



RIVERBRIDGE REVIEW

Autumn Term

Week 1

5th September 2025

It has been a pleasing and positive start to the school year!

Yesterday, it was great to welcome back the children and everyone settled into their learning really quickly. I know that there was a mixture of emotions for the children but I was really proud of how they approached the day.

It has also been great to see the new Reception children starting their school journey at Riverbridge. We have had two thirds of the year group in so far and we look forward to seeing the final third on Monday. Tuesday will be a full day for all the children and I am sure that they will enjoy their time at Riverbridge and be successful too!



Being Compassionate is one of the 8 ways of Being Our Best



Welcome Back



Being Ambitious is one of the 8 ways of Being Our Best

During the Inset Days this week, we had an opportunity to consider the next steps for the school. We have some positives to build on from last year and also some clear areas to focus on moving forward.

Attendance was an improving picture last year and we need to continue to make sure that this increases this year too. Surrey County Council have asked all schools to share information with the parent community. This is in a section below and also as an attached letter. It is essential that this is read carefully by all parents and carers.

Another area for us to think about this year is how we can help parents and carers to support with learning at home. Next week's Curriculum Meetings are an invaluable way of finding out about what this year has in store for your child. Please make sure that you attend – see the section below for more details.

One key way to support your child is to read with them and make sure you hear them read too. Some parents ask for the best ways to do this – please make sure that you have this conversation with your child's class teacher if necessary. They will be happy to help! We look forward to a full week next week. Please remember that gates open at **8.40am** and it is an expectation that children arrive at this time.

Attendance Information

Whole School

Just to remind parents/carers that if you take your children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s444 Education Act 1996. Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

Enrichment Clubs

Year 1-6

Our enrichment clubs for the Autumn term are now live to book and the deadline is Monday 8th September at 9am. Further details about the clubs available across years 1-6 can be found in the letters sent out this week, and found [here](#). Requests can be made via the google form link found in the letter.

Curriculum Meetings for parents/carers

Year 1-6

On Wednesday 10th September we will be holding curriculum meetings for parents/carers in Years 1-6 to attend. This is an opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and find out about the learning for the year ahead. Please arrive through the main gate and go to your child's class for the meeting. For Year 1, these will take place at 2:40pm and 6:00pm. For Years 2-6, these will take place at 2:50pm and 6:00pm. For the meetings during school time the children will be out of the classroom with other members of the staff team so that these can take place, however for the evening meetings there will not be staff available to supervise the children so please avoid bringing children along to the 6:00pm meetings where possible.

We look forward to seeing you all and sharing information about the exciting year ahead.

Data Protection

Whole School

Privacy Notice for Pupils, Parents and Carers

Under data protection law, individuals have a right to be informed about how the school uses any personal data that we hold about them. We comply with this right by providing 'privacy notices' (sometimes called 'fair processing notices') to individuals where we are processing their personal data. Our Lumen Learning Trust privacy notice for pupils, parents and carers explains how we collect, store and use pupil & parent/carer personal data. This document can be found via this link: <https://www.lumenlearningtrust.co.uk/about-us/lumen-learning-trust-policies/general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr>.

Your child's profile name within Google Classroom

Your child will automatically be provided with their own personalised profile to enable them to access Google Classroom as part of their educational experience at our school. This is a fantastic online tool that allows a virtual learning environment to connect teachers and classmates from any location. Additionally, both in certain and uncertain times it ensures that we can provide a safe, secure and reliable way to continuously deliver education. You can read more about our remote learning offer, how and why we use Google Classroom and the security of your child's data by visiting our school website and navigating to Curriculum > Online Learning.

Each child has a unique profile which represents them in the online classroom, this is comprised of a name tag. Only the individuals in the virtual class can view this profile and all members of a Classroom are bound by the Lumen Family Acceptable Use of ICT Agreement and E-Safety Rules. For clarity purposes their name tag is comprised of their forename and surname. However, if you would like your child's profile name to show only the first initial of their forename and full surname please do contact our school office who can action this for you.

Sharing data and information with NHS Surrey to support children to access local health and wellbeing services

Surrey Children's Community Health Provider, Children and Family Health Surrey request regular information from us about our children to support planning and delivery of school-based health screening at different points of a child's life. Information provided to them by the school is Name, Gender, Address and DOB. Assurances have been received from the Service that this request is in accordance with Government guidelines and adheres to the required Data Protection standards. If you would like further information please refer

to <http://childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk>. <https://childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk/about-us/privacy-policy>

Holiday Activities and Food Programme HAF vouchers

Surrey County Council have partnered with HolidayActivities to support the delivery of the Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF), a scheme which offers free school holiday club places to children entitled to Free School Meals (FSM). This means that we automatically distribute HAF vouchers to all our eligible families via the free HolidayActivities platform without families having to request the vouchers. Vouchers will be sent via email to the same parent who currently receives the holiday time FSM vouchers. If your child is eligible for free school meals and you would like to check the contact details for the individual who will be receiving the vouchers please contact the school office as soon as possible. For more information about HolidayActivities, please see their website: <https://www.holidayactivities.com/>.

