



End of Summer Term Newsletter 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we reach the end of the academic year, I wanted to write to you personally to say a huge and heartfelt thank you. This has been another very special year at King's Lander Primary Academy and when I look back over the last twelve months, I feel incredibly proud of how far we have come together as a school community. Our pupils have continued to make us proud every single day through their hard work, kindness, resilience and excellent attitude to learning. They have lived out our ASPIRE values in classrooms, on the playground, during trips and visits, in assemblies, at sporting events and in the way they support one another. Most importantly, we have continued to protect the warmth, care and family feel that make King's Lander such a special place to belong.

I would like to say a very sincere thank you to all of our parents and carers. Your support, encouragement and trust mean such a lot to me and to the whole staff team. Whether you have attended events, supported trips, encouraged good attendance, helped with homework, used the MCAS app, joined us for Come Dine With Me, supported uniform expectations or simply spoken positively about the school in the community, it all makes a difference. Strong schools are built through strong partnerships, and I am incredibly grateful for the way our families continue to work with us to help our children thrive.

Thank You to Our Children and Staff

Our children are at the heart of everything we do, and they have been wonderful this year. They have shown confidence, curiosity and pride in their school, and it has been a joy to see them grow. I also want to thank our brilliant staff team. They work incredibly hard, often far beyond the school day, to make sure children are safe, happy, supported and challenged. Their care, professionalism and commitment are what make King's Lander the school it is. From teachers and teaching assistants to office staff, welfare staff, cleaners, site staff and everyone who supports school life, I am very grateful.

A Special Goodbye to Year 6

We also say a very special goodbye to our incredible Year 6 pupils. They have been a wonderful year group and have given so much to King's Lander during their time with us. We are incredibly proud of the young people they have become and of the way they have shown confidence, resilience, kindness and maturity as they prepare for the next stage of their journey. Although we will miss them very much, we know they are ready to take their next steps and we wish each and every one of them every happiness and success as they move on to secondary school. They will always be part of the King's Lander family, and we cannot wait to hear about all they go on to achieve.

A reminder that school finishes at **2.00pm** tomorrow. Please arrive promptly to collect your children so that we can give our Year 6 pupils the send-off they truly deserve.



Staffing Update

As shared previously, there will be some staffing changes as we move into September.

After more than 10 years as Vice Principal and 15 years at King's Lander, Mr Sheerin has successfully been appointed as a Headteacher in Knowsley. We are so proud of him and thank him for everything he has given to our school community, particularly in his work supporting some of our most vulnerable pupils and families and through his role as SENDCo. He will be a great loss to King's Lander, but I know you will join me in wishing him every success in his new role.

I am very pleased that Mrs Bailey will take over as Vice Principal from September. Mrs Bailey knows our school, our children and our families extremely well, and I know she will be fantastic in the role. I am sure you will offer her the same warmth and support you have always shown.

I am proud to share that Miss Butler will become our new Assistant Principal from September. Miss Butler is already such an important part of the King's Lander team and has shown great commitment to our children, families and staff. We are excited for her to take on this new role and know she will continue to make a significant contribution to the next stage of our school journey.

This week, Mr McCowen joined us as our new Site Manager. Many of you will already have met him at Parents' Evening, and I know you will join me in giving him a warm King's Lander welcome. We are grateful to have him as part of the team.

From September, Mrs Armstrong will join our EYFS staff team. Many of you will already know Mrs Armstrong from Breakfast Club, where she has built such positive relationships with our children and families. We know she will be a wonderful addition to the Early Years team, and I am sure you will join me in wishing her every success in her new role.

We are looking forward to welcoming three new teachers to our teaching team in September. Mr Cryer will be joining us in Year 4, Mrs Bennett will be joining us in Year 2 and Mrs Dougherty will be joining us in Year 5. They will each bring valuable experience, energy and care to their classes, and I know our children and families will give them a very warm welcome as they settle into the King's Lander community.

