our school community for helping us raise money on Red Nose Day for Comic Relief. Your generous cake and monetary donations helped to raise money for a worthwhile cause, we will keep you posted on the final amount of money that was raised.

Our PTA are also working as hard as ever to help raise funds for our school. We look forward to the spring festivities that they have organised for the whole school to take part in next Friday.

Next week we will be holding our parent consultation sessions. These are extremely valuable opportunities for you to see the wonderful learning your children have completed and of course for you to hold a discussion with the class teachers about the progress your children have made. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Leading up to the school holidays, many of you will be wanting to keep your children busy. We have sent out some emails and flyers with information for you regarding holiday clubs that will be running over the 2 week break. Some families will also be able to access funded clubs. Please do take a look at the information on the flyers if this is of interest to you.

Finally, we would like to remind you that we have a book fayre which will be taking place after school at the end of this week and leading in to next week. There are some fantastic books available for you to purchase for the children and a great opportunity to encourage your children to read and help their passions for reading grow.

On behalf of everyone at Kingsmoor Academy, we wish you a Happy Easter break when it arrives.

Spotify

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, notes and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SPOTIFY

Spotify is a digital music, podcast and video service which gives users access to millions of songs and other content from creators all over the world. Since launching in 2008, Spotify has revolutionised the way music is listened to: it now offers the ability to manage and share more than 100 million tracks and five million podcast series, plus personalised recommendations, new release updates and the option to create collaborative playlists. As of February 2023, it is the world's most popular audio streaming subscription service with 489 million users globally.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EXPLICIT LYRICS

As per Spotify's terms and conditions, people need to be at least 13 to use it. That said, the platform doesn't censor lyrics unless instructed to do so in the settings – so it's worth noting that young teenagers could still be surrounded by age-inappropriate songs which contain explicit references to sexual behaviour, violence, discriminatory language and swearing.

GROOMING TACTICS

Although Spotify doesn't come with dedicated chat functionality, concerns were raised in January 2023 after reports of an 11-year-old girl being coerced into sharing explicit pictures of herself on the platform. The case highlighted predators' tactics of sharing empty playlists with other users: their messages were being exchanged undetected through edited song titles and descriptions, bypassing security measures.

OVERSHARING

Spotify provides a perfect way to play music, with the ability to connect to another device, such as a Bluetooth speaker or an in-car stereo. While this is a useful feature, it's also easy to forget your surroundings and inadvertently play content which isn't appropriate for all listeners (especially those under the age of 18), potentially causing alarm or distress.

SWAP TO SPOTIFY KIDS

If you're concerned about what your child might hear while streaming music, Spotify Kids is a separate, ad-free service specifically designed for children aged 12 and under. It allows younger users to enjoy human-curated, child-friendly content (such as music and audiobooks) and is available to users with a Spotify Premium Family subscription – meaning that parents can view and manage the content their child listens to.

CENSOR EXPLICIT CONTENT

Regardless of what type of account your child uses to access Spotify, there is an option to turn off explicit content in the settings – greying out all songs marked with an 'E' tag. If your child has their own individual account, it's easier for them to turn it back on – whereas with a family plan, you're in control and your child can't alter the setting without knowing the password.

KEEP AN EYE OUT

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Spotify or you've noticed they're being particularly secretive about how they're using it, encourage them to talk about what they're listening to. It's always prudent to show an interest in their online habits from the outset – so you're confident they're using apps and services in the right way, for the right reasons, and they're not being drawn into anything they shouldn't be.

TALK ABOUT THE RISKS

As with any platform, it's good practice to talk to your child about what they should be aware of when using Spotify. For instance, it's important they're aware never to share any personal information with strangers, and what they should do if they're exposed to inappropriate content. Encourage them to think critically about what they see and hear so that they feel comfortable raising any concerns with you.

ACCESS TO SPOTIFY LIVE

If your child has a Spotify account, they'll also be able to access the platform's audio-only chat service: Spotify Live. While it's a separate stand-alone app, Spotify Live allows people to listen to live discussions on the main Spotify platform and, more notably, lets users enter virtual rooms to chat with other users, opening up direct conversations with strangers and individuals who might not necessarily be there for the right reasons.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE PODCASTS

Spotify's podcast community has grown exponentially and it's become a popular base for millions of users to listen to shows, stories, interviews and more – with content covering an array of topics. This includes some material which isn't suitable for minors, including audio which is obviously adult-themed, but can be just as easily accessed as everything else.

