



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

**Kingsland CE (VA)
Primary School**



The Kingsland Times

Friday 12th December 2025

Let your light shine

“Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16

Let your light shine on our vision:

As God’s children, overflowing with His light, we will shine before others to inspire, nurture and bring joy so all may embrace life in its fullness to the glory of God.

Our Christian value for this half-term is **KINDNESS and HONESTY**

Please help your child to reflect on the importance of this Christian value

Life at Kingsland CE Primary School: life in all its fullness (John 10:10)

The school has been in full festive spirit this week! Father Christmas visited school on Thursday prior to our Christmas dinner and pantomime performance. The children enjoyed a fabulous performance of Dick Whittington, full of classic pantomime joy and audience participation. Drama Club children also performed their festive production of The Little Christmas Tree, and the rehearsals for the KS1 nativity performances next week are in full flow. A huge THANK YOU must be said to Mrs Shencke for making more incredible nativity costumes – they are wonderful!



PLEASE DO NOT PLAN HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

Kingsland CE Primary School, Kingsland, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 9QN

Telephone: 01568 708436

Email: admin@kingslandengland.hereford.sch.uk

Website: www.kingslandceprimary.com



Dates for your diary

Monday 15 th December	Parents' Show and Tell 2.45pm
Wednesday 17 th December	KS1 Nativity performances at 2.15pm and 5.30pm
Friday 19 th December	Christmas Carol Service in Kingsland Church 1.30pm
Wednesday 7 th January 2026	Start of term
Wednesday 14 th January	Togetherness Workshop for YR – Y3 parents 5.30pm
Wednesday 4 th February	Winter Concert 5.30pm
Tuesday 10 th February	Safer Internet Day
11 th and 12 th February	Parents' Evenings
16 th -20 th February	Half term holiday

The full 2025 - 2026 term dates can be found on the school website following the link:

<https://www.kingslandceprimary.com/term-dates/>

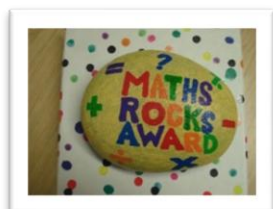
Big Question

We continue our series of BIG QUESTIONS as a focus for family discussions. This week's BIG QUESTION is:

What is the point of being creative?



Governor news: this week the Love to Learn Committee met to discuss monitoring of teaching and learning, school attainment and progress data, and pupil attendance.



Every Friday, a child is awarded with "The Maths Rock" – this is given to a child who has worked especially hard in maths during the week. This week's winner is **Mary** ... Well done!

House Tokens

Congratulations to the following children for achieving a house token!

Ambrey	Berrington	Croft	Mortimer
Sophie Ellis Phoebe Cora	Oscar Rose Charlie	Meghan Sarva Hadley Ronnie Daisy Arthur Cecily	Holly Leah Nellie

Invitation to all YR – Y3 parents about our upcoming Togetherness 'Understanding your child workshop'. Please use the link below to sign up.

TOGETHERNESS

Bringing the Solihull Approach to the world

We are delighted to be able to offer a brand NEW opportunity for YR – Y3 parents, to learn about the Togetherness approach to 'understanding your child'. This was formally the Solihull approach – and now has a new name!

On **Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 5.30pm – 7.30pm**, we are thrilled to welcome Lieke Blondeel to school to host a workshop purely for YR – Y3 parents / carers. Lieke is the Togetherness Approach Lead for Herefordshire Council. The workshop will focus on '**understanding your child**' - brain development and the importance of healthy and stimulating interactions, with an aim of raising children's emotional wellbeing. There will be opportunity to ask questions and share ideas on topics which are important to you, such as 'How can I best support my child at home and in school?'. It is anticipated that these sorts of questions will be being considered by many parents / carers, and this will provide a safe space to ask questions and think through what is best for each individual family circumstances. The workshop is for parents, and is not for children to attend.

Further, the workshop is described: 'During this workshop we look at brain development. Our brain continues to form new synapses and prune away unused connections throughout life so there is always potential for change. However, critical pathways developed during the first years of life can continue to exert a strong influence and may be hard to change.'

