



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

**Kingsland CE (VA)  
Primary School**



# The Kingsland Times

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## 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:

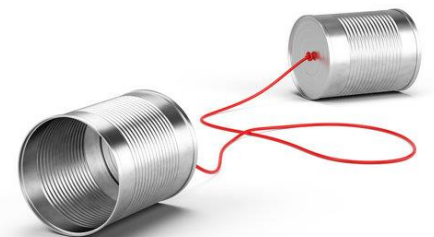
*As God’s children, overflowing with His light, we will shine before others to inspire, nurture and bring joy so all may embrace life in its fullness to the glory of God.*

Our Christian value for this half-term is **LOVE**

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)**

In Worship Time on Tuesday, Rev Rosie encouraged us to think about how we communicate with God. Firstly, we investigated communicating with the traditional tin can / string method, which Helen demonstrated perfectly. We then thought deeply about how prayer can help us communicate with God – realising that God would not enact everyone’s perfect Christmas list as there are so many complex things to consider in the world.



**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](mailto:admin@kingslandengland.hereford.sch.uk)

Website: [www.kingslandceprimary.com](http://www.kingslandceprimary.com)



### Dates for your diary

Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Education Sunday in Eardisland Church 9.30am – all welcome
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Y1 RWI information for parents session 2.45pm
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	YR Parents' Information Meeting 5pm
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Festival in Kingsland Church 1.30pm – all welcome
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Parents' Evening 3.30 – 6.30pm
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Parents' Evening 4.30 – 7.30pm
28 <sup>th</sup> Oct. – 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov.	Half term holiday
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	G4 concert in Hereford Cathedral – more details soon
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas dinner
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 nativity performances at 2pm and 5.30pm
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas service in Kingsland Church 1.30pm – all welcome

The full 2024 - 2025 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:

**How could you communicate with God?**



### Education Sunday

We shall be celebrating Education Sunday in Eardisland Church on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 9.30am – all welcome.

### This week's attendance – well done Class 1!

Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	School total
99.55%	99.33%	98.39%	97.58%	98.13%	98.52%

### House Tokens

**Congratulations to the following children for achieving a house token!**

Ambrey	Berrington	Croft	Mortimer
Sophie Oliver Perry	James Sophia Helen Ebony Lexi Riley	Jack Theodore	Elsie Leah Nora Theo Bella Gilbert



Governor news: This week the **Full Governing Body** met for the first time this academic year, discussing many aspects of school life such as Pupil Premium funding, school policies and budget monitoring.

### Y3 and Y4 Recorders

Year 3 children will be starting to learn the recorder as part of their music lessons this term. Each child will need a recorder in school every Friday please, starting on 13<sup>th</sup> September. Recorders can be purchased from the school office at a cost of £7.

Year 4 children will also be continuing with recorder lessons every Friday, and will need to bring their recorders in each week please.

### Y1 RWI Information for parents session

Mrs Wilson will be holding a Read Write Inc (RWI) information session for parents on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 2.45 - 3.10pm (just before pick-up time). All Y1 parents are invited to attend. The session will cover all aspects of what the children will be learning in RWI and phonics lessons this year, and there will be tips and help about how you can support your child at home with learning to read and write.

We hope to see you there.

### Y5/6 Young Voices

Earlier this week, your child will have brought home information about our exciting upcoming Young Voices concert on 17<sup>th</sup> January. Please read the information carefully and return the ticket / T-shirt booking forms to school as soon as possible. Within the information letter is a link to set up a Music Room account, where children will be able to access the song recordings and lyrics.



Please remember the school has a no smoking or vaping policy in the playground when picking-up and dropping-off children. Thank you.

We are aware that some children have been accessing Grand Theft Auto games at home, which have an 18+ age guidance. Please see the GTA information later in this newsletter for tips and advice for parents.

# School Attendance

Kingsland CE Primary School has high expectations for attendance. Every child should attend every day that they are required to attend. Good attendance for each child means 'attending school for every session of every day the school is open to them'. We are committed to providing an education of the highest standard for all pupils and recognise this can only be achieved by supporting and promoting excellent school attendance. This is based on the belief that only by attending school regularly and punctually will pupils be able to take full advantage of the educational opportunities available to them. High attainment and good progress depend on good attendance.