PARENTAL ADVISORY EXPLICIT CONTENT

Advice for Parents & Carers

Meet Our Expert
Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

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National Online Safety



Safeguarding



Safer Schools App



The Safer Schools App helps to educate, empower and protect children and those responsible with helping to keep them safe as they navigate the world of technology and social media.

The App is designed to support and protect children by educating and empowering them in school and at home. As parents and carers, you will have a tailored version of the app which will empower and educate you to best support the children in your care in the digital world.

The safety hub contains all of the important alerts about new threats and trends online which are sent out by the Safer Schools Team.

In the video hub you will see all of the safeguarding videos posted by the safer schools team.

The alerts hub hosts all of the push notifications which can be sent out by us as a school, or by the Safer Schools Team. This could range from an alert about a new app, or simply a reminder from the school (Make sure that you turn all of your push notifications on when you download the App) Overwhelmed by the sheer amount of different apps and devices out there? Not sure how to help your children stay safe online? Check out the Online Safety Centre to find out how to block, report and set appropriate privacy and safety settings. On the screen it shows an example of how to learn to block someone on TikTok. Simply click on the block button, choose the device you are using, select the social media app and then watch the short video.

The Digital Safety section is a handy reference tool to keep you informed on a range of topics from The Online World to Gaming. The screen recording shows you how to find all the info you need to know on the controversial, yet popular messaging app Kik in the Social Media section.

Want to test your knowledge of the information on the App? Think you know as much as your kids? Try our Quick Quizzes on any of our topics.

If you feel like even more of a challenge – try the Digital Tests section for a more in-depth, multiple choice quiz.

Step 1: Open up your App Store or Google Play and search for 'Safer Schools'

Step 2: Type in your school name – **Kingsmoor Academy**

Step 3: Type in the code – **7740** or Scan the QR Code



Important information - Term time holidays

Improving school attendance is a key priority for all schools across Essex. Where families choose to take a family holiday during term time, this can detrimentally impact a pupil's progress and can prevent them from fulfilling their true academic potential. Our school attendance policy, available via our school website, clearly sets out the process that parents should follow if they wish to apply for leave during term time. Please note that applications should only be made, if you feel that there are exceptional circumstances which mean that the leave cannot be taken during the school holidays.

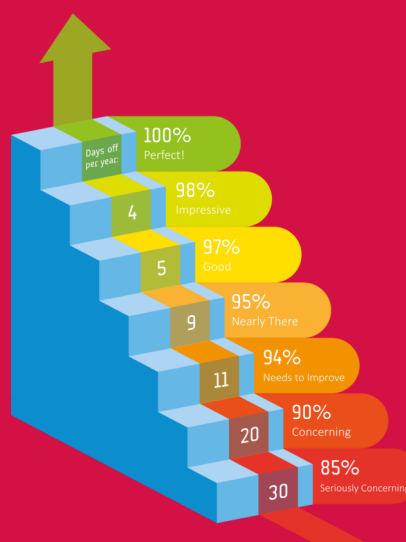
We would ask all parents to note that, where families choose to go on holiday during term time and the absences are coded as unauthorised, Essex County Council may not issue penalty notices and may instead proceed to prosecution and place the case directly before the Magistrates for their consideration in court. If found guilty by the Magistrates, parents could face a fine of up to £2,500 and/or 3 months imprisonment.

ATTENDANCE

Kingsmoor Academy prioritises attendance and punctuality. We aim to have attendance which meets and exceeds the national average which is 96.7%.

We understand that children can be absent from school due to illness and medical appointments. Please remember to call the school office and report your child's absence to the attendance officer before 9.30am.

Punctuality is just as important as attendance. We have a 'soft start' from 8.45am where children can attend and complete some early morning work. Classroom doors close at 8.55am for registration.



Nationally, attendance in the Autumn Term was 93.5%. Our school attendance was 91.1%. We will be working hard to raise this percentage in the spring term. Attending school daily is vital for children's routines, wellbeing and academic attainment.

Since returning in the spring term, our attendance is 94.4%, we are very pleased with this improvement already. Well done Year 5 with the highest attendance of the week at 97%.

