



Kindness • Perseverance • Success

## NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2021 - Issue 2

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**CORONAVIRUS**  
**STAY ALERT TO STAY SAFE**  
**STAY ALERT • CONTROL THE VIRUS • SAVE LIVES**

### Message from the Headteacher

The school term is well underway with the children working hard across the school. The easing of restrictions in the first couple of weeks was a breath of fresh air for all us: enjoying singing, lunchtimes together in the hall and assemblies reminding us of how school should really feel.



Unfortunately, due to a number of cases in school, we have implemented a number of measures for a short period and when numbers reduce again, we will reduce our restrictions. I am aware that many schools are experiencing the same issues; a flexible approach like this may be something we need to get used to for the time being.

I am truly sorry though for the disruption caused to you and we remain continually optimistic that plans, although postponed or changed, will only be cancelled as a last resort.

### New Parents

I am most acutely aware of those parents who are new to our school. We are so keen to meet with you in person and give you a tour of the school - we promise it will be worth it when it finally does happen!

### Parents' Evening

We had an even split in response to the questionnaire with equal numbers requesting face-to-face meetings, online meetings or no preference. However, given the recent increase, we have decided to run this first parents' meeting online. When restrictions have reduced, we will open the school for classroom visits so you can see your child's work and their classroom in person.

### Information to help your child to grow and learn

In each letter, you will find a 'Spotlight on'. This section explains some part of the school's work and gives you hints and tips about what you can do to help your child to learn and develop.

We hope you find these sections useful and welcome any comments about other 'Spotlights' that you may wish to have included in the future:  
[head@kingsway.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:head@kingsway.gloucs.sch.uk)

Best wishes

*Mr Pajak*

### Top tips for supporting your child with phonics

It is now widely recognised that systematic synthetic phonics is the most efficient and effective approach for the vast majority of children in the early stages of learning to read. Therefore, it is vitally important that this is the approach that we use to support children in their earliest stages of reading in early years and ks1 and often into ks2.

At Kingsway, we have developed our own approach to the teaching of phonics following our school pacing document which can be found on the website [here](#). Using this document, you will be able to see which sounds your child has been taught so far; your child will be given a reading book which contains the sounds and tricky words that they know.

When you are support your child to read using phonics, here are our top tips:

- 1) Ensure that your child is using 'pure' sounds e.g. 'mmmm' not 'muh' – this will help them blend the sounds together more easily. [This video](#) demonstrates how the sounds should be spoken.
- 2) Tricky words are words that can't be sounded out easily e.g. 'the', 'one' and 'my'. These words we encourage children to read by sight whilst still drawing children's attention to the different parts of words.
- 3) Before reading their reading book, practise the sounds, tricky words and decodable words at the front or back of their book. This will prepare them for reading the rest of the book. In the early stages of reading (particularly in reception and year 1), aim to get your child to read their book three times – we call this 'Three times to fluency' - this can be done over 2-3 nights rather than in one sitting.



#### First read:

Practise the sounds and tricky words at the front of the book and then find them in the book. You may wish to read part of the book to your child at this stage to build their confidence.



#### Second read:

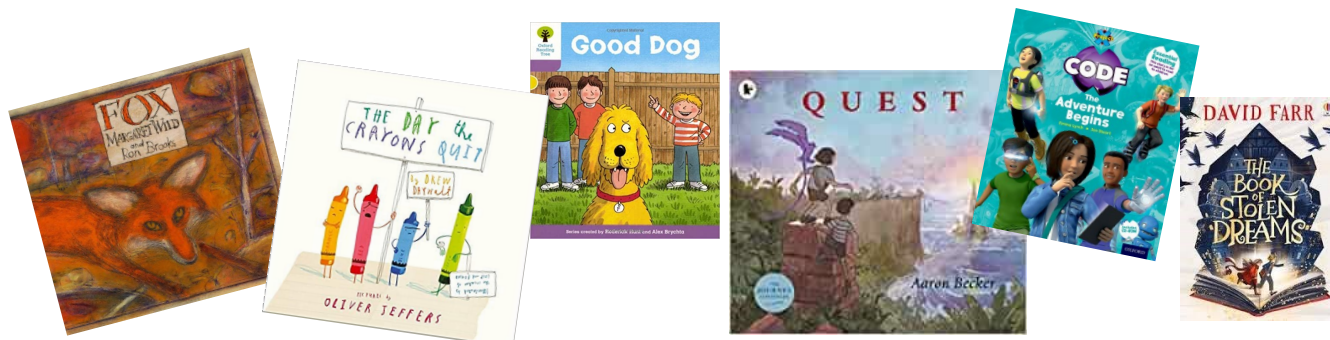
Ask your child to read their book on their own. When they can't read a word, encourage them to sound it out only telling them if they are completely stuck. This read may be a little stilted at times whilst your child reads new words.

