Knowsley News

Thursday 22nd October 2026



Headteacher message

What a wonderful and busy first half term we have had!

It has been a fantastic start to the school year, with so many highlights to celebrate, from our school football match, OAFC fundraiser and MacMillan Coffee Afternoon to exciting Castleshaw and Stockport Air Raid Shelter trips and visits. It has been lovely to see our children embracing these opportunities with such enthusiasm.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our families for their continued support, our staff for their hard work and dedication, and of course our children for their fantastic efforts.

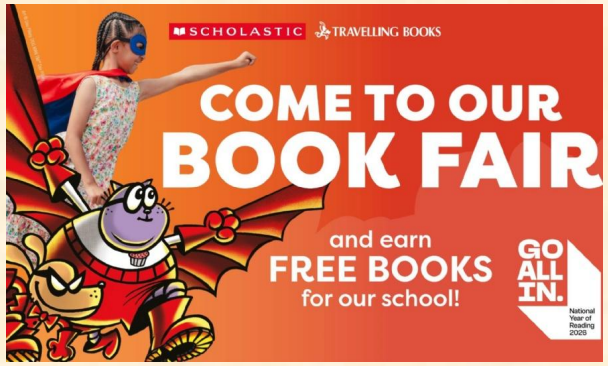
Wishing you all a lovely, restful half-term holiday. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2nd November!

Mr Bunn

OAFC Penalty Shootout Fundraiser

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our OAFC Penalty Shootout fundraiser last week! Thanks to the fantastic sponsorship money that has come into school this week, we are delighted to announce that the event was a huge success. We are still counting the donations, and prizes will be announced in the first week back after half term. Your incredible generosity makes a real difference to our school and the community, and we are so grateful for your continued support!





Go All In with the National Year of Reading and the Scholastic Book Fair

As you know, enabling our children to become confident, independent, and passionate readers is always a priority at Knowsley, and we are keen to maintain enthusiasm for books, literature, and reading throughout the year.

This year is the **National Literacy Trust's Year of Reading**, where children across the country are being encouraged to **Go All In** - diving into new stories, discovering exciting genres, and building a lifelong love for reading. Click the link above to find out more.

To help spur on that excitement, we are delighted that the **Scholastic Book Fair** will be **back in school after the half term holiday!** Click the link to browse the range of books with your child before the event. It is a wonderful chance for children to choose their own books and **Go All In** on their reading journeys.

