



RIVERBRIDGE REVIEW

Spring Term

Week 21

30th January 2026

On Wednesday, Miss Code and Miss Andrews were joined by Amanda Carmichael – one of the school's Governors to review inclusion across the school. This was a positive visit with many things to celebrate and also some things to focus on. This followed previous visits this term to look at maths and writing – both of which were helpful and constructive.

This half term seems to be moving very fast. The parent and carer meetings are now just over a week away. I hope that you have all had an opportunity to book a meeting as these are really important. Please see the section below for more details.



PTA sponsored scoot is back!



Year 6 have been making circuits in Science



With lots of bugs going around, please familiarise yourself with the guidance provided

In a previous review I shared information regarding the decision taken by Surrey County Council in relation to term dates for 2026-2027 onwards. I am resharing this below but with more information regarding the changes that will be in place at Riverbridge:

Surrey County Council has moved to a two-week half term in October 2026. As an academy, we are not required to follow this but have done so to align with local secondary schools.

The Autumn half term in 2026 will run from Oct 19th to 30th 2026 with the end of the academic year being 20th July 2027.

From September 2026, please note the following changes:

For children in **Year R-6:**

The gates on both sites will now open at **8.35am** and will close 10 minutes earlier – at **8.50am**. Registers will also close 10 minutes earlier each day – at **9.00am**

The end of the school day remains the same.

For Nursery children the timings of the school day will now be as follows:

Hedgehogs: Monday - 8.40-2.50 Tuesday - 8.40-2.50 Wednesday - 8.40-11.50

Rabbits: Wednesday - 12.00-3.10 Thursday - 8.40-2.50 Friday - 8.40-2.50

On Monday the PTA met to talk about future plans. I was unable to attend but know that everything will be in hand. One event that I am sure they will be keen for people to support will be the Staines 10km run in May. This is always a great event in the local community and I know that the 'Riverbridge Runners' would appreciate some additional members! Again – see the section below for more details.

Parent Catering Survey

Whole School

Please see below a link to the parent catering survey sent by AIP, our catering provider. Based on the feedback they have received from previous surveys; the team have been working hard on enhancing the menus. The team is currently working on a new exciting menu for Spring Summer 2026 so the findings will help us understand the areas for improvement in the current offer. The survey comprises 15 questions and it should take no longer than 5-10 minutes to complete. Thank you for your support.

Parent Survey Link: [Primary Schools Catering - Pupil Survey Term 1 2025](#)

Pupil Voice Survey

Whole School

If you haven't yet completed the recent Pupil Voice survey, please do this as soon as possible. Conducting the survey helps us to continue monitoring our pupils' experiences at Riverbridge, and ensure that the actions taking place around the school are having a positive impact. It's important that the answers given reflect children's thoughts and opinions. You can find a link to this survey by following this link: <https://forms.gle/dTHSDLxsvLn6woAK8>

Chicken Pox

Whole School

It is that time of year again where cases of chicken pox are on the rise. Below is a link to some helpful information from Surrey Education Services about chicken pox.

<https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2025/12/17/what-is-the-mmr-vaccine-and-is-my-child-eligible/>

At the end of this review, we have re-attached the school's guidance on illnesses, please familiarise yourself with this as well.

Hair

Whole School

Please see below a link to the uniform page on our website:

<https://www.riverbridgeprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=65>

Please familiarise yourself with this. All hair should be tied back from the face to help the children's concentration. We strongly recommend that any hair longer than shoulder-length is tied back to avoid the risk of head lice. We also ask that hair accessories/headbands should be small and blue or neutral colours. Alice Bands only royal blue.

Parent Consultations

Whole School

On the 10-12th February we will be holding Parent Consultation meetings for all parents from Nursery through to Year 6.

These are an important opportunity for you to meet with your class teacher to find out about how your child has settled in and to find out about their learning.

These appointments are available to book via your Scopay account and bookings will go live from 6pm tonight (Friday 23rd January). If your child is on the SEND register you will be able to book an appointment with Miss Code, our Inclusion Lead, via your Scopay account if required.

The deadline for booking your appointment is **9am on Monday 2nd February** when the booking system will close.

