

# Kingsmeadow community news

December 2025

Being at the centre of the diverse and vibrant community we have here in Dunston and the surrounding area is incredibly important to Kingsmeadow Community School. This is why I am so pleased at how we have further embraced community experiences over the recent months.

Our school building and grounds are such a great resource. Where previously they would have sat empty outside of school hours, we are now seeing increasing amounts of local groups using them through our not-for-profit lettings scheme. I am looking forward to seeing this expand and improve into the new year.

These last few weeks have also seen us working with St Nicholas Church. We had poetry readers and the choir at the 60th birthday celebrations of the church building; students from the school designed and laid a poppy wreath for the Remembrance Service; and we took our regular Music Extravaganza to the church for its first ever touring performance! These were all wonderful events which gave me and the students the opportunity to interact with members of the local community. Some of the feedback I received about our students from local residents was positive and heartwarming.

We also work with our local primary schools. An upcoming event will see the Student Ambassadors from Kingsmeadow Community School hosting student leaders from the primary schools. This will give the primary student leaders information and an experience they can take back to their classmates to build excitement and alleviate fears about moving into secondary school. Outside of school, you must look out for our contribution to the Peter Rabbit Tales on the Tyne Trail, mentioned later in this newsletter.

Despite the cold and the darkening nights, in school we have kept the community feel alive among our students. We have seen some all-time record days of attendance as our students feel safe and supported whilst understanding and valuing the importance of being in school. We saw year 9 and 10 students off on a trip to EuroDisney to learn about the engineering and programming that goes on behind the scenes (though they had some time to enjoy the rides, too). We have had careers workshops, sports fixtures, a dodgeball tournament, the Remembrance parade, discos, a mock trial, a London theatre trip, our first ever Music Extravaganza on Tour and more.

Whatever your beliefs or celebrations, have a deservedly restful break, a very Happy Christmas and I look forward to involving Kingsmeadow Community School even more in the local community in the new year.



**Mr Barrett**  
Headteacher

# A glittering evening to celebrate our students

We had another amazing Kingsmeadow Awards event on Thursday 13 November 2025, with lots of awards for academic excellence, outstanding resilience, community, wellbeing and core values, not to mention the Governors' and Headteacher's awards. A wonderful time was had by all who attended.

The Governors' Award went to Theo E in Year 11, and the Headteachers' Award was presented to Fearne S in Year 12. Here is the full list of winners. Congratulations to everyone!

**Headteacher's award** – Fearne S

**Governors' award** – Theo E

**English** - Fearne S, Mia R, Michael K.

**Maths** - Adam G, Indie O'H, Peyton Q

**Science** - Liam L, Sam B, Alisha V

**History** - Alfie T, Lily Y, Alisha S

**Geography** - Otto R, Sam B, Amelia B

**Modern Foreign Languages** - Fearne S, Evelina C, Cameron N

**Social Sciences** - Chloe A, Victoria K, Nethani G

**Hospitality** - Theo E, Matthew W, Fisayo B

**Engineering** - Alfie T, Nikos A, Kenzo C

**Art** - Mia R, Connie G, Aisla W

**Photography** - Zoe W-Y, Lily Y, Alfie B

**Child development** - Emily K, Connie G, Alisha S

**Business studies** - Adam M, Lilia H, Hamdhan R

**iMedia/Digital Media** - Adam O, Lily-Mae G, Aaron T

**Computer science** - Jacob R, Amber L, Zavin R

**Music** - Maddison Mae D, Kahlen L

**Sport** - Jaden T, Lexi G

**Outstanding resilience across several areas** - Spencer A, Rocky B, Ryan H

**Outstanding resilience** - Nikolas B

**Academic excellence across all KS5 subjects** - Lewis M

**Outstanding resilience across all KS5 subjects** - Leon B

**Upholding the schools core values**

Year 7 - Isaac H, Year 8 - Riley B, Year 9 - Philippa K-C, Year 10 - Indie O'H, Year 11 - Kahlen L, Sixth form - Kerry A

**Wellbeing awards** - Jacob H, Mayokun A, Sean B

**Community awards** - Niamh L, Yasmeen N



Mr Barrett presents the Headteacher's Award to Fearne



## Honouring the fallen on Remembrance Sunday

On Sunday 9 November, our Headteacher and some students attended the local Remembrance Sunday ceremony to represent the school and pay tribute to those who gave their lives in service to their country. The event at St Nicholas with Christ Church in Dunston, brought together members of the community for a moment of reflection and gratitude.