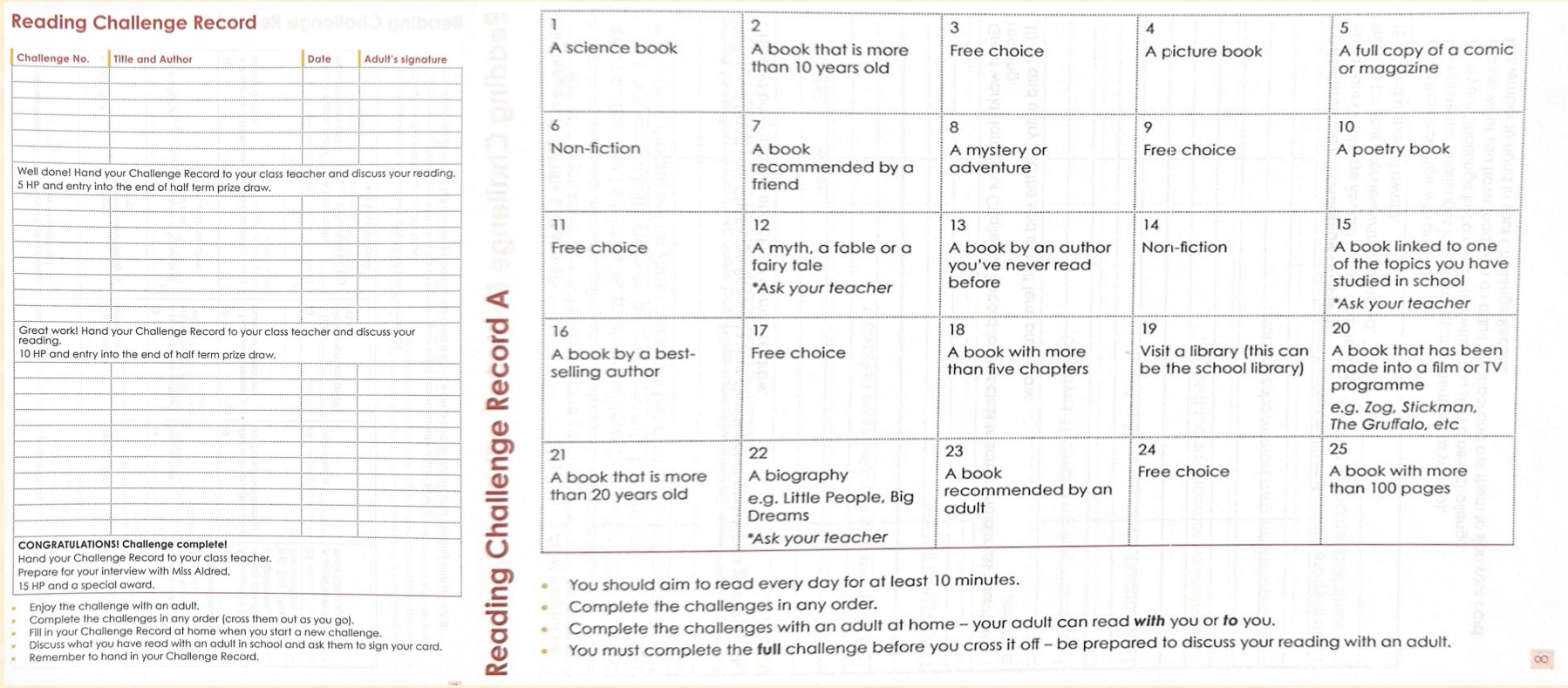


GO ALL IN.
National Year of Reading 2026

You have been emailed a letter with full details.

Knowsley's Reading Challenge

This week, Miss Aldred launched our annual Knowsley Reading Challenge in assembly. We challenge all of our children to read **25 books** before the end of the school year. Details can be found in your child's Planner. The Knowsley Reading Challenge is another great way for your child to **Go All In,** develop a love of books and improve theirliteracy skills.



Reading Challenge Record

Challenge No.	Title and Author	Date	Adult's signature

Well done! Hand your Challenge Record to your class teacher and discuss your reading.
5 HP and entry into the end of half term prize draw.

Great work! Hand your Challenge Record to your class teacher and discuss your reading.
10 HP and entry into the end of half term prize draw.

CONGRATULATIONS! Challenge complete!
Hand your Challenge Record to your class teacher.
Prepare for your interview with Miss Aldred.
15 HP and a special award.

- Enjoy the challenge with an adult.
- Complete the challenges in any order (cross them out as you go).
- Fill in your Challenge Record at home when you start a new challenge.
- Discuss what you have read with an adult in school and ask them to sign your card.
- Remember to hand in your Challenge Record.

