



Newyddion - Friday 20th March 2026

Annwyl Parents / Carers,

It has been another busy and exciting fortnight at Knelston! The school has been buzzing with energy as pupils have thrown themselves into a fantastic mix of activities, from sports to creative projects and environmental initiatives.

A real highlight was our Year 5/6 girls at the Hockey Festival at The Elba in Gowerton, where they displayed determination, teamwork, and resilience, winning four out of five matches - a brilliant achievement! Our creative spirit has been thriving too, with the colourful Easter Bonnet Parade and the lively Easter Disco, organised by our fantastic PTA. Thank you to the PTA for all their hard work and to parents for supporting them - without this, many of our events wouldn't be possible.

We were also delighted to welcome staff from other schools, including Headteachers, who visited Knelston this week to see all the great things happening here. It was wonderful to share our pupils' achievements and celebrate the vibrant learning, creativity, and community spirit that makes our school so special.

Looking ahead, our Year 5/6 pupils are preparing for their action-packed residential trip to Llain Adventure with Mr Donovan and Mrs Blakemore. With climbing, zip-lining, mud runs, SUP boarding, kayaking, and more, it promises to be an unforgettable week of outdoor adventure - fingers crossed for some decent weather so they can make the most of it!

It's been a wonderful couple of weeks full of learning, creativity, and achievement. Thank you, as always, for your continued support - it really does make a difference in everything we do.

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:



Sut mae'r tywydd heddiw?

How is the weather today?

Mae hi'n ...heddiw.

It is ... today.



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

Parent Consultations This Week

We would like to thank all the parents who attended parent consultations last week. It was wonderful to meet with you and have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress, achievements, and next steps in their learning journey.

We hope you found the meetings both useful and informative, and we really appreciate the time you took to engage with your child's education. Your support and partnership are invaluable in helping our pupils continue to dream, believe, and achieve together. We look forward to working closely with you throughout the rest of the school year.



Attendance and Punctuality

Just a reminder that our attendance target is set at **95%**. This target reflects the continued focus on improving attendance and punctuality, which is so important for our pupils' success.

We know that regular school attendance is crucial for a child's ability to reach their full potential, and arriving late can have a negative impact on their learning. While we understand the challenges of the morning rush, we're here to support families in ensuring children are in school every day and on time. Of course, we don't want children attending school when they are unwell, but we would love to work with you to reduce absences on days when they could be here and to minimise late arrivals after **9:15 am**.

To help us reach this goal and maintain the high standards we set last year, we kindly ask for your support in ensuring the following:

Arriving on Time: Please make sure your child arrives at school on time each day. Any arrivals after **9:15am** are considered late. If you know you'll be exceptionally late, please call ahead to let the school know.

Notifying us of Holidays: If you plan to take your child out of school for a holiday, please be honest and notify us as soon as possible by completing a holiday request form. Forms are available from the office or can be downloaded online at: **Knelston Primary Key Documents**. Please be aware that under the direction of the local authority, we are not allowed to authorise any holidays during term time. Also as a school, we have a legal obligation to ensure the welfare of your child, so we simply need to know where they'll be and why.

Appointments: If your child needs to miss school for a doctor's or dentist appointment, please inform the office as soon as possible by phone, voicemail, or email. We encourage all appointments to be scheduled outside of school hours whenever possible, though we understand this may not always be feasible.

Illness: If your child is unwell, please inform the office by phone, voicemail, or email as soon as you know they'll need to stay home. It's helpful to keep us updated on how they're doing and when they're likely to return.

If you have any questions, concerns, or need support, please don't hesitate to get in touch—we are always here to help.



Year 5/6 Girls Shine at Hockey Festival!



Last week, our Year 5/6 girls had an amazing time at the Hockey Festival at The Elba in Gowerton! They showed incredible skill, teamwork, and determination, never giving up even when matches were tough.

Out of five matches, they won four, demonstrating fantastic resilience and sportsmanship. Every member of the team contributed, encouraging each other and growing in confidence throughout the day.

We are so proud of their effort and achievement - they represented the school brilliantly!

A huge thank you to all the parents and grandparents who came to support - your encouragement made a real difference and helped the girls shine.



Easter Bonnet Parade

What a fantastic celebration we had at our Easter Bonnet Parade this week! The children were full of creativity and energy, showcasing some truly brilliant bonnets that brightened up the school.

A huge thank you to all the parents who came along to watch and support the children - your encouragement and applause made the event even more special. It was wonderful to see the smiles, laughter, and excitement as the children paraded their amazing creations.

We're so proud of everyone for making the parade such a fun and memorable occasion! A big thank you to our brilliant staff for organising.



Easter Disco



The children had an incredible time at the Easter Disco last night! There was lots of dancing, laughter, and knee sliding, and it was wonderful to see everyone enjoying themselves so much.

A huge thank you to our PTA for organising such a brilliant event - your hard work and dedication made the disco possible and created a memorable experience for all the children. Thank you also to all parents and families for supporting the PTA. As you know, without their efforts, we simply couldn't run the school in the way we do, and their support is truly vital to everything we achieve.

It was a fantastic way to celebrate the season and bring everyone together for some well-deserved fun!

Year 5/6 Residential Trip - Llain Adventure

Next week, our Year 5/6 pupils are off on an exciting residential trip to Llain Adventure with Mr Donovan and Mrs Blakemore! A huge thank you to them for giving up their own time and being away from their own families to take the children on what promises to be an unforgettable adventure.

The children have a jam-packed week of outdoor activities planned, including climbing, zip-lining, mud runs, SUP boarding, kayaking, and lots more. They will be heading down on Monday by mini bus and returning to school on Friday - fingers crossed for some good weather to make the most of all the fun!



We're sure it will be an amazing experience full of teamwork, challenges, and unforgettable memories.

Swimming Sessions After Easter

We are delighted to share that, after Easter, our pupils will begin a six-week block of swimming lessons at Penyrheol Swimming Pool. The sessions will be available for pupils in Years 3-6, helping them to develop important swimming ability, water confidence, and safety skills.

The programme will begin with our Year 5/6 class attending the first six-week block. The sessions will take place on Friday mornings, with the children travelling to and from the pool during the school day and returning to school in time for lunch.

We are particularly pleased to be able to offer this opportunity to our pupils, especially as we are fortunate to live and learn on the coast, where swimming and water safety are such valuable life skills.

These sessions have been generously funded by the Bowen Richards Trust in Rhossili, and we would like to extend a huge thank you to them for supporting this fantastic opportunity for our children.

School Closure - Polling Day & INSET



We have been informed that the school has been selected to be used as a polling station for the Senedd Election on **Thursday 7th May**. As a result, the school will be closed to all pupils and staff on this day.

In order to help families with childcare arrangements and to support attendance, we have decided to schedule an **INSET day on Friday 8th May**. This decision has been made in consultation with, and agreed by, the Governing Body, who were keen to ensure that any disruption caused by the polling day closure was managed in the most supportive way possible for our families and the wider school community.

In previous years, when the school has been closed for polling day, many pupils did not attend on the following Friday. By placing an INSET day on this date, we hope to support families with planning and avoid unnecessary disruption to attendance. We recognise that some families may also wish to make the most of the long weekend.

Thank you for your understanding and continued 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 Paynter

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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