



# RIVERBRIDGE REVIEW

Autumn Term

Week 1

7<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Welcome back!

It has felt like a very positive start to the school year, despite some interesting challenges! As you know, the building works at PAB are quite significant and are necessitating some changes to normal routines. The request to be punctual and use the office email address for queries seems to be working well and I am grateful for your support here. The children are also being really sensible and are looking forward to finding out what the new entrance will look like. I will of course keep you posted about the developments of the works and when we are likely to be able to get back to normal routines!

We have also had an interesting and exciting addition to the PAB playground this week. On Thursday, our new Playpod was delivered and installed. Mrs McCarthy has been instrumental in organising this innovative resource and there is a section included below to help explain all about it!

For some of the children in Nursery and Reception, this week has seen their first days with us. Starting school is an exciting (and potentially nerve wracking) time for both children and parents. I have to say how proud I was of the Reception children in particular as they have come into school with minimal fuss and shown an enthusiasm for their learning already. I look forward to seeing this continue when they are all at school full time next week.

Monday's Inset Day was an interesting and fruitful one. Parents and children often ask me what we do during training days. This year, we shared the successes of last year and also reflected on what we want to do more of (and even better) this year. Various school leaders led sessions and all staff made full contributions to the day. One session was on the development of writing skills. Staff were encouraged to use the skills they had learned to write a short paragraph based on the following clip:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6HfBbSUORvo>

I was very impressed with the excellent writing produced from so many staff. I have included some sections at the end of the newsletter. To avoid any embarrassment, I have kept them anonymous but I think you'll agree that we are very lucky to have such talented staff.

Finally, we have introduced a new motto across the school this week:



The children have been using it already in conversations with me. More will be heard of this in future Riverbridge Reviews I am sure!

**Being Our Best**

## House Competition

Whole School

As it is at the very start of the year, the House Competition has yet to officially begin. I am meeting with the House Leaders and their deputies next week to map out the events that will take place over the year. Each week, the 'grand totals' will be shared so that we can all see who is winning!

Which House are you supporting?



0 points



0 points



0 points

## Uniform

Whole school

It is always good to see how smart the children look at the start of a school year. I have been really impressed with the children's efforts this week. There were lots of shiny shoes and new jumpers on display! There are very clear guidelines around our expectations about uniform. It is easy to forget some of this over time. To this end, a reminder has been included at the end of the Review. Thank you as ever for your support in maintaining the high standards we expect from the children at Riverbridge.

## Senior School Applications

Year 6

Year 6 will have received a leaflet by email today giving details of how to apply for a secondary place. Please ensure that you take note of the deadline for this very important decision, Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

<http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-admissions/apply-for-a-school-place>

## We need you! Tesco Bags of Help voting now open

Whole School

We have received the fantastic news that our annual Lumen Summer Camp has been shortlisted for the Tesco Bags of Help scheme. We will be able to achieve a grant of between £1,000 and £4,000 depending on how many votes we receive. The public vote is now open until Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October at Tesco Express, Staines Road West and Tesco Extra, Sunbury so please make sure you ask for token each time you make a purchase in these stores and drop it in the box marked Lumen! The grant we are awarded will be used to ensure our Summer Camp is full of interesting and stimulating resources for your children to enjoy and we would be immensely grateful for your help in supporting our bid whenever you or your family members visit the stores.

## Year 1 Toy Workshop

Year 1

On 27th September, Chertsey Museum are visiting the children in Year 1 to carry out an exciting workshop about toys in the past. This will link to our learning in history. The children will have the opportunity to play with different toys from the past, make their own Victorian-style toy and sketch and sort old/new toys. We need some parent volunteers to support with these different activities. The first workshop, for classes 1L and 1R, will take place from 9:15 – 11:30. The second session for 1S will take place from 1:00 – 2:40. If you are available to help then please let your child's class teacher know, you will need to have a DBS which we can arrange. Thank you.

## PE Timetables

Whole School

A new school year brings with it a whole new set of timetables and routines for the children to get used to. When it comes to PE, children can often be forgetful about when they need their kits. It is important to appreciate that PE is a key and compulsory subject in the National Curriculum and all children must take part. Children need to bring in their PE kits to school and leave them on their pegs. As a school we are unable to lend out PE kits unless it is an emergency. As you are aware, PE kits consist of plain navy shorts, navy jogging bottoms, yellow tee shirt and navy sweatshirt. Children also need a pair of plimsolls or trainers. As with every other item of school uniform, items should be named! All jewellery must be removed before participating in these lessons for the safety of the wearer and others.

These timetables give information about scheduled PE lessons, however please be mindful that these are subject to change so kit should be in school every day.

