

The background is a light green textured surface. In the top left corner, there are white and purple flowers. In the top right corner, there is a small woven basket containing green and pink speckled Easter eggs, surrounded by greenery and a white feather. The text 'KSOL' is centered in the middle of the page in a white, outlined, sans-serif font.

KSOL



Spring Newsletter

March - May

11+ Activities



Revision Tips



3 Month 11+ Plan

Hello Spring!

As Spring is upon us, KSOL are delighted to release our first newsletter of 2023 and share with you the exciting events we have coming up in the next few months.

Throughout this edition, our qualified teachers also share their top tips in ensuring children remain engaged with their studies throughout the Easter Holidays, as well as suggesting some fun family activities to do as the sun hopefully shows its face!

We would also like to thank you for the creativity displayed in both our Christmas poem competition and our World Book Day entries. Everyone at KSOL was amazed by your designs! Please visit pages 5-6 where we announce our winners.

Furthermore, if you have any questions, or would like to speak to one of our friendly advisors, please do give us a call on 0121 733 6558. With just over 5 months to go until September's entrance exam for children in Year 5, we are here to support you every step of the way.



KSOL tutors have provided 3 useful tips to help incorporate subtle 11+ revision into your child's spring break. They'll be revising without even realising!

Day Trips

During the Easter Holidays, you may be travelling to see family or going on exciting day trips! Have your child help you organise timings, prices and discounts to keep their mind active over the break.

For example, calculating the price of a family day pass to an event, working out how many miles it takes to visit a certain family member or converting a destination arrival time into 24 hour format! This is a perfect way of ensuring your child utilises their maths skills in every day life.



Developing Vocabulary

With spring upon us, Easter marks the time to go on family picnics in local parks and get out into nature!

We are encouraging children to have conversations about the scenery, seeing if they can develop their vocabulary and use ambitious words to describe their surroundings. If your child is on a KSOL programme, they can revisit the words they have learnt so far.



Baking

Put the pens and pencils away for the day and encourage your child to pick up the baking utensils and cook books!

Easter marks a great time for your child to make cakes for their friends and family, whilst also keeping their brains ticking. Ask your child to calculate the measurements of each ingredient and how much they'd need if they were baking for 4, 6 or 12 people!





We are pleased to offer 1-2-1 sessions throughout the Easter holidays, either at our head office in Shirley, (Solihull) or using our renowned online platform.

With just over 5 months to go until the entrance exam, your child can use this time to work directly alongside a qualified KSOL teacher. Receive real-time interaction & personalised feedback in an engaging learning environment.



"One to one sessions allow us to deliver a fully targeted teaching session, tailored around your child's individual weak areas."

Joanna (KSOL Tutor)

During a 1-2-1 session your child will get the opportunity to:

- ★ Tackle weak areas head on
- ★ Interact directly with a qualified teacher
- ★ Receive real-time teaching & feedback
- ★ Work alongside the teaching points with corresponding downloadable worksheets

Our EXCLUSIVE 1-2-1 Sessions will take place throughout the Easter holidays.

Sessions are available from:

Monday 3rd - Thursday 6th April 2023

Tuesday 11th - Friday 14th April 2023

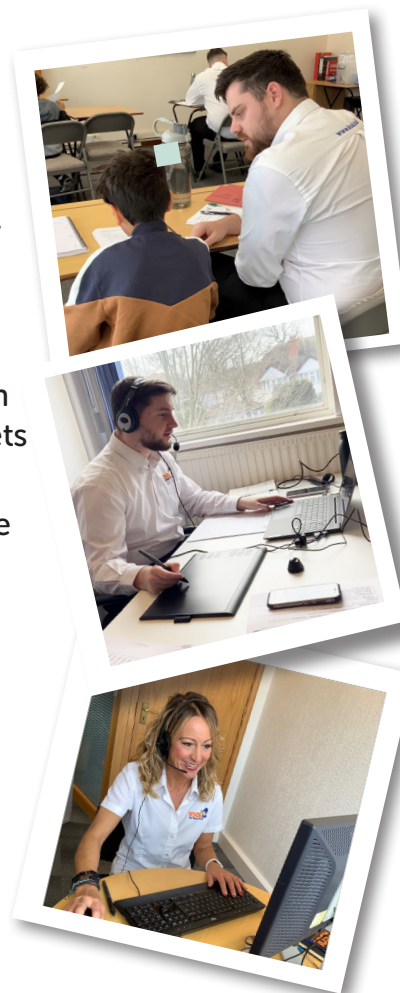
Cost: £35 per child, per hour

Please note that places are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

At KSOL we value child safety above all else.