Reading Challenge Record A

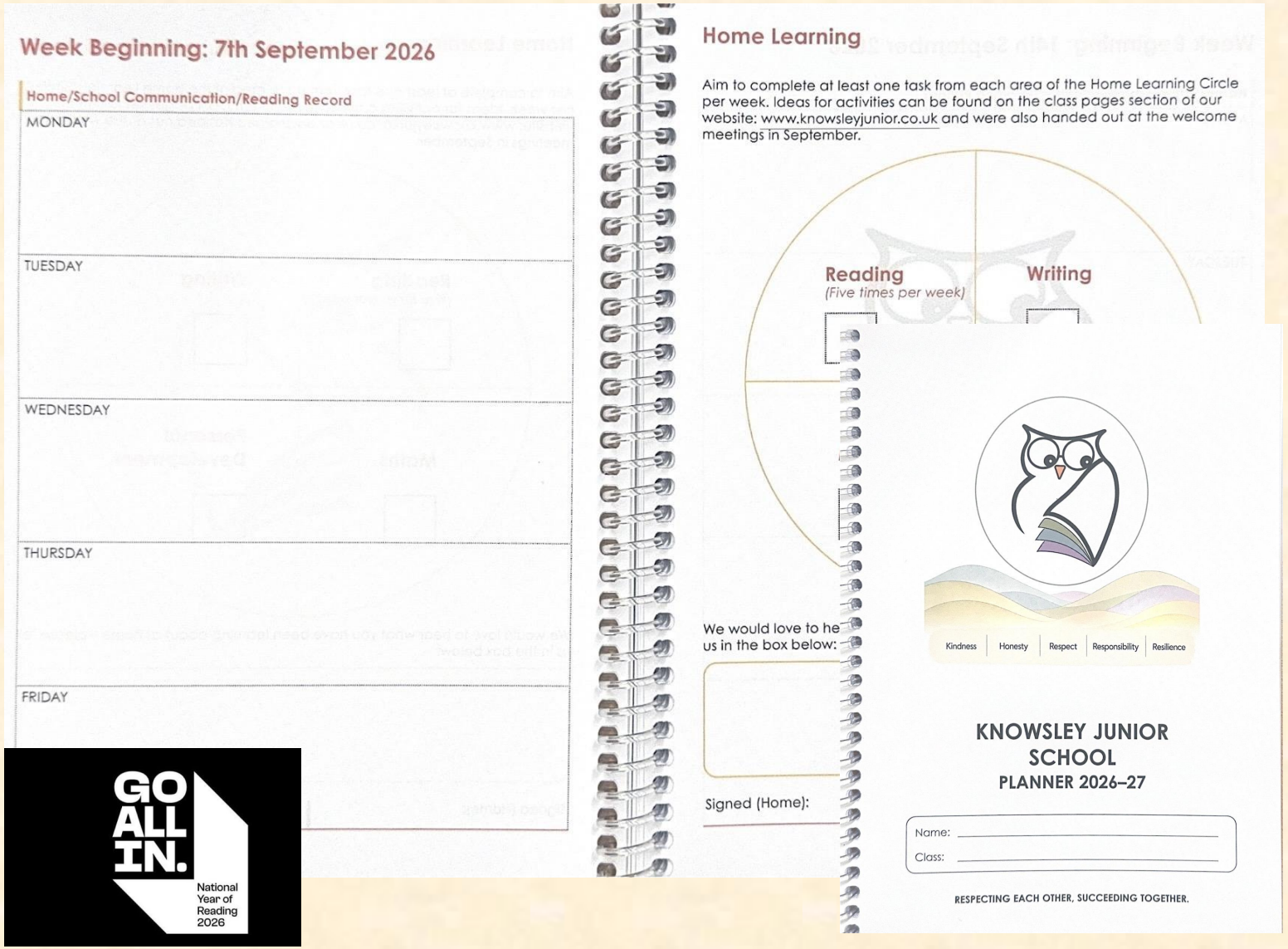
1 A science book	2 A book that is more than 10 years old	3 Free choice	4 A picture book	5 A full copy of a comic or magazine
6 Non-fiction	7 A book recommended by a friend	8 A mystery or adventure	9 Free choice	10 A poetry book
11 Free choice	12 A myth, a fable or a fairy tale **Ask your teacher*	13 A book by an author you've never read before	14 Non-fiction	15 A book linked to one of the topics you have studied in school **Ask your teacher*
16 A book by a best-selling author	17 Free choice	18 A book with more than five chapters	19 Visit a library (this can be the school library)	20 A book that has been made into a film or TV programme *e.g. Zog, Stickman, The Gruffalo, etc*
21 A book that is more than 20 years old	22 A biography e.g. Little People, Big Dreams **Ask your teacher*	23 A book recommended by an adult	24 Free choice	25 A book with more than 100 pages

- You should aim to read every day for at least 10 minutes.
- Complete the challenges in any order.
- Complete the challenges with an adult at home – your adult can read ***with*** you or ***to*** you.
- You must complete the **full** challenge before you cross it off – be prepared to discuss your reading with an adult.





