



Meadlands Primary School



Mallard Messenger

Our current school value is Kindness : Resilience



Date	Event	Applicable to
3.2.26	V & A Museum Trip	Year 3
3.2.26	Boys Football Match vs The Russell – Home	Invitation only
4.2.26	Stay & Play 10.45 – 11.30	Nursery
10.2.26	Orleans House Trip	Year 2
10.2.26	Swimming Gala – Pools on the Park	Invitation only
10.2.26	Parents Evening 15.40 – 18.30	Your appointment slot
12.2.26	Parents Eveing 15.40 – 18.30	Your appointment slot
13.2.26	Bike & Scooter Day	Nursery

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Headteacher's Update



Dear Parents and Carers

I'll start this week with two bits of good news: Mrs Barson is expecting a baby in June – of course that is by far the best news but in a close second place, we received a letter from Bridget Phillipson, Secretary of State for Education congratulating Meadlands on our excellent outcomes for disadvantaged children, placing us among the very best nationally. We are so proud of this achievement as we strive to have the highest expectations so that all our children can succeed. Well done to all our wonderful children and of course, the staff who drive this ambition and provide the opportunities. To read the letter in full, [click here](#).

As always, the Big Garden Birdwatch homework has been outstanding! Here are just three of the pieces that landed on my desk this week, but we have had such a variety of creations. I will be asking Mrs White to display these in the hall very soon for all to enjoy.

Continuing the theme of nature, I have signed Years 1-6 up to join the Live Lesson hosted by the WWF, streaming live from Antarctica, featuring Steve Backshall, who will be answering questions about his polar adventures. This will be particularly relevant for Year 6, who studied Antarctica last term, but no doubt will be an interesting and valuable lesson for all the children.

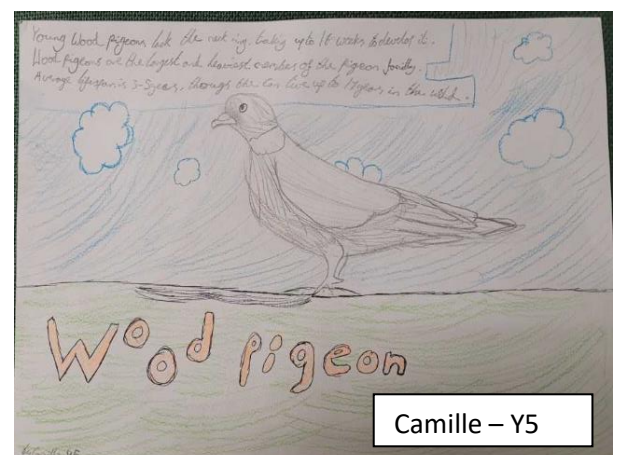
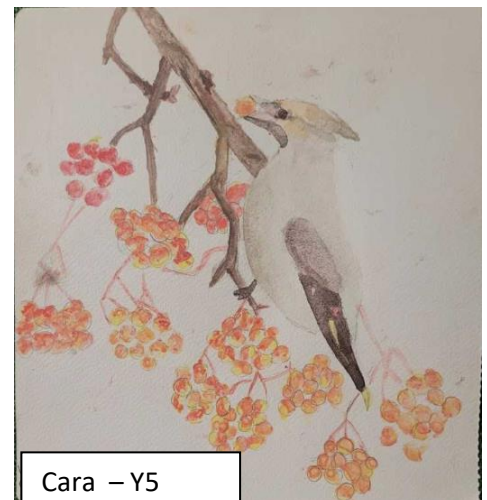
A reminder that we are gearing up for the KS2 Spelling Bee next Friday – the trophies have been engraved, the stickers are ready and the words have been randomised! All children in Years 3-6 are welcome to take part, and every participant will gain points for their team. We will share the outcome in the next newsletter.

We were treated to two excellent assemblies run by the children this week: the first was by Ava and Iris in Y6 who taught us all about gender equality and even the gender pay gap. This was followed by the Sustainability Squad: Teddy, Ameer, Monty, Isabella, Mela, Spike, Zachi, Denis and Effie who gave an update on all the work they have been doing and the charity they will be supporting.

Finally, we would like to welcome Miss Hanks who has joined Year 2 as a PGCE student, working alongside Mr Hepburn and Mrs Kelly. Miss Hanks will be with us till June, so do say hello!