For this reason, all of our staff members are fully trained in Child Protection & Safeguarding.

We have procedures in place to ensure that your child is welcomed into a safe learning environment.



KSOL Competition Winners!

Winners of a

£20

Book

Token!

Christmas Poem Winner

It's Christmas time,
Look under the tree,
There's lots of presents for you and for me

Children are playing in the white, frosty snow,
They dream of Santa saying, 'HO,HO,HO!

Mince pies and carrots for Rudolph and the rest,
Of course they know that Christmas is the best.

Christmas bring peace and joy all around,
Can you hear sleigh bells ringing, it's a beautiful sound.

Cupcakes and chocolate, presents if you might,
We all know that these all bring delight!

Sitting around the blazing hot fire,
Christmas is an amazing thing that many people admire.

Everyone loves Christmas, for once and for all,
It's the best holiday in the season overall.

Winner of a

£20

Amazon
Voucher!

By Sara - Year 5 KSOL member



World Book Day Winners



By Zainab -
Year 4 KSOL Member

The world of dragons thriving at every corner of the Archipelago must be amazing! Yet Hiccup, Camicazi and Fishlegs go on fun filled rollercoasters of adventure and see from the most harmless dragons to the most deadliest ones. They have lots of dragons of their own: Toothless, Wind Walker and the three headed dragon - Patience, Innocence and Arogance - the Deadly Shadow who can go invisible to take them on dangerous journeys. Hiccup has become King, but will his enemys come back for revenge?

Dark times are rising, quickly, quickly,
dark times are rising stronger than ever,
dark times are rising, rising, rising...

As Harry sits on his windowsill on his last visit to number 4 Privet Drive, he awaits The Order of the Phoenix to escort him. But who knows what will happen after that? Will Harry be able to find all the remaining horcrux's? Will Harry be able to fight Voldermort and his death eaters? More importantly, will the prophecy come true?

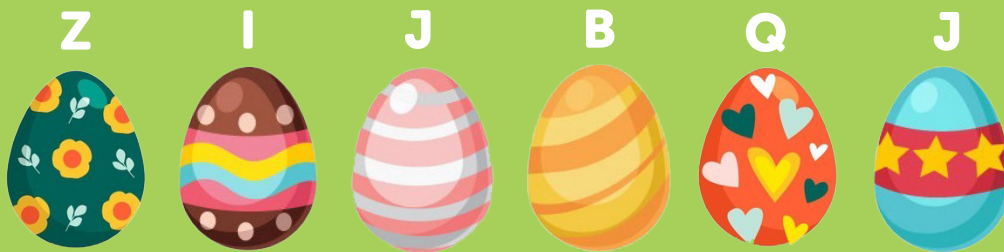


By Zachary -
Year 5 KSOL Member

Thank you to everyone who entered both competitions, we were amazed by your creativity!

Crackin' Codes!

Maryam went on an Easter egg hunt. Each egg she found contained a letter, forming a code which needs cracking to find out what her Easter surprise is!



The codes below stand for 'spring', 'bonnet' and 'Easter', although not necessarily in that order.

JWVVM B

AXZQVO

MIABMZ

First **work out which of the 3 codes above stands for the 3 words provided**, and then use them to **crack the codes** of the eggs to work out what Maryam got for Easter!

Tutor Tips!



Laura, KSOL Tutor

Tip 1: To help crack the codes, look for a word that contains 2 of the same letter!

Tip 2: Once you have solved what each letter in the egg stands for, put them in a circle. This will help you to easily identify Maryam's Easter surprise!

Answer: _____

For more fun and challenging 11+ questions, visit our Instagram page!



@11plusksol



11+ Easter Break Activities

1 Go Bike Riding!

Outdoor activities provide great health benefits to your child, all of which will help release endorphins and help increase mental health.

Even in spring, by being outdoors your child will absorb essential vitamin D which supports bone growth and maintains a strong immune system.

Easter is the perfect time to dust off the bikes and start cycling again, exploring the cycle trails in your local area!

