



Kew Riverside News



Friday 16th January 2026

Headteacher Highlights

This week, it has been wonderful to visit classrooms and see the children fully engaged in their learning across all areas of the curriculum. The children are developing a strong awareness of the skills they are using in each subject, from classifying in Science and understanding chronology in History to defending and passing in PE. It has been a pleasure to hear them confidently talk about their learning.

Ash Class began their swimming lessons for the Spring Term on Monday, and I was delighted to receive such positive feedback from the swimming coaches. Well done to Ash Class for demonstrating the Kew Riverside School values so clearly.

2026 is the National Year of Reading, with the national motto encouraging everyone to "Go All In." Kat introduced this exciting initiative during assembly on Monday, and Willow Class have already made an incredible start with their Thursday Book Club. We look forward to seeing this enthusiasm for reading continue to grow across the school.



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. A special mention to all of Ash Class who received a whole class certificate last week!



Willow's First Thursday Book Club

This week we were delighted to launch Willow's Thursday Book Club, a brand-new initiative inspired by the National Year of Reading 2026 and its motto, "Go All In".

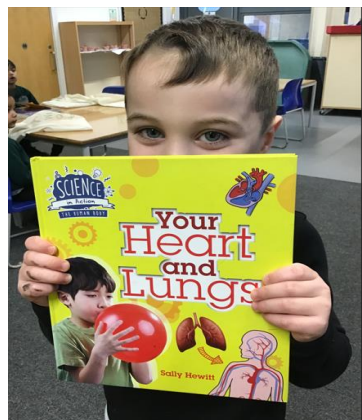
Each week, children choose one fiction and one non-fiction book to take home, alongside their Little Wandle reading books, giving them a rich and varied reading experience.

As part of the club, three children each week have the opportunity to talk to the class about a book they have enjoyed and share what made it special. This week, all three children independently chose non-fiction books, exploring fascinating topics on Space, Weather and the Human Body. They confidently shared their favourite page and explained what they had learned.

The Book Club encourages children to go all in with their reading by listening to each other's recommendations and discovering books they may not have picked themselves. We hope this is the start of a lifelong love of books and reading, opening the door to all learning and leading children on endless adventures through new worlds and ideas.



National
Year of
Reading
2026



Oak Class Scientists

This week in science, Oak Class put their observation skills to the test by experimenting with shadows! The children enjoyed manipulating light and exploring how opaque objects create shadows that change shape and size. This marks the start of their exciting new topic on light, where they will learn how light travels and why shadows behave the way they do. Fantastic work, Oak Class—keep shining bright!



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 the week before half term were:

- 1st Place: Willow Class – 100%**
- 2nd Place: Oak Class – 93.8%**
- 3rd Place: Ash Class - 93%**



Dates for the diary

- 21/1/26: Drama Workshop for Willow and Cherry Class
- 22/1/26: Tag Rugby Match
- 29/1/26: Ash Class trip to Holly Lodge (Letters to follow)
- 2/2/26: Tag Rugby Match
- 10/2/26: Safer Internet Day

16th – 20th February: Half Term





Welcome to
your
open day

Friday 23rd January
2pm till 5pm

Welcome to your open day! Choosing a nursery is a big decision. That's why we've designed our open days around YOU. If you're curious to see how your child gets on in our nursery environment, our open days are a great place to start. It's a chance for you to meet our friendly practitioners, get help with funding options and find the answers to all the questions you may have. They are whatever you need them to be. We'll just be delighted to meet you.



0330 828 9445
brighthorizons.co.uk/open-days



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

