

Message from Shona Pitcher Headteacher

We have had another busy week in school with an author visit for our children in Years 3-6 and the Travelling Book Fair for the whole school. At Grand Avenue Primary & Nursery School we are passionate about reading and encouraging our children to develop their love of reading. Thank you to everyone who has supported the book fair this week. I have loved supporting the children and helping them to choose their books. I hope that you all enjoy sharing these stories together at home.

A huge thank you to Mrs Maqsood who organised the author visit this week and runs our school library to ensure everyone has access to books to take home. Mrs Maqsood has shared details of this week's events later in the Newsletter.



Throughout October, our school will be celebrating Black History Month under this year's theme of 'community'. We are inviting parents to share your culture, history and talents with our students.

Our school community is made up of a diverse range of cultures and families who we would love to get involved by sharing elements of art, fashion, recipes or music.

If you have anything you would be happy to share with our students, please send an email to our School Office (office@grandavenue.kingston.sch.uk) asking for your message to be directed to Mrs Perkins.

Many thanks!



If your child is absent from school please can you telephone the main school number or email the

Absence email account:

absence@grandavenue.kingston.sch.uk

Please do not send absence emails to the main office email address due to the large volume of emails this account receives. Thank you.

Reading at Grand Avenue Primary & Nursery School

Welcome back to a new term! We have kicked off with a great deal of excitement.

The library is up and running, and starting from next week, children will be able to borrow books to bring home. Children can borrow 1 book each week, and we request that it is returned to the library the following week. We are excited about the children borrowing books! We do have a polite request: please help your child remember to place their book back in their school bag on **Library Day** so they are able to swap it for a new one.

Rob Biddulph visits Grand Avenue Primary & Nursery School

We were thrilled to host our first author visit of the year, welcoming the wonderful Rob Biddulph. He delivered a captivating, highly interactive presentation that brought immense joy to both the children and staff. His draw-along session was incredibly engaging, and I must say, we definitely have some potential illustrators in the making here at Grand Avenue! Some of the illustrations have been displayed outside the Library.

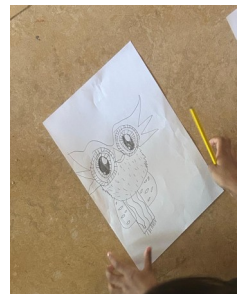
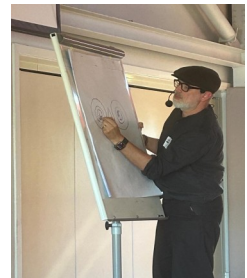
I hope the children were able to share their experience with you at home, and we look forward to welcoming more inspiring authors throughout the year.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Pat from the Regency Bookshop in Surbiton for her wonderful, ongoing support. She organises these brilliant author visits for our school, and we are so grateful for her hard work.

Reading Cafe

THANK YOU to all the Year 1 Parents/Cares who joined us for our Reading Café! It was fantastic to see a full house of parents and children enjoying books and breakfast together in the library.

We look forward to seeing you next week.



Community Notices

Parenting groups

There are places available on a number of parenting groups which will be starting soon, this term in the Kingston borough.

[Playful Parenting](#) for parents and carers of children under 5 years - limited creche places available - Thursday mornings in New Malden

[Triple P Seminars](#), standalone sessions for parents and carers of children up to 12 years - limited creche places available - Tuesday mornings in Chessington

[The Parenting Puzzle](#)/Nurturing Programme for parents and carers of children up to 12 years - limited creche places available - Wednesday mornings in Tolworth

[123 Magic](#) for parents and carers of children up to 7 years of age who display challenging behaviour/ ADHD - limited creche places - Thursday mornings in New Malden

[Talking Teens](#) for parents and carers of year 6 upwards - being held on Monday evenings in Kingston [Triple P Teen](#) for parents and carers of children aged 11-16 years with mild to moderate challenging behaviour, 2 week course held on 2 consecutive Saturdays in New Malden.

Please see the attached posters for more information about the different groups [Please contact Karen Williams](#) for more information.

New Kingston and Richmond Family Hubs booklet

We are pleased to share our new Family Hubs booklet, highlighting the joined-up support and services available across Kingston and Richmond for children, young people, and their families.

Family Hubs act as a 'one-stop shop', offering early support, parenting programmes, youth services, and specialist SEND guidance in inclusive, welcoming environments.

Please share this resource with your staff, pastoral leads, and families to help direct them to local advice, activities, and support networks.

Ways to get involved:

[You can view and download the new Hubs Booklet.](#)

Dates for your Diary

Mon, 28th Sept	YR 6	Kew Gardens visit
Thurs, 1st Oct	YR 1 & 3	Science Dome workshop (<i>payment deadline Fri 25th Sept</i>)
Thurs, 1st Oct	YR 2	Tower of London visit (<i>payment deadline Fri 25th Sept</i>)
Fri, 2nd Oct	YR 4	Richmond Park visit (<i>payment deadline Fri 25th Sept</i>)
Mon, 5th Oct	YR 1&2	The Selfish Giant performance (<i>payment deadline Fri 2nd Oct</i>)
Tues, 13th Oct	R-YR 6	Flu vaccination (<i>please complete the form by Mon, 12th Oct</i>)
Fri, 23rd Oct	REC	All About Me dress up day
Fri, 23rd Oct	YR 1	Out of the World dress up day



Spotlight on attendance

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

Weekly House Points

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

Richmond	75
Painshill	73
Norbury	60
Claremont	55
Wisley	48
Kew	43

Car Park Safety

To ensure the safety of all our pupils and families during the busy drop-off and pick-up periods, we would like to share an important reminder regarding school access.

Please do not walk through the car park at any time. While it may seem like a shortcut, the car park is a high-traffic area with limited visibility for drivers who are reversing or turning. To keep everyone safe, we ask that all pedestrians use the dedicated pathway located between the two main buildings. We appreciate your cooperation in making our school a safe environment for every child.

The school car park is for staff vehicle use only and should not be accessed for drop off at breakfast club/ early morning clubs/collections during the school day or after school. Please park carefully on one of the surrounding roads and arrive at the lower pedestrian gate for visits/drop off and collection during the school day.

Thank you for your continued support!