

Kenningtons Primary Academy

Newsletter

2nd October 2026



There is already so much good news to share at Kenningtons!

Our Reception pupils are now attending school full time, and it has been lovely to see them getting to know their classrooms, staff and new friends. We will soon be carrying out building work to create a smaller, calmer space for children who are finding school a little overwhelming. This will help them to feel more settled and allow us to provide carefully planned support and interventions so that they can make good progress. Watch this space for updates!

I am incredibly proud that, for the second year running, Kenningtons has won the Thurrock Summer Reading Challenge! Thank you to all the parents and carers who encouraged their children to take part and kept them reading throughout the summer. Your children are very fortunate to have adults who are so invested in their learning.

We have also enjoyed lots of success at the cross-country events. The extra practice pupils have been putting in has clearly paid off, and they should be proud of their effort, determination and achievements. Well done to everyone who took part!

Next week, I will be asking staff for information about pupils' engagement with home learning. Over the coming weeks, I will write to parents where children are not regularly completing this important practice to explain what needs to improve.

Thank you to those of you who are reading with your children, practising their spellings and helping them learn their maths facts. This regular practice helps children to recall essential knowledge more confidently, find classroom work easier and make better progress. A little time spent practising consistently makes a real difference.

Please also ensure that your child arrives at school on time every day. Arriving late means missing learning, instructions and the familiar routines that help children begin their day calmly and confidently. It can leave them feeling unsettled and having to catch up before they have even got started. Late arrivals also interrupt teaching and other pupils' concentration. In addition, office staff must register and organise each late arrival at an already very busy time, placing further demands on a team whose workload is stretched. Thank you for helping us give every child a positive, punctual start to the day.

Yesterday, Mrs Clarke and I visited another school. It is always valuable to see different approaches, share ideas and reflect on how we can continue to improve our own provision. We were, however, very happy to return to Kenningtons. The visit reminded us just how much joy there is here—in our classrooms, in our relationships and in the enthusiasm of our children. It is something very special, and something we should all be proud of.

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



Week 2: Learning from mistakes

Week 3: Accepting feedback & criticism





Week 4: Practise & applying strategies



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.



Our **food specialists** serve salad to other children at lunchtime. They have all completed the level 1 Food Hygiene Test.

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



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

The role of a **Subject Matter Expert** is to ensure that all IT equipment is delivered to the correct class as well as make sure it is charged and put away correctly. They will also play a vital role in Online Safety throughout the year.



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

2026 Summer READING CHALLENGE



Set Your Personal Reading Goal

Books to Read

Number of books

Chapters to Read

Number of chapters

Employees

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Tilly – Animal Handler

This week's Employee of the Week goes to an exceptional Animal Handler! She always arrives early for her shift with a huge smile, ready to get the job done and care for our chickens. She is responsible, reliable and a fantastic team member, making sure her fellow employees attend their shifts and know exactly where they need to be. A true star employee who goes above and beyond every week!
Miss McQueen

Harper – Lunchtime Host

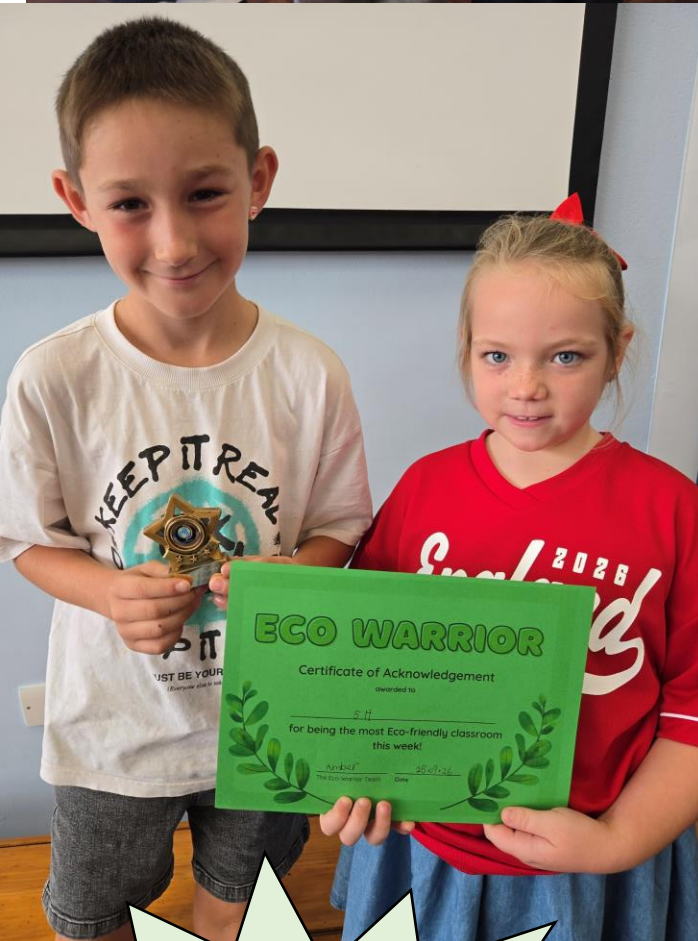
This lunchtime host always goes above and beyond to make the annex hall a happy and welcoming place for everyone. She arrives on time with a smile on her face. She is friendly, kind and approachable and takes her role very seriously. She is always ready to help the children in the packed lunch hall and support adults with clearing and cleaning the tables. She shows great teamwork and enjoyment towards this role. Thank you, Harper, for being such a fantastic Lunchtime Host!
Miss Knowlden





🌿 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!



Well done to
Nursery, 5H and
Koalas for being
the Eco Hero's



Date	Class	Location
Mon 5 th Oct	Year 1. History of Toys Workshop	In School
Mon 5 th Oct	Year 6. Height & Weight Measurements	In School
Tues 6 th Oct	Food Bank Collection	
Mon 12 th Oct	Year 5. West Stow Trip	Suffolk
Mon 12 th Oct	Year 6. Imperial War Museum Trip	Duxford
Thurs 15 th Oct	School Photos. Individual & Sibling	In School
19 th – 30 th October	HALF TERM	
Mon 2 nd Nov	INSET DAY (non-pupil Day)	
Tues 3 rd Nov	AUTUMN TERM 2 BEGINS	
Tues 3 rd Nov	Ancient Greek Workshop	In School



Please start to collect Tinned Soup and Tinned Tomatoes for the Thurrock Food Bank, take them to your classrooms. The final collection day is on Tues 6th Oct.

Contact Us

School Office: 01708 865663

Email: enquiries@kenningtons.thurrock.sch.uk

Child Absence: Study Bugs App

Website: www.kenningtonsprimaryacademy.co.uk