

RIVERLEY NEWS

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WIDE HORIZONS

HIGH ACHIEVEMENT

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Dear Riverley Families,

I hope you are all well and enjoyed some of the glorious Spring Sunshine - whilst it lasted.

It was lovely to see you all during our Family Consultation Evenings. We seek to utilise every opportunity to provide our children with real life leadership experiences and I am sure that you will all agree that our Year 6 leaders did an exceptional job in escorting you to your child's classroom. So many of you were beyond impressed with your children's High Achievement and shared some wonderful reflections with myself and the team.

Quite a few of you asked how we have managed to thrive at this level despite the pandemic. And my answer is: 'We did - and continue to - do it together.'

A fundamental part of our success is because of our meaningful partnership between home and school. Firstly, you provide us with brilliant children with such inquisitive minds and then you are there with us every step of the ways as we work together to ensure that each child reaches their full potential - so that they can pursue their dreams and ambitions.



"We did -
and
continue to
- do it
together..."

This determination continued during partial school closures and although we missed out on some Wide Horizons our story is not the same as the picture depicted nationally. Supported by you, our team here displayed a passion and determination to provide an exceptional broad, remote education for our children. This ensured that time was not lost and now our children are continuing to succeed.

Every Riverley child has high ambitions of them self as learners; they are curious, creative and always remain resilient in the face of a challenge. This most certainly could be seen during our recent Science Museum expedition. Driving innovations in Science, Design and Technology has been a key priority for us this year and it was lovely to share some curriculum initiatives that your children participate in as well as celebrate their brilliant learning form Science week. We look forward to building on this new Proud Tradition next year.

Additional recent Proud Traditions such as: Our Spring Recital, An Evening of Poetry and A night of Shakespeare showcased again showcased how our children apply themselves as much in the Arts as they do in Maths and English. The performances were all delightful and thank you to the teachers, families and of course children for making this happen.

I feel incredibly fortunate to be a part of a thriving community of staff, families and friends who all go above and beyond to provide the very best educational experience for our children. Long may these partnerships - leading to success - continue.

Wishing you a well-deserved Easter holiday and we look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Tuesday 19 April for the beginning of the Summer Term.

With very best wishes,
Sabrina Reilly
Head of School



A Fond Farewell



"Thank you
for
supporting
each and
every one
of us along
the way."

It is with mixed emotion that we write to tell you that Mrs. Kelly, (previously Ms Seabrook) will be retiring at the end of this term - with Friday 01 April being her last working day. Mrs Kelly, our longest standing member of our Riverley family, has dedicated 34 years of her life to our school and her passion, determination and commitment has remained as exceptional from day one until now. During her time here, Mrs Kelly has provided thousands of children with the very best start to their education in our Nursery and I know how supported and reassured families have felt leaving their three year olds in her gentle care.

From the children:

Mrs Kelly,

Thank you for the patience shown, the stories told, for the silly songs and dress up days, for teaching us to be kind and always to be fair.

Thank you for supporting each and every one of us along the way.

The many children you have taught appreciate you more than words can say! Due to feeling so looked after and nurtured in your care.

Your guidance and support over the years, for pupils, families and colleagues alike, has made an exceptional difference and your impact will live forever within our hearts and indeed the walls at Riverley.

Although this news is sad for us, we are so thrilled for Mrs Kelly as she will be relocating to a beautiful new home in the countryside. I am sure you will all join me in wishing her a happy and fulfilling retirement.



Staff Updates

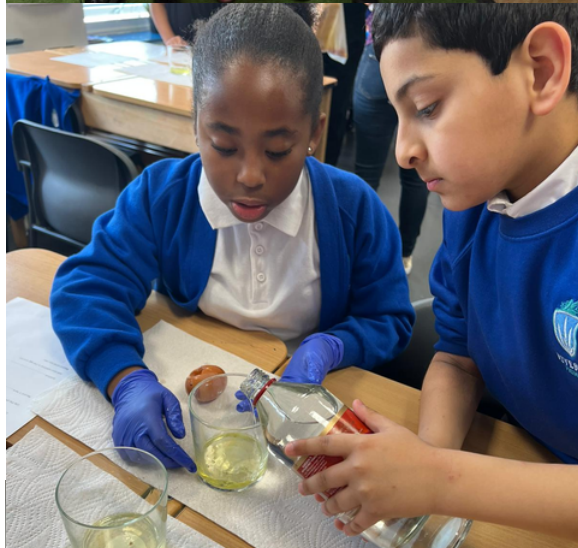
We have recruited a new member to the team, Ms O'Neill, with lots of early years' experience, and I am sure you will give her a warm Riverley welcome once we return after the Easter Holidays.

