



Autumn Term Week 5
1st October 2026

Riverbridge Review



There is a vast amount of unnamed lost property at PAB this month, including jumpers, cardigans, water bottles and a pair of glasses!



A reminder tomorrow (Friday 2nd October) is an INSET day.



1D have really enjoyed bringing their pufferfish art to life.

A Message from our Head Teacher...

Today has been a change to normal routines for everyone!

Today's Inset was a great opportunity to come together with all staff across the Lumen Learning Trust. We are a large staff across the seven schools and this was the first time that we were able to be together in the same room. We talked about the important facets of the Trust, the current strengths and where the future is taking us. It was a valuable opportunity and I thank Mrs McCarthy and Mrs Kober for organising this.

You will notice that there are no Gold Leaves in this week's Review. The celebration assembly that would normally take place on a Friday will be an extra long one next week!

On Tuesday, there was a lot of excitement (and a certain amount of nerves) when the elections for School Councillor and Eco Councillor took place. The children that put themselves forward can be rightly proud of the courage shown. There can obviously only be two victors and my congratulations go to those that won and my admiration to those that stood. I am sure that the classes will be thankful for the hard work and efforts made over the course of the year. Thank you to Miss Hall for organising this so successfully!

This week saw the first of the Open Day tours of the school. It was good to show the school at its best and I am thankful for those who helped make the school 'visitor-ready'. A big thank you to Mrs Talkington's mum for the excellent planting at KGB and to Mrs White for the gardening job in the Sensory Garden at PAB. We are very grateful!

We also welcomed Mrs North - one of the school's Governors today. She toured the school with Miss Heffernan looking at the behaviour and learning behaviours that the children show and how this has a positive impact on progress. It was a productive visit and we thank Mrs North for her time.

Reception Autumn Walks	Reception
-------------------------------	------------------

Our learning next week, from Monday 5th October, is focused on the season of autumn. To explore this we will be visiting our local park to spot the different signs of autumn. Please make sure your child comes to school each day dressed appropriately for the weather. We are looking forward to showing you what we find!

Class Whatsapp Group Guidelines	Whole School
--	---------------------

Please familiarise yourself with the guidelines surrounding class whatsapp groups. We have reattached what has previously been sent out from the PTA, for your reference.

Building Independence at Drop-Off	Year 1
--	---------------

Year One Parents: Building Independence at Drop-Off!

From Monday 5th October, we are encouraging Year 1 children to walk across the playground to their classrooms on their own. To reward their effort and boost their confidence, an adult on the playground will hand out green tokens, and class teachers will be waiting at the door as normal to welcome them in.

If you need to speak with your child's class teacher, they will be available at the end of the day during pick-up. Alternatively, you can make contact or pop into the main school office. Thank you for your continued support.

New Planting	Reception - Year 1
---------------------	---------------------------

This week the plants pots at KGB have had a refresh. Please can you help us in keeping them watered so that everyone can enjoy the plants throughout Autumn.

If your child has any water left in their water bottle at the end of the day, please can they choose a thirsty plant to water.

Please also talk about the importance of allowing the plants to grow and discourage your child from picking them.

Thank you.



Bikes & Scooters	Reception - Year 1
-----------------------------	---------------------------

A reminder to all parents that bikes and scooters should not be ridden in the playground at pick up and drop off times. The playground gets very busy, particularly at home time, and we are keen to prevent any accidents from taking place or children whizzing off up the footpath without you.

A visual reminder of the playground rules is displayed on the inside of the main gate. Staff on duty will also offer reminders for those that forget!

Thank you for helping to keep the playground safe.

Road Safety	Reception - Year 1
--------------------	---------------------------

Did you know you could be fined up to £500 if your child is not wearing the correct car seat or wearing a seat belt while you're driving?

The law states that you must make sure that any children in the vehicle you're driving are:

- in the correct car seat for their height or weight until they reach 135 centimetres tall or their 12th birthday, whichever is first
- wearing a seat belt if they're 12 or 13 years old, or younger and over 135cm tall.

The roads near to school are busy places. Please ensure your child does not remove their seat belt before the vehicle stops.

Film Club	Year 1
------------------	---------------

In film club this week, Year 1 made their own stick person whilst watching Julia Donaldson's 'Stickman'. They enjoyed creating their stick person to look like themselves or their favourite person!



2027/2028 term dates	Whole school
-----------------------------	---------------------

Term dates for the 2027/2028 academic year have now been finalised by the Trust and can be found on the [school website](#).

Art	Year 1
------------	---------------



In Art, 1D created pufferfish using printmaking techniques. The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring different materials to bring their under the sea creatures to life.



Girls' Football	Year 5-6
------------------------	-----------------

A huge well done to the girls who played in the Spelthorne football tournament on Tuesday against 15 other schools! Although they have not all played together before, they stepped up and showed some excellent skill in all of their games. We are excited to soon share which children were successful in making the girls and boys football teams in the coming weeks!



