



Headteacher's Message

The May half term always seems very short in terms of calendar days but bursting with activity and events.

Congratulations must go to the Year 11 students who have started their GCSE exams. It really is a very pressured time for them as they balance taking the exams whilst still revising for those to come. Over the half term staff will be in school supporting them with final key revision. The students have impressed staff with how they are approaching their exams and we hope that they get a great set of results in the summer. They certainly have worked hard for them.

Year 10 students showcased some Drama GCSE work last week tackling the tricky medium of comedy, there is more sporting success from school teams and we hosted another primary sports festival last week. These are brilliant as we have over 100 primary students on site and they are taken through a range of activities led by our students.

We are also starting our preparations for the new Year 6 students who will be joining us for the transition days in a few weeks time and putting the final touches to Enrichment week.



Our work with the Cabot Learning Federation (CLF) continues with staff preparing for our official joining date of 1st July.

Finally, a special mention to a fantastic team of Kingsmead students who swam the equivalent length of the Channel at the pool recently. We are grateful to the Wivey pool for the support they have shown students over the years. We hold our annual swimming gala there (a rare opportunity for schools today) and I know that many of our students and families use the pool during the summer months. As such, we are wanting to support them with their fundraising efforts to keep the facilities and so our chosen charities for the next two non-uniform days will be the Wivey pool.

Mr J Eddy

ICELAND

Geography students from Years 10 and 11 spent four action packed days in Iceland. Areas they visited included the Golden Circle, Reykjavik and the Blue Lagoon. The tour guide deviated from the planned itinerary to show students and staff the damage caused by seismic activity last Tuesday between the Sýlingarfell and Stóra-Skógfell mountains.

The six hour eruption created a fissure on the Reykjanes Peninsula north of Grindavík town, stretching over a kilometre in length. Fresh lava was visible across the existing lava beds surrounding the evacuated town.



ICELAND



RISING STARS



Kingsmead School has some incredible talent!

First of all is Dougal G, who starred as Freddie the drummer in School of Rock this week at Wellesley Wellington Cinema & Theatre, putting on a fantastic performance.

Well done Freddie!

Congratulations to Sienna C in Year 10, who has been cast in a national tv commercial for a major shoe manufacturer. She will feature in their back to school campaign in the summer.

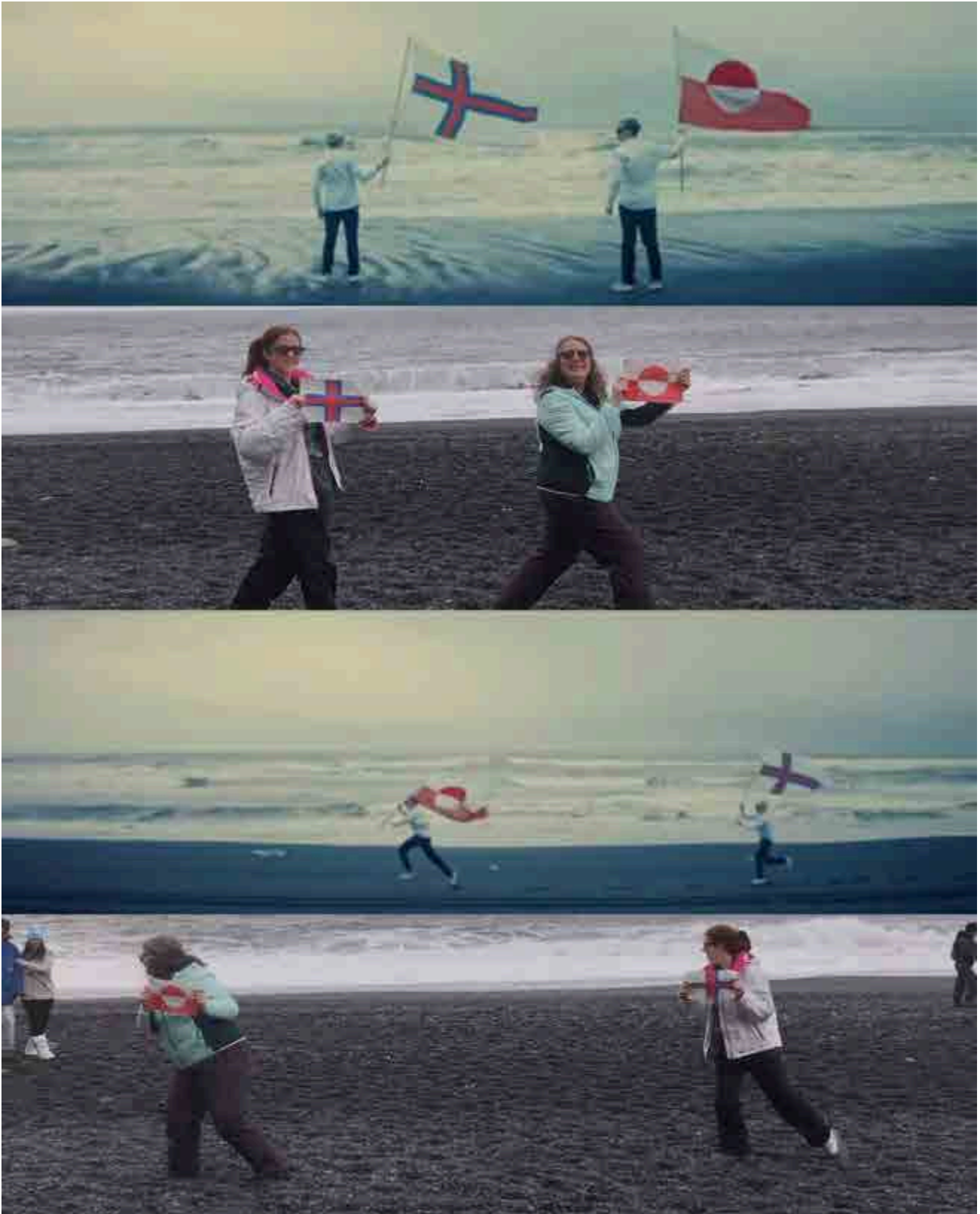
Sienna also achieved grade 7 in the London College of Music's Musical Theatre for Singers exam, with a 90% distinction. She is now looking forward to being part of the cast for upcoming performances of The Little Mermaid Jr in May and Newsies Jr in August, both at the McMillan Theatre in Bridgwater.