2 Plant something

Planting flowers or seeds to grow your own food is a fantastic way to stir up excitement about getting outside in the fresh air this spring. Not only does gardening teach your child the responsibility of caring and nurturing for living things, it also promotes the benefits of organic, freshly picked food.

Whether you're growing vegetables or flowers, engage all your child's senses this spring in your very own back garden!



3 Easter Egg Hunts!

Take advantage of the warming temperatures this Easter and introduce some friendly competition by holding an Easter Egg Hunt!

You can make the egg hunt more challenging by adding clues or hiding different sized eggs, either inside or in the garden!

Motivate your children by adding prizes for whoever can collect the most Easter eggs.

Year 5 11+ KSOL LIVE Sessions

Available for all children in Year 5!



During KSOL's Online Easter sessions, your child has the opportunity to tackle challenging 11+ topics that children generally struggle with at this point in the year.

These specialist workshops are led by our qualified teachers and focus on offering a fun and engaging environment, from the comfort of your own home!

KSOL LIVE SESSIONS

Monday 3rd - Friday 14th April

ONLY £20 per session. Very limited availability!

Call our office on **0121 733 6558** to book!

2023 KSOL 11+ GL Mock Exams

(for children in Year 5)

Don't forget to book the next 11+ mock exam in your area! KSOL mock exams gradually increase in difficulty, providing helpful checkpoints at each pivotal stage in the year.

Shirley (GL)

May Mock Exam

Saturday 13th May - 9:00am, 12:30pm,
4pm

June Mock Exam

Saturday 24th June - 9:00am, 12:30pm,
4pm

August Mock Exam

Saturday 5th August - 9:00am,
12:30pm, 4pm

Walsall (GL)

April Mock Exam

Sunday 23rd April - 11:00am

July Mock Exam

Wednesday 26th July - 11:00am

Aylesbury (GL)

May Mock Exam

Saturday 27th May - 11:00am

July Mock Exam

Saturday 8th July - 11:00am

August Mock Exam

Tuesday 15th August - 12pm

Gloucester (GL)

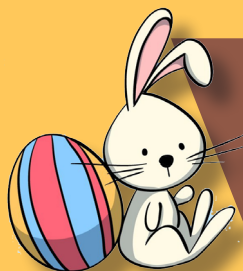
May Mock Exam

Sunday 21st May - 11:00am

July Mock Exam

Sunday 2nd July - 11:00am

Visit **ksol.co.uk**
Call **0121 733 6558**



Education Spot

The latest news in the World of Education



Grammar Schools Bridging the Gap Through Enhanced Outreach Programmes

Image Credit - The Times

In an effort to increase diversity and social mobility, several grammar schools across the UK have implemented enhanced outreach programmes to support students from underrepresented backgrounds. These initiatives aim to break down barriers that may prevent talented students from accessing high-quality education.

One such programme involves partnering with local primary schools to identify students with exceptional potential. These students are then invited to participate in workshops, tutoring sessions, and enrichment activities that are designed to nurture their talents and prepare them for the 11-plus entrance examination. By providing access to resources, mentoring, and academic support, these programmes help level the playing field for students who may not have had the same opportunities otherwise.

In addition to academic support, many grammar schools are also offering financial assistance to families who may struggle with the costs associated with attending a grammar school. These scholarships and bursaries help ensure that every student has the opportunity to benefit from a grammar school education, regardless of their financial background.

As a result of these efforts, grammar schools have reported a notable increase in the number of students from diverse backgrounds gaining admission, which has positively impacted the overall learning environment.



Image Credit - Cumbria Crack

Increasing Focus on Mental Health in UK Schools

The UK government has recently announced increased funding and resources for mental health support in schools.

Schools are now collaborating with mental health organisations to provide students with better access to counselling services, workshops, and online resources. This development aims to create a more supportive learning environment for students.

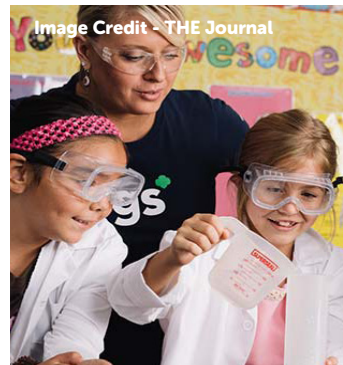


Image Credit - THE Journal

Growth in STEM Programmes for Girls

To address the gender gap in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields, schools in the UK have launched a variety of programmes and initiatives to encourage girls to pursue STEM subjects.

