

KINGSWOOD NEWS



Summer 2020

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Dear Parents

I am very excited to introduce our: **Grandparent Special Newsletter!**

As a child, my sister and I were fortunate to have four active grandparents who fulfilled the classic stereotype of kindness, laughter and love. When you are blessed with a strong family unit, the natural thing to do is take it for granted – and it was not until many years later that we realised some other girls and boys were not so lucky. A pen-picture of them is below, very stream of consciousness, but it is hard to write it in any other way; they are wonderful memories of wonderful folk. So, here goes...

Looking back with an adult's sense of perspective, I can see now that my two sets of grandparents were quite different. On my mother's side, my grandparents were hearty Devonian stock, born of the dairy farm and the sea. They were comfortably off and lived in the most fabulous detached house in several acres of private land. We used to spend every Christmas there and it was truly idyllic. Grandma was from a well-to-do family, older than my grandpa by a couple of years and she never let him forget it – but he needed keeping in check, being a larger than life character who swaggered about the county with mock-bluster attending Rotary and Conservative events with gusto. His nickname was the King of Devon.

Grandma's favourite story was about grandpa laying siege to her house until she accepted his proposal of marriage. I always wondered why she took so long to make her mind up but eventually discovered that she had another suitor – and more than one offer on the table! She must have been quite a catch. I also recall that Grandpa used to only ever buy British cars until he became so exasperated with one of his many Rovers breaking down that he switched overnight to Japanese Nissans and never looked back. As a proud veteran of World War Two, that must have split him asunder.

Grandpa was one of those people who signed up to go to war on the very first day. He started out as a lowly private and ended up as a Major. One of the only times I ever saw him express a sense of resentment was when he described being passed over for promotion to the highest ranks because he did not go to the 'right school'. He was a farm-lad made good, who used to walk a ten mile round trip to attend class every day, and thanks to his charisma and determination he made the best of his lot. But he never forgot that burning sense of injustice and made sure that his own children could not be discriminated against in the same way. When I was undertaking a history project as a teenager about the rise of Fascism, I tried to talk to him about his experience of the war but like so many of his generation, he preferred to keep those dark times safely hidden away.

However, Grandma told me about a 'secret box' containing souvenirs from his time in the Royal Signals Corps; it was only after his death in 2005 that I was able to finally look inside... there were numerous medals, several mentions in dispatches for bravery – and a gun with live ammunition. The man was a hero.



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Follow Mr Murphy
@KHSprep

There were not too many things in common between the grandparents on my mother's side and those on my father's side. However, one was definitely an unadulterated commitment to family values and another was an enormous sense of parochial loyalty to Devon and Yorkshire respectively. My father grew up in Headingley, Leeds, in a terraced, Victorian house that I sought out on a recent visit to the city. It is now quite a vibrant student area but in those days it was extremely poor and quite reminiscent of those black and white urban photographs you sometimes see of small children kicking a football about on a cobbled street with washing lines in the backdrop. Prospects in life were significantly defined by the 11+ examination and my father was the first in the family to attend grammar school and then university. Ironically, this was viewed with great suspicion at the time!

My grandparents were staunch Methodists, directly connected via their own forebears to the origins of the Wesleyan church, and both came from large families. Grandpa, for example, was the youngest of eight siblings. He was a handy cricketer, playing for Yorkshire as a youth, and one of my greatest sporting moments was taking my first adult league wicket as a schoolboy with him watching on from behind the bowler's arm: "That were a corker, lad!" he said proudly. During the war, Grandpa enlisted with the Royal Medical Corps and thanks to seeing his handwritten diary some fifty years later, I was astonished to learn that he was in the frontline of Allied troops who liberated the infamous Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in April 1945. The harrowing images he must have seen that day are best not imagined. Both grandma and grandpa were incredibly humble and unassuming. However, for intelligent individuals, they were remarkably irrational. They never boarded an aeroplane and were reluctant travellers. On the single occasion I remember being in a car with them, they got confused at a roundabout and we ended up driving the wrong way down the motorway - so it was probably best for everyone else's safety that they seldom ventured anywhere.

They met at Sunday School, in a Methodist Band, as childhood sweethearts and spent their entire lives together. Grandma, especially, had a wealth of talent and could have thrived in her own right in a more recent era. Demure and shy, she played the piano, painted and loved poetry. She could still recite long epics that she had learned by heart as a child well past her ninetyeth birthday! In the last year of her life, Grandma was still volunteering to help with pensioners' lunches at her church. When it was gently pointed out to her that as the eldest member of the congregation it might be time for someone to reciprocate, she steadfastly refused to countenance it. A most remarkable lady, she simply believed that she was born to serve.

