



Kew Riverside News



Friday 30th January 2026

Headteacher Highlights

We were delighted to receive the below letter from the Secretary of State for Education. It is testament to the dedication and commitment of the Kew Riverside community to ensure that all children are able to achieve their full potential. Thank you to everyone for their continued support.

A message from Bridget Phillipson



Dear Ardeep,

Congratulations to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at Kew Riverside Primary School achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.

This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.

Your school's achievements demonstrate what is possible, and I hope you will continue to share your experience and best practice with others. Even the strongest schools can go further. We encourage you to lead the way as a system leader - sharing effective practice, championing networks, supporting collaboration, and helping raise standards across the sector.

Please pass on my thanks and congratulations to your staff and pupils. I look forward to working with you as we strive together to raise standards for all.

Your sincerely,

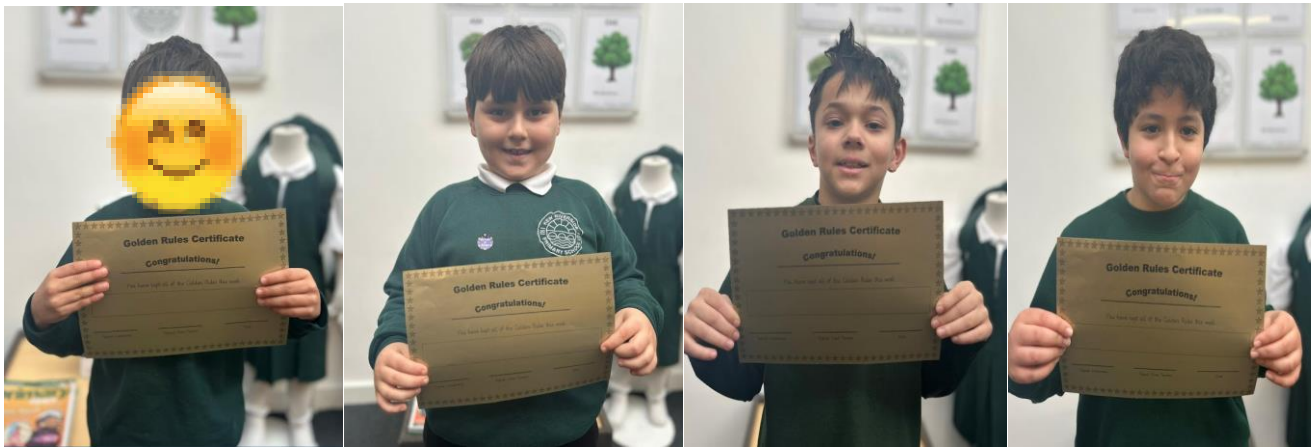
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Bridget Phillipson'.

Bridget Phillipson

Secretary of State for Education

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.



Hot Chocolate Friday

Congratulations to the children who went over and above for the 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!



Celebrating The Year of Reading

To celebrate *The Year of Reading*, we held a special reading assembly where all the children brought along a book and enjoyed reading together in pairs or small groups. It was wonderful to see our school filled with a love of reading and shared stories. A big thank you to all the children and adults who took part and helped make the event such a success!



Ash Class Explores the World of Mammals at Holly Lodge

Ash Class had an unforgettable afternoon on their trip to Holly Lodge, diving headfirst into the fascinating world of mammals! The adventure began with a unique experience: watching night footage of Richmond Park to discover which mammals roam after dark. It was a captivating glimpse into creatures we rarely see in the wild.

Next, the class embarked on a nature trail filled with hands-on activities. The first activity was a fun and slightly unusual one—making animal “poo” out of clay! This activity taught the children that studying droppings is one way scientists learn about the animals living in an area. The children had a blast creating their clay masterpieces and couldn’t wait to show them off at home.

The second activity was a detective-style challenge. Along the trail, boxes contained clues and recordings of animal sounds. Using these hints, the children tried to identify the mystery mammals—a perfect mix of observation and problem-solving.

The final activity encouraged creativity through art. The class made animal footprint prints using crayons and moulds, leaving their own colourful impressions of the wildlife they had learned about.

It was an action-packed, educational, and incredibly fun trip that brought the world of mammals to life for Ash Class! Thank you to everyone who made this trip possible.



Cherry Class Writers

Cherry Class have been wonderfully engaged in their English unit based on *Rapunzel*. The children have been innovating and creating their own imaginative versions of the story, showing fantastic creativity and enthusiasm. When a REP visited the class on Thursday, she was extremely impressed by how hard the children were working – not only on the content of their writing, but also on carefully thinking about how to present it. We can't wait to read the finished stories. Keep it up, Cherry Class!



History Competition Reminder

A reminder for our History competition: children are invited to choose a historical event, person or story and create **one primary source** (such as a diary entry, letter, drawing or artefact model) and/or **one secondary source** (such as a fact file, timeline, poster or mini textbook page).

Entries should be brought into school by **Friday 6th February**. Projects will be judged on correct classification (primary or secondary) and a clear explanation of why each source fits that category. We can't wait to see the creative ideas!

Show your love of History and enter our History Competition

- ▶ Choose a historical event, person, story,
 - ▶ Create one primary source (e.g. diary entry, photo drawing, letter, artefact model)
- and/or
- ▶ Create one secondary source (e.g. fact file, timeline, poster, mini textbook page)
 - ▶ Bring this to school by Friday 6th February .
 - ▶ The entries will be judged by the following criteria:
 - Correct classification - primary or secondary.
 - Clear explanation of why each source is primary or secondary.

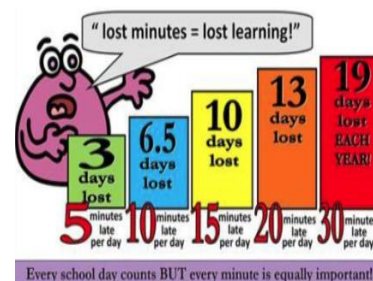


Attendance and Punctuality

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: Oak Class – 93.5%**
- 2nd Place: Cherry Class – 92.8%**
- 3rd Place: Ash Class - 91%**



Further to the email sent out earlier this week, a reminder that the school day starts at 8.50am. The school gates are open from 8.40am and will close promptly at 8.50am. If you arrive after this time you will need to go to the office to register your child's attendance with Lisa.

NSPCC



Kew's fundraiser for NSPCC NUMBER DAY!

A fundraiser organised by Kew Riverside Primary School for NSPCC

We're taking part in NSPCC Number Day on Friday 6th February to help support the amazing work they do to keep children safe. To join in, children are invited to come to school dressed with a number theme – this could be their favourite football shirt, a top with a number on it, or anything number-related they love! We're kindly asking parents to consider donating £1 or



Scan to donate

Help us reach our £150 target!

Make a donation with **JustGiving**

Polite Reminder for After School Club Collections

We kindly remind parents and carers who drive when collecting children from after-school clubs to park considerately and safely. We have recently received concerns from residents on Courtlands Avenue that some vehicles are not always parked in a way that allows pedestrians and cyclists to pass safely. Concerns have also been raised about car doors being left open causing an obstruction to cyclists and pedestrians. We would be grateful if all drivers could take extra care when parking and ensure pavements, driveways, and access routes remain clear, and that vehicles are manoeuvred safely when leaving. Thank you for your continued support in helping to keep our school community and local neighbourhood safe.



Dates for the diary

4/2/26: London Eye Trip for Oak Class

6/2/26: NSPCC Number Day

10/2/26: Safer Internet Day

16th – 20th February: Half Term

Term dates for the next academic year are now on our website – a reminder that family holidays should not be booked during term time.

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 Viridi 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



