



Kew Riverside News



Friday 5th December 2025

Headteacher Highlights

Christmas has officially arrived at Kew Riverside – the Christmas tree is up, the fairy lights are twinkling, and the delightful sounds of Christmas songs are filling the air!

This week, our incredible PTA organised another successful Christmas Fair, and preparations are well underway for our Christmas performances. Willow and Cherry Class will be performing the Nativity next week, followed by Ash and Oak Class, who will be performing at the Barn Church the week after. We are also looking forward to Christmas Jumper Day next Thursday, which coincides with our whole-school trip to the pantomime at Richmond Theatre – *oh yes we are!*

In other news, we hosted another successful Open Day for prospective parents this week and welcomed Year 6 parents to a SATs information morning led by Will. We also held our final Governing Board Meeting of the Autumn Term. Governors continue to be impressed with the school's achievements. Thank you to all Governors for their continued support.



Golden Certificates

A huge well done to our Golden Certificate winners from last week. Thank you for championing our school values and showing excellent learning behaviour. We are lucky to have such wonderful role models in our school.



Parent Governor Vacancy for January 2026

We are looking for a new Parent Governor from the start of the new academic year, this is a fantastic opportunity to help support the strategic direction of the school.

Applications can be made by [clicking here](#). The deadline is **12 noon on Friday 9th January 2026**.

If you have any questions please come and speak to Ardeep.



Cherry Class Trip to Barn Church

On Tuesday, Cherry Class enjoyed a wonderful trip to the Barn Church as part of their learning about special books and religious leaders. The children were warmly welcomed and had the chance to explore the church and discover more about the important role it plays in the community.

A highlight of the visit was getting to see—and even hold—a very large and incredibly heavy Bible. The children were fascinated to learn why it is such a special book for Christians and how it is used during services. Reverend Hannah was exceptionally accommodating throughout the visit. She answered all of the children's thoughtful questions and shared her knowledge about the different roles within the church, from priests and vicars all the way up to archbishops. Her explanations helped bring the children's classroom learning to life in a meaningful and memorable way.

There was also a moment of great excitement when Stella had the opportunity to try on a vicar's special Sunday service outfit. The class were delighted to see the ceremonial garments up close and learn about when and why they are worn.

Cherry Class returned to school full of enthusiasm and new knowledge after a truly engaging and enjoyable morning. A big thank you to Reverend Hannah and the Barn Church for making the visit so special!



Willow Class Meet The Snowman

On Tuesday, Willow Class enjoyed a special performance by the Richmond Music Trust's orchestra. The orchestra performed a live soundtrack to the much-loved film adaptation of Raymond Briggs' *The Snowman*, bringing the story to life in a wonderfully engaging way. It was a truly memorable outing that inspired excitement and curiosity, marking a delightful beginning to our Christmas celebrations. Thank you to all the staff and parent volunteers who made this possible.



Willow Class at The Postal Museum

Willow Class had an absolutely brilliant day out at the Postal Museum. Even though the weather gave us a few raindrops along the way, the children were amazing, powering through, dodging puddles, and keeping the excitement alive from start to finish.

Our adventure began with an exciting journey on the Underground. Travelling all together on a busy train made it feel like the trip had begun long before we reached our destination. Our first highlight was a ride on the historic Mail Rail. The children loved travelling underneath London through dark tunnels, watching the interactive films that showed how letters and parcels were once delivered across the city. It felt like stepping back in time. Next, we met Postie Rosie, who shared The Jolly Christmas Postman story with us. The session was full of songs, rhymes, and lots of laughter. Rosie even used sign language throughout, helping us extend our learning in such a fun, meaningful way. Finally, we explored the Sorted play area, a bright and colourful space where the children became real-life posties. They busily sorted letters, delivered parcels, and explored the houses, post offices, and sorting office complete with chutes, pulleys, and slides. Their enthusiasm and imaginative play were wonderful to see.

A huge thank you to Maria, our fantastic guide for the day, and to our wonderful parent helpers, whose support made everything run smoothly. And a very big thank you to the PTA for kindly covering the cost of the visit. This special day wouldn't have been possible without their generosity.

Great day, great children, great memories – thank you to everyone who made this trip possible!



Coding Experts in Ash Class

On Thursday, Ardeep was really impressed with Ash Class as they demonstrated their coding skills in Computing by using Micro:Bits to create Emotion Badges. The children had to think carefully about how they coded their Micro:Bits, considering which inputs would produce specific outputs on the LED display. The class quickly mastered codes to create hearts, smiley faces, and even sad faces. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow as they experimented, problem-solved, and celebrated their digital creations – well done Ash Class!