Parent Consultations

3HT

Unfortunately, we have had to change the dates of the 3HT parent consultations. The new dates for this class are Wednesday 11th February and Thursday 12th February. This change has been updated on Scopay, so you will be able to book for the new date.

Anyone who has already booked for Tuesday has been emailed separately to advise of this change and a revised booking has been made.

We apologize for any inconvenience this causes. If you are unable to make the revised date please email the office.

Packed Lunches

Reception-Year 6

It is important if your child is having a packed lunch that this is also added to Scopay, so we know a school dinner is not required.

As you now have the flexibility to swap between school dinners and packed lunch on different days, we do need to know if your child is having a packed lunch on that day, even if they have this on a regular basis.

Please note that children in nursery do not need to add their packed lunch onto Scopay

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office at office.riverbridge@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk

Sponsored Scoot

Whole School



The PTA sponsored scoot is happening again this year. A letter outlining the details is attached to the end of the newsletter for reference, along with a sponsorship form. Each year group, from Reception to Year 6, will be completing their sponsored scoot during their PE lesson. Nursery children will complete their scoot on Wednesday 11th February. If your child is taking part, please ensure they have their scooter with them on the relevant day, labelled with their name and class.

You can also make a donation using the QR code included.

Football matches

Year 5 & 6



On Friday, we hosted a double match against Clarendon for the boys and girls teams. There was some brilliant football played amongst both pitches! After a strong effort, the boys ended in a 2-2 draw. Due to some other players missing from the other team, the girls had to play 6 aside instead. They impressed us with their teamwork and dedication and won 7-0! Some of the girls even offered to play for the other team when they didn't have any extra players.

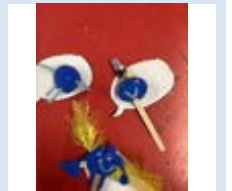


English

Year 1



1C have introduced their new friend 'Bog Baby' into their classroom, making clay Bog Babies and writing Bog Baby a letter replying to the letter they left to introduce themselves!



PTA
FRIENDS OF RIVERBRIDGE

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

Join the PTA Sponsored Scoot!

It's nearly time for our annual Sponsored Scoot!

In the week commencing Monday 9 February, all Riverbridge children can take part in the sponsored scoot during their PE lessons. It's great fun but also an opportunity to raise funds for Riverbridge school, which go towards activities, events and resources to support the children's education.

Each child will complete 5 laps of the scooter course, with different challenges appropriate to the age and ability of the child.

Children should bring their scooter on the day of their PE lesson - but if they don't have a scooter they will still be able to take part.

You can sponsor your child - and get friends and family to do so - by completing the sponsorship form emailed by the school earlier this week, and returning it to school with your sponsorship money by Friday 27 February.

Alternatively, you can pay your sponsorship money online at <https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/QV0U09QI> by Saturday 28 February - or by using the QR code shown here.

If each child raised £5 in sponsorship, we could raise almost £3,000 towards our £15,000 fundraising target for this school year!

Staines 10K registration opens this Sunday

Don't miss online registration for this year's Staines 10K, which opens on Sunday 1 February at www.staines10k.co.uk.

If you're planning to run on the big day (Sunday 10 May), please consider running to raise money for Riverbridge PTA.

All you need to do is select Riverbridge PTA as your chosen charity when you enter online. If you choose to run for Riverbridge, please also email us at pta.riverbridge@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk and we will be able to support your fundraising here in this newsletter and on our facebook page. Good luck!

Recycling collections raise £160 so far

Collections from our recycling bank have raised £160 for Riverbridge so far this school year. Thank you to everyone who has left donations of clothes!

Our recycling bank is located in PAB car park and is supplied by Little Recyclers, a cost-free clothes recycling programme designed to reduce the amount of clothes that end up in landfill.

Please continue dropping off your bagged undamaged clothes and shoes. It's a great way to raise funds for the school all year round - because Riverbridge PTA receives 55p for every kilogram donated.

But don't use the clothes bank for unwanted school uniforms - these can still be donated to the school's own second hand uniform scheme.

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

Very well done to the children below.

