



★ Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was lovely to welcome everyone back to the new school year. The children have settled into their classrooms, renewed friendships and begun learning the routines that help our school feel calm, safe and ready for learning. We have enjoyed seeing their enthusiasm as they settle into new year groups and take on new challenges.

This term, we are focusing particularly on our Kidgate value of **respect**. We are helping children think about what respect looks like in the classroom, around school and when playing with others. We want every child to feel confident to ask questions, try new things, listen to different ideas and support one another. Thank you for reinforcing these expectations at home and for working with us to help children attend school regularly and arrive on time. A settled start to each day makes such a difference.

We have some lovely events in school to look forward including the children taking part in a Glow Ball event on the 9th October and 19th November. Also on the 16th October we will be gathering for our Harvest Festival at St James' Church. These occasions are a chance for our children to enjoy being part of the wider Kidgate community, and we look forward to sharing more details with you.

There are several useful reminders and dates in this issue, so please do take a moment to read through them. As always, please get in touch if there is anything we can do to help your child feel happy, settled and ready for the term ahead.

Mrs Susan Cook | Principal

Healthy Snacks at Break Time!

KS2 children can bring in a healthy, nutritious snack to enjoy at break time. There are lots of great options to choose from, including:

-  **Fresh** fruit
-  **Dried** fruit, such as raisins
-  **Non-nut** cereal bars
-  **Fruit** Winder-type items

Thank you for helping us encourage healthy choices and supporting your child to bring a suitable snack for break time. ❤️

Louth Academy Open Evening

A banner for Louth Academy Open Evening. On the left, there is a photo of several children in school uniforms sitting at a table, engaged in an activity. To the right of the photo is the Louth Academy logo, which features a stylized building inside a shield, with the text 'Louth Academy' and 'Aspirational Education' below it. The main text on the banner reads 'Louth Academy Open Evening' in large white letters, followed by 'Venue — Louth Academy Lower Campus, North Holme Road' in smaller white letters. Below this, the date and time are listed in yellow: 'Thursday 24th September 2026' and '6:00pm–8:30pm'. At the bottom, the contact information is provided in yellow: 'Telephone 01507 606349' and 'www.louthacademy.co.uk'. On the bottom right, there are logos for 'Lincolnshire Gateway Academies Trust' and 'Orsted Good Provider'.

Wrates Photographs – Monday 5th October

Children at Kidgate will be having their individual and sibling photos taken on Monday 5th October.

★ **Individual Photograph** ★

We will assume all children will want an individual photograph. If you do not wish for your child to have an individual photograph, please complete the form by clicking on the link below by Thursday 1st October (please complete for each child)

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/E9H8GAUyK0>

★ **Sibling Attending Kidgate Photograph** ★

If you would like to have a Kidgate sibling photograph taken please complete the form by clicking on the link below by Thursday 1st October.

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/dZVtYpJT9F>

★ **Sibling Not Attending Kidgate Photograph** ★

If you have other siblings not attending Kidgate and would like to have a sibling photo, please arrive at school for 8.45 am (photos will commence at 9.00 am). Please drop your child off at their classroom in the usual way to be registered before photographs are taken. Please then take your other sibling/s to the main school hall, where you will be asked to join a queue near the steps to our Key Stage 2 building.

When it is your children's turn for their photo, we will send a message to the appropriate classroom for your child/children to come and meet you in the hall.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS – SEPTEMBER 2026

Changes to Free School Meal Eligibility

There are changes to eligibility for free school meals from September 2026.

Applications can be made via the Lincolnshire County Council website.

[Apply for free school meals – Lincolnshire County Council](#)

We would encourage families to check the updated eligibility criteria, even if they have not previously qualified.

A little reminder about school bags

We know how much children love adding little touches to their school bags, but we kindly ask that keychains and large bag accessories are left at home.

They can be easily lost, become caught on things or sometimes prove a little distracting during the school day.

Thank you so much for your understanding and for helping us to keep school bags simple, safe and practical. 😊



✓ Keep bags simple and practical



✗ Please leave keychains and large accessories at home

No Toys from Home

Please do not send toys or sensory items into school from home. Toys can be easily lost or damaged and can sometimes become a distraction during the school day.

Where a child needs a sensory aid to support them in school, suitable sensory resources will be provided by the school.

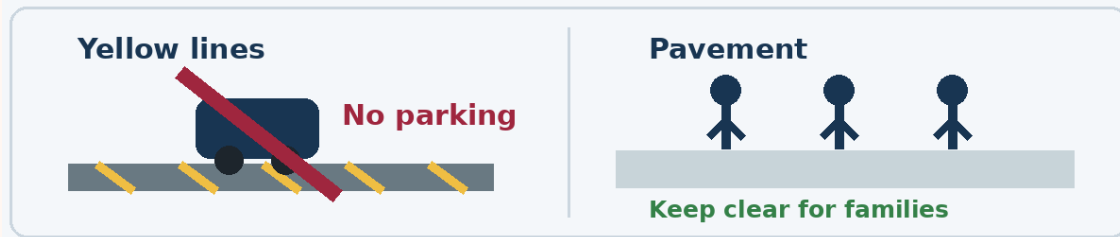
Thank you for helping us keep personal belongings safe and classroom routines calm and consistent.