Reading Records



GO ALL IN. National Year of Reading 2026

We encourage children to **read at home at least five times a week**. Parental comments and feedback are an important part of the weekly Reading Record pages, and the children love sharing how they are progressing at home as well as in school.

Why not visit [National Literacy Trust's Year of Reading] site and discover lots of ways that children can **Go All In** to read five times per week?

School Dinners

Fuel your child's school day with our hot, delicious, and nutritious school dinners!

Freshly prepared on-site each morning, our varied menus are packed with tasty, balanced options - including colourful salads and vegetables, warm, wholesome main courses, and delicious desserts designed to keep children energised and focused through every lesson.





For more information and full menus, please see the School Meals section on our website.



Knowsley Junior School Menu – Week 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mains	(V) Tomato & Mascarpone Pasta Bubble Fish Jacket Potato with Cheese	Chilli Tacos (V) 'No' Meatballs in Gravy Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayo	Cottage Pie (V) Veg Samosa Jacket Potato with Cheese	Assorted Sandwich with Crisps & Salad Savoury Chicken & Rice Jacket Potato with Beans	(V) Loaded Cheese Panini (V) Quorn Dippers Jacket Potato with Coleslaw
Sides	Potato Wedges Mixed Salad Green Beans	Diced Potatoes Broccoli Sweetcorn	Roast Potatoes Peas Cauliflower	Mixed vegetables	Chips Baked Beans Sweetcorn
Dessert	Jaffa Cookie	Old School Sponge	Chocolate Brownie	Banana Whip	Chocolate Ice Cream
Info	When meat dishes are on the menu, the same Halal option is available. We use high quality regionally sourced products, higher welfare meats and MSC fish. Fresh salad, fresh fruit, yoghurt, wholemeal bread and drinking water is available every day.				

KNOWSLEY JUNIOR SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUB MENU

DAILY 8.30AM TO 8.40AM

TOAST OR CRUMPET with butter and/or jam	30p	
WAFFLE with strawberries and/or syrup	70p	
PANCAKE with strawberries and/or syrup	60p	
CHEESE ON TOAST	60p	
CEREAL	50p	
BOILED EGG	30p	
FRESH FRUIT	30p	
YOGHURT POT	30p	
DRINKS Fresh apple juice, fresh orange juice, hot chocolate	30p	
* FRIDAY SPECIAL * Sausage on Toast	80p	

BREAK TIME SNACKS ALSO AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE AT BREAKFAST CLUB
Fresh fruit, soreen fruit bars – all 30p

For full menus and more information about food in school, please see the School Meals section on our website.

Extracurricular Activities

Autumn 2

Clubs are now live on Arbor. Please sign in and register your child's interest.

Places are limited and you will be informed by school if your child is allocated a place.