I owe my grandparents an enormous debt of gratitude for the care and love that was bestowed upon me in my formative years. In their own way, each has had a life-long influence upon me in terms of the person I have become, the way I want to raise my own children, and, in the core values I wish to instil in other people's children as an educator. Ultimately, being a grandparent is great fun but also a great responsibility - and if wielded with the right balance of affection and guidance, the benefits can be profound.

A big thank you to all who have contributed to this edition and especially to Amanda Earl for compiling it into such a lovely memento. I hope you enjoy it!

Yours sincerely



Duncan Murphy
Headmaster

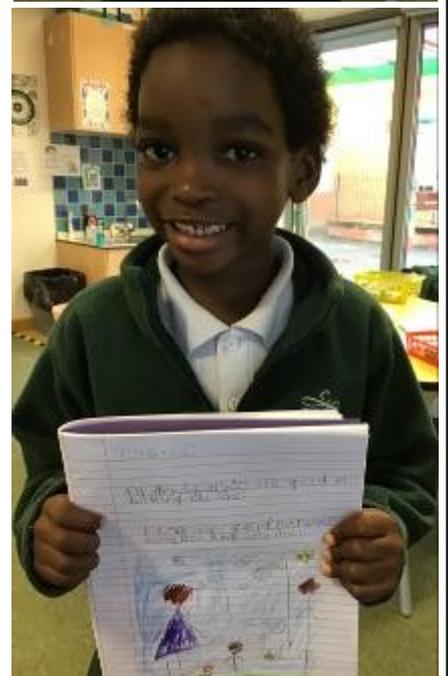
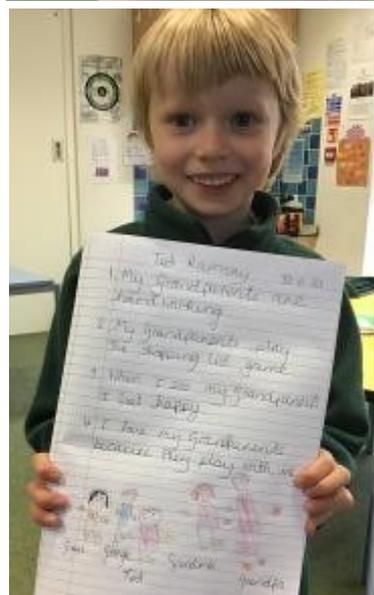
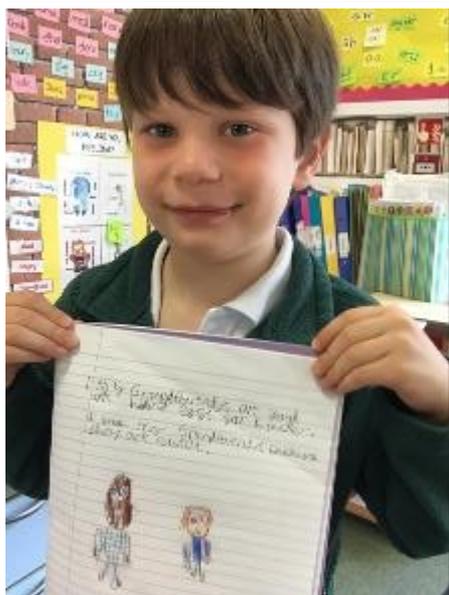
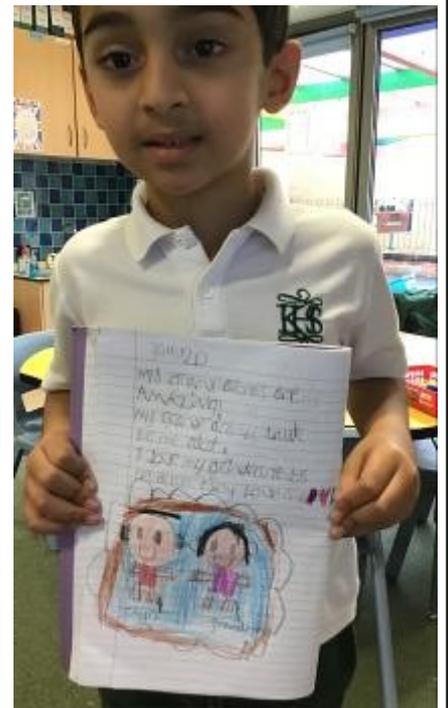
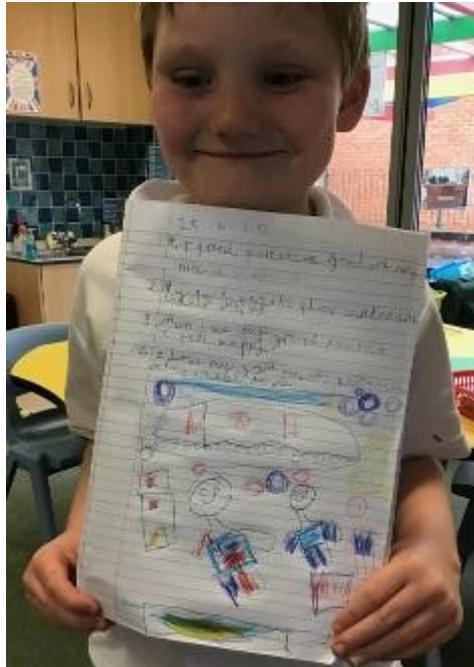
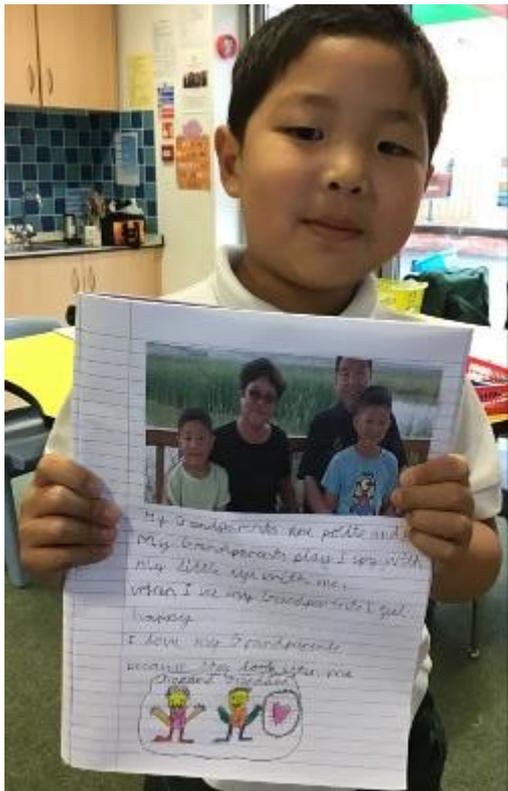
You can see and hear Mr Murphy's weekly blog, detailing his grandparents' lives, [here](#)



