



Monday 5th January 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Year 5 have had a very positive and successful first term, and it has been a pleasure to see how well they have settled and engaged with their learning. I am already looking forward to seeing the children again in 2026 and continuing our learning journey together.

This half term, Year 5 have lots of exciting learning and experiences planned across the curriculum. Children will be developing their writing through persuasive letters and newspaper reports, exploring the Ancient Greeks in history, creating Greek-inspired art, and investigating forces in science. They will also enjoy practical and creative opportunities such as video production in computing, drumming in music and netball in PE.

PE

Children will have PE on Friday this half term. Please make sure that children are wearing a navy Academy hoodie and dark tracksuit bottoms as PE will be outside.

TTRockstars

By the end of Year 4, children should be able to recall all times table from 2s – 12s by the end of Year 4. A sound times table knowledge supports children in their Maths lessons and in everyday life. Engaging in 10 minutes per week on the Times Table Rockstars (TTR) program reinforces children's recall of tables and supports them in learning any that they do not know yet. If children in Year 5 or Year 6 have not 'gone green' on their TTRS chart, it is recommended that they practise for 5-10 minutes daily to support them in catching up. We see that children who have a secure times table knowledge tend to find the transition to high school maths far easier.

NumBots

Numbots is a sister program to Times Table Rockstars. It is aimed at supporting children in developing number recognition and addition and subtraction skills. We aim for all children to complete this program by the end of Year 2. This supports their mental arithmetic skills. Children have time in school to access their Numbot account but engaging with this at home too supports children greatly.

Reading

In Key Stage 2, reading at home is highly important to ensure children are prepared for the academic demands of our lessons in school. Children are expected to read at

home a minimum of 4 times a week and record this on Boom Reader. When you get a chance, please check how many home reads have been logged this year. At this point in the academic year, your child should have read around 50 times. Thank you to those of you who regularly engage with this; it really does make such a difference! Your child's log in details remain the same but if you require another copy of these, please let me know.

Spelling

It is important to practise spellings little and often – it helps with so many different areas of the curriculum and improves children's confidence recording their learning. Your child should be very familiar with their Graffiti Spelling book which should be brought between home and school daily. In these books, you will find the weekly homework sheets which provide you with the list of focus spellings which will be tested regularly in class.

I look forward to another successful and enjoyable half-term with your children. If you have any questions or concerns, my email is awood@kingstoneacademy.co.uk. Please feel free to speak to me at the end of the day or send me an email if you need to reach out.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Annie Wood', with a stylized, cursive script.

Annie Wood
Year 5 Class Teacher