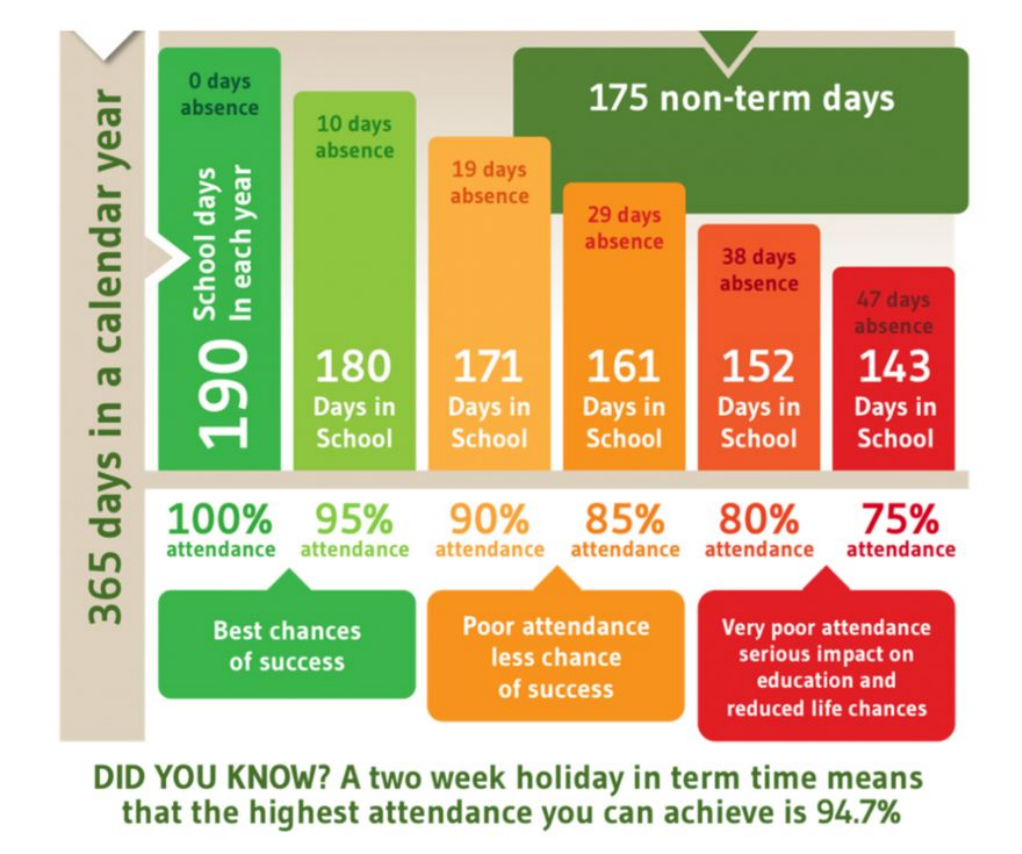
Mondays	Tuesdays	Thursdays
• Lego Miss Aldred • Keep Fit Pilates (Y5/6) Mrs Bunn	• TT Rockstars Mrs Murfitt • Chess Mr Potts	• Painting Mrs Stewardson • Singing Mrs Scott

Our Knowsley Behaviours



Attendance

Good attendance is essential in helping children to achieve their very best at school, both academically and socially. Our school attendance target is 97%, and we would greatly appreciate the continued support of parents and carers in helping us to achieve this. By ensuring children attend school regularly and arrive on time each day, we can work together to give every child the best possible chance to succeed and thrive.



Punctuality



We would like to remind all families of the importance of punctuality. A calm and positive start to the day helps children to settle quickly and be ready to learn. Please ensure that children are lined up and ready for school by **8:55am** each morning. Thank you for your continued support in helping our children to arrive on time and be prepared for a successful day of learning.

Remember - in line for five to nine!

Trophy Winners

- Eliza (3JO)
- Aleigha (3M)
- Sadie (4BS)
- Yousuf (4AH)
- Roshni (5GL)
- Lexi (5P)
- Inaaya (6A)
- Ayla (6S)
- Isaac (3JO)(Madame Shaw Award)

Awards

Attendance Trophy

3JO again!

Tidiest Classroom

6S (most improved)

House Points

Derby again!

VIP Table

Eliza (Y3)

Rosabella (Y4)

Sandro (Y5)

Harrison (Y6)

Dates for the Diary

- Thursday 22nd October: 3:25pm, school closes for half term
- Monday 2nd November: 8:55am, school re-opens
- Friday 13th November: Knowsleylicious Chocolate Presale
- Friday 20th November: Non-uniform day (bring your tombola prizes!)
- Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th November: Parents' Evenings
- Thursday 3rd December Knowsleylicious Chocolates handed out
- Tuesday 8th December: Year 5 Christmas Production
- Thursday 10th December: Year 4 Christmas Production
- Tuesday 15th December: Year 3 Christmas Production
- Wednesday 16th December: Year 6 Carol Concert
- Thursday 17th December: Pantomime Trip (all year groups)
- Thursday 17th December: Winter Fair 3:25pm - 4:30pm
- Friday 18th December: 3:25pm, school closes for the Christmas break