Form 1H & 2H shared some photos of their grandparents in a 'Show & Tell' and wrote about them and drew some delightful pictures in class...



"My grandparents are polite... When I see my grandparents I feel happy... I love my grandparents... My grandparents are good at hiding eggs at Easter... I love my grandparents because they love me... My grandparents are sweet and lovely... My grandparents are amazing and talk to me a lot... My grandparents are hard working... They play the 'Shopping List' game (and 'Eye Spy' and 'Snakes & Ladders'!) ... My grandparents are good and very nice..."



Form 3M had lots to say about their Grandparents and extended family...

Mrs Marskell has really enjoyed her discussion with the boys and all they shared with her including memories of an Scottish granny and grandad as well as a Nigerian grandma and grandpa; there is even an 'Oma and Opa' in one family. Lots of family meals were mentioned, alongside traditional Christmas celebrations in Wales and elsewhere. Happy holidays on the beach, days out and even a jaunt in a Spitfire which grandad flew for his 80th birthday five years ago!



The last word from 3M must go to this special grandparent and their sense

of inclusion and being part of the KHS wider community...

"I'm a grandparent that lives alone with my dog Dudley. The highlight of my week was to collect Fraser and his brother Kieran from school. During lockdown I have missed so much....my Tuesday afternoon school run when Fraser would always greet me with his beaming smile asking 'Grandma do you have any food?' ...supervising Speedy Maths...listening to him reading...seeing him stroking Dudley while chilling out watching TV at my house...the big hug of thank you for collecting him from school. Fraser is now part of my family support bubble which is wonderful, but I am really looking forward to returning to Kingswood House in the not too distant future."



A storyboard showing a trip to see Nana...

"I'm going to explode (with excitement in the car) Please don't! ...The Glorious Nana Pie."

"When we visit my grandparents in Devon, they take us to lots of waterparks! I also love to look at my other Gran's war medals!"



This photo is when we were out spotting Christmas lights in our neighbourhood and we were shining light on the road for my Gran to see any potholes as she was wearing heels!"

Form 4L wanted to share these pictures and memories about their Grandparents and extended family...



