

## Message from Shona Pitcher

## Headteacher

As we have come to the end of the second week of this term, the school has been as busy as always and there is still lots more to come.

We have enjoyed welcoming parents into Nursery and Reception for showcase afternoons this week. The children have been sharing their work and were delighted to show their parents/carers their classrooms.

I hope that the children enjoyed their visit to the Travelling Book fair this week. We have raised lots of money to purchase new books for our library and classrooms.

The school has been decorated by parent and children volunteers ready for the Christmas Fair next weekend. Thank you to all of you who gave up their time after school today; it is certainly looking festive. I was amazed by the generous donations of our school community for the Gift & Chocolate tombola. I will make sure I visit that stall!



This week, our Year 5 and 6 students had an exciting time participating in a thrilling dodgeball tournament at Kingston Academy.

The children showed off their fantastic dodgeball skills; working as a team and having lots of fun along the way. With fast throws, quick dodges, and plenty of teamwork, everyone had a great time joining in the games. It was wonderful to see so many smiles and the friendly competition that made the tournament such a success.

Well done to all the participants for giving it their best effort and making it a memorable event! Thank you as always to our parent helpers who transported the children to and from the event.

### Grand Achievements



Abheetha (6SM) was selected to take part in the London Youth Games, U11 Boys Team Kingston Cross Country Team. Well done to Abheetha on this achievement.



Last weekend Isabel (5J) took part in the London Youth Games - U11 Boys Team Kingston Cross Country Team. Isabel came 15th in a group of 199 U11 girls. Well done!



Well done to Sophia (Hedgehogs) who passed her Grade 1 Piano Exam with distinction.



As part of supporting the mental health and wellbeing of our children at Grand Avenue Primary School, we are lucky enough to have a short weekly visit from a therapy dog. Kayla and her owner Caroline come into school and listen to five children read each week.

This is such a lovely calming time for them and is only made possible by the amazing work that 'Pets as Therapy' do as well as Caroline giving up an afternoon each week to come and see us. Here is a picture of Arthur, in Year 1, reading a story to Kayla.



The swimming badges for 2024/25 are available from the school office. Please can you ensure you have paid your swimming fees for this year.



Closing times on last day of term:  
Reception, Year 1 & 2 - 1.15pm  
Year 3, 4 & 6—1.25pm  
Year 4—1.30pm  
After school club—4.30pm

If your child is absent from school please can you telephone the main school number (0208 399 5344) or email the Absence email account: [absence@grandavenue.kingston.sch.uk](mailto:absence@grandavenue.kingston.sch.uk)



**Spotlight on attendance**

Congratulations to **5S** who have had the highest attendance this week (99.6%).

**POLITE REMINDERS:**

Please can you ensure the following:

PE kits are in school everyday ready

Swimming kits are sent in on allocated days

Musical instruments, violins and ukulele's are bought in weekly for in class lessons

All swimming fees, trips and workshop fees are paid

The cold snap in the weather brings lots of lost gloves, scarves and hats. Please can we remind you to ensure all items are named so that we can reunite them with their owners as soon as possible.

**Weekly House Points**

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

Richmond	153
Kew	136
Painshill	77
Wisley	54
Norbury	53
Claremont	36

**Dates for your Diary**

Mon, 25th Nov	ALL	Bag 2 School
Mon, 25th Nov	3S	Ukulele Performance @ 2.30pm
Thurs, 28th Nov	ALL	Non-uniform day—Bottle tombola collection
Fri, 29th Nov	ALL	DEADLINE TO ORDER SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS FOR DELIVERY TO SCHOOL
<b>Fri, 29th Nov</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>INSET DAY— School and Nursery closed</b>
<b>Sat, 30th Nov</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>GASPA Christmas Fair</b>
Mon, 2nd Dec	4SP	Drumming Performance @ 2.40pm
Mon, 2nd Dec	YR2	Firefighter Visit
Tues, 3rd Dec	YR 6	National Army Museum
Tues, 3rd Dec	RBF	Butterflies Christmas Performance @ 9.30am
Weds, 4th Dec	RL	Ladybirds Christmas Performance @ 9.30am
Wed, 4th & Thurs 5th Dec	Y1	Festive craft afternoon @2pm
Thurs, 5th Dec	RBB	Bumblebees Christmas Performance @ 9.30am
Thurs, 5th Dec	GS	Grand Singers at John Lewis
Fri, 6th Dec	YR1-6	GASPA School Disco
Tues, 10th Dec	5L	Violin performance @ 2.30pm
Weds, 11th Dec	YR 2/3	Christmas Performance @ 9.15am
Thurs, 12th Dec	ALL	Christmas Jumper Day
Thurs, 12th Dec	R—YR 6	Christmas lunch
Fri, 13th Dec	YR 2/3	Christmas Performance @ 1.30pm
Thurs, 12th Dec	N	Sing-a-long @ 11am (AM class) @ 2.30pm (PM class)
Fri, 20th Dec	N	Nursery Christmas Party
Fri, 20th Dec	ALL	Last day of Autumn Term
Mon, 6th Jan 2025	ALL	First day of Spring Term