Harvest Festival	Whole School
-------------------------	---------------------

This year Riverbridge will be celebrating our Harvest Festival on the week of the 5th October. Children will be reminded of the importance of gratitude and being generous in the assemblies throughout the week and learning a harvest song to help reinforce this in an engaging way.

In class, we will be encouraging children to reflect on what they are grateful for and writing these onto Autumn leaves that will be used to create 'gratitude trees' around the school. Pictures of these will be posted in the newsletter the following week. In addition to this, we will be holding a food collection for Manna Food Bank. If you have any tinned and non-perishable items that you wish to donate, please send these to school from **Monday 5th October – Friday 9th October**. A list of their shortage items will be attached to this newsletter. Any and all donations are much appreciated.

MANNA foodbank

The Foodbank in Staines Serving Spelthorne



25th September 2026

Mug Shot Sachets or similar
Long-Life Fruit Juice in Cartons
Small Packs of Instant Mash (Smash type)
Crackers
Sugar - small packs 500gms
Tinned Rice Pudding
Small Jars of Coffee
Washing up Liquid
Liquid Soap - smaller size
Kitchen Roll (Smaller Rolls if Possible)
Shaving Foam/Gel

Please note **we do not give out baby milk/formula** or any foodstuffs past their Best Before Date.

We can only accept non-perishable, in date food - **please nothing frozen/fresh/perishable/out of date.**

Kai B	Molly M	Akshara SR
Navy CG	Shahveer U	Tommy B
	Vithun K	

Rainbows





PTA
FRIENDS OF RIVERBRIDGE

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

Welcome Back Fireworks Party - tickets now on sale!

Autumn is here and the nights are drawing in, so it must be time for the annual Riverbridge Welcome Back Fireworks Party!

Join us on Saturday 10 October, 5–7.30pm, at Park Avenue base for music in the playground courtesy of Discoz, and a dazzling firework display on the main playing field.

Our Welcome Back Party is a fantastic way to celebrate the new school year with friends and family. Grab a hot dog, a samosa, or something from the bar, try your luck at the toy and games stalls, and don't miss the return of our ever-popular Photo Booth.

Tickets are £6.50 per person (under 3s free) and on sale until 6pm on Thursday 8 October (or sooner if tickets sell out) from www.pta-events.co.uk/riverbridge.

Tickets are limited - so buy early to avoid missing out.

Can you help out at the Welcome Back Party?

Like all PTA events, the Welcome Back Party is organised by parent volunteers. We can only do it with your help. When you are booking tickets on www.pta-events.co.uk/events for the Welcome Back Party, please consider also signing up to volunteer on the day. All volunteering opportunities are listed on the website. You don't need to spend the whole event volunteering - simply sign up for a 30 minute slot. It's a great way to play a part in the school community.

We need people who can:

- help to set up and pack away
- volunteer to serve on stalls
- bake something delicious for our cake stall. To donate a cake, please drop it at the school office on Friday 9th October or bring it with you on the day. Please no nuts.

If you can spare a bit of time to help make the Welcome Back Party even more special, we'd really appreciate it.

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

House Competition

There is a competition taking place next week so the scores below will certainly change!



**10
Points**

**15
Points**

**20
Points**

Something to think about...

As I mentioned in last week's Review, in one of last month's assemblies we found out about Sir Nicholas Winton.

He was an unsung hero of World War 2. He saved the lives of over 600 children by arranging their escape from Czechoslovakia. He did this - then kept this event a secret until much later in life.

We watched the clip of Nicholas Winton appearing on That's Life during the assembly and the children were fascinated to see this.

Dame Esther Rantzen was the presenter of this TV show and she sadly died this week.

I am sharing the link to the following BBC website article which shows the clip.

If you have not yet seen it - I recommend you watch it over the weekend.



Enjoy the weekend!

Dates for the diary...

Autumn Term 2026	
Fri 2 nd Oct	INSET DAY 3
Sat 10 th Oct	PTA Welcome Back Party
Mon 19 th - Fri 30 th October 2026	Autumn Half Term
Mon 2 nd Nov	Children return to school
Tues 10 th Nov - Thurs 12 th Nov	Parent Consultation Meetings
Mon 30 th Nov	St Andrews Day - Children who are part of a uniformed organisation can wear their uniforms
Weds 2 nd Dec	PTA Discos - more details to follow
Fri 18 th Dec	End of term for children
Fri 18 th Dec	No after school club
Mon 21 st Dec - Mon 4 th Jan 2027	Christmas Holidays
Tues 5 th Jan	INSET DAY 4
Weds 6 th Jan	Children return to school
Mon 18 th Jan - Fri 22 nd Jan	Year 6 Residential - more details to follow

Spring Term	
Mon 15th - Fri 19th Feb 2027	Spring Half Term
Mon 22 nd Feb	Children return to school
Weds 24 th - Fri 26 th Feb	Year 4 Residential - more details to follow
Thurs 25 th March	End of term for children - no after school club
Fri 26th March - Fri 9th April 2027	Easter Holidays
Summer Term 2027	
Mon 12 th April	Children return to school
Mon 3 rd May	Bank Holiday
Mon 31st May - Fri 4th June 2027	Summer Half Term
Mon 7 th June	Children return to school
Tues 20 th July	End of term for children - no after school club

Weds 21 st July	INSET DAY 5
Thurs 22 nd July	INSET DAY 6

Riverbridge Class WhatsApp Groups: Code of Conduct

Riverbridge class WhatsApp groups are a useful and informal way for parents and carers to stay in touch with each other, share information or reminders relevant to their child's class, or ask a question of the group (for example, uniform or homework-related queries).