My grandparents are always kind and sometimes we go on train trips together. They also took me to see Matilda in London! Here we are at a theme park."



Celebration time!



My family...



My grandparents always bring me chocolates and they take me to the beach and the theatre!"

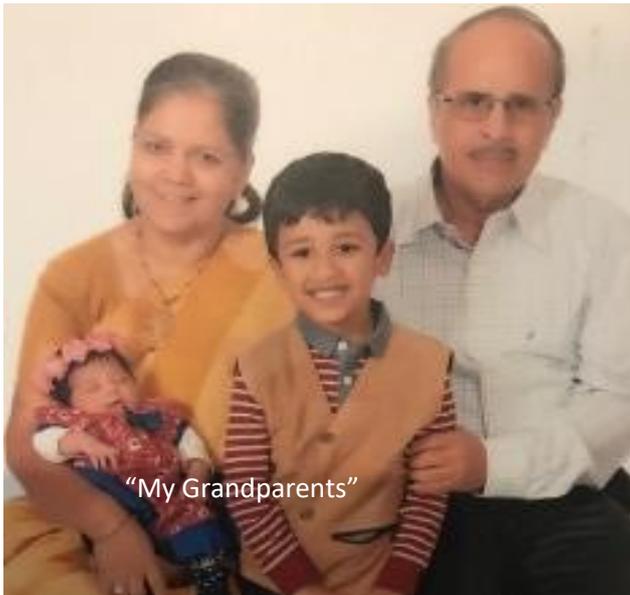
"One of my Grannies cooks delicious cookies; my other Granny is very generous!"



"One of my Grandpas is a military knight and the other was a policeman. It was lovely to spend time with them during lockdown! Here we are enjoying a treat at Carson's Restaurant before lockdown."

Form 4S wanted to combine their ideas and stories, along with a few shared pictures...

"They're fun and take me to nice places; They feed me! They always take me out and play new games with me; They live far away and when I see them, they take me to the beach; In their house, pudding comes FIRST!! I like being in her (my gran's) bubble; My grandparents make the best cheese sandwiches! I miss going on holiday to Oman with them..."



"My Grandparents"



"Grandpa"

"With my Nanny and Opa in France a few years ago; we really get on well with them and have lots of fun playing games together!"



"First cuddles post lockdown when 'bubbles' could join together...!!!"



"I live with my Grandma so I get to see her every day. She is very kind to me."

Here we are in the Bahamas near a manta-ray.

We often go on holiday together to unusual places. I love sharing these experiences with my family"



Form 5C had this to say about their Grandparents and extended family...

we didn't
REALIZE
we were making
MEMORIES
WE JUST KNEW WE WERE
HAVING FUN

On holidays...

A great time all sailing a flotilla across The Med.

An amazing time with grandparents in Portugal.

Travelling to Grand Canaria; they all enjoyed a lovely walk by the turquoise sea together.

Staying at the family cottage in Wales.

Living all around the world in...



Argentina Australia
South Africa
Sweden the UK
Taiwan
Canada



**Grandparents aren't old...
they've just been
having fun longer!**

About meal times...

It's always pancakes when visiting grandparents!

Rice, peas and chicken in a garlic sauce is one grandma's speciality dish.

Special Christmas cupcakes get baked all the way over in Australia!

It has to be cod and chips with the grandparents.



**Grandma's
kitchen**
IT'S ALWAYS OPEN

Special times spent together and hopes for the future...

Not long left to wait as this weekend is the first get together since lockdown started—lots of hugs all round!

Other 'family bubbles; are coming together as lockdown restrictions are easing.

Movie night on Friday when Grandmother comes over from Sweden.

Visiting Grandparents in Argentina where it is hot and they have a great swimming pool!

Remembering outings in Grandpa's sports car – it was green and yellow and went like lightning fast— unfortunately it is not in the family any more.

Sleepovers and stays for a week with Grandma near Leicester; she makes the best Lasagne!

Day trips and visits to see grandparents in Guildford and Bournemouth.

Finding out about Grandpa's time and service in the RAF.



Form 5S wrote at length about their Grandparents and extended family...

My special time with my Grandparents...

"One time, my grandparents took my sister and I to a wolf sanctuary. When we got there, we went to a balcony and saw the most amazing thing - the wolves eating! When we looked around, we saw black, white and grey wolves alongside barn animals. There were statues of wolves and other animals too...I will never forget this day!"

"I went to Brazil 2 years ago—where my Nan is from— We went snorkeling with hundreds of tropical fish...it was amazing!"