Meanwhile, I wish you a very relaxing last weekend of January,

Mrs Wreford





Safeguarding & Wellbeing



Need support with home life?
Unsure how to handle a
situation with your child or
navigate changes in your
family life? We're here to help.



**FAMILY SUPPORT
DROP-IN**
9th February 1pm to 3pm

To book a 20 minute appointment email
Cacherel - cjules@darell.richmond.sch.uk
or speak to the school office.

The poster features a warm, orange-toned background with a large, light-colored archway. Inside the archway, a group of diverse people, including adults and children, are sitting on colorful cushions and talking. To the left of the archway, there are stylized trees and plants. The Richmond Family Support Service logo is in the top right corner. The text is centered within the archway. The bottom section of the poster has a dark brown background with white text.



School Success and Celebrations

Achievement Certificate Winners:

Well done to the following children for being awarded an achievement certificate.

Year Group	Certificates awarded Friday 30 th January 2026			
	Pupil of the week	Challenge	Resilience	Handwriting
Nursery	Hagen	Finn	Raysan	
Reception		Tommy	Joshua	Leon
Year 1	Sweth		Kai	Jakub & Nina
Year 2	Walt	Sienna	Jude	
Year 3	Poppy		Selena	
Year 4	Theo	Luca	Malika	Caroline
Year 5	Camille	Oliver	Sawyer	Noah
Year 6	Jakub	Yu Chi	Hattie	



Our Year 4 girls did themselves (and the school) proud at the Year 4 Girls competition this week, seeing off some tough competition and winning the Plate Trophy. Every single player showed great determination and resilience; they put on an excellent performance playing some fluid football displaying impressive skills. Well done to all involved!



Year Group	Certificates awarded Friday 23 rd January 2026			
	Pupil of the week	Challenge	Resilience	Handwriting
Nursery	Arlo	Evie	Clara	
Reception	Francesco		Malvi	
Year 1	Amilyn		Finley	Otis
Year 2		Luna		
Year 3	Frances		Omer Faruk	Khaleesi
Year 4	Lena	Nathan	Darcy	Carter
Year 5	Leo	Florence	Arthur M	
Year 6	Ozzie	Ella	Ivy	

Congratulations!



Attendance & Celebrations:



Week ending 30.1.26 - Well done to Year 6 for winning the attendance trophy and achieving an attendance of 98.4% this week.

Week ending 23.1.26 - Well done to Year 1 for winning the attendance trophy and achieving an attendance of 95.9% last week.



APOLLO

643



ARTEMIS

897



HESTIA

756



POSEIDON

998



Class Updates



Look at what Nursery have been learning...

We have been continue with our topic of transport, looking at trains and bikes. We spoke about where we have been on a train and where we could go. We also read Mrs Armitage on wheels and thought about the different things we would put on our bikes to make them extra special. The children have made lots of different wheels using all different materials, from blocks to cutting and sticking.

This week we have had lots of fun outside getting messy and finding all different ways of showing 5 hidden in Jelly!



Look at what Reception have been learning...

Reception are taking their jobs as eco warriors very seriously. We have explored the different animals that live in the sea and the affects sea pollution has on these animals. They practiced cleaning the sea of rubbish to save the animals from eating it or getting trapped. We have also been discussing solutions to sea pollution and created our own stop signs to stop people littering on beaches.





Class Updates



Look at what Year 1 have been learning...

This week Year 1 went on a trip to the Museum of Richmond, where we took part in a workshop about toys. The children had the opportunity to play with both old and new toys and to learn about the history of different toys. The visit links to our current Design and Technology unit, in which we are making hand puppets. It also ties in with our Science topic on everyday materials. The children were really engaged throughout the trip, and we had a great time.



Look at what Year 2 have been learning...

Year 2 have been enjoying their gymnastics lessons for the past few weeks and have learned several positions and movements. In their groups, they have learnt about how to travel safely across the mat and hold their position for a set amount of time. In Science, they have been learning about materials, and this week they carried out an investigation into which materials are and are not absorbent.