As if that wasn't enough, she will be playing in several gigs with Robbie H in Year 10 with Rise Acoustix and also representing Kingsmead in singing performances over the next few months!



MUSIC

The Music Department became a Eurovision fan space this term. To prep for the show, Year 10 students re-enacted the Iceland entry when they visited Reynisfjara black sand beach during the recent KS4 geography trip. Years 7 to 10 were asked to use their listening and appraisal skills to select this year's winner based on the musical elements of the compositions. Those whose choice matched the official victor received five positive class chart points.



YEAR 11 CELEBRATION DAY



SCHOOL FARM

Introducing Lucky and Penny, our new additions to the school farm - offspring of the ewes we were kindly given last year.

Lucky is the smaller lamb and Penny is Holly's lamb.



COMMUNITY

Wivey Cares is a community led project to improve the physical, mental and financial health and well being of adult residents in the Ten Parishes.

The Big Give Small Charity Week campaign has offered it match funding up to £2,500, but it needs to raise the same amount during one week.

Please support by taking part in fundraisers, buying raffle tickets, bidding for one of the lots in the online auction, or joining the Big Breakfast.



Thank you to everyone who sent us your wonderful photos and memories of relatives who fought in WW2, to commemorate VE Day.

We were honoured to look through them all.

We have collated them on the website:

www.kingsmead-school.com/ve-day-your-stories/

VE DAY

We observed a minute's silence as part of the VE Day commemorations. More than 900 students and staff observed this impeccably. The canteen also created themed cup cakes for students and the school was decorated with Union Jacks.

Leah M and Sophie C in Year 9 went into Wiveliscombe to support a coffee morning, as part of the local events to mark this special occasion, helping to raise just over £400 for charity.



WELLBEING

Tuning Into Teens aims to help parents support young people's well being, using coaching to help navigate emotional regulation and communication.

It's a six week programme, with sessions running for two hours. The facilitators are from Somerset's mental health support team.

To show your interest please scan the QR code or use the email address.

NHS Somerset
NHS Foundation Trust

Tuning in to Teens

MUST
Mental Health Support Team

TUNING INTO TEENS[®]


A FREE SIX-SESSION PROGRAMME FOR PARENTS PRE-TEENS & TEENS

From 06th June
10-12 Every Friday for
Kingsmead School
Held at In the Mix Youth club

Would you like to be better at:

- ✓ Talking with your teen
- ✓ Understanding your teen
- ✓ Helping your teen learn to manage their emotions
- ✓ Preventing behaviour problems in your teen
- ✓ Teaching your teen to deal with conflict

TUNING INTO KIDS SHOWS YOU HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD DEVELOP EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE



scan QR code to apply

Or email kelly.somerville@kingsmead-school.com

WELLBEING



CAMHS
NHS Somerset
Mental Health Trust

Families Learning About Self Harm (FLASH)

WHO IS THE PROGRAMME FOR?