#### Third read:

Ask your child to read their book one more time. This time they may be able to read their book more fluently. You could make a point of asking them to perform their reading perhaps by reading to another family member.



For more information about phonics please email: [lsmith@kingsway.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:lsmith@kingsway.gloucs.sch.uk)



### Transforming teaching and learning through talk

As a Voice 21 Oracy School, we are joining a national network of oracy schools, committed to ensuring that every pupil benefits from a high quality oracy education. We know that the ability to communicate through spoken language is one of the strongest predictors of future life chances when children are at school. Oracy not only benefits children's spoken language skills, but also their confidence, capacity to learn and success beyond school.



If we want young people to think for themselves and work successfully with others, oracy is at the heart of this.

### What is Oracy?

Oracy is the ability to articulate ideas, develop understanding and engage with others through spoken language.

### How does Oracy help the children?

**Increases confidence**, empowering students with the belief that their voice has value, developing the ability to articulate thoughts so others will listen.

**Improves academic outcomes**, developing learners who can think critically, reason together and have the vocabulary to express their knowledge and understanding.

**Wellbeing**, supporting students to build successful relationships, talk through issues, express feelings and resolve conflicts.

**Equips students to thrive in life beyond school**, helping them to progress, access employment and engage in civic life.

### Oracy skills four categories



Cognitive

The deliberate application of thought to what you're saying



Linguistic

Knowing which words and phrases to use, and using them



Physical

Making yourself heard, using your voice and body as an instrument



Social &  
Emotional

Engaging with the people around you; knowing you have the right to speak

For more information on Voice 21 Oracy email: [lhillman@kingsway.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:lhillman@kingsway.gloucs.sch.uk)



*At Kingsway Primary School,  
we believe oracy forms an integral  
part of teaching and learning*

## Car Boot and Table Top Sale

What an amazing day on Saturday (18th Sept) at our first car boot and table top sale. There was a great turn out from members of the public supporting

Kingsway Primary School in helping them raise funds for the school. Lots of people buying and selling there their goods. It felt like the school was a real hub of activity for the local community.

I would like to say a big THANK YOU to you all and especially to our Supporters of Kingsway School (SoKS) as well as all the volunteers that helped out. With out your support this event wouldn't of gone ahead.

We managed to raise approximately £400.00

### Watch this space!

If you are interested in attending another car boot/table top sale, then get in touch with SoKS or look out for another poster advertising the next one.



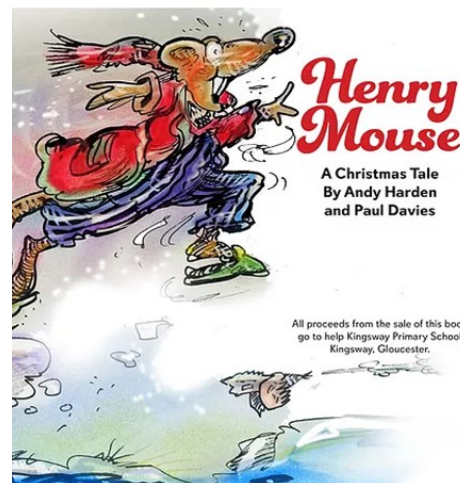
## Henry Mouse A Christmas Tale

Did you know that our Mr Harden, a Teaching Assistant at Kingsway Primary School, is also a writer and has recently had a book published called

### Henry Mouse A Christmas Tale

Andy Harden and Paul Davies (also a writer and illustrator) joined together in the writing and production of this beautiful book and hope that you will not only enjoy it, but encourage others to purchase it for only £5.00.