New Menu—After Half Term

WEEK 1

W/C: 17/04, 08/05, 19/06, 10/07, 11/09, 02/10

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT MAINS	Cheese and Tomato Pizza 🍕 Served with Potato Wedges	Pork Sausages 🍖 Served with Mashed Potato and Gravy	Roast Turkey 🦃 Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Beef Bolognese 🍖 Served with Wholemeal Pasta and Garlic and Herb Bread	Breaded Fish Fingers 🐟 Served with Chips
JACKET POTATO	Vegetable Pesto Pasta Bake 🍝	Macaroni Cheese 🍝	Roasted Vegetable Butterbean Crumble 🍷 Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetarian Bolognese 🍝 Served with Wholemeal Pasta	Vegetarian Dippers 🍷 Served with Chips
	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings, including Salmon Mayonnaise 🐟	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings
	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta 🍷 🍷				
	All main meals are served with two vegetables				
DESSERT	Vanilla Ice Cream 🍦	Hot Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Custard 🍫	Strawberry Jelly with Fruit 🍓	Fruity Picnic Bar 🍓	Chocolate Ice Cream 🍦

WEEK 2

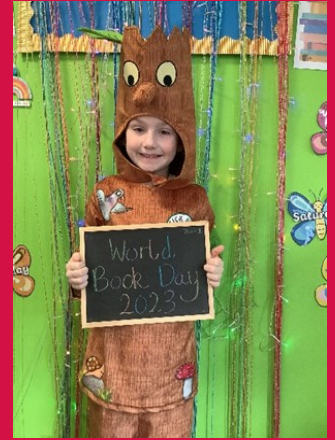
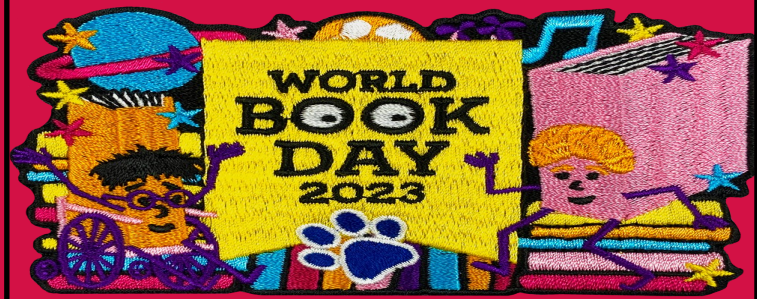
W/C: 24/04, 15/05, 05/06, 26/06, 17/07, 18/09, 09/10

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT MAINS	Cheese and Tomato Pizza 🍕 Served with Potato Wedges	Chicken Sausages 🍖 Served with Mashed Potato and Gravy	Roast Gammon 🦃 Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Beef Lasagne 🍝 Served with Garlic and Herb Bread	Breaded Fish Fingers 🐟 Served with Chips
JACKET POTATO	Vegetable Pastry Roll 🍝 Served with Potato Wedges	Cauliflower Macaroni Cheese 🍝	Sweet Potato and Chickpea Roast 🍷 Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetable Lasagne 🍝 Served with Garlic and Herb Bread	Vegetarian Dippers 🍷 Served with Chips
	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings
	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta 🍷 🍷				
	All main meals are served with two vegetables				
DESSERT	Oat Chocolate Cookie with Fruit 🍓	Orange Jelly 🍓	Chocolate and Banana Marble Cake 🍰	Banana and Apricot Flapjack with Fruit 🍓	Strawberry Ice Cream 🍦

WEEK 3

W/C: 01/05, 22/05, 12/06, 03/07, 04/09, 25/09, 16/10

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT MAINS	Cheese and Tomato Pizza 🍕 Served with Potato Wedges	Mexican Beef Tortilla Pie 🍷 Served with Wholegrain Rice	Roast Pork Picnic Plate 🦃 Served with Herb Diced Potatoes	Cottage Pie 🍷	Southern Fried Chicken 🍷 Served with Chips
JACKET POTATO	Vegetarian Bolognese 🍝 Served with Wholemeal Pasta	Mexican Vegetarian Tortilla Pie 🍷 Served with Wholegrain Rice	Cheesy Ploughman's Picnic Plate 🍷 Served with Bread	Macaroni Cheese 🍝	Tomato Vegetable Burger 🍷 Served with Chips
	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings
	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta 🍷 🍷				
	All main meals are served with two vegetables				
DESSERT	Mango Frozen Yoghurt 🍓	Berry Flapjack with Fruit 🍓	Chocolate Brownie with Fruit 🍰	Pineapple Upside Down Cake with Custard 🍰	Chocolate Milkshake and Shortbread 🍰



World Book Day 2023 was a huge success. Everyone put in so much effort, looked amazing in their costumes and most importantly had lots of fun!



Kingsmoor enjoyed supporting Comic Relief's Red Nose Day. Children did a sponsored walk and wore red. Year 5 led a cake sale in which all proceeds go to Red Nose Day and most importantly we have all had fun!