

# Kenningtons Primary Academy

Newsletter

30<sup>th</sup> January 2026



The Spring term is already moving swiftly by, and there is a real sense of focus and purpose across the school.

Year 6 pupils are now very much concentrating on their end-of-year SATs. Their attitude to learning has been excellent, and they are showing real determination and resilience as they prepare for this important stage of their primary journey.

This week, we carried out an English book look, and it was a pleasure to see the fabulous work in pupils' books. There is clear evidence of excellent progress made by individual pupils, as well as strong progression from year to year. As part of this review, we have also asked some reflective questions of ourselves around handwriting — specifically how we can ensure pupils become confident and fluent with cursive handwriting as early as possible, so that the physical act of writing does not hold them back in expressing their ideas.

I have also had the opportunity to meet with and give a tour of the school to your newly elected Parent Governors. It was a pleasure to share the work of the school with them, and I hope they will enjoy becoming involved in, and seeing first-hand, the strategic work that takes place behind the scenes over the coming terms.

Our Kenningtons Experience continues to enrich learning across the school. Year 2 visited Charterhouse to support their history learning, Reception experienced life-size dinosaurs during their Teach Rex dinosaur workshop, bringing dinosaurs to life in an exciting and memorable way and Year 5 attended Young Voices at the O2. I was fortunate enough to attend with the pupils and can honestly say they had the time of their lives. It was a privilege to see the joy on their faces. A special thank you must go to the staff who gave up their evening and family time to make this unforgettable experience possible for the children.

Over the past few weeks, Mrs Clarke and I have been working closely on our history and geography curriculum. We have refined how historical and geographical skills are presented to pupils and revisited all lessons to ensure they are of the highest quality. Some lessons have been modified and additional lessons added where needed. We look forward to sharing these developments with staff after half term.

Finally, thank you for your calm and supportive response to the incident that occurred in the surrounding area last week. If I receive any further updates from the police, I will share these with you. In the meantime, please continue to remain vigilant to help ensure the safety of all children.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

**Mrs Sawtell-Haynes**

**Headteacher**



**Week 3: I have a range of strategies for managing my worries and other uncomfortable feelings**



## **Headteacher Awards**

**Week 4: I feel that I belong to and am valued in my class setting and community**





## Play Cabin - Nathalie

This pupil is a person who really cares about her job. This week she has used her initiative well to solve a problem to help all the children! This shows great common sense and leadership which are certainly traits that will help her later in life. Thank you Natalie! Mrs Goyette



## Employees of the Week



### Artist in Residence - Princess

This is for a cheerful and hardworking artist in residence who always arrives on time and ready to help. She checks what equipment is needed and makes sure everything is prepared before lessons begin. During Year 5 lessons, she often checks in to see if anyone needs extra help or resources. She is thoughtful in her role, helpful, and always happy to take on different tasks.

