



WEEKLY UPDATE

CORE VALUE: ENDURANCE

SPRING TERM 1 ISSUE 5

6TH FEBRUARY 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

I can't believe another week has passed; the pupils have coped admirably with another rather wet and dismal week, keeping their spirits up as we enter the final week of term 3.

It was great to see so many of our year eight pupils and families at this week's Choices Evening at Kings in Cheddar. Hearing the excited conversations back in school about the prospect of new courses such as business, economics, textiles and music technology has undoubtedly unlocked a sense of excitement for the next chapter; the transition period will come around all too quickly...

Polite reminder: the deadline for submission of Year 9 choices is February 23rd. A hard copy of the Options Form can be found in the booklet sent home to parents/carers earlier this term or digitally via the QR code shared within it. If you were unable to attend on Tuesday evening or have remaining questions, there is some very useful information on the Kings website. Click on the link for more [KOWESSEX - Year 9 Options](#)

Following the DfE's release of new expectations around mobile phones in schools earlier this week, it was really great to open our doors on Wednesday evening to so many parents/carers keen to seek advice and guidance on Parenting in the Digital Age. There is an ongoing project across Wessex schools, considering a trust wide response to recent publications – I will keep you updated in due course but in the meantime, thank you for your continued diligence and support of positive communications within members of the school and wider community.

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week. The theme for Children's Mental Health Week 2026 is 'This is My Place', and our aim is to support the systems around children and young people to help them feel they belong. Children's Mental Health Week takes place every February, it was started in 2015 to give a voice to all children and young people and to raise awareness of children and young people's mental health, we will be utilising assembly time and Collective Worship to bring this important theme into focus next week.

Next week is also showtime! Following months of dedication and practise it is time for our year 8 performers to 'break a leg' and deliver a stellar performance of Highschool Musical; I am told there are a few tickets remaining for both performances next Weds and Thurs so if you haven't booked your tickets yet, please reach out to the School office.

Final reminder that next Friday, 13th February is a Wessex INSET day, so Wessex Schools are closed to pupils, sparking the beginning of an extended February half term break.

Have a great weekend when it arrives.

Best wishes,

Matt Drew.

CALENDAR 2025

FEBRUARY

13th INSET DAY - School Closed to Pupils

16th - 20th Spring Half Term Holiday

23rd School Reopens

23rd Y5 Space Detectives/Start Gazing Event

23rd Y5 ABC Academy of Barmy Composers

26th Y7 Artist Visit - Duncan Cameron

MARCH

2nd Y8 Weston College Visit

4th Y8 Cannington Visit

6th Y8 University of Bath Visit

CLUBS

**SPORTS LEADERS - Wednesday 11th Feb Cancelled
due to the school production**

**All House Matches have been cancelled until after
half-term due to the weather and pitch conditions.**



SAFER INTERNET DAY

Safer Internet Day 2026 will take place on the 10th of February 2026, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'.

Everyone's talking about AI, and with many children and young people hearing about and using AI online, it's important they have the skills and confidence to make safe choices when they are using smart technology.

This Safer Internet Day we are exploring the impact of AI on all of our lives, looking at how AI can be used for good, and giving advice and guidance that empowers people to use AI safely and responsibly.

Our free educational resources will help schools and youth groups talk about this issue with young people of all ages, covering a range of issues from looking at voice assistants and chatbots, to exploring some of the ethical considerations in responsible use of AI technology. We will also produce top tips and advice for parents, carers and grandparents covering how to talk about AI, helping them to use new technology in safe and responsible ways.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026>



Y8 PRODUCTION 2026

TICKETS SALES OPEN

Monday 26th January on Bromcom

PERFORMANCES

Wednesday 11th February

Thursday 12th February

6:30pm Start

Ticket Price - £6

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR JUNIOR BAKE OFF

Aged between 9-15 and love to bake?
We'd love to hear from you!

WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK



APPLICATIONS CLOSE 15TH MARCH 2026

Pancakes

MENU

THURSDAY 12TH FEBRUARY
SERVED ON GRAB & GO AT
LUNCH

BANANA CARAMEL

CHOCOLATE & MARSHMALLOW

STRAWBERRIES & CREAM

RASPBERRY DRIZZLE & WHITE CHOCOLATE DROPS

£2.50



ABSENCE NOTIFICATIONS ON BROMCOM

All 'on the day' absence notifications can be sent in to school via the following

- Bromcom app,
- School absence line **01934 712211** or
- email school@hughsexey.org.uk
-

All future dated absences **must** be sent in via the school email as these need to be approved by the Headteacher.

Many thanks for your continued support

SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

Following on from our successful presentation to Parents/Carers on Wednesday evening by Cordilia Fellows from Smartphone Free Childhood, please find below a link to the Smartphone Free Childhood website Smartphonefreechildhood.org

The slide show from Wednesday Evening will be sent out to all Parents/Carers once we have received it.



Children's Mental Health Week 2026 will take place from 9-15 February 2026!

Place2Be's official Children's Mental Health Week 2026 resources are available for you to download! Whether you're a primary school, secondary school, family, community group or workplace, we've got activities and resources for you.

The theme for Children's Mental Health Week 2026 is 'This is My Place', and our aim is to support the systems around children and young people to help them feel they belong.

Children's Mental Health Week takes place every February. It was started in 2015 to give a voice to all children and young people and to raise awareness of children and young people's mental health.



It's time to clear out your wardrobe and donate any unwanted clothing, shoes, bedding and accessories to our Rags2 Riches collection. Our next collection is on **Tuesday 17th March**. Please deliver your items in a black bin bag or tied plastic bag to our main reception.

No school uniform please, please donate this to the preloved shop

NEXT WEEK IN PICTURE NEWS

HSMS VALUES IN ACTION @ HOME WB 9TH FEBRUARY 2026



In the news this week.....

Adults in the UK are talking about whether children under 16 should be allowed to use social media, as the government is considering new rules to help keep children safe online. Some people believe social media helps children stay connected, while others worry it can affect wellbeing and mental health. During Children's Mental Health Week, the story reminds us how important it is to look after our mental health both online and offline.

Things to talk about at home ...

- What rules or agreements can help us feel safe when using technology at home?
- Can you think of ideas for families to help balance screen time and other activities?
- What are some of the activities that you do online? Do you do different things online to others at home?

Dear God,
Thank You for giving us the power to choose what we watch, read, and listen to. Please give us the strength to make better choices every day, to help our minds stay healthy. Help us to be kind to ourselves and to show that same kindness to all the people around us.
Amen

HSMS Christian Value and Virtue next week: Endurance & Courage
Bible Link: Proverbs
British Value and Protected Characteristic: Rule of Law & Age
UN Rights of the Child: #17 Access to information