We would encourage ALL YR – Y3 parents / carers to attend this fantastic new opportunity. Please complete this online form by Thursday 8th January to confirm your attendance:

<https://forms.office.com/e/MBdM8QmXFj>

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD
SOLIHULL APPROACH

inourplace NHS

Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager

Free online course for all parents, carers, and grandparents.

- Reading your child's behaviour and understanding their feelings
- Effective communication techniques
- Reflecting on your relationship and how to nurture your child's emotional health
- A transformative journey that can strengthen your bond with your child at every age

Designed by clinical psychologists in partnership with practitioners and parents

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Use Access Code **APPLEHERE**

For the school, this workshop has been long coming ... it was arranged for November 2024, but unfortunately had to be cancelled. The staff team have undertaken extensive Togetherness training last year, in order to generate a common and shared understanding across the school community. We are really excited about the intended and expected impact of this workshop.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to school for the workshop on **Wednesday 14th January.**

18 parents are already booked onto this fantastic workshop! Please don't miss out on this opportunity.

KS1 Nativity

Our KS1 children will be performing their Nativity on Wednesday 17th December. Please see these incredible posters designed by Y1 children for further information ...



Christmas

Nativity Refreshments

• WEDNESDAY 17TH DECEMBER 5.30PM •

Mulled Wine
(non-acholic)

Tea, Coffee & Home made Mince Pies

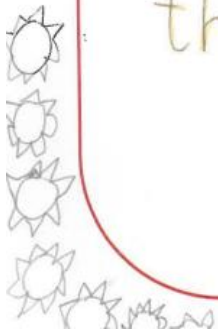
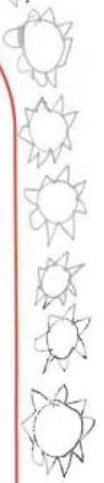
The poster features a dark blue background with yellow stars. At the bottom right, there is an illustration of the nativity scene with Mary, Joseph, and the baby Jesus in a manger. The text is white and yellow, with a large 'Ca' visible on Joseph's robe in the illustration.

THE RAGGEDY KING

KINGSLAND School
17th DECEMBER

2.15 AND 5.30

Free tickets from
the office



THE RAGGEDY KING
KINGSLAND SCHOOL
17TH DECEMBER

2.15 AND 5.30

FREE TICKETS FROM THE
OFFICE



School Attendance

This week's attendance – well done Year 4!							
YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	School total
97.1%	99.2%	99.5%	96.3%	99.6%	95.0%	94.3%	97.3%

The school encourages all children to attend school for every session of every day the school is open to them. Thank you for your support with this.

Having excellent attendance at school is essential for children to be fulfilling their potential and flourishing with every opportunity on offer.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



Attendance Update

The school's current attendance rate this academic year is 97.3%, which is significantly above the national average. WELL DONE EVERYONE! Attendance letters will be sent home next week for those children who are currently less than 90% (persistently absent) and less than 95%.

Congratulations go to the following children who have received Headteacher's Awards:

Arthur and **Hattie** for super attitudes to learning; **Austin** for challenging himself and taking part even when it is out of his comfort zone; **James** for having a super week of learning this week; **Henry** for achieving full marks in his arithmetic assessment – well done!

Donations of black leggings and black long sleeve tops

Class 2 are seeking any donations of black leggings and black long sleeve tops ages 5/6, 6/7 and 7/8. If you're able to make any donations of leggings or tops, please deliver them to Mrs Wilson or Mrs Jones in Class 2. Thank you in advance.

Parents' Show and Tell

On Monday 15th December at 2.45pm, parents are invited to attend our Parents' Show and Tell afternoon, where you will get to sit down with your child and their books, with the opportunity to share their learning with you.

KS1 Nativity

Our KS1 Nativity performances are on Wednesday 17th December at 2.15pm and 5.30pm. Tickets for the 5.30pm performance are now SOLD OUT. There are still tickets available for the 2.15pm performance. Please collect tickets from the school office.

Drama Club

The children in Drama Club entertained both KS2 children and parents on Thursday with a fantastic performance of The Little Christmas Tree – well done everyone!



Father Christmas visited school on Thursday!



Do you know of a local business who could offer support?