Miss Hellier



# Merit Awards

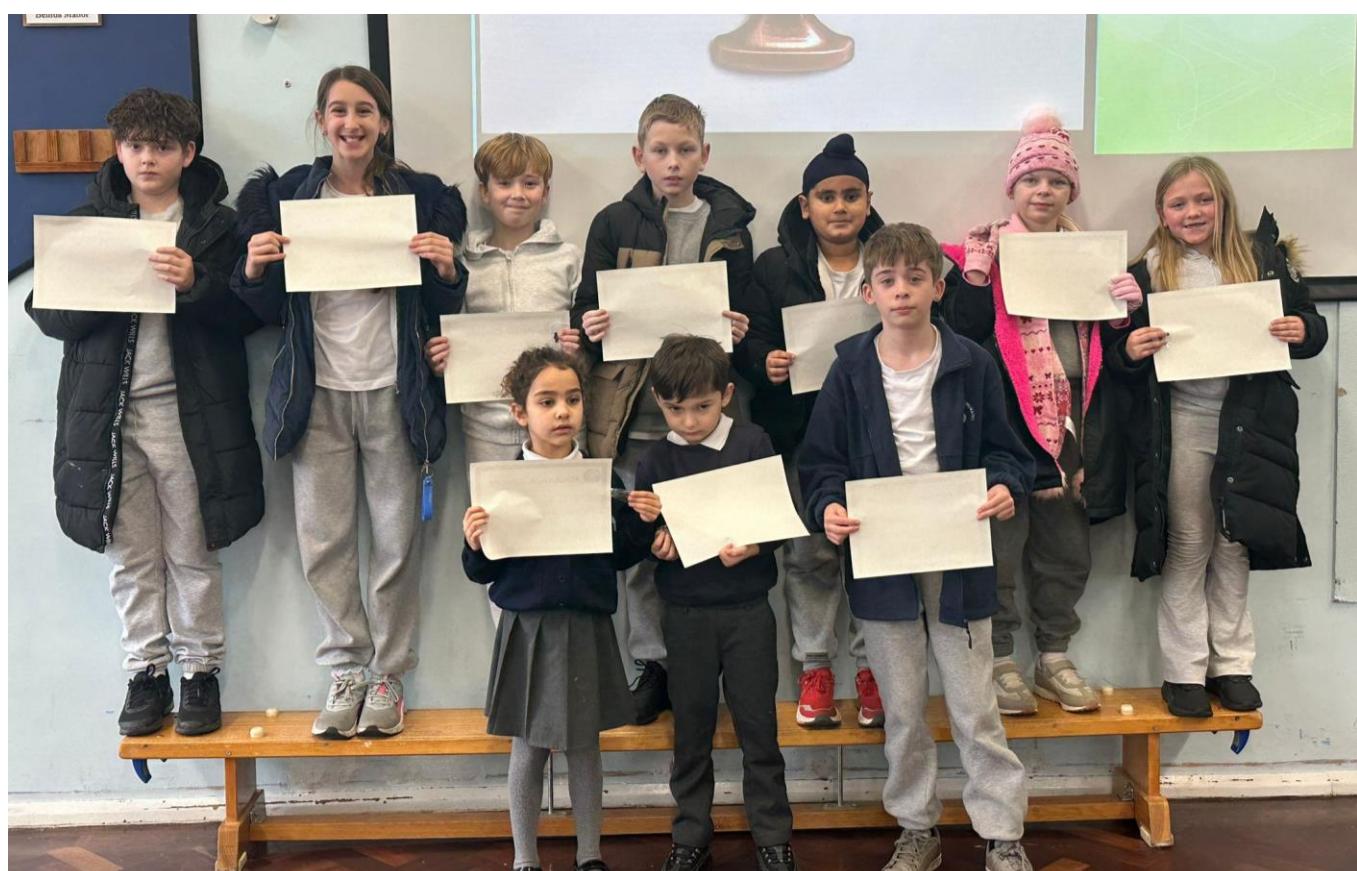
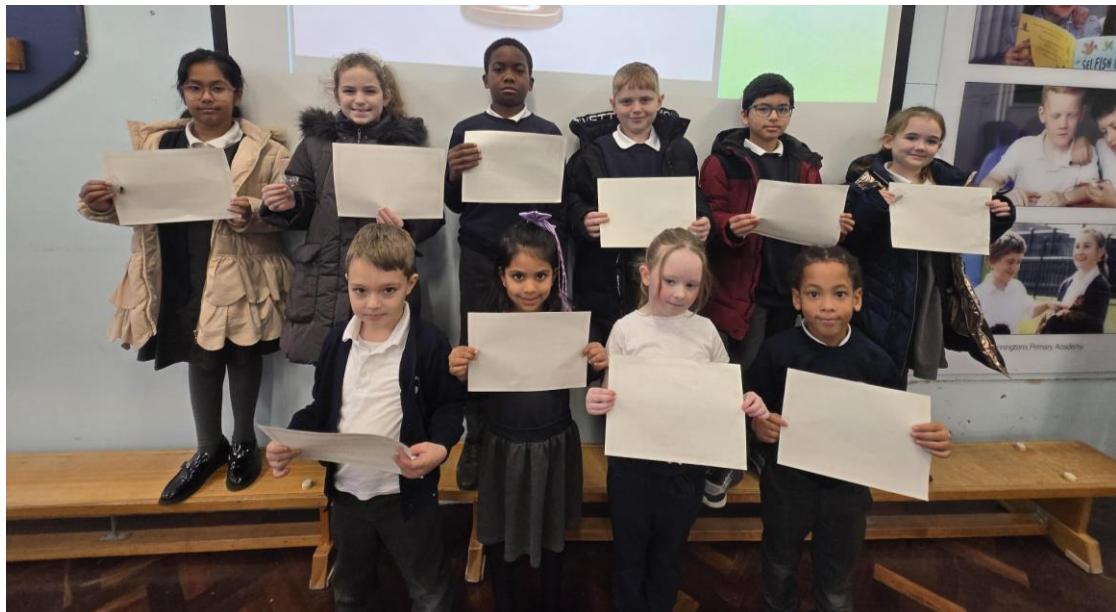
The merit system has been designed to encourage, reward and promote exemplary work and good behaviour. It has also been designed to give recognition to pupils who make a positive contribution to the school that may otherwise go unnoticed. Not only do the merits reward hard work and effort, they also aim to recognise the pupils who are making positive steps to become model citizens in the future.

Number of Merits required to achieve each level:

**Bronze** = 50 merits (bronze certificate and bronze badge)

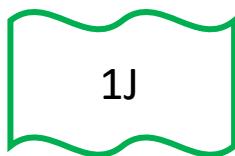
**Silver** = 60 merits (silver certificate and silver badge)

**Gold** = 75 merits (gold certificate, gold badge and a special trip reward)



## Eco Warriors Weekly Check

Each week, our Eco Warriors visit all the classrooms to see which one is the most energy efficient. They look out for things like lights being switched off when not in use and windows being closed while the heating is on. After tallying up the scores, they award the title of *Most Energy Efficient Class* to the winning room. Well done to everyone doing their part to help save energy and protect our planet!



| Date                             | Event                                 | Location         |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb</b>    | Year 1. Great Fire of London Workshop | In School        |
| <b>Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>  | Year 3. Natural History Museum        | London           |
| <b>Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Feb</b> | Year 5. Thameside Nature Reserve      | Stanford-le-Hope |
| <b>Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>   | Year 5. First Aid Workshop            | In School        |
| <b>Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>   | Last Day of Spring Term 1             |                  |
| <b>Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb</b>   | First Day of Spring Term 2            |                  |

## Contact Us

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Email:

enquiries@kenningtons.thurrock.sch.uk

Child Absence: Study Bugs App

Website:

www.kenningtonsprimaryacademy.co.uk

Click on the link below for our dinner menus:

<https://www.kenningtonsprimaryacademy.co.uk/ckfinder/userfiles/files/Information%20for%20Parents/School%20Meals/Kenningtonsprimaryacademy%20Autumn%20Winter%202025.pdf>

We currently have spaces available in Year 3 at our school. If you know anyone who is looking for an outstanding school for their child, please feel free to pass this on and encourage them to enquire.