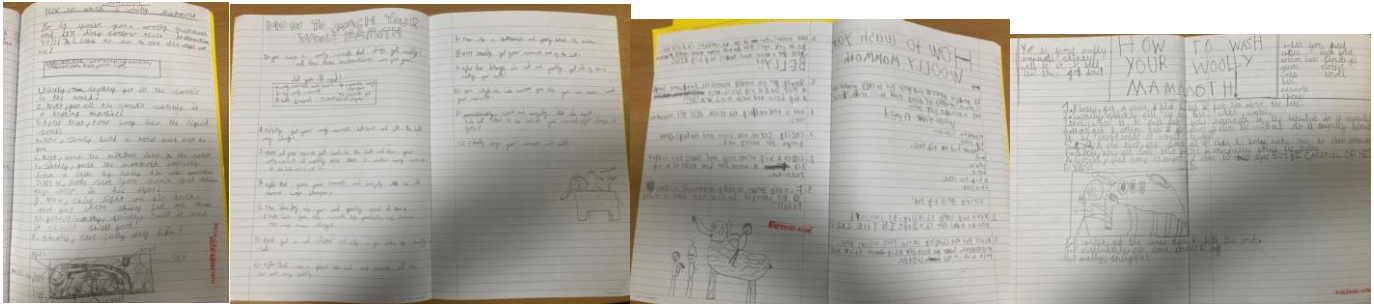




Class Updates

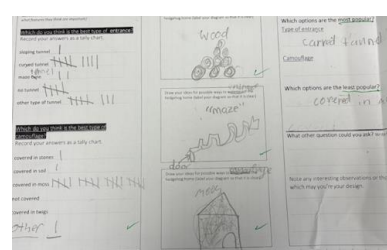
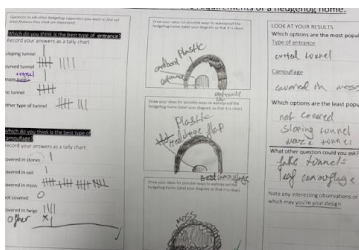
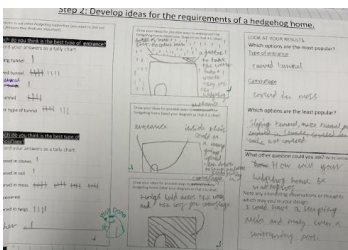
Look at what Year 3 have been learning...

We in Year 3 have been rolling up our sleeves and cleaning some dirty woolly mammoths! Well almost... we have been imagining this task in order to write instructions to support others who are in need of assistance when washing their own large fluffy (extinct) pets. Helpful tips have included using all manner of equipment from skateboards to industrial cranes, building reinforced water slides and having an umbrella ready for when water is splashed.



Look at what Year 4 have been learning...

We hope you enjoyed our assembly on Friday. Year 4 worked very hard in preparing and rehearsing for it. It was full of the children's ideas, and the 'Homophone Rap' was entirely written by the children of Year 4. Our Design and Technology topic of hedgehog homes has been coming along nicely. The children have begun the design process by doing a survey to find out what types of entrances and camouflaging would be the most effective. (See photos below.) They then began designing their preferred choices and considered what types of materials they could use. We look forward to making the hedgehog homes in the last week of this half term. Details will follow soon.



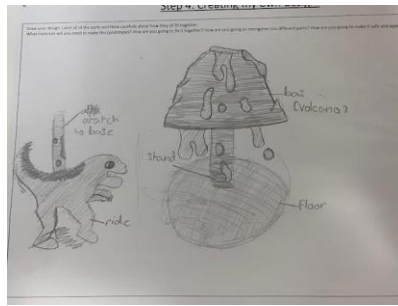
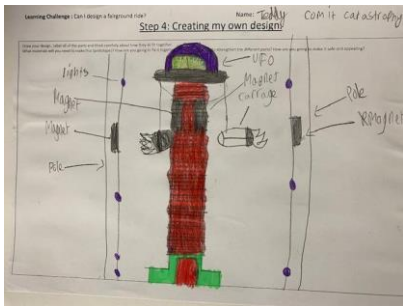


Class Updates



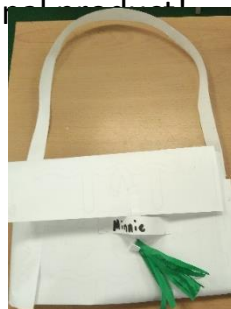
Look at what Year 5 have been learning...

Year 5 have been busy designing their moving fairground rides this week, which we will be building in the last week of the half term. In their groups they had to consider what kind of ride they wanted to make, how they would build it and which materials they would use, as well as the challenge of working out how they would attach a circuit and motor to make their ride move. We will update you with their finished products in the next newsletter!