Parking on Cinder Lane

Please do not park or stop on the yellow lines on Cinder Lane at drop-off or collection times. Cars stopping on the yellow lines cause congestion and make it harder for children and families to walk safely along the pavement.

This week, a child and parent narrowly avoided being hit by a reversing car where the driver had not seen them. This is a serious reminder of why we ask everyone not to park on the lane.

Please use the local car parks and keep the yellow lines and pavement clear. Thank you for helping everyone get to and from school safely.

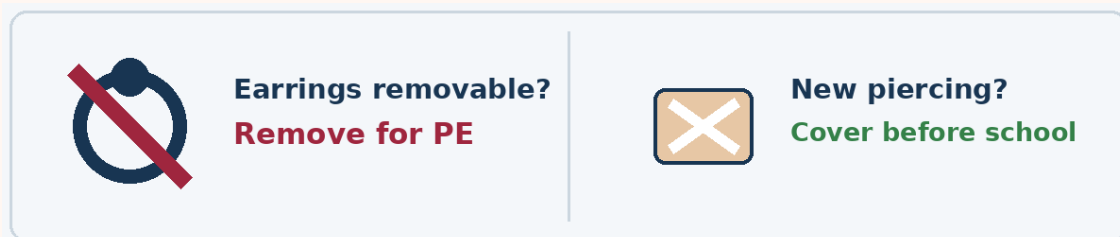


Earrings and PE

Please remove earrings for PE once your child can safely do so. If their ears have recently been pierced and the earrings must stay in, please cover them securely with suitable plasters or tape before school on PE days.

Covering earrings does not make every activity safe. Teachers will assess the risk, particularly for contact sports and gymnastics. If your child cannot take part directly, they will still be included in an appropriate role, such as scoring, refereeing or coaching.

Where possible, please arrange new piercings at the start of the summer holidays to allow time for healing. Thank you for helping us keep PE safe and inclusive. Mrs Cook



Kidgate Academy are Lincolnshire Co-op Community Champions



Great news! Kidgate Academy are Lincolnshire Co-op Community Champions.

This means that they will be raising money for us from 06 Sept 2026 – 06 Mar 2027 every time anyone uses their Co-op loyalty card.

Just to clarify this is the Lincolnshire Co-op on Newbridge Hill near ALDI and not the big one in the town centre or the one on Newmarket.



FIRST HALF-TERM DIARY DATES

September – October 2026

A few important dates for families to pop in the diary.

DATE	EVENT
Tuesday 22 September	Ocean Live with Steve Backshall – 2.00–3.00pm.
Monday 5 October	Writes individual school photographs.
Friday 9 October	Flu vaccinations. Glow Ball
Wednesday 14 October	KS2 Cross Country – afternoon, TBC
Friday 16 October	Harvest Festival
Monday 19 – Friday 30 October	HALF-TERM HOLIDAY.
Tuesday 3 rd November	Class 5J Start Swimming Lessons
Wednesday 4 th November	Online Safety - Years 2-4
Thursday 5 th November	Online Safety – Years 5 & 6
Friday 6 November	Healthy Relationships Workshop Years 5 & 6
Thursday 19 th November	Glow Ball
Friday 13 th November	Healthy Relationships Workshop Years 5 & 6
Tuesday 17 th November	Parents Evening – Details to follow
Thursday 19 th November	Parents' Evening – Details to follow
Friday 20 th November	Children In Need – Details to follow
Thursday 3 rd December	EYFS Nativity – Details to follow
W/C 7 th December	Christmas Craft Afternoons – Details to follow
Thursday 10 th December	Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 11 th December	Non-Uniform for Christmas Bingo – Details to follow
W/c 14 th December	Christmas Parties – Details to follow
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Bingo – Details to follow
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Service – St James' Church – Details to follow



ATTENDANCE – EVERY DAY MATTERS

Good attendance makes a real difference

Regular attendance gives children the best opportunity to learn, make progress, build friendships and feel fully part of school life. Even a few missed days can quickly add up over the course of a year.

To put attendance into perspective:

EVERY SCHOOL DAY MATTERS

What attendance can mean across a 190-day school year

100%	0 days lost	Every day in school
97%	about 6 days lost	just over 1 school week
95%	about 10 days lost	nearly 2 school weeks
90%	19 days lost	nearly 4 school weeks
80%	38 days lost	nearly 8 school weeks

Figures are approximate and based on 190 possible school days.

For example, 80% attendance means a child is absent for around 38 school days across the year — nearly eight school weeks of learning. At 90% attendance, around 19 school days are missed, which is nearly four school weeks. We understand that children are sometimes genuinely too unwell to attend school. However, we ask families to support us by making attendance and punctuality a priority whenever children are well enough to be in school.

If attendance begins to fall, we will work with families to understand any barriers and offer support where we can. Our aim is always to work together so that every child has the best possible opportunity to succeed.

Thank you for your continued support in helping every Kidgate child make every school day count. ❤️