All proceeds from the sale of the book go to Kingsway Primary School. Payment for the book can be made via **Parent Pay** or [www.pauldaviescartoons.co.uk](http://www.pauldaviescartoons.co.uk)



## GSPEC - Gloucestershire Schools Partnership Emotion Coaching

### Emotion Coaching

As this is the start of our journey with the GSPEC project, we are sending out a link to a short, online parent and carer survey which we would like you to complete. We are interested to know about your ideas and experiences of being part of this school community.

There is no obligation to take part in this survey and information collected will be anonymous, confidential, stored securely and destroyed once the GSPEC project has finished. The data will only be analysed by the research Lead from Emotion Coaching UK. We want to share our school's Emotion Coaching journey with all our parents and carers, and so will be using school spaces, such as notice boards, newsletters and online Facebook pages to do so. We also hope in the future to be able to offer free, short introductory courses for parents and carers interested in finding out more about Emotion Coaching. Please do look out for more news about what's going on in the GSPEC project and visit our website for more information on the project.

Links below can be found via our website Link: <https://kingswayprimary.org.uk/emotion-coaching/>

[Parent/carers survey](#)

[GSPEC project  
information](#)

[Parent/carers emotion  
coaching brochure](#)

[Emotion coaching  
video](#)



## Diary Dates

### October 2021

Black History Month  
8th: Dogs Trust Assembly—Yellow Day  
11th: Harvest festival  
18th: Parents' evening  
18th & 19th: School Tours at 9:30am  
21st: SoKS AGM and party  
22nd: Schools Race for Life  
**25th - 29th: Half Term**

### November 2021

**1st: Inset Day**  
11th: Armistice Day  
10th & 11th: School Tours at 1:30pm  
12th: Children in Need day  
15th: Anti-bullying week  
22nd: Road Safety week - Theme is Heroes

### December 2021

6th: Clubs End  
Christmas Performances - TBC  
Carol Service - TBC

### January 2022

3rd: Bank Holiday  
**4th: Inset Day**  
5th: School re-opens

**Please be advised that this is only a rough outline of the year ahead. More dates will be added throughout year and some events may be subject to change due to COVID**

#### Term Dates:

Term 1: Thurs 2nd Sept – Fri 22nd Oct, 2021  
Term 2: Mon 1st Nov – Fri 17th Dec 2021  
Term 3: Tue 4th Jan - Fri 18th Feb 2022  
Term 4: Mon 28th Feb – Fri 8th April 2022  
Term 5: Mon 25th April – Fri 27th May 2022  
Term 6: Mon 6th June – Fri 22nd July 2022

#### Inset Days:

2nd & 3rd September 2021  
1st November 2021  
4th January 2022  
28 February 2022

## COVID Information

We are dealing with a high number of children currently off school with various illness / symptoms. We also have a lot of children off awaiting PCR test results.

Please remember that Lateral flow tests **are not** recommended on children under 12 due to false readings. If your child is experiencing any of the following symptoms:

High Temp  
Cough  
Loss of taste / smell  
Sore throat  
Headache



Please book a PCR test. And remain at home.

You should follow the guidance on the <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> and on <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-coronavirus-restrictions-what-you-can-and-cannot-do>

## Office Reminders/Information

- ♦ **Cool Milk** - school milk is only free for under five year olds. If you wish your child to continue to have milk at school please follow the link for more information: <https://www.coolmilk.com/parents/>
- ♦ **Labelling Items** - Please make sure all items brought into school are named, preferably with labels rather than pen as it washes off. It is easier to get these items back to the children during the school day when items are named.
- ♦ **ParentPay Accounts** - Please ensure that your child's account is in credit **before** booking in for breakfast club and school dinners.
- ♦ **Parking** - when dropping off/picking up children from school please remember to park responsibly.

## SoKS Events

### SoKS 2021 AGM and Welcome Party

**Friday 8th October 2021**

**3:15Ppm- 4:45pm**

**School hall**

**Free Magic Show**

**Plus snacks, lucky dip and raffle**

Supporters of Kingsway School  
invite you to

# 2021 AGM & Welcome Party

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October**  
**3.15pm – 4.45pm**

**FREE – Magic Show**  
(in the hall - starts 3.45pm after the AGM)

**Plus - snacks, lucky dip and raffle**



## Do you have a child starting school in September 2022?

We would like to invite you for a presentation and tour of the school on one of these dates:

Monday 18th October at 9:30

Tuesday 19th October at 9:30

Wednesday 10th November at 1:30

Thursday 11th November at 1:30

**Please have a look at the video on our website to  
find out more about the school:**

[kingswayprimary.org.uk](https://kingswayprimary.org.uk)

**To book a tour contact the  
School Office on 01452 881800 or  
email: [admin@kingsway.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@kingsway.gloucs.sch.uk)**



As part of Baby Loss Awareness Week,  
Footsteps Counselling & Care  
warmly invite you to:

# SNOWDROPS

A Baby Remembrance Ceremony

In Barnwood, Gloucester and online  
Thursday 14 October 2021  
7-8pm

For more information and to book  
free places at the venue visit  
[footstepscandc.org.uk/snowdrops](https://footstepscandc.org.uk/snowdrops)



[footstepscandc.org.uk](https://footstepscandc.org.uk)

Charity number 1152972





**Emotion Coaching helps children understand the different emotions they experience, why they occur, and how to handle them.**

We are pleased to announce we have been selected to take part in the Gloucester Schools Partnership Emotion Coaching Project (GSPEC). Emotion Coaching UK ([www.emotioncoachinguk.com](http://www.emotioncoachinguk.com)) is working with us and this project is about introducing Emotion Coaching into our teaching and the wider school community. It is to promote children's health, wellbeing and learning.

**We are offering a course to parents which will span over four sessions offering information about how Emotion Coaching works and how you can use the approach we use in school at home.** This course is free to attend. We only have 15 spaces so it will be first come first serve. However, we will run the course again and will have a waiting list of any parents who do not get to attend this time. **Unfortunately, the course is for adults only and involves discussions that are for adult ears only so we are unable to provide crèche facilities for this first course so you would need to find child care for any younger children in order to attend the course in this instance.**

The date of the first session will be: 4th November 9:00-9:30 with other sessions TBA.

If you would like to put your name forward for this course then please click on the below link and then complete our parent/ carer survey below. You will be notified if you have a place on the first course or if you are on the waiting list.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ViDRyVJP20afEtg4s60K53qx847Dp7lDjC2GnbSb9lNUNVZXNIhIS0lURThaMEczN1hQNINMOU5JSS4u>

Parents' and carers' opinions matter to us and are important to your child's school experience. Along with other local schools, we are taking part in the Gloucester School Partnership Emotion Coaching Project (GSPEC). The GSPEC project is all about promoting children's social and emotional wellbeing in our schools. This short survey is to help us find out more about what you think of the school's current work in supporting the development of social and emotional wellbeing in our school.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfjdR4XVWqDTK7kkFOxdEbIsoHV8O855bbOC8SIJ9OYIMlVFQ/viewform>

# Of Course We Can

Autumn - Winter 2021/22

Inclusive activities for disabled and  
non-disabled young people together



## Welcome

to the 2021/22 Autumn and Winter Of Course We Can programme

We are celebrating the easing of lockdown restrictions by offering a jam packed programme of fun, exciting, and inclusive out of school activities to entertain and challenge from September to the beginning of the summer term.

You may have noticed the changed layout of this brochure. We hope this will make it more accessible and help parents and carers to share the programme with people who may be considering particular events.

Everyone is welcome at an *Of Course We Can* event, including those who have learning difficulties/disabilities, autism or physical/sensory impairments. Most events are returning to face-to-face but as there have been clear benefits to offering events online, we have continued to offer this as a choice on some activities.

We are now offering a printed version of this brochure as we are hopeful that events will go ahead as advertised. If you haven't yet received a printed copy and would like one, please get in contact.

You may notice the introduction to this brochure features a new name. After 6 years of managing the *Of Course We Can* programme, Caroline Eardley is handing over the management of the programme to newly appointed Caroline Weston; hopefully also being a Caroline will make it easy to remember!

**Caroline Eardley and Caroline Weston**

[www.activeimpact.org.uk](http://www.activeimpact.org.uk)

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To see this brochure online and for more information, visit [www.activeimpact.org.uk](http://www.activeimpact.org.uk) or [www.facebook.com/activeimpact](https://www.facebook.com/activeimpact). If you have any questions contact Caroline on [caroline.w@activeimpact.org.uk](mailto:caroline.w@activeimpact.org.uk). The *Of Course We Can* programme is coordinated by Active Impact under contract with Gloucestershire County Council.