



July 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy year has passed at Kew Riverside. I wanted to share with you some of the highlights and our plans for the next academic year.

I must start by celebrating another excellent set of SATS results. Our 30 Y6 Lion Class children performed brilliantly in the KS2 tests, exceeding the National average in every department. In KS1, we are pleased by the significant improvement in writing, which was a particular focus this year. Y2 Elephant Class children are on a long learning journey, and we are confident that they will progress at Kew Riverside to achieve excellent KS2 results to match the current Y6.

We are very proud of the school's diverse community, and once again our International Day was a great success. New events, such as KewZania and various charity fundraising, have been driven by the school's Junior Leadership Team, who have been incredibly proactive this year. The PTA, who continue to do such valuable work for the school, also introduced both Mother's and Father's Day events which were well-attended and enjoyed.

We are extremely fortunate to have been selected to take part in the PATHS pilot programme run by Barnardos. This is a 3-year programme and only 5 other schools in the local authority are participating alongside about 250 primary schools across the country. PATHS aims to help children develop self-control, emotional awareness and interpersonal problem-solving skills and, at the end of the first year, we have been delighted to see the positive impact on the children.

Darren and his Leadership team have been working hard behind the scenes to review the whole school's curriculum, to ensure it provides a rich and rewarding learning experience for the children. Outdoor at Kew (OAK) is an important part of that; while we appreciate this has taken longer than planned to set up, we are confident that next year it will provide lots of great outdoor learning activities.

Other plans for next year include running some events in the library, to promote the use of this valuable resource.

After several years of low staff turnover, there will be several new faces from 2019-20. Despite recruitment and retention difficulties across the education sector, the school has worked hard to find staff whose vision and values align with our own. Although it is always difficult to lose valued colleagues, we believe these changes will provide the school with a fresh impetus to raise standards further and help promote us within the local community.

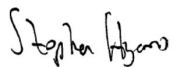
I am sure you will be aware of the challenging financial circumstances in which schools are operating. We continue to be very focussed on ensuring Kew Riverside is run efficiently, making maximum use of the resources at our disposal. We are of course very grateful to the PTA for organising a variety of events that not only raises money, allowing us to extend the range of activities that we can offer children, but also contribute enormously to the very positive community feel of the school.

Your feedback is very important to us. We have decided to abandon the governors' annual survey, and instead we will make use of the surveys carried out by the school throughout the year. You will hear more from us in the Autumn term, when we will share our learnings from the most recent surveys and explain the actions planned to address any issues identified.

A vacancy for a Parent Governor has arisen following the expiry of Richard Leonard's term of office. Darren will initiate the election process in September. If you are unsure if this is right for you, please speak with one of the existing governors or email us at governors@kewriverside.sch.richmond.uk. If helpful, we would be pleased to welcome you as an observer at one of our meetings.

I hope you have a wonderful summer break and look forward to meeting at least some of you in the Autumn.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Hyams". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Stephen Hyams
Chair of the Governing Body