The WhatsApp class groups are not set up or run by Riverbridge school, but are operated entirely by parents and carers for the benefit of parents and carers.

Riverbridge PTA (which is an independent charity run by parent volunteers to fundraise for the school) helps to facilitate setting up the WhatsApp class groups and find administrators at the start of each academic school year, and will sometimes ask administrators to share PTA news about upcoming events through the groups.

Beyond this, the WhatsApp class groups belong to parents and carers themselves. Membership of the groups is down to individual choice. The school itself does not use the class WhatsApp groups to communicate.

As with any open discussion group, it is important that there are agreed guidelines to maintain the forum as a place of positive communication, which is useful and enjoyable for all.

Riverbridge PTA has therefore produced this code of conduct for all WhatsApp class groups.

Group administrators are able to remove members who they judge are not following the code of conduct.

Please follow these principles when participating in your class WhatsApp group:

- Reflect the values and ethos of the school
- Maintain a safe and inclusive environment
- Act together for the best interests of the children, families and school
- Treat all members of the school community – parents, carers, children and staff - with respect
- Communicate positively and co-operatively
- Take care with language to avoid misinterpretation

It is never appropriate to use the class WhatsApp group to:

- Discuss issues or incidents regarding individual children, parents or staff
- Air views, grievances or make any personal or abusive comments about any child, parent, carer or staff
- Express hearsay
- Use swearing, offensive or verbally intimidating language
- Engage in private conversations with anyone else using the group
- Share photos of children

For matters relating to school policy or questions about your children's experiences in school, please contact a teacher or the school office. The WhatsApp class group administrator or the PTA are not able to help or advise with those issues.

Thanks to you all for your support in this.

Riverbridge PTA

January 2025

Riverbridge Primary School
PTA

WELCOME BACK FIREWORKS PARTY

Saturday 10th October 2026

🕒 5.00pm – 7.30pm

📍 Park Avenue Base



**TICKETS ARE £6.50 PER PERSON
(ABOVE AGE 3)**

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A POPULAR & LIMITED TICKET EVENT.
YOU ARE ADVISED TO BUY NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.



TICKETS ON SALE FROM
FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 1800 UNTIL
THURSDAY 8TH OCTOBER 1800,
UNLESS THE EVENT SELLS OUT PRIOR.



Scan here
to buy tickets



Book online:
[www.pta-events.co.uk/
riverbridge](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/riverbridge)



Facebook:
RiverbridgePrimarySchoolPTA



Email:
pta.riverbridge@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk

Friends ★ Fun ★ Community

Dramacube

5-9
YEAR OLDS



OCTOBER HALF TERM SPOOKTACULAR WORKSHOPS

TEDDINGTON
29TH OCT

WALTON-ON-THAMES
30TH OCT

[book at dramacube.co.uk/workshops](https://dramacube.co.uk/workshops)



Dramacube



Dramacube



DramacubeProductions



"Message in a Bottle"

Exhibition and Activities

From 6th Oct to 2nd Nov 2026
Staines Library Hub



For more details, scan the QR code:
www.iamflow.org.uk





"Message in a Bottle"

Exhibition and Activities

at **Staines Library Hub**

From 6th Oct to 2nd Nov 2026

An exhibition about our relationship with our rivers by IAMFlow CIC and the Waterway Pickers Staines, featuring local artists and community artwork from The Heron Project, plus pieces made in the workshops.



Exhibition Opening

Tuesday 6th Oct 2026 at 6pm. Drinks and Welcome Talk. Invitation only. Contact projects@iamflow.org.uk

Workshops

Saturday 10th Oct 1:30 to 3pm - River-themed arts & crafts workshop for families and explorative writing workshop for adults. An opportunity for the work created to become part of the exhibition.

Outdoor Activities with the Waterway Pickers Staines

Sundays 11th, 18th and 25th Oct 10am to 12pm - An opportunity to learn about water safety and river care and connection (waders provided) - Limited Places. Please contact projects@iamflow.org.uk to book your place. Suitable for ages 10+ and their parents/carers.

Film screening

Saturday 17th Oct at 2pm - Free screening of the documentary "Our Blue World: A Water Odyssey" with open discussion afterwards. Limited space - Reserve your place at projects@iamflow.org.uk

Interactive Performance

Saturday 24th Oct at 12 pm and at 3pm - Join IAMFlow for a meaningful celebration with dance and storytelling dedicated to raising environmental awareness!

For more details, scan the QR code:



Supported by:

