

Message from Shona Pitcher

Headteacher

This week I met with Sam Valentine, Sustainable Transport Officer and her colleague to continue the discussions about Grand Avenue becoming a school street (where the roads are closed at certain times during the day). We were out on the road at the end of the day to observe. The parking on Grand Avenue and the surrounding roads demonstrated very clearly the issues that are experienced by families and residents during the end of the day pick up and in the morning at drop off times.

As identified, there were many inconsiderate drivers who had stopped over drive ways, single yellow lines, double yellow lines, stopping in the road to let children out into the road and speeding. I have reported the issues on a number of occasions and the visit was useful for them to see my concerns in action. They are taking this away to make further recommendations which will aim to improve the situation. These may include further parking restrictions, possibility of additional zig zag lines, an additional crossing and road closures (as part of the school street scheme).

I will keep you updated on the progress of these discussions. However, I put out another plea to please park, wait or drive in a more considerate manner if you are driving to school to ensure the safety of our pupils.

Holocaust Memorial Day

This weeks, schools and educational settings across the UK observed Holocaust Memorial Day on Tuesday, 27th January. This has been marked in the UK since 2000 and has now been designated as an International Day of Commemoration by the United Nations. Holocaust Memorial Day falls on the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and we remember the men, women and children who lost their lives during the Holocaust. We also remember those individuals impacted by persecution in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

Children in Year 6 have been discussing this in their year group learning this week. Whilst the historical learnings of the Holocaust are important there are other lessons that can be learnt. It enables young people to recognise prejudice, to challenge discrimination, and to understand the consequences when these go unchecked.



The Year two boys took part in the Kingston Borough football tournament on Wednesday.

The boys played fantastically in every match showing great determination, spirit and goal scoring prowess. They were far and away the best team of the day going undefeated and finishing top of their league! Well done to the boys!

Thank you to the parent volunteers who supported the boys and transported them to and from the event.

Protecting young minds: Safeguarding young people from online harmful influences
Thursday 12th February 10am-12pm

This event is primarily targeted at parents, carers, and safeguarding professionals responsible for children and young people. It is designed for those seeking practical tools to manage online risks while maintaining a supportive, non-judgmental relationship with the minors in their care.

[Please click here to register for a place.](#)

Polite reminder:

We ask that dogs are not brought onto the school grounds at any time of the school day.

This is to ensure that the school site remains a clean and calm environment for our children.

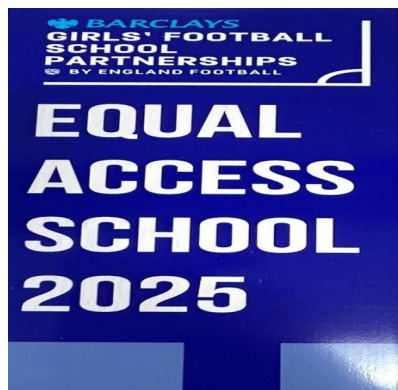
Nursery applications—September 2026

A reminder that applications for applications to our Nursery for September 2026 entry must be submitted by Friday, 6th March. If you would you like a copy of the application form please visit the school website [Grand Avenue Primary and Nursery School - Nursery Admissions](#) or visit the School Office.

REPAIR SKILLS REQUESTED

Our Reception mud kitchen needs some TLC, and we're hoping some kind volunteers with the right skills might be able to help us bring this well loved resource in our outside area back to life.

If you think you could spare some time, please let the office or Ms Hempston know by Friday 6th February.



We are proud to share that our school has been recognized and awarded a trophy by the FA . The award is for the school's commitment to girls football and providing equal opportunities for the girls at Grand Avenue Primary & Nursery School to participate in footballing activities.



Parenting groups starting later this term in Kingston

There are places available on free parenting groups which will be starting next term in the Kingston borough.

[Triple P Teen](#) for parents and carers of adolescents with mild to moderate challenging behaviour, 2 week course held on Saturdays.

[Left to their own devices workshop](#) for parents and carers of children of all ages. The workshop will help parents and carers navigate the challenges of raising children in a digital world. One off workshops for 2 hours.

Please see attached posters for more information about each group. [Please contact Karen Williams](#) if you have any questions.



You collected 449kgs for Bag2School today which is a donation of £134.70 to the school

Thank you so much, this is amazing!

Please can we remind you not to donate hard toys and books as the Bag2School team were unable to take these items.

Free pilates classes for Kingston parents

Physical well being is a precursor to good mental health, resilience and wellbeing. Pilates exercise provides a beneficial release from stress enabling you to manage better with resilience, calm and ease.

[Please click here for further information.](#)



Spotlight on attendance

Congratulations to 4C who have had the highest attendance this week (98.3%).

Weekly House Points

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

Kew	180
Richmond	171
Claremont	167
Painshill	154
Norbury	152
Wisley	142

If you have any larger toy cars, helicopters or planes, we would love to have these to use in the playgrounds at break

and lunch times.

Please take any donations to the School Office

Many thanks.



Dates for your Diary

Mon, 2nd Feb	YR 2	Foxes Class Assembly @ 10.30am (Main Hall)
Tues, 3rd Feb	YR 4	Ancient Egyptian Workshop and Dress up Day (payment due 27th January) There will be no swimming on this day.
Weds, 4th Feb	YR2	Badgers Class Assembly @ 10.30am (Main Hall)
Fri, 6th Feb	REC	Ladybirds visit to Tolworth Library @ 9.30am
Fri, 6th Feb	YR 1	Hedgehogs visit to Tolworth Library @ 10.15am
Fri, 6th Feb	REC	Reception cake sale
Tues, 10th Feb	YR 6	Junior Citizenship Scheme (payment due Fri, 6th Feb)
Weds, 11th Feb	YR 2	Otters Class Assembly @ 10.30am (Main Hall)
Fri, 13th Feb	YR 1	Year 1 First Aid Workshop (payments due Fri, 6th Feb)
Fri, 13th Feb	REC	Butterflies visit to Tolworth Library @ 9.30am
Mon 16th—Fri 20th Feb	ALL	HALF TERM
Mon, 23rd Feb	ALL	First day of Spring Term 2
Fri, 27th Feb	NUR	Nursery cake sale
Mon 2nd—Fri 6th Mar	YR 6	Year 6 Activity week
Thurs, 5th Mar	YR 3,4 & 5	Author Visit—Jon Lock & Nich Angell (order by Thurs, 12th Feb)
Weds, 11th Mar	YR 3	3W Class assembly @ 10.30am—Main Hall
Thurs 12th Mar	ALL	Parent/Teacher consultations
Fri 13th Mar	ALL	Parent/Teacher consultations
Tues, 17th Mar	YR 3	3S Class assembly @ 10.30am—Main Hall
Mon, 23rd Mar	YR 3	Roman Day workshop (payment due Mon, 16th Mar)
Tues, 24th Mar	ALL	GASPA AGM
Weds, 25th Mar	YR 3	3FB Class assembly @ 10.30am—Main Hall
Thurs, 26th Mar	YR 3	3W Ukulele performance @ 2.30pm—Annex Hall
Fri, 27th Mar	ALL	Last day of Spring term—early close
Weds, 20th May	YR1 –YR6	Sports Day (more details to follow closer to the date)