Finally, we say a very special farewell to Mr Halsall, who retires after almost 30 years of service to our school. Mr Halsall has given so much to King's Lander over many years, particularly through trips, visits and residentials. He has been a much-valued presence in school and in the staffroom, always bringing humour, advice, wisdom and encouragement. We will miss him enormously and wish him a long, happy and very well-deserved retirement.



Building Works Over the Summer

Over the summer holidays, further building works and improvements will take place across the school site. We are very excited that the redevelopment of our Early Years outdoor area will begin, creating a rich, purposeful and imaginative space for our youngest children to explore, communicate, create and develop independence. We will also continue to improve areas of the school so that our children have the best possible environment in which to learn, play and thrive. These works are carefully planned and are part of our ongoing commitment to investing in the school site for the benefit of all pupils.

Gate Arrangements from September

From September, only the main gate on Pennington Road will be open for parents and carers at the beginning and end of the school day. This is simply to help us manage the site safely and consistently and to strengthen our safeguarding routines. As always, staff will be visible and available during the first few days back and we will make sure the start and end of the day remain calm, safe and well organised.

Return to School in September

All pupils return to school at **8.55am** on Thursday 3rd September. Our Free Universal Breakfast Club will continue as usual from **7.45am** every morning for all pupils from Reception to Year 6. Breakfast Club provides a calm, positive start to the day and helps children arrive settled, well-fed and ready to learn. We would love as many pupils as possible to continue making use of this free offer.

Uniform Reminder for September

Thank you for your support with uniform this year. Our pupils look incredibly smart when they are in full King's Lander uniform, and this helps build pride, belonging and a shared sense of high expectations. Please ensure that all pupils return in September wearing the correct school uniform every day. This includes correct school shoes, not trainers or boots, and the correct PE kit when needed. Long hair should be tied back neatly, and hair accessories should be simple and in school colours.

For safety reasons, children are not allowed to wear jewellery unless this has been expressly agreed by school. Children with pierced ears may wear plain stud earrings only, and these must be removed for PE and swimming. Please also make sure that all items of uniform, coats, bags and PE kits are clearly labelled with your child's name.

No Personal Items in School

A reminder that children should not bring personal items into school. This includes toys, trading cards, electronic devices, jewellery, make-up, large hair accessories or other items from home unless this has been specifically agreed with a member of staff. This helps us avoid items becoming lost, damaged or causing distraction during the school day. Thank you for supporting us with this.



Attendance and Punctuality

Good attendance remains one of the most important ways to help children succeed. Every day in school matters. When children attend regularly, they build strong routines, keep up with learning and maintain positive friendships. Please make sure your child arrives on time each morning. The school day begins promptly at **8.55am** for all pupils from Reception to Year 6, **9.00am** for morning Nursery, **12.35pm** for afternoon Nursery and **12.20pm** for our 2-year-old provision. Being punctual helps children start the day calmly and confidently. Thank you for your continued support in making attendance and punctuality a priority. This will remain a key focus for us in September, and we will continue to work with families to support children in being in school, on time, every day.

Looking Ahead to Next Year

As we look ahead to September, I do so with real excitement and optimism. We have a newly formed leadership team, a growing school community, exciting improvements to our site and a clear vision for the next stage of King's Lander's journey. We will continue to build on the strong foundations already in place: excellent behaviour, high expectations, strong routines, a love of reading, rich enrichment, purposeful support for families and a culture where every child is known, valued and encouraged to achieve their best.

I am ambitious for King's Lander because our children deserve the very best. With the continued support of the Great Schools Trust, our dedicated staff, our wonderful pupils and you, our families, I know we will continue to thrive.

Thank you again for all of your support this year. It has been a privilege to lead the school and to work alongside such brilliant children, committed staff and supportive families. I hope you all have a restful, happy and safe summer break with your loved ones.

We look forward to welcoming all pupils back at **8.55am** on Thursday 3rd September. Warmest wishes,

Mrs Dineley
Principal
King's Lander Primary Academy