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**



## Class 1 Parents' Information Meeting

We shall be holding our YR Parents' Information Meeting on Tuesday 24th September at 5pm in Class 1 room. Miss Corrick will present information about the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum and what the children will be learning this year, as well as discussing how you will be able to support your child's learning at home.

We hope to see you all at this useful and informative event.

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

**Connie** for being a great friend; **Perry** for an excellent start to the new school year; **Oliver** for super effort and progress with his letter formation – well done!



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 **Oliver** ... Well done!

# Y6-led Worship

On Thursday, the Y6s planned and delivered their own Worship Times to the other classes ...



*Worship  
With Us*

# Messages from Kingsland Church

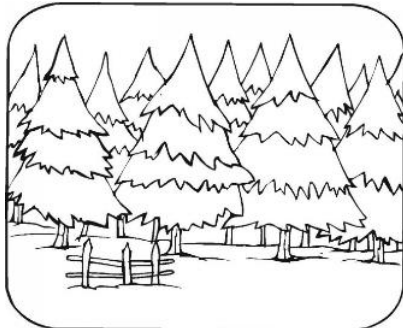
## Education Sunday

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September  
9.30am Eardisland Church

Come along to say thank you to God for teaching and learning. This is an all-age service of about one hour, with children from Kingsland School taking part in prayers, songs and reading from the Bible. Parking available by the village hall.



## Forest Church



Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September

**Note this is the fifth Sunday, a week later because of Education Sunday!**

9.30am Aymestrey Church

*Worship outdoors, be inspired by nature, pray for our environment*

Please put the dates in your diary and we look forward to welcoming you. For more information contact:

[wendy@mortimerscrosschurches.co.uk](mailto:wendy@mortimerscrosschurches.co.uk)



# 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

## OPEN MORNINGS

Do you have a child due to start school in September 2025?



You would be most welcome to visit school on one of our Open Mornings:



Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30am

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 9.30am

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30am

Please contact the school office to book a place

(bookings are essential): 01568 708436

[admin@kingslandengland.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:admin@kingslandengland.hereford.sch.uk)



School of  
**SANCTUARY AWARD**  
Welcoming People Seeking Sanctuary



# IMPORTANT NOTICE

## Reception admissions for 2025-2026

Do you have a child born between  
1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021

If so you will need to apply for a school place  
by 15 January 2025  
(to commence September 2025)

Applications can be completed from  
**16 September 2024** online  
(scan QR code) or visit:



[www.herefordshire.gov.uk/schools-education/primary-school-admissions](http://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](mailto:schooladmissions@herefordshire.gov.uk)



# PTA

**25th September  
7:30pm**

**The Corners, Kingsland**

FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW SCHOOL  
YEAR. POP ALONG FOR DRINKS,  
PUDDING AND A SOCIAL CHAT.

**For more information contact  
Marie on 07825 513316**

# INFINITY

Dance & Performing Arts



**FUN, ENGAGING, DANCE CLASSES  
FOR CHILDREN AGE 3+**

**BASED IN KINGSLAND, HR6 9SQ**

**For more information  
please get in touch today:**

**INFINITYDANCEPA@GMAIL.COM**

**WWW.INFINITY-DANCE.CO.UK**



# What parents need to know about AGE RATINGS



If you have children, it is understandable to have concerns about the films and TV shows they watch, as well as the games they play. In this guide, we take a look at the two official ways you can assess if a particular title is suitable for your child. Both the BBFC and PEGI have search facilities on their websites that can be used to look up individual titles so you can check their ratings.



## RATINGS FOR FILMS, TV & MUSIC VIDEOS

Since 1912, the BBFC (British Board of Film Classification) has informed UK residents of the age suitability of films, TV and music videos - providing parents with the information needed to assess whether or not it is appropriate for their child's age. This applies to cinema releases, DVDs and streaming video services such as Netflix.

