

Kenningtons Primary Academy

Newsletter

26th September 2025



It's been a busy and eventful few weeks at Kenningtons, and I'd like to share some updates with you.

Denim Day Success

Thank you so much for your generous contributions to Denim Day. I'm delighted to share that we raised £404, which will go directly towards continuing the development of our O@k Playground Project. Your support makes a real difference to our children's experiences.



Learning Behaviour Walk

Last week, Mrs Clarke and I carried out a Learning Behaviour Walk with our KS2 Class Champions. Overall, the results were pleasing, but it's clear we have some work to do around concentration and focus. This has prompted me to reflect on how we can better support pupils in being still and mindful during lessons. Watch this space for updates on new strategies we'll be trialing.

Safeguarding Reminder

As many of you are aware, we experienced a worrying incident last week when a child went missing after school. Thankfully, the child was found safe and well at another family's house. This is not a situation we ever want to repeat. All KS2 pupils have now been reminded of the collection protocol if a parent is not present. I want to sincerely thank the families who helped in the search—your support truly highlights the strength of our Kenningtons community.

Traffic and Safety

Today, I met with one of our local councilors to discuss ongoing concerns about traffic around the school. We shared our observations and the impact on pupil safety. The councilor has committed to reviewing the situation and exploring possible solutions, including signage and patrol support. I'll keep you updated as we hear more.

Summer Reading Challenge Champions!

I'm thrilled to announce that thanks to the incredible efforts of our children and families, Kenningtons was the winning school in Thurrock for the Summer Reading Challenge! We will soon be receiving the engraved shield, which will be proudly displayed in school. Well done to everyone who took part!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. If you have any questions or feedback, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Warm regards, **Mrs Sawtell-Haynes**. Headteacher



Week 2: Learning from mistakes



Headteacher Awards

Week 3: Accepting feedback and criticism





Our **Maths Coaches** support children in KS2 with Times Tables Rock Stars during the lunchtime club.

Our **lunchtime hosts** ensure the smooth running of the Annex Hall during the lunch hour - helping to assist the adult on duty.



Our **KS1 Assistants** help the Year 1 and Year 2 Teachers at Lunchtime with any jobs they need help with. For example: sticking in work, sharpening pencils ect ...



Reading Champions and Supervisors ensure children can borrow brilliant new books each lunchtime; as teams they manage the lending service.



Well done to Sophie, Dabira,
Jessica and Loredana for
earning their *Pen Licence*
this week.



Mrs Clarke nominated
Zara in recognition of her
exceptional customer
service and the warm,
welcoming atmosphere
she creates for children
visiting the Library.



Having been a
maths coach for
just two weeks, it
is clear that
Tommy has the
right attributes for
the role. He is
reliable, eager to
help anyone at
TTRS club and has
been proactive in
all aspects of the
role, arriving early
to set up, ensuring
everyone gets the
most out of their
visit. A great role
model to others.

Mrs Beard.



Employees of the Week



Each class has a **Class Champion** who represents them; they make sure that their views about school are always heard.



Our **Artists in Residence** support other children in Art lessons, collect resources, set up Art lessons for Teachers and offer artistic advice.



Our **animal handlers** take it in turns to collect eggs and look after the animals we have in the animal zone.



O@K (Outdoors @ Kenningtons) Playground Project is a year old!

Thank you for your support whether it be bringing in old toys, donating £1 on non-uniform days, dressing your child appropriately for being outdoors or simply not moaning at them when they come home wet or dirty!

The children have reported that lunch times are far more fun since the introduction of play zones like the Scooter Zone, the Tyre Fortress and the dressing up box. They also tell us that they are developing their negotiation and communication skills because they need to share and take turns with equipment. This year we will continue to develop other play zones to further encourage the fundamental skills that unstructured play promotes.

Our aim remains the same - to provide children with the types of play experiences that you may have loved as a child. The way children play now will have undoubtedly changed from when you were younger! Society is ever changing – technology is luring our children inside more and more, lifestyles are busier than ever and sometimes it simply feels safer to have our children in the confines of our own homes. Just take a moment to recall your happiest moments of play as a child. Did they involve any of the following, building dens, getting muddy, throwing snowballs, figuring out how things worked, creating adventure?

Ways you can help...

1. Dress for the day!

We will be trying to ensure that the children play outside in all weathers. We notice that when our children are not allowed outside they find it trickier to concentrate and are less well-behaved. To ensure that children can play outdoors everyday they need to be warm, dry and comfortable.

In winter:

Wellies or waterproof shoes
A waterproof coat
Hats/scarves



In summer:

A sun hat
Suncream



2. Share your junk with us!

One person's junk is another person's treasure!!

We would love items such as tyres, fabrics, tool boxes, handbags, dressing up clothes, crates, old pushchairs, old toys, pots and pans, steering wheels and business waste (in case you know a builder, mechanic or plumber). If you aren't sure if we could make use of your junk you can email the school a photo of the item and we will let you know. We will check items to ensure that they are safe for children to use before they play with it.

Look out for photos on our Facebook page to see how much fun everyone is having
Outdoors @ Kenningtons!

Date	Class	Location
6 th Oct 2025	Year 1. Young V&A Museum	London
	Year 6. Height & Weight Screening	In School
7 th Oct 2025	Year 5. Anglo Saxon Village	London
13 th Oct 2025	Year 6. Imperial War Museum	London
	Year 4. Greek Workshop	In School
14 th Oct 2025	Flu Immunisation	In School
16 th Oct 2025	School Photos. Individual & Siblings	In School
20 th Oct – 31 st Oct	Half Term	
3 rd Nov 2025	Inset Day	

To minimize disruption to learning and ensure full attendance, we kindly request that **medical appointments** are to be scheduled:

- **During school holidays** (e.g., summer break, winter holidays, spring break).
- **Before or after school hours** on regular school days.
- **On weekends**, if available.



We understand that urgent or specialist appointments may occasionally require school-hour availability. In such cases, please notify the school in advance.

Click on the link below for our dinner menus:

<https://www.kenningtonsprimaryacademy.co.uk/information-for-parents/school-meals>

Contact Us

School Office: 01708 865663

Email: enquiries@kenningtons.thurrock.sch.uk

Child Absence: Study Bugs App

Website: www.kenningtonsprimaryacademy.co.uk