Dear Business Owner,

We are writing to please ask for your help to save the **Herefordshire Summer School Games Festival**.

Since 2011 Stride Active has been funded to deliver the Herefordshire Summer School Games festival - a huge celebration of sport and physical activity attended by 2000 young people from schools across the county.

Importantly, **all schools across the county are able to attend**, regardless of needs. Once the event bookings open, **70% of places are booked immediately**, showing just how valued this event is.

The total cost to run the event is over **£30,000**, and due to funding cuts, **we are facing a £10,000 shortfall** for the July 2026 Games, thus significantly impacting the experience and number of opportunities we can provide.

With support from Riverside Training, we are asking **20 local businesses to pledge £500 each, by the 16th of January** so we can raise the much-needed funds to ensure this event goes ahead - it really is the highlight of the year for us, schools and young people. We have already had commitment from several leading businesses and we hope you will be willing to join them. Your contribution will truly **make a difference** to young people in Herefordshire and enable us to once again recreate this: <https://vimeo.com/976478458?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=cj>

In return we will of course **publicly recognise your support** (sharing your logo via our social media and online platforms, alongside inclusion in the e-programme) and invite you to attend the festival so you can experience it personally!

For further information, please refer to the accompanying brief overview of the Summer School Games, which includes feedback from young people, teachers and parents, alongside lots of smiling faces!

If you would like to pledge your support, all you need to do at this stage is email Beky Williams (beky@strideactive.org), confirming the amount. Following this, we will be in touch with information on how and when you can make your donation.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. Please do not hesitate to share it with others if appropriate.

Stride Active

On behalf of all Herefordshire schools.

A Christmas carol is a song that focuses on the religious aspect of Christmas. So it could tell the story of the birth of Jesus, mention God or be about how Christians celebrate Christmas.



Use the QR code to listen to The Sussex Carol.

Musician

Christmas Carols

Making Connections



There are many other pieces of Christmas music. Use the QR code to listen to *Walking in the Air*.



Use the QR code to listen to 'Once in Royal David's City'.



In the past, when only wealthy people received an education, many people couldn't read. Christmas carols were an important way of helping people learn the Christmas story. The lyrics (words) and music of Christmas carols were sometimes written by different people. The lyrics might have started off as a poem rather than a song. Because lots of carols were written a long time ago, some of the words are old fashioned.

Christmas carols were usually written to be played on a church organ and sung by a choir as well as a church **congregation**. Some carols have a **descant**. This is a different, higher-tune that complements the main **melody**. It is usually sung during the last verse.

of the Month



Use the QR code to listen to O Holy Night.

The lyrics to 'Once in Royal David's City' were written by a woman named Cecil Frances Alexander, who wrote many other well-known hymns. The carol tells the story of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, also known as David's City. It also talks about Christians hoping to one day see Jesus when they go to heaven.



BBC
CHILDREN
IN NEED

THANK YOU

Kingsland CE Primary School

for raising a fantastic

£145.35

**TO HELP MAKE LIFE LIGHTER FOR CHILDREN
AND YOUNG PEOPLE FACING A VARIETY
OF CHALLENGES IN COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE UK.**

**SCAN THE QR CODE WITH
YOUR PHONE FOR AN
EXTRA SPECIAL THANK YOU
FROM PUDSEY AS YOU'VE
NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE!**



pudseythanks.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Reception admissions for 2026-2027

Do you have a child born between
1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022

If so you will need to apply for a school place
by 15 January 2026
(to commence September 2026)

Applications can be completed from
15 September 2025 online
(scan QR code) or visit:



www.herefordshire.gov.uk/schools-education/primary-school-admissions

Please note: a place at a nursery does not
guarantee a place at the associated primary
school, therefore you must still apply.

For further information please contact the school
admissions team on 01432 260926 / 261574 or
schooladmissions@herefordshire.gov.uk



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics



Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



Stop norovirus spreading

Norovirus, also known as the 'winter vomiting bug', is the most common stomach bug in the UK. It can spread easily through close contact, or by contaminated surfaces, food or water.