Any adult who has shared responsibility for bringing up a child (11-17 years old) can attend the group including step-parents, grandparents and carers. We welcome parents on their own or with a partner or adult family member. Please note, this group is not intended for families of young people currently under care of Tier 3 CAMHS. For families currently care coordinated by CAMHS East or West teams, please speak to your keyworker who can discuss other FLASH groups with you.

WHAT DOES THE PROGRAMME COVER?

This is a 5-week programme which aims to create better communication and personal relationships between parent/carers and young people. FLASH allows parents the opportunity to discuss the self-harm with people who understand and learn how to manage concerns within your home.

It will include:

- Exploring what self-harm is, what the risks are and what is the function of self-harm
- Listening and self-esteem enabling skills
- Managing self-harm within the family environment
- How self-harm impacts on parenting and ways to manage under stressful circumstances
- Coping strategies for parents and carers.

WHEN AND WHERE?

The Baldon Centre, Summerlands, Preston Rd, **Yeovil** BA20 2BA
09:30-12:30 on Fridays starting 02.05.25 and running (excluding 19th & 30th May) until Fri 13.06.25

Education Room at Outpatients, Priory Medical Centre, Cliftonbury Road, **Wells**, BA5 1XL, 09:30-12:30 on Fridays starting 06.06.25 and finishing 11.07.25

The Horizon Centre, Swingbridge, Bathpool, **Taunton**, TA3 8BY
09:30-12:30 on Mondays starting 15.09.25 and running until Mon 11.10.25

Contact us for more information ☎ **0300 124 5012**
✉ **camhsspa@somerset.nhs.uk**

IMPORTANT
Due to limited availability and safety your place needs to be booked. We will not be able to accommodate anyone who is not pre-registered.

CAMHS is rolling out a new course for families to learn about dealing with self harm. The programme will be in Taunton, Yeovil and Wells.

This is a five week course for parents and carers of 11-17 year olds, who want to have better understanding of how to support their young person. You must be able to commit to all five sessions.

Call 0300 124 5012 for more details.

The In The Mix Project Outdoor Learning Group is seeking new members.

They learn about habitats, green activities, map reading, gardening, outdoor cooking, sports, nature, the weather and environment, bushcraft, woodwork, conservation and social action.

Please see: www.inthemixproject.org.uk/outdoor-connections/



in the mix project

OUTDOOR CONNECTIONS "SATURDAY CLUB"

JOIN US ON THE SECOND SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH
10AM-1PM · £2 SUBS PER SESSION · FOR AGES 8-16
@ THE LOG CABIN, WIVELISCOMBE TA4 2BF

LIVE IN THE TAUNTON, WELLINGTON, WIVELISCOMBE AREA?
DO YOU LOVE BEING OUTDOORS?
WANT TO LEARN NEW SKILLS?
CONNECT WITH NATURE?
GET INVOLVED IN ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITIES?

COME AND TAKE PART IN OUR OUTDOOR CONNECTIONS PROGRAMME!

ACTIVITIES CAN INCLUDE:

- MAP READING
- OUTDOOR COOKING
- GARDENING AND SITE MANAGEMENT
- NATURE ACTIVITIES
- FIRE LIGHTING
- SPORTS
- ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITIES
- BUSHCRAFT
- ORIENTEERING
- TRIPS AND VISITS
- AND MUCH MORE!

For more information, please contact Nick Harvey
nick.harvey@inthemixproject.org.uk
or call 07906 972154

WWW.INTHEMIXPROJECT.ORG.UK
@INTHEMIXPROJECT

TEN TORS



A huge congratulations to Adanna R, who completed the Ten Tors. She was the only girl in her squadron doing the 35 mile distance to do so.

Her mum Liz told us: "We weren't even sure she would be doing this a few weeks ago. She is absolutely exhausted and her feet and knees are in a state!

"Thank you to the members of staff at school who have supported her over the last few weeks, so she could get to this point. It was a massive physical and emotional undertaking and we are so proud of her."



A massive well done to Logan J and Finlay P, who completed their first Ten Tors, 20 minutes faster than expected! There have been more highs and lows than the Tors themselves, but they pushed through and showed resilience and strength. Their team came together to encourage and look out for each other to complete this gruelling event, especially after one of them had to pull out for medical reasons. Truly an embodiment of Kingsmead's motto "achieving through caring." Thank you for the support of those school staff who helped them and understood what a challenge it would be for them.



SPORT



Well done to Meadow T for winning a bronze medal in the Bristol Pro Grappling Open with her martial arts club, in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. This is her third time medaling at various competitions.