There were lots of lovely words written about them in the different assemblies this morning. I hope the children feel as proud of themselves as I do of them!

| | | |
|------------|----------|-------------|
| Jessie A | Teddy M | Ella M |
| Fareehan A | Isabel M | Hareem U |
| Tami A | Nick A | Bonnie C |
| Aryan D | Connor J | Emma B |
| Tommy M | Aarohi C | Leo J |
| Samuel F | Jesse L | Alfie H |
| Ivy-Mae M | Viaan G | Colbi WK |
| George S | Remi C | Alex V |
| Anwen RH | Zara W | Millar C |
| Shrinay B | Ella T | Elsie B |
| Romilly O | Poppy V | Evie-Rose H |
| Jaxon S | Teddy R | Alex F |
| Jacob M | Oscar N | Theo M |
| Gabby R | Mehar K | Sienna F |

Dexter S
Ahaan P
Yusef A

Jonas V
Prayagh VM
Tryon K
Bella N

Tom CS
Abi N
Azriel O

Rainbow Awards

Nursery

Well done to those children below who have 'Reached the Rainbow' this week.
Great job!

Amyra F
Cash H

Terry K
Jewel S

Uthman N

House Competition

Whole School

The results from last week's Uniform Challenge were shared on Monday.
Fire House were the convincing winners – scoring 76 points. Water and Air came 2nd and 3rd – 68 points and 66 points. The updated scores are shared below:



125
Points



130
Points



150
Points

8 Great Ways to Being Our Best

Whole School

This year's assemblies have focused 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.

Emmanuel Ofose Yeboah Activist

Active Ambitious Thinker



Monday's assembly introduced us to Emmanuel Ofose Yeboah from Ghana. Emmanuel was born with one leg and was always keen to not let this define him. In his community, disabilities were often misunderstood and he faced teasing, exclusion and low expectations from a young age. He refused to accept the limits others placed on him.

As a young man, Emmanuel discovered cycling. Riding a bicycle—using one leg—became both his passion and his voice. In 2001, he set out on an extraordinary journey: a solo, long-distance bicycle ride across Ghana. His goal wasn't fame or athletic recognition, he wanted to show that people with physical differences are capable, valuable, and deserving of respect.

By the time he completed his journey, public perception had begun to shift. His ride sparked national conversations about inclusion, access to education, and opportunity for people with disabilities.

Emmanuel went on to become an internationally recognized advocate, athlete, and speaker – delivering his powerful message of resilience and hope.

'True strength is found in resilience and determination.'

Wishing you all a positive weekend.

Paul Grimwood

Headteacher

Dates for the diary...

Spring Term 2026

Mon 16th – 20th Feb 2026

W/C 9th February
Tues 10th February
Weds 11th February
Weds 11th February
Thurs 12th February
Mon 23rd February
Weds 25th February
Thurs 26th February
Fri 27th February
Thurs 5th March
Tues 17th March
Thurs 19th March
Sun 22nd March
Fri 27th March
Fri 27th March

Spring Half Term

PTA Sponsored Scoot
Parent consultations
Parent consultations
Nursery Sponsored Scoot
Parent consultations
Children return to school
Year 4 Residential Trip – more details to follow
Year 4 Residential Trip – more details to follow
Year 4 Residential Trip – more details to follow
World Book Day
Reception Woolley Firs trip- more details to follow
Reception Woolley Firs trip – more details to follow
PTA Easter Trail
No After School Club
End of term for children: 1.20pm KGB, 1.30pm PAB, 1.40pm
Nursery

**Mon 30th March – 10th
April 2026**

Easter Holidays

Summer Term 2026

Mon 13th April
Tues 28th April
Weds 29th April
Mon 4th May
Mon 11th May
Weds 20th May

Children return to school
PAB class photos
KGB class photos
Spring Bank Holiday
Yr. 4 Swimming lessons start for **4P** only
PTA School Discos

**Mon 25th – 29th May
2026**

Summer Half Term

Mon 1st June
Tues 2nd June
Tues 9th June

Children return to school
Year 1 Legoland trip – more details to follow
Year 6 Freshwater Theatre Shakespeare