These include coding clubs, workshops, and mentorship programs, which expose female students to the wide range of possibilities within STEM fields. These initiatives have led to an increase in the number of girls participating in STEM subjects and have helped to inspire the next generation of female scientists and engineers.



Image Credit - World.edu

Rise in Outdoor Learning Opportunities

Schools across the UK are embracing outdoor learning as a way to enhance students' educational experiences.

These initiatives include forest schools, gardening projects, and outdoor classrooms, which encourage students to engage in hands-on learning and develop essential skills. Teachers have reported improved engagement, focus, and creativity among students participating in these outdoor learning programmes.

Your 11+ Plan...

Easter Break Look Ahead

With the 11+ entrance exam fast approaching, it is important that time is set aside for revision. Finding time or suitable revision space can often be a challenge, especially when your child is surrounded by their favourite TV shows and games at home.

To help ensure your child is kept engaged with their 11+ studies over Easter, KSOL have created specialist **11+ Workshops** running in Shirley, Solihull from 3rd -13th April. These sessions provide a dynamic learning environment that encourages discussion and develops essential 11+ skills. **Call us today to book your child's place!**

Throughout the Easter holidays we will also be running **1-2-1 sessions**, designed to target and tackle your child's specific weaker areas. These sessions are **exclusive to KSOL members**. Please note spaces are extremely limited, so book now to avoid disappointment. Call 0121 733 6558 to check availability.

April Revision Checkpoint

Following on from KSOL's March 11+ mock exam, April marks another important checkpoint for you to reflect upon your child's results.

KSOL set each mock exam at the level your child is expected to have reached at particular points within their 11+ preparation. Therefore, the March mock exam provides parents with tangible evidence of any improvements from the January exam and also a confidential ranking, detailing their placement amongst other children.

With your child's results to hand, we can subsequently help you to set a more efficient revision timetable which ensures their weaker areas are targeted.

Recommended Revision - From the March KSOL Mock Exam, the general key areas for improvement across the cohort were: time management, comprehension fiction and figure analysis. For an online programme that consists of timed questions which are tailored specifically for your child, have a look at our **Year 5 Online Courses**.

May Register for the 11+ exam!

May is an action-packed month, full of important 11+ dates and decisions, so ensure you have your diary at the ready! **Registration for Birmingham and Warwickshire school admissions opens 9th May and close 30th June.** As both parents and children will have been putting in maximum time and effort into the 11+ preparations thus far, it would be a great shame to miss this crucial deadline. If you need any advice regarding applications, please call our tutors on 0121 733 6558.

The majority of grammar and independent schools open days/evenings take place in June and July, so now would be a good time to visit each school website to find out the dates and whether you need to reserve a place.

Studying in a new environment can work wonders to help your child remain focused on their revision. Throughout the May/June half term, KSOL will be running **1-2-1 Sessions** and **Booster Courses** to improve any 11+ target areas. Our Booster Course is **exclusive to Year 5 online students**, taking place over two days and covers the four core 11+ subjects. Each course is designed to bridge any gaps identified in your child's online programme and provides extra support in all areas of their 11+ preparations. See page 17 for more info!

Year 5 11+ Booster Course



Here at KSOL, we enjoy watching our Graduate and Masterclass Online students grow throughout their 11+ journey with us. The 11+ Booster Course is an excellent opportunity for our qualified teachers to meet the students they have been supporting all year and vice versa.

During the 2-day course, our tutors work closely with children and offer support in their weaker areas, which have been identified from their KSOL online course. These personalised sessions are delivered in a fun and engaging environment, where tutors can have face-to-face discussions on how to practice essential exam techniques ahead of September. The Booster Course is a prime example of how our blended learning method can best prepare your child for their entrance exam.

Booster Course Dates 2023- 9.30am to 4:00pm

Tuesday 30th May & Wednesday 31st May 2023

Location: Light Hall School, Hathaway Road, Shirley, B90 2PZ.

ONLY £120 per child, per 2 day course. Bookings open soon!

Happy Easter

www.ksol.co.uk

0121 733 6558