Outstanding Achievements

Year 4

Poppy in 4P did a sponsored walk for a local charity close to her family's heart, HOLLY'S HEROES, during August.

Poppy's initial goal was to walk 100km, but she went above and beyond, extending her goal to 150km. Through her dedication, she has exceeded her target, raising an amazing £885 for the charity. A big well done Poppy!

Trips/Residentials

Whole School

Over the last year we have been reviewing our plans for school trips and residentials throughout the school to ensure they support both our school curriculum and are appropriate for our school community. These trips are an invaluable opportunity for children to experience hands-on learning opportunities, develop their social skills, increase their independence and link their classroom learning to real-world contexts.

With this in mind, we want to continue to ensure that a range of opportunities are built in over the children's time at school.

We will continue to arrange a day trip visit for every year group alongside visitors coming into school to enhance the learning in the school setting and use of our local area.

Our residentials moving forward will be in Year 4 and Year 6.

The Year 4 residential trip this year will take place at Sayers Croft Outdoor Learning Centre for 2 nights with a wide range of activities focusing on exploring the outdoors environments, teamwork and discovering the natural world.

From the academic year of 2026-2027, our Year 6 residential will be a 4 night stay at Bowles Rocks which we have visited previously with our children in Year 5. The children have the opportunity to take part in activities including rock climbing, skiing, low ropes, archery and many more.

As our current Year 6 children visited Bowles Rocks in Year 5, they will have an alternative experience this year. The Year 6 team are busy planning further enrichment activities for the Summer term including additional day trips out of school for an exciting enrichment week that the children will be taking part in. Further details about this will follow.



PTA
FRIENDS OF RIVERBRIDGE

Riverbridge PTA is our school's fundraising community. Everyone's welcome to get involved!

Welcome to the new school year!

We hope everyone had a fantastic summer break. Welcome back to all returning Riverbridge families - and a big welcome to all the new families joining our school community.

What is Riverbridge PTA?

We are a registered charity run by Riverbridge parents and carers. We organise events and activities throughout the year that bring together the whole Riverbridge community while raising money to support the school.

In the last school year we raised £15,732 for Riverbridge School and paid for £15,329-worth of activities, facilities and resources to support the school and the children's education.

This included events and workshops for every school year, funding for new iPads and visualisers, calm corners for classrooms and £3,000 for the Knowle Green Base library, among many other projects.

How can you get involved?

If you're a Riverbridge parent or carer, you're automatically a member of the PTA - and you can have your say on what we do.

We rely on parent volunteers to make PTA activity happen and we always welcome new people who want to get involved to provide particular skills, help organise things, or just lend a hand.

We can only run events like our recent Summer Fair and school discos when we have enough volunteers to make them happen.

So why not come along to our **AGM on 15 Monday 15 September at 6.30pm at Park Avenue Base?**

You'll be able to find out more about what we're doing and see how you can get involved. We'll also be voting in our new committee and starting to plan for the new school year.

It's a great way to meet other parents and do something positive to support the school.

Dates for your diary

We already have some activity booked in for the autumn term. Put these dates in your diary and we'll be sharing more details on these and other events soon...

Saturday 11 October, 5-7pm: Welcome Back Party

Our popular annual party to mark the new school year takes place at Park Avenue base and includes a fantastic family fireworks show at the end. Tickets are limited and will be on sale from next Friday 12 September at 6pm on www.pta-events.co.uk/riverbridge.

Sunday 30 November: Aladdin

Our Riverbridge Panto for this year is Aladdin, performed by a professional theatre company and hosted at Matthew Arnold School. Save the date!

Join your class WhatsApp group

If you are not yet a member of your child's class WhatsApp group and would like to be added, we can help. Please email us at pta.riverbridge@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk and we will help to get you added to your child's class group.

Riverbridge class WhatsApp groups have a code of conduct which you can read at the end of this newsletter.

Stay connected with Riverbridge PTA

Follow Riverbridge PTA on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/RiverbridgePrimarySchoolPTA

or get in touch by email at pta.riverbridge@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk

Gold Leaves

Whole School

Despite the positive starts seen across the school, there are no gold leaves below this week. I know that there will be a steady stream of names over the course of the year. I look forward to sharing them!

Rainbow Awards

Nursery

I look forward to sharing the names of children who have 'been their best' in Hedgehogs and Rabbits in next week's Riverbridge Review.

House Competition

Whole School

As we are only 2 days into the new school year, there are no points to share. Watch this space to see how this year's competition progresses!