Reception	Day	Year 4	Day
RS	Tuesday and Thursday	4F	Thursday
RM	Wednesday and Thursday	4S	Monday
RT	Thursday and Friday	4R	Monday
Year 1		Year 5	
IS	Wednesday	5C	Monday
IL	Friday	5T	Monday
IR	Wednesday	5N	Monday
Year 2		Year 6	
2K	Friday	6G	Friday
2H	Friday	6O	Friday
2M	Friday	6C	Friday
Year 3			
3P	Wednesday		
3L	Wednesday		
3G	Wednesday		

### Swimming Lessons

**Year 4**

This year swimming lessons will take place on a Tuesday afternoon at 2.30 pm for Year 4. A separate letter is being sent, but each class will only swim for 1 term. Swimming lessons start on Tuesday 18th for 4F. If anyone is interested in helping walking to and back from the leisure centre please speak to Miss Friend or the school office. We will need all volunteers to hold a current DBS.

### Clubs

**Whole School**

We are finalising the last few details of our enrichment clubs for this term for our children in Years 1-6. As Reception children have just joined us they will be able to apply for clubs in the Spring Term. More details will be available on Monday of how to book and which clubs are available.

### Curriculum Meetings

**Years 1-6**

At the beginning of every Academic year we hold Curriculum information meeting for all classes in Years 1 to 6. These are a great opportunity to meet your child's new teacher and find out about the learning that will take place throughout the year. The meetings this year will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30 and 6.30pm and will be held in the classrooms. Access to the PAB classrooms will be via the Year 5 & 6 gate and KGB via the playground gate. Both gates will be opened and manned from 2.20pm. One of our priorities in our School Development Plan this year is empowering parents to support with their children's learning and building strong relationships with the class teacher is key to this. We would like to stress therefore how important these meetings are, please do attend one of them if you possibly can. Reception and Nursery parents have already had the opportunity to meet their teachers as part of the induction process.

For classes 3L and 2H the afternoon meetings will be held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm as both teachers are on courses.

### Playpod

**Park Avenue**

There has been much excitement on the Park Avenue base this week due to the arrival of our PlayPod. You may have noticed the new structure, situated just in front of the Trim Trail. It was filled with lots of exciting things today and will be introduced to the children next week. As detailed in previous newsletters, the PlayPod forms part of our Outdoor Spaces Project and has been funded by our wonderful PTA. It will be officially Launched on Monday 17th September and will be open every lunch time from then on. Items include things like: old tyres, boxes, old telephones, wheels, fancy dress, blankets, foam sheets, barrels, suitcases... the list goes on. The children will be able to use these to inspire their imaginations through using the objects in their make believe play or by using them to create obstacle courses and dens. For further information, here is the link for a film clip which explains the PlayPod in more detail: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nqi1KyJJeKg> also see [www.playpods.co.uk](http://www.playpods.co.uk).

There has already been a series of ongoing training for staff around the importance of play and how to successfully implement the PlayPod in school. Next week, the Playpod will be opened up to each class so that the children can get to explore the equipment, learn the rules of play, practice 'tidy up time' and most importantly, play with the equipment for the first time on a smaller scale before it is opened up to the whole school. As part of our Riverbridge community, I am sure that Parents would be keen to explore the PlayPod too! So we have

arranged for a parent session to take place on Friday 28th September at 2.45pm on the Park Avenue Base. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Dinners

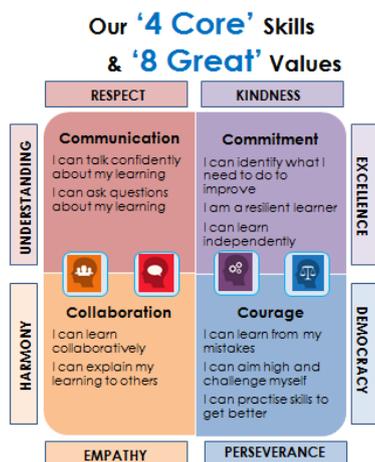
Whole School

The cost of dinner money has now increased to £2.30 per meal. The new school lunch menu has now been sent home with all children. Just to confirm that our caterers provide a choice of two hot meals - one of which is vegetarian, full salad bar, jacket potato and a deli option.

We would like to remind parents that dinner money should be paid on-line via: [www.scopay.com/riverbridge-pri](http://www.scopay.com/riverbridge-pri) **before** the beginning of each week. The weekly amount is now £11.50. However, if you would like to pay the full amount for this half term the cost is £79.20.

## 4 Core Skills / 8 Great Values

Whole School



This week, we have introduced two new concepts to the children: The 4 Core Skills that we feel the children need to be successful and the 8 Great Values that will help them get there.

These have been summarised in a series of posters that you will start to see dotted around the school. The children have begun to consider these in class and also in assemblies too.

The core skill of courage led to a discussion around 'determination' and 'grit'. I shared a clip explaining this with the PAB children on Wednesday. The link is below. Can I ask you to watch this with your child over the weekend and help them to think about how they are going to show determination with their learning this year?

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=142&v=uwsZZ2rprqc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=142&v=uwsZZ2rprqc)

Thank you.

## Gold Leaves

Whole School

What a great way to start the year! Well done to those children that have managed to get to Gold in the four days we have been at school!

Youssef B

Joseph G

Yana S

## Rainbow Awards

Nursery

I look forward to sharing the names of the children that have received a Rainbow Award next week.