### WHAT ARE THE BBFC RATINGS?

BBFC ratings are broken down into seven age categories:

Universal, suitable for all ages	Parental Guidance required	Suitable for people aged 12 and over	Suitable for people aged 12 and over, anyone younger must be accompanied by an adult
Suitable for people aged 15 and over	Suitable for people aged 18 and over	Adult content only available in specially licenced cinemas and specialist retailers	

### WHAT ELSE CAN BBFC REVEAL?

Accompanied with the age suitability rating, BBFC also provide an additional warning regarding the content and what to expect, such as swearing, sexual content, violence and anything you may consider to be inappropriate for your child. In addition to this, the content is also rated in three levels: frequent, mild or strong.

### LIMITATIONS OF BBFC RATINGS

It's important to note that there is no obligation on streaming video services to use or display BBFC ratings. Due to this, we advise that you check the rating online before your child streams the content. It may also be a good idea to watch the content first yourself or discuss it with other parents to help you decide whether or not it is suitable for your child.

Source: [www.bbfc.co.uk](http://www.bbfc.co.uk)

## RATINGS FOR GAMES

PEGI (Pan European Game Information) is a content rating system that ensures all video games are labelled with a minimum age recommendation. These age recommendations are based on the types of content featured within a game. With each game, PEGI also provide a content descriptor that indicates the potential issues and concerns, including sex, violence, bad language and drugs.

### WHAT ARE THE PEGI RATINGS?

PEGI ratings are split into age restriction and content descriptors. Additional 'content descriptors' help parents and children to understand the type of content featured within a particular game, including sex, fear, bad language, discrimination, gambling, drugs, violence, and in-game purchases. In combination, the two different ratings can provide a good level of information to help make informed decisions regarding the suitability for your child.

PEGI age ratings are broken down into five categories:

<a href="http://www.pegi.info">www.pegi.info</a>	<a href="http://www.pegi.info">www.pegi.info</a>	<a href="http://www.pegi.info">www.pegi.info</a>	<a href="http://www.pegi.info">www.pegi.info</a>	<a href="http://www.pegi.info">www.pegi.info</a>

PEGI content descriptors are broken down into eight categories:

FEAR	DRUGS	IN-GAME PURCHASES	VIOLENCE	BAD LANGUAGE	DISCRIMINATION	GAMBLING	SEX

### LIMITATIONS OF PEGI RATINGS

It's possible for young people to buy games online without a required proof of age, opening them up to age-inappropriate content without you knowing. We advise that you regularly monitor your child's gaming activities and maintain a honest and healthy dialogue with them about the online world.

### PARENTAL CONTROLS

It is a good idea to put in place parental controls for all online accounts which your child may use to purchase or download online games e.g. The App Store, Google Play Store, PlayStation Store and Microsoft Xbox Store etc.

Source: [www.pegi.info](http://www.pegi.info)



**National Online Safety**

A whole school community approach to online safety  
[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)

Email us at [hello@nationalonlinesafety.com](mailto:hello@nationalonlinesafety.com) or call us on 0800 368 8061





# What parents need to know about GRAND THEFT AUTO (GTA)



grand theft auto

Grand Theft Auto is an action-adventure video game series where players control criminals and wreak havoc in order to complete missions and progress through the game. During the early stages of the game, it solely focuses on completing missions to go up a level. However, as the game grew more popular the makers of GTA decided to introduce a narrative to each edition of the game. The aim of this was to increase user engagement, making gamers believe that they were not just playing as the character, but they became the character. Grand Theft Auto is accessible on a number of devices including: PlayStation and Xbox, desktop computers, PSP, Nintendo DS, and Mobile.



## Top Tips for Parents

### THE RISK - PLAYING WITH STRANGERS

When buying GTA V you automatically have access to Grand Theft Auto Online, a version of the game that allows players to play online. They can play alone, invite players to a game, or be involved in public 'sessions' where people will be picked at random to play. When you first load into a game you are automatically placed into an open lobby, meaning you play with random people. The 'social club' is GTA's very own social platform where users can bet money, share in-game photographs (which users can like and comment on), and even message other users directly.