We are very proud of these Kingsmead students who took part in the Wivey Pool, Wiveliscombe Channel Challenge. Six teams swam 1,291 lengths, which is the distance of the English Channel, with Kingsmead coming first! They completed the challenge in 10 hours 45 minutes, a good quarter of an hour ahead of rival schools' teams and other older participants.

SPORT



Our students have been making us very proud...

A big well done to Jacob W in Year 10, who has been representing Kingsmead in the Taunton district schools football U15 team.

They played in the Inter District County Cup final and drew 3 - 3, eventually winning on penalties.

Excellent stuff, Jacob!

Congratulations to our athletics students for their performances in the Area Athletics Championships. The following have been selected for the area team:

- Annie M, 1st in shot put.
- Matthew H, 1st in shot put and 2nd in 200m.
- Moy A, 1st in high jump.
- Toby K, 3rd in javelin.
- Owen G, 1st in 1500m.
- Mia M, 2nd in shot put.
- Charlie L, 3000m.



SPORT

The under 13 cricket team have had some excellent performances this season.

A highlight was Ashton T hitting an unbeaten 42 against The Castle School recently.

Well done all for representing the school so brilliantly!



We have even more cricket for you!

The U15 eight a side cricket team put on a great display at the county finals.

They beat Sexey's School by 25 runs, but unfortunately didn't progress to the next round.

A great effort all round.

SUPPORT

Please see this information on webinars to support parents/carers through to the 25/26 academic year. <https://heyzine.com/flip-book/9e758c0c62.html>

MHST
www.kingsmead-school.com

NEW ONLINE WEBINARS FOR
SUMMER 2025

WONDERING HOW TO
SUPPORT YOUR
CHILD'S WELLBEING?

ATTEND OUR FREE
WEBINARS FOR PARENTS &
CARERS

LED BY SOMERSET'S MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM

I HAVE LEARNT A LOT THAT
I DIDN'T EVEN CONSIDER!
I FOUND IT VERY HELPFUL -
PARENT

SCAN ME!

TO FIND OUT MORE &
REGISTER

Webinar Booklet Summer 25

We are a nut free school and ask that students do not bring anything containing these products into school.



SCHOOL GATEWAY

School Gateway is a parent engagement app that will allow you to access communication and information from the school at anytime from anywhere. This will allow you to receive all your information from the school quickly and reliably in the forms of emails, text messages and in app communication.

You will be able to view the following for your child(ren):

Lesson Timetables
Your contact details
School details
Student details
Medical conditions
Academic Reports
Attendance
Pupil Premium questionnaire

Please save the following details in your contacts, these are what will be used with School Gateway.

Email: SC9334355a@schoolcomms.com

SMS Number: **07507 282541** (Text Messages only)

The school will use the email address and mobile number that we hold for the Priority 1, 2 and 3 contact(s) with **Parental Responsibility** from our database. If you are not certain that we have your correct details, please contact the school office on contact@kingsmead-school.com or by calling 01984 623483.

School Gateway Support Page & Installation instructions

www.kingsmead-school.com/learning/it-support/school-gateway

ARE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP TO DATE?

Please remember to let us know if any of your contact details change.

WELL-BEING SUPPORT

We are lucky to have such wonderful welfare and pastoral teams at Kingsmead who strive to support all students and their families, upholding our ethos of 'Achieving through Caring'. Please see below signposts to supportive websites and numbers that may be useful.



Mental Health support:

Gives tips on how to cope and suggestions for supporting someone else.

www.mind.org.uk

The Samaritans logo, consisting of the word "SAMARITANS" in white, uppercase, sans-serif font, centered within a solid green rectangular background.

Call 116 123

Email jo@samaritans.org

Provides confidential, non-judgmental emotional support for people experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those that could lead to suicide. You can phone, email, write a letter or in most cases talk to someone face to face.



SHOUT – for everyone, (24/7)Text 'SHOUT' to 85258

Shout is the UK's first 24/7 text service, free on all major mobile networks, for anyone in crisis anytime, anywhere. It is a place to go if you're struggling to cope and you need immediate help. A Texter will be put in touch with a trained Crisis Volunteer (CV) who will chat to them using trained techniques via text. The service is designed to help individuals to think more clearly and to take their next steps to feeling better



online chat, Monday – Friday 12pm – 10 pm and Saturday – Sunday 6 pm to 10 pm.

Safe and anonymous online chat support for young people – friendly counsellors, self-help and community support.



From eating disorders, to abuse, anxiety, and depression – suggests support for a huge range of difficulties for young people and their parents/carers.

Text the [YoungMinds Crisis Messenger](#) for free 24/7 support across the UK if you are experiencing a mental health crisis.