I am very lucky because I have 4 grandparents who I get to see often. On Dad's side—Grandma and Grandpa -who are so nice. They live in Southampton. They love to take us on walks with their dog Olly and have sleepovers.

They have a big garden which I love playing in, sometimes my Grandpa lets me drive the sit on lawn mower which is fun!



"A special memory I have is when we went to Disneyland Paris with my grandparents and cousins to celebrate my granddad's 80th birthday! My grandparents mean a lot to me because they are kind to me and play with me when they come over. At my grandparents' house there is a big garden and a shed full of toys.

I miss my grandparents in lockdown and I am going to play with them and talk with them as soon as lockdown is over and I can!"



My Grandparents on my mum's side—Nanny and Grandad – live on The Isle of Wight, most holidays we visit them. My Grandad takes me to a very cool Go Karting place because he loves motor racing! It's so much fun.



My grandparents are Oma and Opa; during lockdown I have been able to speak to them about their tortoises Titus and Vicky—they got them for my mum when she was 4 years old and still have one of them. Titus is very cheeky and often escapes so Opa had to build a fence that is extra high; Vicky was not very active when she was alive. Sadly, due to climate change and the weather getting more unpredictable, Titus is getting confused and is only eating when it is hot, not cold. During one lockdown phone-call Titus did a poo on Oma's trousers! I can't wait to go and see my Om and Opa again and of course, Titus!

More memories from 5S about their Grandparents and extended family...

My nana and grandad live in Ireland, when we visit we take the ferry from Holyhead to Dublin leaving late at night. When you arrive in Dublin, it takes one hour's drive to get to Roundwood in Wicklow.



They have two energetic dogs—Charlie who is a Border Collie and Willow, who is a Rough Collie. At dinner I was allowed a diet coke and so was my sister and cousins. We all got chicken and chips, yum!

"Grandparents, so easy to operate, even a child can do it."

With my Grandparents I really enjoy...

- (1) going on walks
- (2) talking about cars and science
- (3) going camping
- (4) trips to the beach.



My favourite memory was when gramps catapulted me into the air. When lockdown is over I will go Go-Karting with gramps!



Memories of my Colombian grandparents...

At my grandparents' farm in Colombia, I have a brilliant time because I relax and sit in the hammock or I can play with my cousins. My grandparents breed chickens, fish and pigs, there is also fruit on trees which we can eat—guavas are my favourite. I stay in their house in Sincelejo, 'Magic House' is what my dad calls it because it can fit at least 15 people in.

Memories of my German grandparents...

In Germany, my Granddad died at home two years ago holding my grandmother's hand. The family were very sad because it was not time for him to go. Their house is big with three floors and a basement with a lot of ginormous pictures everywhere! My grandma is a very good chess player, so I can play chess with her when I visit or online.



This is a photo of me, my brothers and my grandparents at a lake in Datong near Beijing in China; it was taken last summer and is near where they live. A special memory I have is with my Grandma at the Great Wall of China. We had got up early in the morning to see it. To get up to the Wall we went on a chair-lift about 50m in the air. I loved it then to get down we went on a toboggan slide; my Grandma didn't as she was too scared! I miss most the nice places they take me to.

Form 6C had this to say about their Grandparents and extended family...



A good memory of me and my grandparents is when I went to Seaford with them and we were walking along the promenade on to the beach—it was really fun! I used to go to their house before lockdown but now I haven't seen them for a while sadly..