#### What parents can do

To prevent your child playing with strangers on the game, you can change the settings to ensure they only play with their approved friends list. Upon signing up to the 'social club', it automatically sets a player's visibility settings to 'everyone', meaning their name and profile information is made public. Parents can alter this by changing the visibility settings to 'only me'.

**WARNING!**

Due to the nature of the game and the age restrictions, GTA includes content that is inappropriate for anyone under the age of 18, including sex, nudity, violence, profane language, and substance abuse. These are the main components that make up the game - you have to do certain things and witness certain things in order to move on in the game. Exposing your child to this type of content could affect their morals and understanding of right and wrong. Additionally, your child could become desensitised to similar situations, reinforcing the fact they they would find it hard to differentiate between right/wrong and good/bad.

### THE RISK - ONLINE HACKERS

Hackers can make money by helping users cheat in the game. They can do a number of inappropriate things, including killing people, stealing weapons, spawning money into the game, and even raping other characters. Spawning money tends to be a gamer's most popular choice, being able to buy \$100,000,000,000 (of in-game currency) for as little as five US dollars.

#### What parents can do

Actively monitor your child's online activity. These websites are very easy to find, meaning children and young people can easily navigate their way to these websites and pay for hackers. Not only is this an illegal activity, but you have the risk of giving your personal information to someone who may misuse it.

### THE RISK - ADDICTION

Addiction is a risk with any game. Game developers use persuasive design techniques to force users to invest their time, and often money, in a game. Within GTA, your character is able to progress through the game for completing missions within a certain time frame, encouraging children to keep returning to the game. Gaming addiction is now a recognised health condition and the side effects are concerning, including sleep deprivation, decreased attention span and erratic emotional behaviour.

#### What parents can do

There are a number of things you can do if you are concerned about your child's screen time, including setting time limits within the home, especially during meal times and before bedtime. Talk to your child and ask why they are spending so much time on the game, and encourage healthy alternatives such as outdoor activities and spending quality time with friends and family.

### THE RISK - LIVE CHAT

When playing GTA online, players have the option to use a microphone to broadcast their voice live to other players involved in the 'session'. These live voice chats are not moderated, meaning anything could be said, including inappropriate language, as well as verbal forms of bullying.

#### What parents can do

Talk openly with your child about not giving away personal information. Also remind them that conversations can be recorded, which could damage their online reputation. Depending on the device/platform, there will be ways to mute conversations. Make yourself aware of the device's/platform's individual settings and ensure that your child knows how to block and report.

### THE RISK - MICROTRANSACTIONS

By completing missions and partaking in certain activities you earn in-game currency. This allows you to buy things such as prostitutes, vehicles, weapons, ammo, new outfits, cars, apartments and more. However, the items that are available to buy often have a high price that require a lot of game time, meaning the items are pretty unrealistic to buy.

#### What parents can do

If you do not want your child to make payments, ensure your card is not associated with their account. If you are happy for your child to make payments in the game, but want to limit spending, we suggest purchasing a pre-paid gift card for your child. These can be purchased in specific amounts which will allow you to limit how much your child spends and removes the need for a credit or debit card to be used with their account.

SOURCES:  
<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2103188/parentalguide>  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/gaming/news/grand-theft-auto-v-has-made-money-film-history/>  
<http://www.techaddiction.ca/addiction-to-video-games.html>



National Online Safety

A whole school community approach to online safety  
[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)

Email us at [hello@nationalonlinesafety.com](mailto:hello@nationalonlinesafety.com) or call us on 0800 368 8061





# KINGSLAND MILLENNIUM GREEN

K.M.G.T. Charity Number 1070085

## APPLE DAY Sat 5th October 11-4pm The Green



Cider making - *bring your own apples!*



Pinsley Mill Morris Dancers -  
*12 noon and 1pm*



Apple themed games and archery



Art and literary competitions

Please see the Parish  
Magazine for more  
details!



### APPLE DAY

OCTOBER 5th 2024

KINGSLAND MILLENNIUM GREEN

#### Competitions - Schedule

**Class 1 ART.** All age categories. A picture in any medium, no bigger than A3, inspired by the apple trees on the Millennium Green or their names: See below.