If you need urgent help text YM to 85258.

Texts are free from EE, O2, Vodafone, 3, Virgin Mobile, BT Mobile, GiffGaff, Tesco Mobile and Telecom Plus



Call 0800 068 41 41 – Monday to Friday 10am to 10pm, weekends 2pm to 10pm, bank holidays 2pm to 5pm

Text 07786 209697

Email pat@papyrus-uk.org

PAPYRUS is the national UK charity dedicated to the prevention of young suicide. You can contact them for help and guidance for yourself or for someone else in your care.

More resources can be found on our website:

www.kingsmead-school.com/school-life/mental-health-wellbeing

ONLINE SAFETY HUB

The Online Safety Hub is available to parents/carers who would like help setting up parental controls and knowing how to monitor their child's online activities.

It's a free resource which has guides for various devices, platforms and games that your child may use or encounter online. These can help you to protect your child from inappropriate or harmful content and contacts, helping you to have informed conversations with them about their online preferences.






<https://safeguarding.thekeysupport.com/parent-online-safety-zone/>

ITS NOT OK @ KINGSMEAD



September 2024							October 2024							November 2024						
M		2	9	16	23	30	M			7	14	21	28	M			4	11	18	25
Tu		3	10	17	24		Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu			5	12	19	26
W		4	11	18	25		W		2	9	16	23	30	W			6	13	20	27
Th		5	12	19	26		Th		3	10	17	24	31	Th			7	14	21	28
F		6	13	20	27		F		4	11	18	25		F		1	8	15	22	29
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		2	9	16	23	30
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su		6	13	20	27		Su		3	10	17	24	
December 2024							January 2025							February 2025						
M		2	9	16	23	30	M			6	13	20	27	M			3	10	17	24
Tu		3	10	17	24	31	Tu			7	14	21	28	Tu			4	11	18	25
W		4	11	18	25		W		1	8	15	22	29	W			5	12	19	26
Th		5	12	19	26		Th		2	9	16	23	30	Th			6	13	20	27
F		6	13	20	27		F		3	10	17	24	31	F			7	14	21	28
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa		4	11	18	25		Sa		1	8	15	22	
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su		5	12	19	26		Su		2	9	16	23	
March 2025							April 2025							May 2025						
M		3	10	17	24	31	M			7	14	21	28	M			5	12	19	26
Tu		4	11	18	25		Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu			6	13	20	27
W		5	12	19	26		W		2	9	16	23	30	W			7	14	21	28
Th		6	13	20	27		Th		3	10	17	24		Th		1	8	15	22	29
F		7	14	21	28		F		4	11	18	25		F		2	9	16	23	30
Sa	1	8	15	22	29		Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		3	10	17	24	31
Su	2	9	16	23	30		Su		6	13	20	27		Su		4	11	18	25	
June 2025							July 2025							August 2025						
M		2	9	16	23	30	M			7	14	21	28	M			4	11	18	25
Tu		3	10	17	24		Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu			5	12	19	26
W		4	11	18	25		W		2	9	16	23	30	W			6	13	20	27
Th		5	12	19	26		Th		3	10	17	24	31	Th			7	14	21	28
F		6	13	20	27		F		4	11	18	25		F		1	8	15	22	29
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa		2	9	16	23	30
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su		6	13	20	27		Su		3	10	17	24	31

Key:

	School Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	Term Time
	INSET Day
	Early Finish

Term dates summary:

Term 1: 03 September – 25 October 2024 (39 days)
 Term 2: 04 November – 20 December 2024 (35 days)
 Term 3: 06 January – 14 February 2025 (30 days)
 Term 4: 24 February – 04 April 2025 (30 days)
 Term 5: 22 April – 23 May 2025 (23 days)
 Term 6: 02 June – 23 July 2025 (38 days) TOTAL = 195

Bank and public holidays 2024/25

Christmas Day Bank Holiday	25 December 2024	Easter Monday	21 April 2025
Boxing Day Bank Holiday	26 December 2024	May Day Bank Holiday	05 May 2025
New Year's Day Holiday	01 January 2025	Spring Bank Holiday	26 May 2025
Good Holiday	18 April 2025	Summer Break Holiday	25 August 2025

Academy, Free Schools, Foundation & Voluntary Aided schools can set their own term dates, and these may differ from other establishments. Therefore, please check with individual schools for their term dates. Kingsmead Academy term dates for 2025/2026 will be confirmed in spring 2025. However, as a guide for parents/carers we normally follow Somerset Council set term dates and our INSET days are normally around the same time each year.



KINGSMEAD

— Achieving through Caring —