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Points



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Points



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Points

8 Great Ways to Being Our Best

Whole School

This year's assemblies will focus on people who have demonstrated any of the school's 8 Great Ways to Being Our Best.

We will find out about their life, how they overcame obstacles and how they demonstrated determination to succeed.

Hannah Hampton
England Goalkeeper

Active Ambitious Connector



Hannah Hampton has certainly been in the news over the summer holidays!

At the Euro '25 Football Championships, she succeeded in being one of the heroes of the tournament, saving two penalties in England's shoot-out victory over Spain.

Although she has had huge successes, she has also had to overcome some significant challenges. Born with an eye condition that means she struggles with depth perception, she had surgery on her eyes as a child.

She was told that playing football would not be an option and that being a goalkeeper was certainly out of the question.

Hannah was determined to continue her footballing ambitions, worked hard and trained differently. Despite everything that has been thrown at her, she has persevered and seen success.

She is an inspiration to us all:

“If you believe in and follow your dreams – powerful things can happen!”

Enjoy the weekend!

Paul Grimwood

Headteacher

Dates for the diary...

Weds 23rd July – Mon 1st Sept 2025

Summer Holidays

Autumn Term 2025

Tues 2nd September

Inset day 1

Weds 3rd September

Inset day 2

Thurs 4th September

Children return to school

Thurs 4th September

Existing Rabbits return

Mon 8th September

Existing Hedgehogs return

Weds 10th September

Curriculum meetings for parents Years 1-6

Mon 15th September

Yr 4 Swimming lessons start for **4K** only

Mon 29th September

Reception 2026 Open Afternoon for prospective parents

Tues 30th September

Reception 2026 Open Morning for prospective parents

Mon 6th October

Reception 2026 Open Afternoon for prospective parents

Tues 7th October

Reception 2026 Open Morning for prospective parents

Mon 13th October

Reception 2026 Open Afternoon for prospective parents

Tues 14th October

Reception 2026 Open Morning for prospective parents

Tues 21st October

Parent Consultations

Weds 22nd October Parent Consultations
Thurs 23rd October Parent Consultations
Fri 24th October Inset day 3

**Mon 27th – Friday 31st
Oct 2025**

Autumn Half Term

Mon 3rd November Children return to school
Mon 10th November Reception Open Afternoon
Tues 11th November Individual Photos
Weds 12th November Individual Photos
Weds 17th December Reception PTA Party
Fri 19th December End of term for children: 1.20pm KGB, 1.30pm PAB, 1.40pm Nursery
Fri 19th December No After School Club

**Mon 22nd Dec – 2nd Jan
2026**

Christmas Holidays

Mon 5th January Children return to school
Mon 12th January Reception Open Afternoon
Mon 12th January Yr 4 Swimming lessons start for **4GT** only
Tues 13th January Reception Open Morning

Spring Term 2026

Mon 16th – 20th Feb 2026

Spring Half Term

Tues 10th February Parent consultations
Weds 11th February Parent consultations
Thurs 12th February Parent consultations
Mon 23rd February Children return to school
Weds 25th February Year 4 Residential Trip – more details to follow
Thurs 26th February Year 4 Residential Trip – more details to follow
Fri 27th February Year 4 Residential Trip – more details to follow
Fri 27th February End of term for children: 1.20pm KGB, 1.30pm PAB, 1.40pm Nursery
Thurs 5th March World Book Day
Fri 27th March No After School Club

**Mon 30th March – 10th
April 2026**

Easter Holidays

Summer Term 2026

Mon 13th April Children return to school
Mon 4th May Spring Bank Holiday
Mon 11th May Yr 4 Swimming lessons start for **4P** only

Mon 25th – 29th May

Summer Half Term

2026

Mon 1 st June	Children return to school
Weds 8 th July	Year 6 Production
Mon 13 th July	Open Classroom/Reception Drop In
Thurs 16 th July	Year 6 Party
Fri 17 th July	End of term for children: 1.20pm KGB, 1.30pm PAB, 1.40pm Nursery
Fri 17 th July	No After School Club
Mon 20 th July	Inset day 4
Tues 21 st July	Inset day 5



Park Avenue Base: Park Avenue, Staines upon Thames, Middlesex TW18 2EF
Knowle Green Base: Knowle Green, Staines upon Thames, Middlesex TW18 1AJ

Telephone: 01784 227960

Fax: 01784 463793

E-mail: office.riverbridge@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk

Website: www.riverbridgeprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr P Grimwood BA (Hons); NPQH
Executive Principal: Mrs M E McCarthy MA; Ed.M

Friday 5th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Please can I ask you to read the letter below that has been shared with all Surrey school this week:

Penalty Notices to Address Poor Attendance at School

A Penalty Notice may be issued as an alternative to the prosecution of a parent/carer for their child's unauthorised absence from school (absence without the agreement of the school or not covered by a medical note) and will be used by Surrey County Council in the following circumstances :-

1. Pupils identified by police and Attendance Advice Officers (formerly Inclusion Officers) engaged on Truancy Patrols and who have incurred unauthorised absences.

