



Annwyl Parents / Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a fantastic half term and that you were able to enjoy some time together as a family. It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school and hear all about their adventures over the break.

Since returning, it has been all systems go at Knelston and the school has been full of energy and excitement. The children have quickly got back into the swing of things and have already been involved in a wide range of activities and events.

Sport has been a big highlight, with our football and rugby teams out and about representing the school in competitions. The pupils have shown fantastic determination, teamwork and sportsmanship, and we are incredibly proud of the way they represent Knelston whenever they pull on the school kit.

We also enjoyed a wonderful celebration of Welsh culture during our school Eisteddfod, which was a fantastic occasion for the whole school community. The creativity, confidence and effort shown by the pupils was incredible, and the Charing of the Bard was a real highlight of the day. A huge thank you to Mrs Porter for all the time, effort and enthusiasm she put into organising such an amazing Eisteddfod for the children - it really was a special event and one that the pupils will remember.

Adding to the excitement, the school was also full of colour and imagination for World Book Day. It was lovely to see the children celebrating their love of reading, sharing stories and enjoying a range of fun activities linked to books and storytelling.

And that's just the start! With so much already happening, it promises to be another busy and exciting half term at Knelston. Thank you, as always, for your continued support - it really does make such a difference.

We're looking forward to many more great moments and achievements over the coming weeks.

Please see ClassDojo and our Instagram page for photos from our trips and classroom activities – there's lots to see and share!

J G Paynter

UNCRC Right of the Month

School Aim of the Month



Article 7: The right to a name and nationality



Perseverance

Patrwm y Pythefnos - Welsh Patterns to share at home:



Beth ydy dy oed di?

How old are you?

Dw i'n ... oed.

I am ... years old.



We are looking for children who can use these patterns (and others) in school.

A Busy Fortnight of Sport at Knelston

Over the past fortnight it has been another incredibly busy and exciting time for sport at Knelston, with the minibus certainly getting plenty of miles in!

Last week our Year 5/6 boys and girls travelled to Pure Football to take part in a tournament. The weather was absolutely shocking, with rain pouring down for most of the day, but that certainly didn't stop our pupils. They played incredibly well, showed fantastic determination and quite literally ran their socks off all day. We were competing against some very big schools, but despite being one of the smaller schools involved, our teams more than held their own and represented Knelston brilliantly. A big thank you to Steve Lancey and Simon Morris for attending and supporting the team with their coaching expertise. Big thank you to Steve Lancey and Simon Morris for attending and help coach the team.



This week it was the turn of our girls' football team to head to Pure Football for their tournament. Thankfully, the weather was the complete opposite - a beautiful day which made for some great football. The girls played superbly throughout the competition, showing great teamwork, skill and resilience. To add an extra cherry on top of the day, we even managed to beat my old school, Mayals, in a friendly after the tournament, which was a lovely way to finish! Once again, a huge thank you to Steve for giving up his day to support us by coaching and refereeing.

Earlier today, our girls' rugby team enjoyed an incredible day at the

International Women's Day festival in Llandarcy! They played brilliantly, showcasing skill, confidence, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the day. Undefeated against schools from across the Osprey region, they finished by beating the only other unbeaten team—a truly proud moment for everyone involved.



A McFlurry almost capped off the celebrations... if only the ice cream machine had cooperated!

It doesn't stop there - next week our Year 5/6 girls are competing in a hockey tournament, and we also have some exciting fixtures lined up for our Year 3/4 teams in the coming weeks. The energy and commitment from all our pupils is fantastic to see, and it promises to be another action-packed period of sport at Knelston.

A huge well done to all of the pupils who have taken part over the last couple of weeks - you have all done Knelston proud!

Caring for the Coast: Knelston Ocean Guardians in Action

Our Knelston Ocean Guardians had an absolutely wonderful day at Rhossili Bay recently. The pupils enthusiastically took part in a successful beach clean, helping to care for our local environment and learning the importance of protecting our oceans and wildlife. After their hard work, everyone enjoyed a sunny picnic on the beach, soaking up the beautiful surroundings and sharing some well-earned treats.