**Class 2 LITERARY.** All age categories. A poem or short story no more than 500 words inspired by the apple trees on the Green or their names. See below.

**Apple Tree Names:** Gennet Moyle, Golden Harvey, Scotch Bridget, Peasgood Nonsuch, Tom Putt, King of the Pippins, Golden Noble, Hereford Russet and Downton Maiden.

**Categories:** A. 6 years and under  
B. 7-10 years  
C. 11-14 yers  
D. 15 years plus

Entry forms available from Markhams Garage & The Post Office

Entries to be submitted by September 28th 2024

K.M.G.T.  
Registered charity number : 1070085



**Come to...**

# **Kingsland Playgroup**

**No booking necessary**

*Fun and engaging activities from birth to 4 years*

**Every Thursday Morning – 9.00– 11.30 AM**

**Coronation Hall, Kingsland**

**Term Time Only**

**Activities Include:**

- Outdoor Play
- Designated Baby Area
- Arts + Crafts
- Small World Play

**Find us on Facebook**  
Kingsland playgroup

Cost of £2.50 per child.  
Sibling discount available

**Learn to play -  
play to learn!**



# 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



Residents of HEREFORDSHIRE

In paid partnership with:  **Herefordshire Council**

Use Access Code  
**APPLEHERE**

# Understanding your child with additional needs

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



Residents of HEREFORDSHIRE

In paid partnership with:  **Herefordshire Council**

Use Access Code  
**APPLEHERE**

## Help is available to reduce your energy bills and make your home more energy efficient...



**Keep Herefordshire Warm** offers free energy advice to Herefordshire residents. They also administer energy efficiency grants on behalf of the Council, which can be used to make a range of home energy improvements.

- Call Keep Herefordshire Warm free on 0800 677 1432 to speak to one of their friendly and professional advisors. (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm)
- or email: [khw.advicecentre@yesenergysolutions.co.uk](mailto:khw.advicecentre@yesenergysolutions.co.uk)



[www.herefordshire.gov.uk/housing-3/home-energy](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/housing-3/home-energy)



This scheme helps Herefordshire residents identify home energy improvements and offers funding support for approved projects

**You can apply if**

- Your household income is £36,000 a year or more and/or
- Your household has disposable income available to spend on energy efficiency measures for your home



[www.herefordshire.gov.uk/home-energy-savers](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/home-energy-savers)



This scheme will pay for efficiency improvements to off-grid homes in Herefordshire that are hard to heat

**You can apply if**

- You are off mains gas
- Your total household income is under £36,000 per year
- You live in an inefficient property, with an Energy Performance Certificate of D, E, F or G



To apply: [www.gov.uk/apply-home-upgrade-grant](http://www.gov.uk/apply-home-upgrade-grant)

For more information: [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/housing-3/home-energy/2](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/housing-3/home-energy/2)

## Worship Videos

### Parables of Jesus

This half term we are learning about the stories or parables that Jesus told. Parables are a form of story used to pass on a message. Often Jesus used them to answer questions and to describe what the Kingdom of Heaven or God is like. We will explore these parables:

**The Wise and Foolish Builders**  
**The Good Samaritan**  
**The Big Party**  
**The Lost Sheep**  
**The Rich Fool**

**The Sower**  
**The Grape Pickers**  
**Two ways to pray**  
**\*The Lost Son**  
**\*The Mustard Seed**

\*start of next half term

What symbols or objects could you add to your worship table to represent each parable?

What else would help you remember the message of the parables?

What could you do to change the way you pray together based on the parables?

Follow up the worship in class through drama. Try hot seating a character from the parable. Use a conscience alley or freeze frame as a group. Use puppets for those with animals in.



Did you know that we have a [Spotify list of songs suitable for collective worship](#) recommended to us by schools? You can listen to the songs online and see if they are suitable for your class or for whole school worship. We welcome any song suggestions.