Weds 17th June

Fri 26th June

Weds 8th July

Mon 13th July

Mon 13th July

Thurs 16th July

Fri 17th July

Fri 17th July

Mon 20th July

Tues 21st July

**Weds 22nd July – Weds
2nd Sept 2026**

Tues 1st Sept

Weds 2nd Sept

Thurs 3rd Sept

**Mon 19th – Friday 30th
Oct 2026**

Mon 2nd Nov

Fri 18th Dec

Fri 18th Dec

**Mon 21st Dec – Mon 4th
Jan 2027**

Tues 5th Jan

Weds 6th Jan

Mon 15th – 19th Feb 2027

Mon 22nd Feb

Thurs 25th March

Thurs 25th March

**Fri 26th March – Fri 9th
April 2027**

Mon 12th April

Mon 3rd May

Mon 31st May – Fri 4th

Year 2 Hobbledown Trip – more details to follow

PTA Summer Fair

Year 6 Production

Open Classroom/Reception Drop In

Year 6 Lumen Olympics

Year 6 Party

End of term for children: 1.20pm KGB, 1.30pm PAB, 1.40pm
Nursery

No After School Club

Inset day 4

Inset day 5

Summer Holidays

Autumn Term 2026

Inset Day 1

Inset Day 2

Children return to school

Autumn Half Term

Children return to school

End of term for children: 1.20pm KGB, 1.30pm PAB, 1.40pm
Nursery

No after school club

Christmas Holidays

Inset Day 3

Children return to school

Spring Term 2027

Spring Half Term

Children return to school

End of term for children: 1.20pm KGB, 1.30pm PAB, 1.40pm
Nursery

No after school club

Easter Holidays

Summer Term 2027

Children return to school

Bank Holiday

Summer Half Term

June 2027

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Mon 7 th June | Children return to school |
| Tues 20 th July | End of term for children: 1.20pm KGB, 1.30pm PAB, 1.40pm Nursery |
| Tues 20 th July | No after school club |
| Weds 21 st July | Inset day 4 |
| Thurs 22 nd July | Inset day 5 |



PTA
FRIENDS OF RIVERBRIDGE

Registered Charity No: 1166481

SPONSORED SCOOT

Dear Parents/Carers,

During the week commencing **9 February 2026**, Riverbridge children can participate in a sponsored scoot. This will take place during school time (PE lessons) and will not only be lots of fun but a good opportunity to raise funds for our school.

Each child will complete 5 laps of the Scooter Assault Course. Each lap will present a different challenge appropriate to the age and ability of the child. The course will include:

- A simple lap of the playground
- A lap weaving in and around a series of cones
- A lap with a high bar - children need to pass under without knocking over
- A lap following arrows on a line of tape stuck to the floor
- A lap where balls will be collected and placed in a basket



As the Sponsored Scoot will take place during PE lessons, just send them in on their usual PE day, wearing their PE clothes and let them scoot into action! If possible, children will need to bring their scooters (labelled with their name).

You can sponsor your child by scanning the QR code and paying your sponsorship money online by **Saturday 28th February 2026**). Alternatively, you can complete the sponsorship form attached (the form and sponsorship money should be returned to school by Friday 27th February 2026).

If each child could raise £5 in sponsorship, we could raise almost £3000 towards our £15,000 fundraising target for this school year. The money we raise gets spent on extra resources, specific educational enrichment events for every single school year, and additional IT equipment. We would be grateful for any contribution you can make. Feel free to pass on to family and friends too.

Thanks for your continued support.

Riverbridge PTA



/groups/RiverbridgePrimarySchoolPTA

www.pta-events.co.uk/riverbridge

pta.riverbridge@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk



School attendance & your child

A Guide for Parents & Carers

What is Riverbridge's view on attendance?



Under the **Education Act of 1996**, 'the parent is responsible for making sure their child receives a full-time education. If a child of compulsory school age who is a registered pupil at a school fails to attend regularly at the school, his parent is guilty of an offence.'

Failure to ensure a child receives their educational needs results in a series of fines and prosecutions for the parent.

Did you know?

