

Message from Margaret Barrington

Co-Headteacher

It has been lovely to welcome the children back into school and to see them enjoying their learning after the Christmas break. We were pleased to welcome Mr McHale to the school last week and he has been enjoying meeting the children and our parent/carer community.

Our Spring term, as with all terms, is looking fun and very busy with a variety of trips, workshops, sporting activities and invitations for parents/carers to come into the school to support with learning. As a school we pride ourselves on offering our children an enriched curriculum and a wide array of experiences. As always and in anticipation of your support we thank our staff and parent/carer community, without whom, these activities would not be possible.



Gardening club braved the cold after school on Tuesday, to bring in our first harvest of 2024! Lots of carrots were eaten by the team, but we managed to save some to hand over to chef on Wednesday to use in the school kitchens. Chef has requested that we grow him lots of parsley and basil, so we have added them to our planting list!



Our colleagues at Achieving for Children are undertaking a survey on wraparound care provision to support with planning for September 2024.

The Wraparound care is before and after school childcare for primary school aged children. The Wraparound Childcare Programme aims to increase the availability of wraparound childcare places, so that all families can access childcare between 8am-6pm and therefore allow parents to continue, or enter employment.

To find more information, please refer to our [Frequently Asked Question Sheet](#).

Achieving for Children acts as the children's services for Richmond, Kingston and Windsor and Maidenhead, and will be supporting officers to deliver the programme. We will use the results of this survey to prioritise certain locations, services and aspects of wraparound childcare in your area.

This survey should take 5 minutes to complete, please use the following link and QR code to access the survey.



[Survey for Parent and Carers on the Increase in Wraparound Childcare Provisions \(google.com\)](#)

Year 1 Class Assemblies

Hedgehogs	Thursday 8th February @ 10.30am
Rabbits	Thursday, 29th February @10.30am
Squirrels	Friday, 1st March @ 2.00pm

Parents/carers are invited to watch their child's class assembly. Please arrive at the school office ten minutes before the start time.

Welcome back.....

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Abrahams back from maternity leave this term. Mrs Abrahams will be working across the school supporting in the classrooms and is enjoying being back with the Grand Avenue family.

Smartphone Safety Tips for Young People

According to Ofcom, 69% of under-18s use a smartphone as their main method of going online. Additionally, 49% of children use them for online gaming – putting smartphones only behind consoles (59%) as the device of choice for playing games on. Most people won't require such statistical evidence, however, to acknowledge the huge importance of phones to young people.

Given that Santa's recent visit is likely to have bestowed smartphones on an even greater number of young people, it's a particularly opportune moment to ensure that children are able to use their handsets responsibly – and, above all, safely. From passcodes to parental controls, and from screen time to scams, the attached #WakeUpWednesday guide has the essential advice.

Weekly House Points

Here are this weeks house points.
Well done to Claremont.

Claremont	62
Wisley	61
Richmond	48
Painshill	42
Norbury	41
Kew	40

We ask that Smart Watches and watches with cameras or telephone calling devices are not brought into school.

Thank you.



Spotlight on attendance

Congratulations to **Hedgehogs** who have had the highest attendance this week (99.3%).

Nursery applications

Please note that the deadline for Nursery applications is Friday 1st March. If you need an application please download one from the website or pop into the school office who can provide you with a copy.

Dates for your Diary

Thurs, 25th Jan	Otters	Class Assembly @ 10.30am
Thurs, 25th Jan	Y 5/6	Virtual Reality Workshop
Fri, 26th Jan	N	Nursery parent tour @9.15am
Weds, 31st Jan	ALL	Mental Health Support Team Parent Coffee Morning @9am
Thurs, 1st Feb	Badgers	Class Assembly @ 10.30am
Thurs, 1st Feb	Y 1/4	Science Dome Visit
Tues, 6th Feb	Y2	ZooLab workshop
Tues, 6th Feb	6	Junior Citizen 2024
Weds, 7th Feb	ALL	Parent Forum @9am
Thur, 8th Feb	1H	Hedgehogs Class Assembly @10.30am
Fri, 9th Feb	ALL	Last day of Spring Term 1
Mon, 12th— Fri, 16th Feb	ALL	HALF TERM
Mon, 19th Feb	ALL	First day of Spring Term 2
Mon, 19th Feb	ALL	INSET DAY—Nursery and School closed all day
Tues, 20th Feb	ALL	Return to school
Thurs, 29th Feb	1R	Rabbits Class Assembly @ 10.30am
Fri, 1st Mar	1S	Squirrels Class Assembly @2.00pm