



Kew Riverside News



Friday 2nd October 2026

Headteacher Highlights

The Kew Riverside community spirit has truly shone through this week. We have been incredibly grateful for the support, energy and commitment shown by our families and wider community, particularly through the recent meeting with AFC and the follow-up work that is taking place to help raise awareness of our school and encourage as many responses as possible to the consultation. As expressed in my email to you all, we are truly grateful for your continued support during what is undoubtedly a challenging time for our school community. Your encouragement, kindness and determination mean a great deal to us.

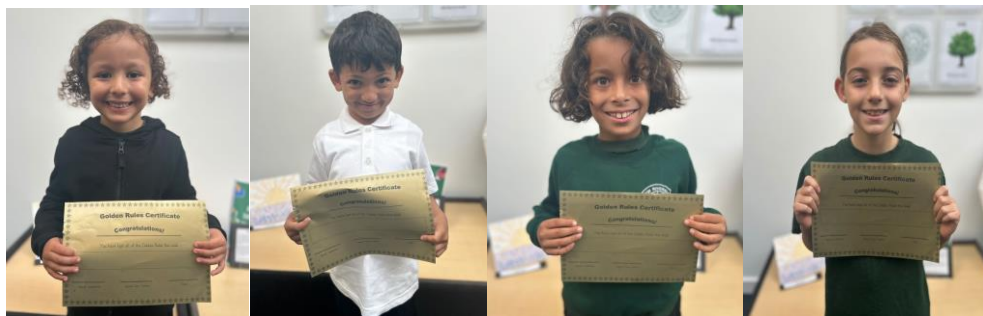
Amidst all of this, our children have continued to impress us with their positivity, enthusiasm and love of learning. Our Year 5 children had an incredible trip to Juniper Hall, while all of the children across Key Stages 1 and 2 have enjoyed history workshops linked to the topics they are currently learning about. Willow Class have also impressed us with their handwriting extravaganza!

It has been wonderful to see our children continuing to learn, explore and thrive, and we are so proud of them.

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful weekend.

Golden Certificates

A huge well done to our Golden Certificate winners for 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.



Ice Lolly Friday

Congratulations to all the children who have gone above and beyond over the past two weeks and were nominated by staff in their classes for an ice lolly with Ardeep on what was an unseasonably warm September day!

Thank you for always striving to be the best you can be.
Keep up the fantastic work!



Year 5 Residential Trip to Juniper Hall

What an incredible adventure our Year 5 children had on their residential trip to **Juniper Hall**! Accompanied by Will, Jess and Dilek, the children set off on Monday morning and returned on Wednesday afternoon full of exciting stories about their adventures – and looking understandably very tired!

On their first day, the children settled in with lunch before exploring the beautiful grounds of Juniper Hall. They then took part in a range of team-building activities, which tested their communication, problem-solving and teamwork skills. After an evening walk, everyone enjoyed one of the most eagerly anticipated activities of the trip – mammal trapping! The children were very excited to discover what creatures they might find.



Day two began with a hearty cooked breakfast before the children headed out to check their mammal traps. They were delighted to discover that they had humanely caught three mice and a vole! The children were fascinated to get such a close-up look at the woodland wildlife before carefully releasing the animals back into their natural habitat.



The adventure continued with shelter building, where the children worked together to construct their own shelters. Their creations were certainly put to the test when Storm 'Jessica' arrived! There was plenty of creativity, teamwork and laughter as the children discovered just how weatherproof their shelters really were. After lunch, the children learnt important fire-lighting and fire-safety skills, putting their new knowledge into practice. The day ended with a wonderful campfire, giving everyone the chance to relax, spend time together and enjoy the evening under the stars.

On Wednesday morning, the children enjoyed a final visit to the tuck shop, choosing a few toys and souvenirs to take home as special reminders of their trip. They then finished their adventure with an orienteering activity, which once again encouraged teamwork, communication and problem-solving. It was wonderful to see the children supporting and encouraging one another throughout the trip. They embraced every challenge, tried new experiences and created lots of happy memories along the way.



A huge well done to Year 5 for making the trip such a success! We would also like to say a big thank you to Will, Jess and Dilek for accompanying the children and to Lisa H for organising the trip.