The main symptoms of norovirus include a sudden onset of nausea, followed by projectile vomiting and diarrhoea, usually 1 to 2 days after becoming infected. Other common symptoms include a high fever, a headache and aching arms and legs.

Good hand hygiene is important to stop norovirus spreading.

To stop norovirus spreading, you should:

- wash your hands thoroughly using soap and warm water after using the toilet or contact with a sick individual and before preparing and eating food.
- stay off school or work until you have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least two days
- not rely on alcohol gels instead of washing your hands, as these do not kill the virus
- wash any contaminated clothing or bedding using detergent at 60°C using disposable gloves to handle any items
- use bleach-based cleaners to disinfect surfaces

If you catch it, stay home for 48 hours after your symptoms clear

DO



Wash clothes and bedding at 60°C



Wash hands with soap, clean surfaces with bleach-based disinfectants



DON'T



Go to work or school, visit care homes or hospitals



Prepare food for others



Most people will make a full recovery in 2-3 days without needing any medicine. It is important to keep hydrated – especially children and the elderly.

Try not to visit A&E or GP surgeries if you have symptoms of norovirus unless advised to do so by a healthcare professional, as this may spread the bug to others. Call ahead to a GP or ring NHS 111 if you are worried about your symptoms.

Further information is available at NHS 111 or NHS.uk (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/norovirus/>)



Winter infections in children – guidance for parents/guardians

This leaflet gives advice on illnesses that are currently affecting nursery and school children across the West Midlands

What are the symptoms?

There are two groups of symptoms:

- Diarrhoea and vomiting – usually lasting 1-2 days
- Fever, tiredness, runny nose, cough and sore throat – lasting 3-4 days

What should I do if my child is unwell?

- If your child has diarrhoea and/or vomiting symptoms, they should not attend nursery/school until they have been symptom free for 48 hours
- If your child has a high temperature and is unwell, it is very important they stay at home and don't attend school until they have recovered. Children with mild symptoms like runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend school.
- Ensure they drink plenty of fluids – taking sips rather than gulps, to avoid vomiting
- If they have a fever – give child paracetamol and/or ibuprofen, according to manufacturer's instructions. Your local pharmacist can also advise you about the best treatment for your child
- If your child is unusually sleepy, can't take fluids or has other symptoms, such as an unusual rash, headache or neck stiffness – **seek medical advice immediately**

Infection control advice

Handwashing is one of the most important ways to prevent the spread of both of these infections. This applies to the child who is ill and the person caring for them. Hands should be washed using soap and rinsed under running water:

- Before and after caring for the child
- After using the toilet
- Before eating, preparing or handling food
- After cleaning up spills (vomit, diarrhoea or urine)
- Also – keep a separate towel for each family member who has symptoms, and change them regularly
- Dry hands thoroughly

Other control measures:

- Cover nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, using a tissue if possible – dispose of used tissues immediately and wash hands
- Wash soiled clothing, bed linen and towels at 60°C, using detergent – if possible, wear disposable gloves to handle contaminated items
- Surfaces and touch points (taps, toilet flush handle, door handles) should be cleaned then disinfected with bleach-based cleaner
- Check that your child is up to date with their [NHS vaccinations schedule](#)

For further information, visit [NHS.uk](#) and search for 'respiratory infections' and 'diarrhoea and vomiting'



PTA Online Shop



UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD
SOLIHULL APPROACH

inourplace  **NHS**

Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager

Free online course for all parents, carers, and grandparents.

- Reading your child's behaviour and understanding their feelings
- Effective communication techniques
- Reflecting on your relationship and how to nurture your child's emotional health
- A transformative journey that can strengthen your bond with your child at every age

Designed by clinical psychologists in partnership with practitioners and parents


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A photograph of a family of four smiling outdoors. A man is carrying a young boy on his shoulders, and a woman is holding another young boy. They are all looking towards the camera with happy expressions.