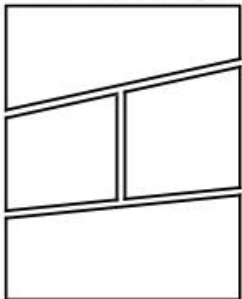


How would you describe heaven?

### Thinking about parables

Which is your favourite parable?  
Which parable challenged you the most?  
How has the parable changed your idea(s) about God or Heaven?  
Can you spot any patterns in the parables?  
Where do you see yourself in the parable?  
Why do you think Jesus told parables rather than just answer questions?

### Comic Strips



Comic strips are a great way to retell parables and to explore them in more detail. The children could also write their own parables or change the setting to a modern day.

### Useful Resources



For outdoor worship and reflection ideas [Muddy Church](#) has lots of great activity packs you can download.



[Prayer Spaces in schools](#) also provides great ideas for creating prayer spaces or reflection corners for your classroom or school

The NATRE Spirited Art competitions and galleries provide great artwork to stimulate discussions, and reflections. <https://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/spirited-arts/spirited-arts-gallery/2023/>

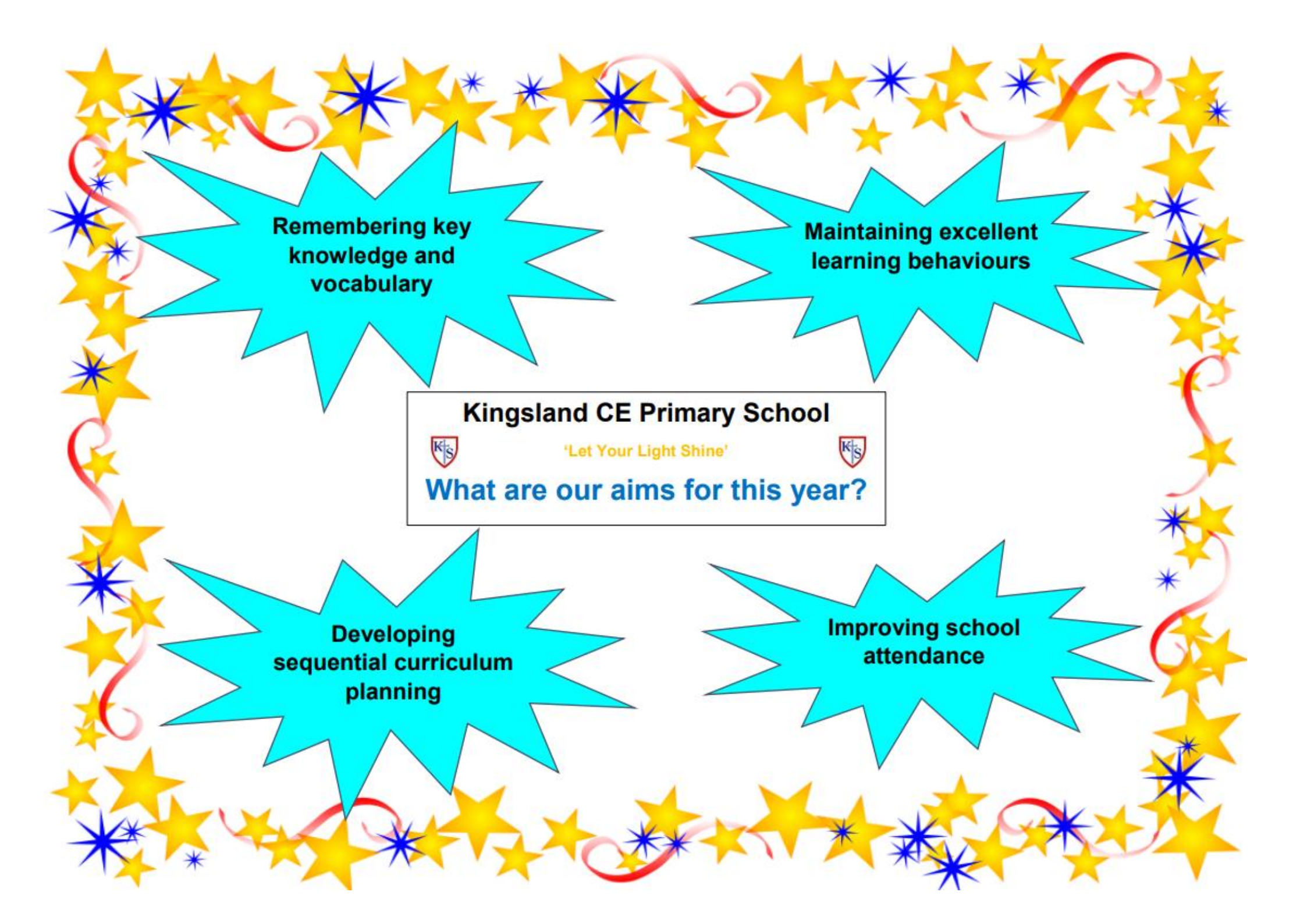


Why not explore one of the parables in art?

This could form a display or large collage piece for the school hall. Try different media including print or sculpture.

Or explore the themes such as what they think heaven is like. This could provide a great discussion starter for your class. The Vanderbilt Art Collections provides a great resource for exploring artwork based on the parables: <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-search.pl>





**Remembering key  
knowledge and  
vocabulary**

**Maintaining excellent  
learning behaviours**

**Kingsland CE Primary School**



**'Let Your Light Shine'**



**What are our aims for this year?**

**Developing  
sequential curriculum  
planning**

**Improving school  
attendance**



# 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:

## LOVE

Educating for Hope and Aspiration

### A prayer of LOVE

Creator God, Thank you that each of us is precious in your sight, and loved. Help us to feel that love each and every day. May we find that same love for everyone within our class at school and at home so that no one is left out; in Jesus' name. 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: **LOVE**

#### A reflection on LOVE by Rev. Julie Read

Did you know that our word LOVE has 4 different Greek words ...?