Look at what Year 6 have been learning...

This week we continued our bag-making journey by building prototype bags. After finalising their design choices, the children were then set the challenge of building their prototype – using only paper. After much trial and error, the children emerged victorious and all had managed to create a bag. They utilised their problem solving skills, as well as teamwork and should be really proud at what they created! Next week they are learning sewing techniques, before starting to make their final bags!





Meadlands Primary School

Meadlands Noticeboard



Meadlands Primary School

The week of the 19th January was Energy Saving week, so a perfect time to share some everyday energy saving tips with you that is not only good for the environment, but also also your wallet.



Getting up for the day

- **Keep your shower time to four minutes** – set a timer or play a song (saves £45 a year).
- **Keep your bathroom ventilated** – close the bathroom door, turn on your extractor fan or open a window during, and for 15 minutes after, your shower [to prevent damp and mould](#).
- **Reduce the water temperature**, as cooler showers use less energy (saves £40 a year).
- **Turn off the tap** while brushing your teeth, shaving, or washing your face, and use cold water if you don't need hot.

Heating your home for the day

- **Check the temperature on the thermostat** – between 18°C and 21°C is fine for most people.
- **Check your heating times** – if you have a boiler set the temperature two or three degrees lower, (or programme it to be off) when you're out or asleep. If you heat your home with another type of heating, such as a [heat pump](#), check with the installer before changing any settings.
- **Check the thermostatic radiator valves** – some have numbers on them. You can set each one to the lowest number that keeps the room comfortable. Set them to three or four for rooms you want warmer and one or two for rooms you want cooler.
- **Install [radiator reflectors](#)** behind radiators on external walls. These are easy to install even in rented homes, and should make rooms feel warmer.
- **Close your curtains and blinds when it gets dark**, as this helps keep the heat in at night. Keeping your curtains or blinds open when it's light lets the sun warm the room.

Washing and drying your clothes

- **Use your washing machine's 'eco' cycle for dirty laundry** – this takes longer but uses less energy – these are sometimes called 'Eco 40-60' or 'Eco cotton'.
- **Use a cold cycle (20°C or 30°C)** for laundry that needs a 'freshen up' but isn't visibly soiled.
- **Use a heated clothes airer instead of a tumble dryer** – these are cheaper to run, and they'll also allow clothes to dry more quickly than a standard clothes airer.
- **Hanging your washing outside** can be an effective way to dry clothes. You can do this on sunny days but colder and overcast days can also be drying days. Look for days when it's breezy and when the ground is dry.
- If you are on a [smart tariff](#), then **schedule appliances to run during lower price times** (only run them when you are at home and awake due to potential fire risks).



Safeguarding concern?

Are you concerned about the safety or welfare of a child? Please contact the SPA (Single Point of Access). Phone 020 8547 5008. [You can make an online referral here.](#)

If you think a child is in immediate danger you should call 999.

Early Starts

Please remember that if your child is coming into school early for whatever reason (clubs, boosters, sports events), they must enter via Breakfast Club and NOT the main entrance. Please also endeavour to arrive on time for clubs as late arrivals are disruptive for both staff and other students.

CHOCOLATE BEARS

We have acquired 248 Lindt chocolate bears which we would like to sell to raise funds for the school. If you would like to purchase these are available to order on parentmail. They are 100g of milk chocolate and as pictured below. Each is £3 (retail for £4.50) and you are welcome to purchase as many as possible. The expiration date is May. Thank you for your support.



DISMOUNT FROM BIKES, SCOOTERS & SKATEBOARDS

Please can you remind children that they must **dismount from bikes, skateboards and scooters at any of the small gates at the entrances to the school grounds.** They are NOT to scoot or cycle through the carpark or beyond these entrances. This includes early children attending for clubs and boosters.

PARKING DURING DROP OFF & PICK UP

According to Highway Code Rule 243: You must not park near a school entrance, anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services, at or near a bus stop or taxi rank, on the approach to a level crossing, opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space, opposite a traffic island or (if this would cause an obstruction) another parked vehicle, where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles, in front of an entrance to a property, on a bend where you would obstruct cyclists' use of cycle facilities except when forced to do so by stationary traffic.