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Advent Crown

Why not make an advent wreath as a family at home. You could make one for class too. You will need 5 candles (electric nightlights are fine too) and a plate to arrange them on. Put four of the candles around the edge and one in the centre. Collect pieces of evergreen foliage to decorate it with. If using real candles you must ask an adult to help you. Each week light one of the candles as you reflect on the meaning of advent. To find out more and suitable prayers please visit: [Prayers for an Advent Wreath \(spiritualchild.co.uk\)](http://Prayers for an Advent Wreath (spiritualchild.co.uk))

Jesse Tree

Another tradition you could explore is a Jesse Tree. This is a tree branch that has decorations added for each day of Advent. The decorations tell the big story of God leading up to the birth of Jesus.

The Jesse Tree: A Guide to the Advent Tradition | Faithward.org



For Advent the Archbishops Youth Trust has released Advent materials to use in worship. Find them here: <https://www.nse.org.uk/ayla/advent>



FROSTY FOOTPRINTS

Go for a Winter walk outside in the frost and snow (if you have any). As you walk notice the footprints that you leave behind. People can follow your footprints to find you. Take a moment to pause and to ponder: when Jesus came to earth as a baby what did he leave behind in heaven? Why do you think he did this? Also whilst he was living on Earth what do you think he left behind so that people could follow him today?



Paper Chain of Peace

After learning about how Advent and Lent are linked, you could make a paper chain of peace.

Use strips of paper, ask everyone to write a prayer for peace on a strip. Use tape or glue to make it into a long paper chain, linking up all your prayers.

What does Advent mean to you?

What do you think would be different about the world if Jesus did come back as King?

Which part puzzles you the most?