PTA NEWS: THE CHRISTMAS FAIR



This year's PTA Christmas Fair, held on Thursday, was a huge success with an incredible turnout from our school community. The PTA had certainly gone above and beyond, organising a fantastic variety of stalls including a toy tombola, a snowman sweet game, a Christmas photo booth and of course plenty of delicious refreshments.

The whole-school Bingo was a particular favourite, as were the ever-popular class hamper raffles. The staff raffle stall also drew lots of excitement, offering a brilliant range of prizes—from Christmas arts and crafts with Lisa and Katie, to gaming with Will, and even a pizza party with Jo. Well done to all of our lucky winners!

We were beautifully entertained by our Key Stage 2 choir, whose singing added a truly festive touch to the event. This was followed by the much-anticipated auction for *Headteacher for the Day*, which raised a phenomenal amount of money!

This amazing event would not have been possible without the support of our whole school community and, of course, our dedicated PTA. A huge thank you to everyone involved—especially our wonderful PTA Chair, Caroline! We look forward to sharing the total amount raised before the end of term.




Giving Advent at Kew Riverside 2025

Giving Tuesday & Advent Giving – A Domino Effect of Kindness!
This year, our school is combining Giving Tuesday with our Advent Giving initiative in a fun and meaningful way! We're inviting every child to bring in a box of cereal to donate to local food banks and help families in our community (feel free to bring more if you'd like!).

Deadline for bringing in donations: Thursday 12th December

Once all the boxes have been collected, we'll line them up around the school to create an amazing domino run. The children will get to watch as around 100 cereal boxes topple over, one after another — a wonderful reminder that a small act of kindness can set off a chain reaction of good deeds.

After the fun, all the cereal will be donated to local food banks to support those in need during this festive season.

Let's make this an incredible Giving Tuesday that spreads joy, kindness, and community spirit. Together, we can show our children the true meaning of giving and caring for others. Please help us make this event amazing — one cereal box at a time!

WE'RE CELEBRATING



To make this celebration even more special, we're focusing on making it a Sustainable Christmas Jumper Day. Instead of buying new jumpers, we'd love everyone to think green and join in our Christmas Jumper Swap!

If you have any Christmas jumpers that no longer fit or are ready for a new home, please consider donating them. We'll be setting up a festive jumper stall where families can swap a pre-loved jumper or buy one for a small donation.

Alternatively, parents and children can get creative at home — add a bit of tinsel, some cotton wool, or any crafty touches to transform an ordinary jumper into something spectacularly festive! Donations can be brought into school from today until 10th December and will be available on a clothes rail in the office area. All proceeds from jumper sales will go towards Save the Children.

It's a wonderful way to reduce waste, save money, and share the festive spirit — all while helping our planet! Let's make this Christmas Jumper Day full of fun, colour, and kindness — both to each other and to the environment.

SUSTAINABLE CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY



🎄 Christmas Jumper Day – 11 December 2025 🎄

We're excited to take part in the national Christmas Jumper Day on **Thursday, 11th December 2025!** It's the perfect opportunity to fill the day with festive fun by wearing your brightest, silliest, or most sparkly Christmas jumper— all while supporting an incredible cause.

As part of this national fundraising event, all donations will go directly to Save the Children, helping to make a real difference to vulnerable children across the UK and Worldwide. We kindly ask everyone taking part to contribute a **£1 donation** through our JustGiving page by scanning the QR code.

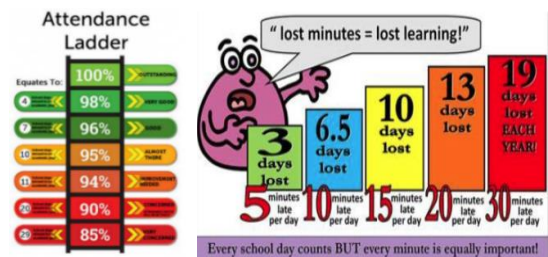


Attendance and Punctuality

This year our whole school attendance target is at least 96% - we know that children who have between 96-100% attendances 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:

- 1st Place: Oak Class – 92.5%**
- 2nd Place: Willow Class – 90%**
- 3rd Place: Ash Class - 87.5%**



Dates for the diary

- 10/12/25: The Nativity Performance 9.30am – Willow & Cherry Class**
- 11/12/25: Christmas Jumper Day**
- 11/12/25: Whole School Pantomime Trip**
- 16/12/25: Barn Church Performance 11.00am – Ash & Oak Class**
- 17/12/25: No Breakfast Club**
- 18/12/25: Christmas Dinner**
- 19/12/25: Last Day of Term 2pm finish**

Tickets for both The Nativity and Barn Church Performances will be on sale in the school office from Monday 1st December.

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 Keeping Children Safe 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 Virdi 020 8487 8437

avirdi@kewriverside.richmond.sch.uk

Chair of Governors:

Helen Oakley 020 8487 8437

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