Wearing poppies and standing in respectful silence, the students joined in the two-minute silence at 11 a.m., followed by the laying of wreaths at the war memorial. Our students laid the Kingsmeadow Community School wreath that featured a central design, pictured above, by Year 7 student, Ayah H.

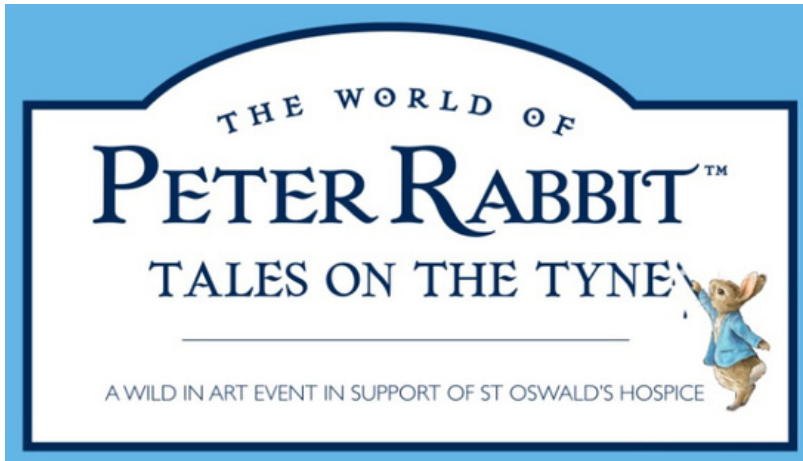
Our students found the experience both moving and memorable – a chance to honour those who fought for freedom and to carry the message of remembrance into the future.



Our recent collection drive for the Trussell Gateshead Foodbank has been a resounding success, demonstrating the generosity and compassion of the local community.

The success of the collection has already had a tangible effect with families, children, seniors, and vulnerable individuals receiving essential items and support, helping to ease hardship and bring comfort.

Beyond immediate relief, the campaign strengthened the sense of community and demonstrated the power of collective action. We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed – your donations are vital to ensure food banks in our community can continue to help everyone referred to them.



The blank sculptures before their transformation

## Raising funds with Peter Rabbit

We have signed up to participate in the Peter Rabbit™ Tales on the Tyne Trail, and have adopted our own Peter Rabbit sculpture to help raise funds for St. Oswald's Hospice.

We will be creating a unique piece of art, and once completed it will be displayed; with the rest of the fluffie, alongside supersized Peters throughout summer 2026 at venues across Newcastle and North Tyneside. After the trail, our little Peter will be returned to Kingsmeadow for us to keep forever.

Being part of this art adventure is bringing a unique opportunity for extra learning and fun to our school where our students will experience a sense of pride and accomplishment, while boosting their self-esteem and confidence.

Year 9 began the fundraising efforts in November by collecting donations to create colourful hampers for the Kingsmeadow Christmas raffle. The green, gold, blue, yellow, red, pink, purple, and orange hampers have helped the school to raise £260 so far.

We can't wait to keep you updated with our progress!





## A celebration of musical talent in the heart of our community

Our latest music showcase proved to be another resounding success, bringing together creativity, talent, and community spirit. Held in Dunston's St. Nicholas with Christ Church on Thursday 11 December, the event featured some top performances and tunes by our students.

Mr Barrett praised the participants for their hard work and dedication, noting how the showcase provides an important platform for students to share their accomplishments beyond the classroom. Parents and community guests also expressed pride in seeing the next generation of artistes in action.

Our showcase highlighted not only the academic achievement of our students, but also the enthusiasm and collaboration that define our school community.

Well done everyone!





**Wishing a very  
Merry Christmas  
and a happy new year  
to everyone in our  
community**