We are getting increasing numbers of complaints from neighbours and parents as parents are parking illegally on corners and across driveways at pick up and drop off times. This includes picking up after clubs when our car park is reserved for staff only. Please be considerate when parking near the school. We have asked for a traffic warden to patrol at the beginning and end of the school day.

THANK YOU

The Vineyard Community and Richmond Foodbank have collected all the food and toiletries that the Meadlands Families so kindly donated. They asked us to pass on their thanks and gratitude. This was always something we did after the Harvest Festival in decorated boxes, we have moved on since then, and in the spirit of sustainability, ask families to bring in tins and packets of food unwrapped. We also moved the timing of collection to a period the Foodbank are in need. So thank you so much for digging deep in the dreadful month of January and helping the local community.



Community Noticeboard



walk+talk
HAM
A SIMPLE, NO COST OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT

WHAT MEET WHEN MOVE SHARE

A 30-40 MINUTE WALK AS A GROUP

THE BISTRO CAFE, 303 RICHMOND ROAD, HAM, KT2 5QU

10:00 EVERY FRIDAY

ALL AGES AND ABILITIES, PETS AND PRAMS WELCOME

WANT TO TALK? PREFER TO LISTEN? SPACE FOR BOTH

Walk Leader: ALEX
Any questions? Call 07779 323 220, check out the website: www.walk-talk.uk or JUST SHOW UP. You will be so welcome.



Supported by...
The Allegr Foundation
www.walk-talk.uk
The Allegr Foundation is a Registered Charity (no. 1206023)



Transferring from primary to secondary school if you have an EHCP in Richmond

An information evening for parents and carers of children with education, health and care plans (EHCPs), in Years 4 or 5 of primary school in the Richmond borough.

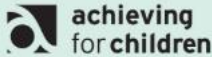
A chance to:

- meet the Achieving for Children SEND team
- watch presentations from the SEND team, SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) and secondary schools
- speak to secondary school representatives and special educational needs co-ordinators (SENCOs) and ask your questions and admission enquiries

Wednesday 4 March, 2026
5.30pm to 7.30pm

The Richmond upon Thames School, Egerton Road, Twickenham TW2 7SL

Please book your place:
[Secondary school transition online booking form](#)



THE EXCHANGE St Mary's University Twickenham London

Live Show

HOW TO SURVIVE IN SPACE

STARRING THE O-TWINS
AS SEEN ON CBBC'S OPERATION OUCH!

FRIDAY 20 FEBRUARY - 2026

VENUE: THE EXCHANGE THEATRE, TWICKENHAM
LIVE SPACE BIOLOGY EXPERIMENTS

A SCIENCE ADVENTURE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

UNLIMITED LAUGHS! • A WHOLE LOT OF DANCING • HUMAN BODY LIVE EXPERIMENTS!

Discounts for group bookings! Get in touch for details.
BOOK AT: WWW.EXCHANGETWICKENHAM.CO.UK



TYPING'S COOL
TOUCH TYPING SCHOOL

Touch-typing courses for 7 – 16s



Spring half term and Easter touch typing courses for 7 – 16s

St Joseph's Primary School, Kingston KT1 2UP

Monday 16 – Thursday 19 February 2026

Monday 30 March – Thursday 2 April

Sessions run 10:10 – 12:15 pm daily

(Full day care/ sports camp available)

Learn how to touch type 40+ words per minute with 95% accuracy. Using correct fingers and posture, touch typing is far more productive for schoolwork and exams.

Beginners, improvers and advanced typists are warmly welcome. We mix formal technique with the latest app games to make learning to type fast, fun and effective.

Flip crazy skate ramps, zap aliens and collect superhero movie rewards while learning an amazing skill. Typing proficiency will significantly boost your child's academic attainment in today's digital world.

Prior to setting up *Typing's Cool*, Sarah Holt worked as a teacher at Weston Green School and Nick Holt was a secondary school Head of English.

Cost: £176.00 per place

OFSTED registered - childcare vouchers accepted

10% discount for siblings/ bring a friend

Duke of Edinburgh skills assessor

Apply at www.typingscool.co.uk or contact sarah.holt@typingscool.co.uk



For places see www.typingscool.co.uk

Duke of Edinburgh Award - Registered skills assessor

Company registered number: 7097313 OFSTED child care registered number: EY473171



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Book your child's place today to improve their confidence in and around water

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