Child with **NO** absence compared to child who has **less than 90% attendance**



1.3

times more likely to achieve age-related expectations or above



3.1

times more likely to achieve greater depth

Figures taken from DfE report March 2016

We believe, and research shows, that children who attend school regularly are given the greatest opportunity to learn, develop their skills and to thrive.

Children who frequently miss school are less likely to achieve their full potential.

The more time a child spends around other children, whether in the classroom or as part of a school team or club, the more chance they have of making friends and feeling included, boosting social skills, confidence and self-esteem.

All of these skills contribute to ensuring every child is able to discover confidence, develop independence and build resilience so that each individual child realises their own unique value and can thrive both in our community and beyond.

1

2

3

4

Year Group

Arrival from

Register taken

'LATE' if arriving after

'UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE' if arriving after

Years R-6



So what time do I need to get my child to school?

What difference does arriving a few minutes late make to my child?

Every Minute Counts!

to your child's attendance at Riverbridge



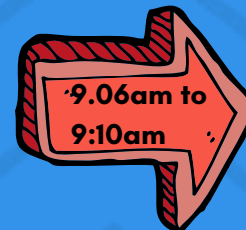
Your child has arrived in time to settle well and has the best possible start to their day



Your child has probably arrived just after most children but is still in time for the register



Your child is late and has missed the beginning of the school day. Being late, even if only a few minutes, can leave a child (of any age) feeling unsettled and can impact on their whole day



5 minutes may not seem very long but the **3 days lost** impact is a year



10 minutes late a day results in **6 days lost** a year



15 minutes late a day equals **9 days lost** a year

We know children get sick and parents often ask 'what is too sick for school?' Here are a few guidelines to help you make a decision as often children can still come to school even if they are feeling a little under the weather.

Be assured, your child's welfare is our priority and if we think your child is too unwell for school we will call for you to collect them.

What's 'Too sick' for school?

Send me to school if



I have a runny nose or just a little cough



My throat's a little sore but I'm managing with some medicine to help me



My temperature is normal



I haven't been sick or had any diarrhoea in the last 48 hours

Keep me at home if



I have a high temperature that can't be reduced by taking medicine



I'm being sick or have diarrhoea or I have done in the last 48 hours

How can I help my child's attendance?

We understand that illness might not be the only reason for a child's absence. There are ways parents and school can work together to make sure your child can have good attendance - just come and speak to us!



Bring your child to school every day



Contact school on the first day your child is ill



Collect your child on time



Make medical appointments out of school hours



Take holidays during the school holidays



Contact a member of staff such as our HSLW if you are having problems getting your child to school

Does my child need to be absent from school?

It can be difficult to know if a particular illness means your child has to be absent from school. Below we list the most **common illnesses** your child may have and what to do using advice from the Public Health Agency.



Sometimes your child may have a sore throat or slight temperature that is easily solved by taking some Calpol. Our school office is able to give your child Calpol during the school day to enable them to attend school.

MUST my child be kept off school?

| Illness | MUST my child be kept off school? | How long for? |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Chickenpox | YES! | Until new spots stop appearing and they have all crusted over |
| Hand, foot & mouth | NO! | Your child can come to school even if not all blisters have healed |
| Impetigo | YES! | Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 hours after starting antibiotics |
| Ringworm | NO! | Anti-fungal cream treatment can take place outside of school hours |
| Slapped Cheek | NO! | No longer infectious by the time the rash appears so can come to school if feeling well |
| Diarrhoea and/or vomiting | YES! | 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting |
| Influenza ('flu') | YES! | Until feeling better |
| Conjunctivitis | NO! | If your child's eyes are just sore and red but not weepy they can still come to school. |
| Head lice | NO! | Any live lice can be treated outside of school hours |
| Tonsillitis | NO! | Your child's glands can be swollen but still come to school if they otherwise feel well |



Deep Sea Divers

Holiday Bible Club

£15
per child

Weds 18th Feb - Fri 20th Feb
9.30am - 12.30pm

Bookings @ www.life26.org
for Reception to Year 7

Staines Congregational Church
Stainash Parade
TW18 1AY



New books to look out for.... Non-fiction, picture books and poetry



New books to look out for.... Chapter books and graphic novels



