

# 20th September 2024

#### Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back. It's been a great start to the new academic year. Your children have settled really well and are keen to learn and happy in school. As you will recall a major focus this year is attendance. We all know how important being in school is for children's learning and we need your support to ensure that your child is in school every day. Regular attendance makes the children feel more secure, increases learning, supports friendships and creates good habits for the future. The good news is we have already had six classes in the schools with a week of full attendance. Keeping that up is now the challenge for us all. As always thank you for your commitment and support.

## **Attendance**

Congratulations to the following classes for achieving 100% attendance during one of the last two weeks: Bay, Fig, Maple, Oak and Temple Grandin. A special mention to Valentine for 100% attendance in both weeks!



## Nursery and Reception

Our youngest children in Nursery and Reception are settling in very well and exploring the many different activities on offer. Gabriel in Nursery said,



*"I like playing with everything!"* Amalie, also from Nursery agreed, *"I like all of the toys."* It is a similar story in Reception, *"I love playing in the mud kitchen"* said Iona from Elm Class, while her classmate Tyrone enjoyed learning the 's' sound this week as he has loved playing with the snakes! Parents and carers are encouraged to sign in to their child's Tapestry account for more insight into their daily learning.



## Hampton School's 5-A-Side Tournament

On Saturday 7th September, thirty children travelled to Hampton School for their annual 5-A-Side Football Tournament. We entered four teams altogether. A total of forty one teams took part. Mr Nuthall was delighted with the results, *"Our 1st Year 6 team came joint first, however due to goal difference they received silver medals. Our 2nd Year 6 team, consisting of boys and girls, came third. Our 1st Year 5 team came second* 



receiving silver medals and our 2nd Year 5 team, which was actually our Year 4 team with two Year 3 players, came joint second and received silver medals too. It was a great morning and it was good to see the players representing the school on their first week back. "

# Science Sparks

Attenborough Class in Year 5 have enjoyed two *Science Sparks* sessions with specialist teachers from Hampton School. Peter



explained, "The first experiment we did was with hydrochloric acid, distilled water and magnesium. We checked the temperature of the solution with a thermometer to see how the magnesium changed the temperature of the hydrochloric acid. I really like science, it's one of my favourite lessons." Coco and Chama

will also have the opportunity to conduct experiments with the Hampton School teachers over the next few weeks.

Email: <u>parents@heathfield-inf.richmond.sch.uk</u> Email: <u>office@heathfield-jun.richmond.sch.uk</u>

# Sports Assembly

Our Junior children enjoyed an inspirational assembly



at the start of this term with Heather Cowell and Ivreen Dhaliwal. Heather represented GB at the Paris Olympics playing rugby sevens and scored two tries at the Stade de France in front of 66,000 people. lvreen is 15 years old and made her debut for Surrey's first cricket team this summer. Mr Watson said they delivered, *"great messages*" on resilience, following dreams, being the best you can be, trying all sports and taking all sporting opportunities."

# Pupil Voice

This week, children in both schools have been learning about Pupil Voice, one of our many pupil leadership roles. Two former Pupil Voice representatives, Hidayah from Chestnut and Amayah from Birch, addressed an assembly in the Infants, *"We told Year 1 and 2 what we did for Pupil Voice last year. We gave tips to children who want to be Pupil Voice this year. We said they should speak loudly and confidently and listen to other people."* 

Voting is taking place in every class over the next few days and the results will be announced next week.



# Cricket Awards

We are pleased to let you know that both Surrey Cricket Foundation and Middlesex Cricket have recognised Mr Watson's incredible work at promoting and encouraging cricket at our school and beyond. He was been awarded the '*Inspired to Play*' award by Surrey and the '*Cricket Innovator's*' award by Middlesex. These awards are recognised by the England and Wales Cricket Board, the national governing body for cricket.



MIDDLESEX CRICKET

For further information click here for <u>Surrey</u> and here for <u>Middlesex</u>.



We are a Healthy School and promote healthy eating with the children as part of our curriculum. We also have an increasing number of children with



allergies in school.

Please could we remind parents and carers not to send in any food containing nuts (including spreads, Nutella pancakes, cereal bars etc) and only to put water in children's drinking bottles. If you are sending your child with a packed lunch, please remember to cut grapes, cocktail sausages and cherry tomatoes for young children as these are choking hazards.

For children's birthdays and other celebrations, we welcome you to send in a book which your child would like to share with the class, as we are not able to hand out sweets or cakes due to allergies.



## Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 25th September - Reception Open Morning - book via Infant school office
Thursday 26th September - Year 6 Junior Citizen Day at Heatham House
Wednesday 2nd October - PTA Fun Run - more details to follow
Friday 4th October - Year 3 Stone Age Day
Monday 7th October - Visit to Juniors by author Nicky Smith-Dale - signed books available to order
Friday 18th October - Year 4 Romans Day
Friday 18th October - Year 5 Visit to Hampton Court Palace
Monday 21st October and Tuesday 22nd October - Junior Parents' Evenings
Tuesday 22nd October - Friday 1st November - Half Term