1. storge (meaning affection) is the everyday care we have for each other, the people we share our class with, or the people who work with us
2. philia (meaning friendship) and the love of friends, the ones we choose to share our time with outside of school hours, or who carry on after we have left school and moved onto other things
3. eros (meaning romantic love) and the pull that draws couples together to share their whole lives and set up home together
4. agape (meaning charity) and is the unconditional love that God the Father gives us in sending his Son, Jesus, to show us how to live, how to be, what is important. It is love that forgives when things go wrong, and is the most precious type of love that there is.

St Paul sums up this last kind of love in these famous words that we often hear at weddings, and they tell us what God is like, for God is love. Here is the beginning of 1 Corinthians Chapter 13:

**LOVE IS PATIENT, LOVE IS KIND, IT IS NOT BOASTFUL OR ENVIOUS OR ARROGANT OR RUDE, IT DOES NOT INSIST ON ITS OWN WAY, IT IS NOT IRRITABLE OR RESENTFUL, IT DOES NOT REJOICE IN WRONG DOING, BUT REJOICES IN THE TRUTH...**

I often say that this is the ideal that we should hold up, but realise that we often find it difficult. I know that I wasn't always patient with my teenage children.... When are times that you find it difficult to love?

Jesus told a story, a parable, about love, making sure that everyone is included, everyone is looked after, everyone is safe. It was about a farmer, well a shepherd really, who had 100 sheep, and every night he would call them into the sheepfold (his specially made stone-walled safe place) and count them in ... 97, 98, 99, 100. One evening, he counted them in ... 97, 98, 99 ... but there was one missing. What do you think he did? Did he think "Oh well, I have 99 sheep, that's pretty good, I need to care for them"? No .... he left the 99 safely shut up for the night and went out to look for the lost sheep. As the night fell, he found it caught up in a bramble and, prizing it loose, he put it over his shoulder and carried it home. **THAT IS LOVE**, making sure that **EVERYONE** is safe, and that **EVERYONE** lives well ... exactly what we aim to do at school.

I wonder if you can look out for everyone in your class as we start the new school year... making sure that everyone is safe, and doesn't get lost in their lessons, everyone has someone to play with, everyone is happy, and perhaps the words that you say to someone could be "HOW CAN I HELP?"