History Workshops

This week, Cherry, Ash and Oak classes had the exciting opportunity to take part in some incredible History Workshops, bringing the topics they are currently learning about in class to life!

Cherry Class were transported back to the 17th century and discovered that London was very different from the city we know today. They learnt about the wooden houses, narrow streets and even the sewage running through the streets! The children explored the dramatic events that took place on Pudding Lane and discovered how the Great Fire of London began. They were particularly fascinated to learn about Samuel Pepys and why he buried his precious cheese to protect it from the flames!



Ash Class travelled even further back in time to explore Britain's Pre-History Mysteries. They discovered what life was like before the invention of the wheel and before people could write. Becoming archaeologists for the day, the children explored the lives of Hunter-Gatherers and tribal communities, investigating how people lived, travelled, created art and developed new technologies. They explored the fascinating changes that took place throughout the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age, including what people wore, how they survived and how life changed over thousands of years.



Oak Class journeyed to Ancient Greece, where they uncovered the differences between Greek myth and Greek fact. The children learnt about the powerful Greek Gods, the terrifying story of Medusa and the fascinating tale of Helen of Troy. They also explored what family life was like in Ancient Greece and learnt about the harsh reality of life for Greek slaves. To finish their adventure, the children discovered the origins of the Olympic Games and even had the opportunity to take part in their very own Ancient Greek Olympics!



It was wonderful to see the children so enthusiastic and engaged as they stepped into the past. These workshops provided a fantastic opportunity for our historians to experience their learning in a fun, interactive and memorable way!

Willows' Handwriting Activity Extravaganza

Thursday afternoons in Reception have become a hive of excitement as Willows have launched their very own Handwriting Activity Extravaganza! We have been exploring lots of fun, hands-on activities designed to strengthen the children's hand coordination and fine motor skills — all of which are important foundations for developing confident handwriting.

The children have had plenty of opportunities to practise their cutting skills, manipulate and mould playdough, and carefully guide marbles along pre-writing pattern tracks. They have also been dabbing the letters we have been learning in phonics, helping to reinforce their letter recognition while developing pencil control and coordination. With lots of activities to choose from, the children have been able to follow their interests, practise at their own pace and, most importantly, have lots of fun while developing these important skills.

We are so proud of the enthusiasm, concentration and creativity the children have shown. Who knew handwriting practice could be such an extravaganza!



Year 6 Bikeability

A huge well done to our Year 6 pupils who took part in Bikeability last week!

Over four afternoons, the children worked with expert instructors to develop their cycling skills and grow in confidence with every turn of the pedal. The sessions gave pupils the opportunity to practise their skills in a safe environment before heading out onto quiet roads to experience “real” cycling.

It was fantastic to see the children challenging themselves, building their confidence and demonstrating excellent road awareness. Well done, Year 6 – we are very proud of you!



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 our parents and carers who are committed to supporting their children in this.

A reminder that the school gates and classroom doors open from 8.40am in the morning and will be closed **promptly** at 8.50am, which is the start of the school day. If children arrive after 8.50am they need to walk around to the main office, where parents or carers will be asked to sign the late book providing a reason for their late arrival.

Our top three classes for attendance from last week were:

- 1st Place: Willow Class – 100%**
- 2nd Place: Cherry Class – 99%**
- 3rd Place: Ash Class – 96%**

Attendance Matters



Dates for the diary

21/10/26: PTA Halloween Disco

23/10/26: Ash and Oak Class trip to Richmond Synagogue (Letter to follow)

Autumn 1 Gallery Dates all at 9am:

Willow – 21/10/26

Cherry – 21/10/26

Ash – 20/10/26

Oak – 22/10/26

W/B 26/10/26: Half Term

2/11/25: INSET DAY (School Closed)

3/11/25: Children return to school



Richmond Family Support Service

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
14th October 9am to 11am

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

The poster features a stylized illustration of a family (a woman, a man, and two children) sitting on a large orange beanbag chair in a park-like setting with trees and a large yellow sun in the background. The text is centered and uses a mix of bold and regular fonts. The Richmond Family Support Service logo is in the top right corner.

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 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