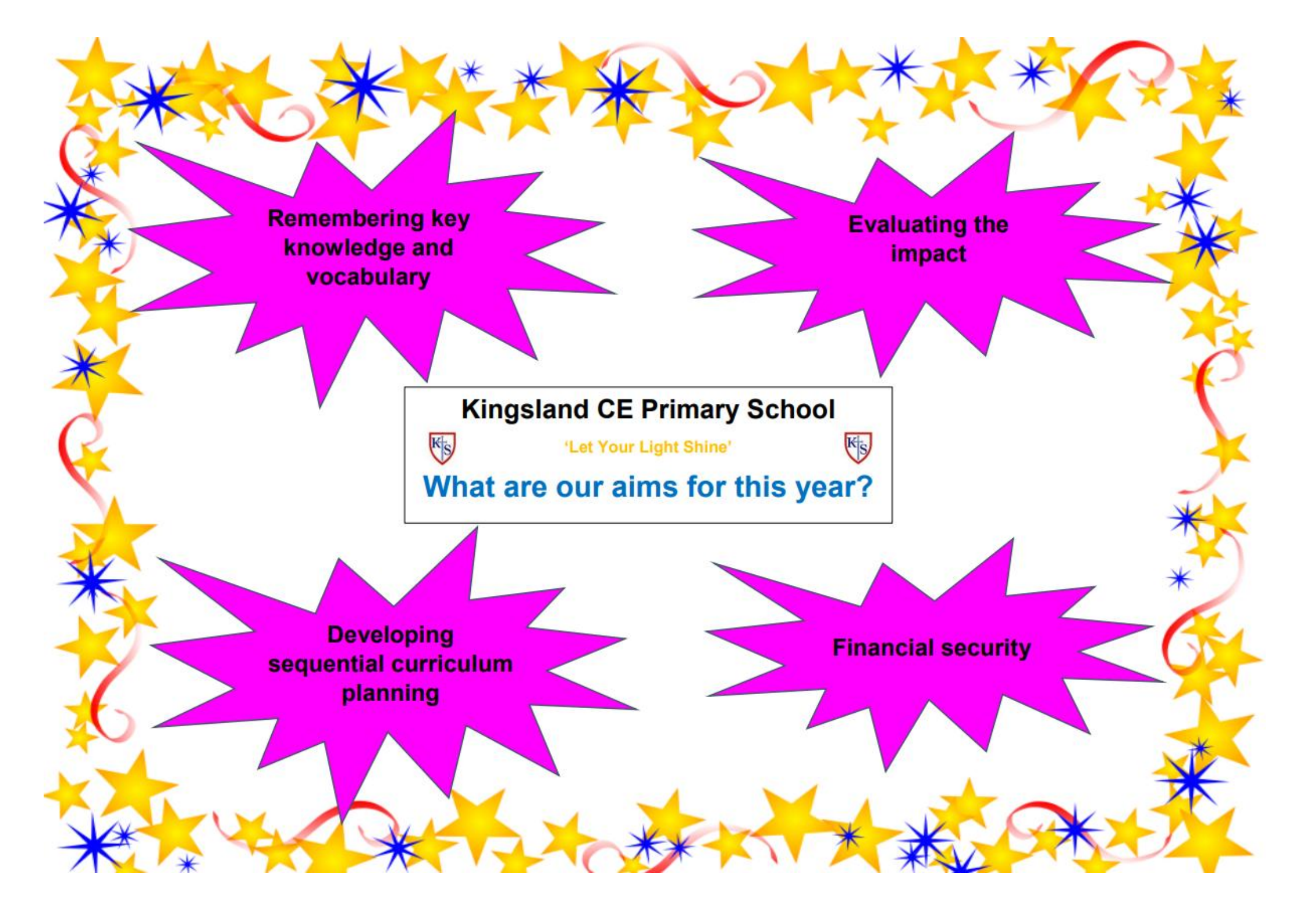
Big Questions

Which part of the Christmas story fills you with wonder?

What message would you put into everyone's Christmas crackers?

When could you make some time to pause and ponder during Advent?





**Remembering key
knowledge and
vocabulary**

**Evaluating the
impact**

Kingsland CE Primary School



'Let Your Light Shine'



What are our aims for this year?

**Developing
sequential curriculum
planning**

Financial security



Kingsland CE Primary School

Let your light shine

“Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”
(Matthew 5:16)

This half term's Christian value is:

KINDNESS and HONESTY

Educating for Dignity and Respect



A prayer for Kindness and Honesty

Dear God, Help me to be kind and caring to everyone I meet. Please give me the strength to be a good friend, and to make choices that are good and fair. Help me to remember that we should treat others how we would like to be treated. Amen.

Christian Value Family Reflection

Welcome to our Christian Value Family Reflection which offers some suggestions, thoughts and ways into exploring and reflecting on the value of this half term: **KINDNESS and HONESTY**

A reflection on Kindness and Honesty by Wendy Maddocks (School governor)

The lady looks sad. I don't know why. I don't know what she is thinking about but she looks like she might cry. I watch her for a bit. I look across at where she is sitting and she sees me looking. I smile and offer her one of my sweets. She shakes her head but she does give me a little smile back.

That story could have been from the TV advert for Cadbury's chocolate, where a child sees a lady on the bus. Or it could be you, sitting beside the swimming pool waiting for your little sister to finish her swimming lesson, or at the supermarket checkout, waiting whilst your parent packs and pays for the shopping ... a little act of kindness that brightens someone else's day.

Jesus was very good at being kind, noticing people who were sad or lonely or not liked by other people. The Bible tells us of a man who lived in a town called Jericho. He wasn't liked as he worked as a tax collector; this meant he worked for the Romans and tax collectors were often dishonest. One day, Jesus visited the town. Jesus was quite famous by then - people had heard of the amazing things that he did, and the inspirational talks that he gave, and a crowd had gathered to get a glimpse of him, to hear what he had to say, much like we would do if a famous pop star or a member of the royal family came to Leominster. The tax collector was not very tall and could not see past the crowds so he ran on ahead and climbed a tree, a sycamore tree. The Bible tells us his name was Zacchaeus. Jesus spotted him and called out to him, 'Can I come to your house, please?' Everybody else in the crowd grumbled because they didn't like Zacchaeus as he was a tax collector, but with those few kind words, we are told Zacchaeus was filled with great joy! (Luke 19)

Kind words can make all the difference to someone's day, like telling your friend that their painting is really good or you like playing football with them, or their joke was funny. It might be like the example at the beginning ... being kind to a stranger, like Jesus was to Zacchaeus. And kindness spreads ... and spreads ... and spreads. When we are kind to someone, they are more likely to be kind to the next person they meet. I think the Bible sums it up very well, in the book of Ephesians, chapter 4: 'Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you. No more shouting or insults, no more hateful feelings of any sort. Instead, be kind and tender-hearted to one another, and forgive one another, as God has forgiven you through Christ.'