2. Leave of absence in term time (5 days or 10 sessions or more).

- **Please be aware that the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024 state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.**

- They may request that Surrey County Council issue Penalty Notices when the absence is not authorised.

Warnings will not be given where it can be shown that parents have been notified that such absences will not be authorised.

3. Finally, the issuing of a Penalty Notice will also be considered where it is judged that a parent is failing to ensure their child's regular school attendance.

This will be considered when a pupil has incurred 10 or more unauthorised sessions in the previous 10 school weeks, which may include a pupil arriving late after close of registration.

If you believe at any stage that your child's absence from school may leave you liable to receive a Penalty Notice, it is extremely important that you act without delay to secure their regular attendance.

If you have any questions or require further support to achieve an improvement in your child's attendance, please contact your child's school or the Attendance Advice Officer.

Penalty Notice relating to Exclusions

If a child is excluded from school, Section 103 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 places a duty on parents/carers to ensure that their child is not in a public place without justifiable cause during school hours.

This duty applies to the **first five days of each exclusion**. Failure to do so will render the parent/carer liable to a Penalty Notice. (Alternative education provision will be made available from the sixth day of any exclusion.)

Amount Payable for a Penalty Notice and Consequences for repeat unauthorised absences

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, **per parent/carer per child**, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

Advice and support is available from an Attendance Advice Officer by contacting Surrey Attendance Service as follows :-

North West - Tel: 01483 518130 South West - Tel: 01483 517874

North East - Tel: 01372 833588 South East - Tel: 01737 737777

Yours sincerely,



Mr Paul Grimwood
Headteacher

Parents Supporting Parents

By volunteering just a few hours each week you can transform the lives of young children and their parents in your community.



As a Home-Start
volunteer you
could make a BIG
difference to a
local family

If you are a parent, a carer, or maybe a grandparent, you know just how tough family life can be at times. And we know it too. Our volunteers, who have parenting experience, help families with all sorts of problems, from the everyday to the overwhelming. Problems such as:

- Loneliness and isolation
- Relationship difficulties
- Multiple children under 5
- Ill health, disability or special needs
- Lone parenting
- Coping with bereavement
- Mental health
- Children's behaviour



**Our next training course starts Tuesday
16th September, sign up today!**



What do volunteers actually do?

Our volunteers will usually visit a parent in their home once a week for a couple of hours. How they help is really down to the needs of the family. Some might need a sympathetic ear, a shoulder to cry on, someone to have a laugh with. Others may need help keeping appointments or accessing local services and connecting with their local community. Our volunteers can provide an extra pair of hands to help people cope with everyday parenting situations, or practical help with activities like playing or reading stories.

Home-Start's approach is very personal and friendly and this often reassures parents that what they're going through is not unusual, that they are not alone.

I started volunteering with Home-Start in March 2024 & I have loved every minute. I first thought I'd struggle with the commitment because life can be busy and ever changing, but with good communication with your family you can work around both of your schedules, really making it the most rewarding volunteering I've done.

If you're considering volunteering, I really do encourage you to go for it, not only will you change the life of a family in need, but you'll also learn new things & meet some lovely people along the way.



“Grateful to have been supported by this fantastic charity! So selfless and special! Helped me through tough times and gave me confidence in my parenting. My children adored the volunteer and were sad when our time ended with them”

Contact us to find out more!

01784 463 200

info@home-startspelthorne.org

www.home-startspelthorne.org





PLAY. CREATE. BELONG.

with Staines RFC

Saturday 6th September 12-2pm

FREE event for Girls aged 6-16 years

**Friendship bracelet making, Red Rose Origami,
Fun rugby games, snacks and goodie bag**

**All you need are trainers and a water bottle
email womens@stainesrugby.com**

EXPLORE ROYAL HOLLOWAY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Sunday 14 September 2025



heritage open days



ROYAL
HOLLOWAY
UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON



BISHOP WAND
CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL
— REALISING GOD-GIVEN POTENTIAL —

Open Evening for Admissions 2026

Our Open Evening will be held on
Thursday 2nd October 2025, 5.30pm-8.30pm

Open Morning Tours:
Tuesday – Wednesday – Thursday
from the 23rd September until 16th October 2025

Please see the School website for further details
and to arrange a tour please contact 01932 778600

www.bishopwand.surrey.sch.uk



INSPIRING
MINDS
NURTURING
SPIRIT
RESPECTING
DIFFERENCE