To finish the day on a sweet note, the children were treated to hot chocolates and juice at The View Café, giving them a chance to relax, reflect on their achievements and enjoy some quality time together. It was a fantastic day full of learning, teamwork, and fun, and the Ocean Guardians represented Knelston brilliantly throughout. A huge thank you to Mrs Thomas and Mrs Hughes Morgan for organising.

Knelston Eisteddfod



What a fantastic Eisteddfod we had at Knelston! Every child from Nursery to Year 6 took part in a morning jam-packed with Welshness, and we couldn't be prouder. The day was filled with traditional Welsh dancing, amazing singing, a Knelston special - the Mari Lwyd, the Chairing of the Bard, and a rousing finale with the National Anthem. It was a special celebration of Welsh culture, creativity, and talent.

To conclude our celebrations, we held the much-loved Chairing of the Bard. Our treasured Bardic Chair is a symbol of creativity and achievement, a tradition that began in 2011. Each year, one pupil is selected to be chaired, with their name proudly added to the chair. This year, the honour went to Harry Morris, recognised for his dedication to the Welsh language and his commitment to the Criw Cymraeg—a well-deserved acknowledgement of his efforts and enthusiasm.

The celebrations were beautifully finalised by our Year 6 Mari Lwyd, an ancient Welsh folk custom featuring a decorated horse's skull draped in a white sheet and adorned with ribbons. Traditionally performed during the winter months, it is said to bring good luck. Our

Year 6 pupils performed brilliantly, showcasing confidence, teamwork, and a real sense of fun, providing a memorable finale to our Eisteddfod.

This was my second Eisteddfod at Knelston, and I have to say—it was absolutely brilliant! A huge thank you to Mrs Porter and Criw Cymraeg for organising such a great event and an incredible week of celebrations. Another big thank you to all our staff for their hard work behind the scenes—getting 72 children to sing and dance in the hall is no easy feat!

If Wales perform half as well as the children did, we should be in for a win tomorrow!

A Fantastic World Book Day at Knelston

On Thursday, we had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day. The children and staff made an incredible effort dressing up as their favourite literary characters, and the brilliant costumes really set the tone for a fun-filled day celebrating books and storytelling.

From the moment the children arrived, there was a real buzz around the school. Alongside admiring the fantastic costumes, we also held our second book sale, which proved to be a great success.

Throughout the day, pupils from Reception to Year 6 enjoyed a special reading session with a visiting local author. The author shared stories with the children, and our older pupils had the opportunity to take part in a brilliant Q&A session, asking thoughtful questions and learning more about the writing process.



To top it all off, the day ended with a brilliantly successful PTA Book-to-Film themed movie night 🍿📺 - the perfect way to round off such a special celebration of reading.

A huge thank you to our staff for organising such a fun and engaging day, and to our families and PTA for supporting the event. Experiences like these help foster a love of reading and storytelling that we hope will stay with the children for many years to come.

Happy reading! 📖

Parent-Teacher Meetings - Tuesday 17th March

Opportunities for parents to meet with their child's class teacher will take place on **Tuesday 17th March**. As in the Autumn term, parents will have a chance to look through their child's books and work before meeting with the teacher in class.



Appointments can be booked directly through **iPay**.

If you experience any issues or need assistance with booking, please contact the school office, and we'll be happy to help.

Thank you for your support.

Finally...

As always, if you have queries, compliments, complaints, concerns or issues you would like to discuss please speak to a member of staff. If family or friends help with school runs, we'd love for you to share the weekly newsletter with them. Please also make sure we have your updated contact details so we can stay connected!

Thank you in anticipation of your continued support.

Dymuniadau gorau,

J G Painter

Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

Please follow the link below to our school webpage: <https://www.knelstonprimary.co.uk/academicyear2025-2026>

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