Thank you for the support you have shown this week. Enjoy the weekend!

**Paul Grimwood**  
**Headteacher**

## Dates for the diary...

### Autumn Term 2018

Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Sept

Weds 12<sup>th</sup> and Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> Sept

Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> Sept

Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Sept

Tues 18<sup>th</sup> Sept

Tues 18<sup>th</sup> Sept

Weds 26<sup>th</sup> Sept

Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> Sept

Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Sept

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Oct

Parent Curriculum Meetings Years 1-6 2.30 and 6.30pm

Year 6 Junior Citizen trip

Parent Curriculum Meeting 3L and 2H 2.30pm

Clubs commence Years 1-6

Year 6 Computer Coding Challenge-more details to follow

Swimming lessons commence 4F

Macmillan Coffee Morning 8.50-10am KGB Hall- all welcome

Year 1 Chertsey Museum Toy Workshop-in school

Parent Playpod session 2.45pm

Individual child photos

Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Individual child photos ( Rabbits class date to be arranged-details to follow)
Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Year 6 Children at War trip-more details to follow
Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Nursery and Reception Coffee morning 8.50am KGB Hall
<b>Mon 22nd - Fri 26th Oct</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
Monday 29th Oct	Children return to school
Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Pastoral Coffee morning 8.50am KGB Hall
Weds 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Pastoral Christmas Coffee morning 8.50am KGB Hall
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	End of term for children- 1.20pm KGB, 1.40pm Nursery, 1.30pm PAB
<b>SPRING TERM 2019</b>	
Thursday 3rd Jan	Children return to school
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	INSET DAY 2
<b>Mon 18th - Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Children return to school
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> -Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Year 6 Residential more details to follow
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> –Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	Year 5 Residential more details to follow
Fri 5th April	End of term for children- 1.20pm KGB, 1.40pm Nursery, 1.30pm PAB
<b>SUMMER TERM 2019</b>	
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup> Apr	Children return to school
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> May	May Day Bank Holiday
<b>Mon 27th May - Fri 31st May</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
Mon 3rd June	Children return to school
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> July	End of term for children- 1.20pm KGB, 1.40pm Nursery, 1.30pm PAB
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	INSET DAY 3
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	INSET DAY 4
Weds 24 <sup>th</sup> July	INSET DAY 5

## School Uniform

Non gender-specific Uniform	P. E. and Swimming	Extras
<p>Grey skirts/ pinafores/trousers/shorts</p> <p>White short/long sleeve shirts (not polo shirts)</p> <p>Royal blue v-neck sweatshirt or jumper/sweatshirt or wool cardigans</p> <p>Blue/Yellow striped ties.</p> <p>Summer royal blue (not navy blue) and white check dresses.</p> <p>White or grey short or long socks/grey tights</p> <p>Black low heeled shoes -not trainers</p> <p>Hair needs to be both suitable and sensible for school. Long hair to be tied back. No high fashion or cult haircuts please. E.g. 'train-tracks' or 'mohicans'</p>	<p>Yellow round neck T-shirt</p> <p>Navy shorts</p> <p>Navy joggers</p> <p>Black plimsoles</p> <p>Sports trainers for juniors</p> <p>Junior Swimming lessons Girls: one-piece plain, preferably royal or navy</p> <p>Boys: plain shorts preferably royal or navy not Bermuda.</p>	<p>Reversible fleece jackets</p> <p>Book bags-Compulsory from Nursery to Year 4</p> <p>P.E. bags</p> <p>Backpacks are not compulsory and are only suitable from Year 5 upwards.</p> <p>Summer caps</p> <p>Woolly hats</p> <p>Hair accessories, hair bands should be small and blue or neutral colours. Alice Bands only in royal blue.</p>

Jewellery other than small & discreet stud earrings, is not allowed in school and these earrings must be removed for PE in compliance with Surrey's safety rules. Children are responsible for removing their own earrings and storing them until the end of the lesson.

Children should be encouraged to name all of their possessions.

We encourage and expect our children to take pride in their appearance. To this end, all pupils are expected to wear the required school uniform.

# The Lighthouse



It was a dark stormy night.  
Dark clouds engulfed the sky.  
In the distance the sound of laughter  
filled the air.  
Why was I not included in their  
merriment?  
Why did dark shadows always hang  
over me, never allowing me to  
escape?  
Escape from the misery of loneliness.

Stars studded the inky night sky  
which covered the quaint village  
below like a blanket. Towering  
through the calm landscape stood an  
almighty lighthouse.

Fluorescent beams of light shot from  
its peak, slicing through the few  
clouds that floated nearby.

The inky black sea swirled against the  
jagged rocks. Clouds hid the moon from  
sight. There was only darkness.

All alone in the gloomy room, the  
lighthouse keeper sat, working by  
candle light. Through the half opened  
window, sounds of laughter drifted in,  
distracting his thoughts.

Perched high up on a rocky cliff on  
a beautiful Maltese coastline stood  
an ancient lighthouse.

On a cold, winter's evening,  
Graham, the lighthouse keeper, was  
peacefully reading a book when  
suddenly he heard the sound...