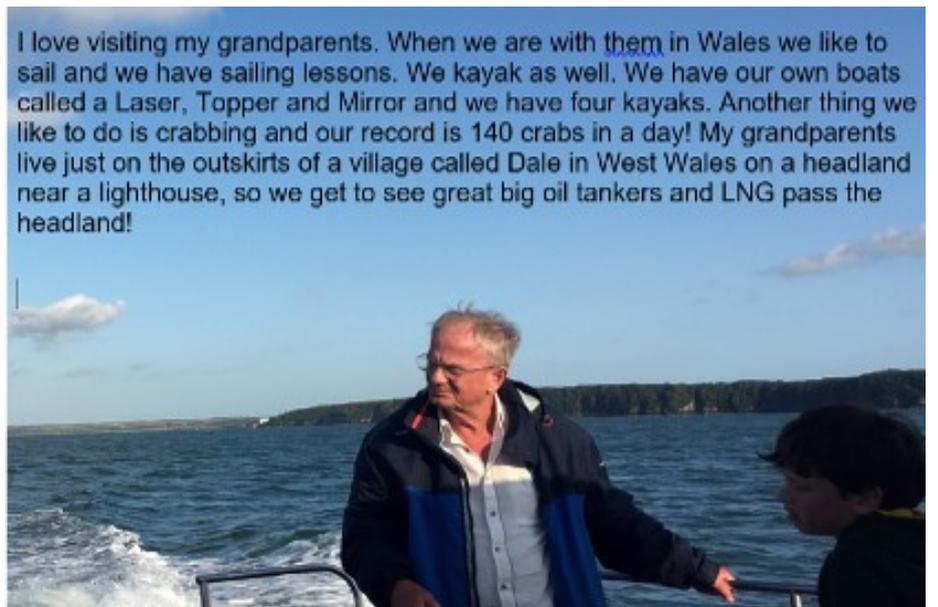
I have very special memories of my grandpa. He lives in Greece and owns a yard full of tractors and friendly guard dogs, as well as an entire farm of olive trees! I remember the time when I learnt to drive a forklift. I was only about 6 so it was really special and exciting! Now he owns two puppies. I talk to my grandpa on the phone because of covid-19. One of the puppies has grown really big! I can't wait until I go back to Greece again and see my grandpa and the dogs at his yard.



I have lots of special memories of my Grandparents. When I was five years old I used to walk in the woods and around the golf course and my grandpa would tell me about all the types of birds and wildlife we saw. My Grandpa is excellent at golf and card games and he makes us laugh with his terrible jokes! He is great at making things such as a train from wood and a bird box for our garden. My Nana is great at art and particularly good at oil painting; she even has own Art studio full of paints and brushes. I love the time Nana and I spend together in her art studio because she teaches me some of her art tips. When we go out to restaurants for dinner and I get to eat all the things mum and dad usually don't let me have!!

Grandkids
Welcome
PARENTS BY
APPOINTMENT

I love visiting my grandparents. When we are with them in Wales we like to sail and we have sailing lessons. We kayak as well. We have our own boats called a Laser, Topper and Mirror and we have four kayaks. Another thing we like to do is crabbing and our record is 140 crabs in a day! My grandparents live just on the outskirts of a village called Dale in West Wales on a headland near a lighthouse, so we get to see great big oil tankers and LNG pass the headland!

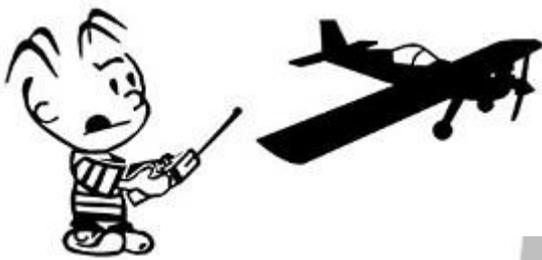


Form 6F were able to share these memories about their Grandparents and extended family...

"Here is my Nanny and Opa. They are very kind and take us out to places. They live near us so we can visit them lots when we are not in lockdown. They have bought us games to play during lockdown."



saw it...
liked it...
told grandma...
got it!!



"My grandparents are the best people in the world. They would do anything for me and make me smile every day. They take me anywhere and buy me anything. My great aunt always gets me the best presents. She knows I love planes so she gets me books and models. I love my great aunt."



"My Nan was a very nice lady and she was the one that made me a heavy boy."

She is the reason I got into football and she was the best person I could have had as a grandparent."

Grandparents House Rules

cookies for breakfast are acceptable
grandchildren welcome
parents by appointment only
only believe half of what grandpa says
bedtime is negotiable
what happens here
stays here
the word no is not in our dictionary
expect to be spoiled

HUGS

KISSES

"I love my grandparents."

My mom's mom took care of me since I was a baby and when my mom went to work, she would always drop me at Grandma's house."

Form 6S had this to say about their Grandparents and extended family...



A socially distanced, lockdown cream tea birthday party for Granny in her front garden!

The boys in 6S discussed with Madame Swift what their grandparents collectively meant to them and they came up with some wonderful word associations including...

food, great, spoilt, old, caring, fun, kind, friendly, experienced.

The following food was largely associated with them too...

Christmas dinner, BBQ, pizza, jam, cake, shepherd's pie, rice, curry, cups of tea!

It seems our boys enjoy lots of trips to see grandparents who live all round the world including...

India, Greece, Cyprus, Turkey, Wales, Germany, South Africa, Malaysia, Pakistan.



"I have a lovely memory of spending the Easter holidays in Cyprus with my paternal grandmother; in Cyprus the word for grandmother is spelt 'gia', pronounced 'yaya'."



During the recent lovely weather, maternal Grannie came round for a socially distanced BBQ; she lives quite far away, so this was a special treat.



Form 7BA shared these thoughts and memories about their Grandparents and extended family...

“On Father's Day I went to my Grandparent's house for dinner and I had a great time. We spent lots of time talking about what has happened recently and how we are coping during lockdown.”



“A message to my grandparents in lockdown...You have always taken care of me and given me joy when I have come to visit you. For now, I am remembering every time, since I was a baby, when I visited; you give me joy and laughter. You also try to help whenever you can, even if you can't. These are just a few reasons why I love you. All I have to say is, stay safe, till we meet again...”

After lockdown I am hoping to give my grandma a big hug, bake a cake, and do things like going to the park, go do her grocery shopping and buy some snacks for movie night and stayover - plus have some quality time for catching up on

“My Grandparents are—a big warm welcoming kitchen, cooking yummy food, cake and biscuits, lots of chatting!”

What I miss about my grandparents are their warm smiles, their long hugs but most of all, their amazing cooking. One thing I did today was that I sent them a text on my phone—it might not be a lot but it is the best thing I can do for now.

“My grandparents mean the world to me, by helping me and my family through this tough time. If you are ever sad, they will put a big smile on your face.”

“I've really missed my Auntie Sally and Uncle Graham because they have a lot of land and they own New Zealand Maori pigs. When I go over there, the pigs are really happy to see me because I give them extra food and I play with them and take them for walks on a lead.”

My grandparents mean the world to me there is nothing in the world I would not do for them.

At my Grandparents house, I will always remember the famous delicious smell of Nani's amazing chocolate cakes, they are to die for! I don't know how she makes them, but they're really good. If I could hire her as my personal chef, I would! I will never forget the way Pops was sitting on the couch or working on some cool tech stuff in the garage. My Granddad is incredibly clever. I only wish I could grow up to be just like him! Oh and best time ever is when I go to their home for a sleepover and they have planned a chocolate cake binge and a bonfire. Pops is very clever because he somehow manages to start a bonfire and keep it going without burning the tree down!

...and when grandparents are not around in lockdown, the next best thing...?!



“My dog is one of the many things that has helped me through lockdown. She is the reason we go on daily walks. When we get back, she will cuddle with me on the sofa.”

“My kitten has been amazing and always comes to me when I am down.”



More thoughts from our Year 7 boys...



"I used to go to my granddad's flat when my mum had to go to work; we would watch TV or go down to the local pub to have a drink, obviously I would just have a coke or something like that. He always had a pizza and a chocolate bar in his flat for when I needed to go there. My grandad's flat is completely not what you would expect! Every corner of his flat he has painted black because he loves black that much?! His balcony is covered in plants and it is also black –his flat is so cool honestly I wish I could show you!

My grandad is more than just a grandad to me, he is my friend as well. We have spent so many days with each other and shared a ton of laughs, so to me he is like a best friend not just any old family member; and I hugely respect him because he staying strong despite the cancer, and is only getting better. I miss seeing my grandad happy—he has no one to talk to at his flat because everyone else is in a care home or has to be quarantined for protection, but when ever we do go over to see him, he smiles and is happy. When lockdown is over I want to be able to give my grandad a big hug in an effort to cheer him up and to show that I missed him. Recently my family and me had grandad over for a little BBQ at ours because he loves my dad's cooking and that's the perfect thing to do with him. He loved all of the food and I helped doing the wedges and everyone loved them—my grandad most of all. It was very hard keeping 2 meters apart when he was right in front of me, I just wanted to give him a hug, but I couldn't because it would put him in danger, so I gave him an air hug. That has to do for now."

My Grandparents—a poem!

When I think of my Grandparents, they spring to mind,
I think of fun all the time.

With Buzz Lightyear on my third birthday given by tall and small,
Next crabbing in Norfolk and dunking in the sea,
All before dunking biscuits in tea.
Next dementia with nanny,
And not to mention the baby powder...
Nanny I'm nearly ten!

Now every week we visit, and they are there to welcome us.

grandparent:
a parent
without
rules

"Here is the boat my Grampa went on in the war"



"A drawing of my Grandpa's house—a great place!"

Year 8 boys decided to share these thoughts and recollections about their grandparents with each other...

“My Grandma Anna has the best smile and she cooks and bakes the best in the world. I love her food and her kindness.

My Grandfather used to teach me to play chess and cards. He was the best hunter in Poland surrounded by his Doberman and Fox terrier dogs. I love them to bits.

My Grandad adored me as I did him, I can remember my grandad telling me stories of when he was in the jungle doing his national service whilst I was sitting on his lap.

My Grandad Dave tells the most awful jokes and always laughs at them himself.”

“God couldn’t
be everywhere
and so he made
Grandparents”

Form 8T played a ‘word association’ style game and came up with these wonderful thoughts and memories about their grandparents in just a couple of descriptive words!

Grandparents –
a piece of history!

Great Aunt and Uncle -
Dymchurch Miniature
Railway...

Grandad - kind, caring,
funny...

Grandma - cared for others and animals..

Grandmother - good at
baking...

Grandma and Grandad –
Scotland, cold weather,
football!

Granny - kind,
amazing, heart
warming...

Grandma - good at
gardening...

Grandparents—nice, loving,
Centreparks!

Grandmother - used to look
after me and my brothers...

Grandmother - Journey
around the M25, and
board games!

Grandmother - amazing
to be around...

Grandparents - lovely
road trip...

Grandmother - fun and jokey...

Grandad - makes steam
engines...

Grandmother - generous,
humble, funny...

Grandparents—playing card
games, Kew Gardens, Fondant
Fancies!

A very 'on point' observation from one of our Year 9 boys. Despite their iconic, outward display of the stereotypical grumpy teens with little regard for anyone else, it does go to show our boys hold their grandparents dear...

Is It Me, or, Are Grandparents Psychic?

"My mum and I talk about this all the time, but sometimes my grandparents don't pay attention to the dramas they watch. Instead, they point out celebs that they've seen in other (quite similar) dramas. But they don't talk about it like, 'Isn't that Christopher Eccleston? You know, from that show with the galactic police box?' They talk about it in an unusual way that makes it their own language. They usually sound like, 'Isn't that what's-his-face? With, you know, what's-her-face, with that thing?' And here's the bizarre part: they actually understand each other! It's a language that only loving, long-lasting couples understand; a language that makes psychology much more interesting!"



**What
HAPPENS
at
GRANDMA'S
HOUSE
STAYS
at
GRANDMA'S
HOUSE**

Beware, there may be an ulterior motive for that visit too...!

"I love hanging out with my granny and grandpa, Grandad and Grandma, because I get to find out all the things that my mum used to get up to when I was her age!"

Theo Hugo
Happy Alex Toby
Grandparents
Guy Freddie Selfless
Seojun Harri Michael
Jack Hasan Jazib
Knowledgeable

Very kind
Busy Active Fit
Lavender
People

Staff recollections about their Grandparents and extended family...

From our Chair of Governors, Chris Shipley

The Joys of Being a New Grandparent

"Becoming a grandparent is one of the great moments of life, and in March of this year, our first granddaughter, Erin, was born. With our son and daughter-in-law joining us in lockdown, we have had the privilege of seeing Erin every day and marvel at her development. After 3 months, she already rules the roost in a household of 5 doting adults...we are no longer in control of when we eat, walk or sleep, and a single smile makes us go all gooey at the edges. And for us as grandparents, well, if things get sticky we can always hand Erin back to her parents with a cheery smile. Perfect!"



Did you know...Mrs Parker's grandad was a musician and composer—perhaps that's where his grandson, Mrs Parker's son, gets his musical talents from?!

'Grandmother Sal' with her precious first grandson...!



A memory from Madame Taylor, "I didn't know my grandfathers, but my maternal grandmother had poor circulation and couldn't feel the permanent droplet on the end of her nose. My sister and I used to watch closely for it to fall, then stifle our laughter! My paternal grandmother was the kindest woman I've ever known. She lived in a tiny village, in a very old cottage with no heating or indoor bathroom. My sister and I stayed with her every summer. She was an amazing cook and we spent hours climbing trees in the woods. We had baths in an old tin tub in front of the fire, and had to use a dark, cold, scary outside loo which was just a hole over a bucket; she used the contents to fertilize her garden, and produced luscious strawberries! It was like living in a history book..."

Mrs West one of our LSAs shares this about her grandmother,

Fancy that! Our lovely Miss Hylands' has a long association with the school through her grandparents! Her grandad, her dad's father, worked at Kingswood House in the 1980s and 1990s! His name was Peter Jessett, and, he worked as the maintenance man and also drove the mini-buses.

"My beautiful Grandmother (Yia Yia in Greek) lives in Nicosia Cyprus, the only divided capital in the world. The United Nations green line runs along the end of her road. Yia Yia is a fantastic cook and loves to make me my favourite dish dolmades (stuffed vine leaves) when I come to visit."