



# Kew Riverside News



Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## Headteacher Highlights

What a fantastic first full week we've had at Kew Riverside! This week, we've had the pleasure of welcoming our enthusiastic and super-smart Willow Class children, who have bravely taken their first steps into primary school life. The children began the week with shorter sessions to help them settle in, gradually building up to their very first full day today. They have done incredibly well, showing confidence, curiosity, and kindness — we're absolutely delighted to have them join the Kew Riverside family.

Across the school, we've seen a buzz of incredible learning as children have dived into new and exciting curriculum topics. There's been a real sense of purpose and energy in every classroom.

We've also taken time this week to revisit our **Kew Qualities for Presentation**, and I've been truly impressed with the number of children who have proudly brought their books to show me. From partitioning in maths to fascinating history topic work, the standard of learning in the children's books is fantastic.

Keep up the brilliant work, Kew Riverside — we're off to an amazing start to the year!



## Golden Certificates

A huge well done to our first Golden Certificate winners of this academic year – thank you for championing our school values and showing excellent learning behaviour. We are lucky to have such wonderful role models in our school.



# Hot Chocolate Friday

Congratulations to the children who went over and above last week and were nominated by the staff in their classes for a hot chocolate with Ardeep.

Thank you for being the best that you can be. Keep it up!



# Welcome to Willows!

This week, we were delighted to welcome our new Reception children into Willow Class! It has been a fantastic start to their school journey, full of smiles, curiosity, and lots of exploring.

The children have enjoyed discovering all the exciting areas in their new classroom and outdoor space. From building blocks and painting to sand play and book corners, there's been so much to see and do. They've also been busy making new friends and learning the routines that will help them feel confident and happy each day.

Our Willow Class have also started to get to know the grown-ups who will be looking after them and helping them learn at school. Everyone is settling in beautifully!

A real highlight of the week was on Thursday, when parents and siblings joined us for the children's first school lunch. It was a lovely moment, filled with happy chatter. The atmosphere was relaxed and it was lovely to see families enjoying this special time together.

Well done to all our new starters — what a brilliant first week!



# Active Lunchtimes at Kew!

At Kew, we're excited to share how our newly zoned playground has transformed lunchtimes into a more active, inclusive, and fun experience for everyone!

In response to requests from our Pupil Parliament, we set out to create a lunchtime environment where all children can be engaged, active, and enjoy a variety of activities. Working closely with our PE Coach, Mr O, we developed a plan that brings structure and choice to playtime, ensuring there's something for everyone.

Our playground is now divided into clearly marked zones:

- **Sports Zone** – for organised games and team sports
- **Free Zone** – offering a mix of fun activities like skipping, ball games, and more
- **Calm Zone** – a peaceful space for quieter play and relaxation
- **Climbing Frame Area** – for adventurous play and physical challenge

Each class has received training from Mr O on how to safely and confidently use the equipment in each zone. The children have embraced the new structure and are enjoying their lunchtimes more than ever.

This is just the beginning! We'll continue to work with the Pupil Parliament to introduce new activities every half term, making sure our playground stays fresh, fun, and full of opportunities to stay active.

Well done to everyone involved—and thank you to the Pupil Parliament for leading the way!



# Everything you need to know about...

This half term we would like to invite you to some very important meetings in regard to both the school and your child's class.

The first set of meetings will be, **"Everything you need to know about X Class"** (Previously known as Meet the Teacher). These meetings will take place W/B 15<sup>th</sup> September and will be an opportunity to find out key information about your child's class, meet the class team and understand the rules routines and expectations. These meetings are crucial in allowing parents and teachers to work together to ensure that every pupil achieves their full potential. The meeting will take place as follows:



**Willow:** TBC

**Cherry:** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 9am

**Ash:** Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 9am

**Oak:** Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 9am

The second meeting will be an **"Everything you need to know about Kew Riverside"** evening for the whole school community including parents, staff and school governors. This will take place on **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September** with refreshments being served from 5.30pm and presentations for the Headteacher and Acting Chair of Governors at 6pm. The evening will provide an opportunity for parents to meet the staff and the governing body, discover the school's most recent achievements and academic success and find out more about the school's development priorities for this academic year.

This will be an invaluable opportunity for the community to come together to celebrate our parent partnership and our commitment to continuous school improvement. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Attendance and Punctuality

This year our whole school attendance target is at least 96% - we know that children who have between 96-100% attendance at school are the happiest and most successful learners; we are grateful to all of our parents and carers who are committed to supporting their children with this.

Our top three classes for attendance last week were:

**1<sup>st</sup> Place: Oak Class – 91.3 %**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Ash Class – 88.2 %**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Cherry Class - 82.4%**





Need support with home life?  
 Unsure how to handle a situation with your child or navigate changes in your family life? We're here to help.



**FAMILY SUPPORT DROP-IN**  
**1<sup>st</sup> October 9am to 11am**

To book a 20 minute appointment email  
 Belinda- bnorfolk@darell.richmond.sch.uk  
 or speak to the school office.



## Polite Reminders

We are smart phone free school and do not permit children to bring in smartphones. If your child in Year 5 or 6 walks to and from school alone, we encourage families to either give them a brick phone (without access to the internet) or have a GPS tracker. Exceptional circumstances will be considered via a meeting with the Headteacher.

All children should be collected from the classroom doors on time at the end of the school day via the back gate. This allows for staff to provide any necessary feedback as well as keep our office area from getting too busy.

To keep everyone safe on the playground please can we ensure that children do not ride their bikes and scooters on the playground at drop off and pick up.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION**



## Dates for the diary

**W/B 15/9/25** : "Everything you need to know about your class" meetings – see details above

**24/09/25 – 26/09/24**: Year 5 trip to Juniper Hall

**30/09/25**: Everything you need to know about Kew Riverside **5.30 – 6.30pm**

**7/10/25**: Oak Clas trip to Westminster Abbey

**W/B 13/10/25** : NSPCC Talk Pants Week

**W/B 27/10/25**: Half Term

**3/11/25**: **INSET DAY (School Closed)**

**4/11/25**: Children return to school



## Nut Free School

We'd like to remind all parents and carers that our school is a **nut-free environment**. This means that **no nuts or nut products** should be brought into school in packed lunches, snacks, or treats for special occasions.

We have several students with severe nut allergies, and even small traces can cause serious reactions. By keeping our school nut-free, we help to ensure a safe environment for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.



## Safeguarding

A reminder that if you have any safeguarding concerns about a child, please contact the school's DSL and refer to the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding policy. If you feel a child may be in danger, you may contact the SPA directly on the number below or the police.

### Key contacts:

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):

Ardeep Viridi 020 8487 8437

[avirdi@kewriverside.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:avirdi@kewriverside.richmond.sch.uk)

Acting Chair of Governors:

Helen Oakley 020 8487 8437

[hoakley@kewriverside.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:hoakley@kewriverside.richmond.sch.uk)

Single Point of Access (SPA):

020 8547 5008 Out of hours: 020 8770 5000

Local Authority Designated Officer:

020 8891 7370/ 07774 332675

[lado@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:lado@achievingforchildren.org.uk)