Ms Boussetta begins her maternity leave at the end of this term and we would like to wish her all the best. We eagerly await the news of the arrival of our newest member of the Riverley family. Whilst Ms Boussetta is away, Ms O'Dwyer will be leading SENd with the support of Ms Emin and Ms Thornton.

"We got to do things we have never done before and I remembered the learning we did and used it in our Science lessons after. It was so much fun"



This year, our Griffin Science Symposium oozed Griffin Greatness as it took on the theme of 'Change Makers'. The week started with our launch assembly which saw a panel of famous change-makers judge the next up and coming talent in their very own show! Through-out the week, the children learned about and celebrated remarkable change makers who have delivered solutions in science and have helped to transform the way we live. The children worked curiously, resiliently and creatively to answer their own big questions. We worked to design research projects with the ultimate goal of sharing our learning and celebrating it with our wonderful Riverley Family. Please follow the link to view our celebration of Science Week video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwUgAszuXww>



This year we established yet another Proud Tradition with the successful launch of the Riverley Science Museum and Science Celebration Day. The children showed wonderful creativity when they dressed up as something scientific and we saw some extremely innovative ideas! At the end of the day, we all came together to celebrate our learning in our Riverley Science Museum. It was wonderful to see the children excited to share all that they had discovered.

"The best part
was the
watching my
teachers in the
panto! It was
really silly and I
will remember
it forever."



Every year the children at Riverley take World Book Day to the next level. We have never seen so many creative and inspiring book characters walk through the door. Our day started with our Proud Tradition: the teacher's pantomime. There was a big problem this year as humans and non-humans came head to head in a large scale debate. The whole school came together to help them solve the problem they faced in a series of challenges. We then shared many wonderful moments together as we continued to develop our love of books and shared reading experiences. Please follow the link to see our World Book Day video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zWE-8pR_KCE



"I loved celebrating my culture and also learning about others."



Founders Day has remained one of Riverley's Proud Traditions that is celebrated annually with adults, children and the wider community. It is a day where all Griffins dress in their cultural clothes and come together to serve the community, embracing the Riverley Values of Responsibility and Empathy. This year our younger children created art work dedicated to the tenacious, resilient and inspirational NHS staff whilst our older children explored current affairs and wrote letters and cards filled with positive messages to the people of Ukraine.

Riverley also collaborated with a local charity organisation 'Nowe Narodzenie Londyn' to donate medical supplies, toiletries and food to be delivered to the Polish border, to help those in need. The Music team also organised an Appeal Concert within a few days to bring together our children and families by putting on a musical show: there wasn't a dry eye in the room! It was an important milestone for students as they played a crucial part in collecting and packing donations to support those truly in need.





Ballroom Dancing

Ballroom Dancing is a key aspect of our creative curriculum. It is a phenomenal source for developing musicality, expressiveness, posture and balance whilst enhancing children's experiences through a variety of dancing techniques. Our students have remained tenacious, resilient and ambitious in their journey to becoming skilful and poised ballroom dancers.



"Now I can remember all the steps to the cha-cha-cha. I am a Concentrating Clownfish!"





Our Concentrating Clownfish listened and learnt from one of our lovely parents who shared their experience of working as a dental nurse and gave advice to all the children!



During Science week the children learnt how to take care of many different insects and reptiles. The children were so courageous handling the animals!



Children have been taking the lead in maths sessions showing they can help their classmates with school work.

EYFS UPDATE:

This term in EYFS the children have learnt all about people who help us. We have been so lucky to have had people from the community coming in to teach us about their jobs. Across Nursery and Reception the children have learnt about Dentists, Scientists, Cleaners, Construction workers, Doctors, Nurses Hairdressers, Firefighters and police officers. As the children progress through the year they are becoming more independent learners, showing curiosity and asking insightful questions and showing others how to be great citizens with purpose!



After seeing the Dental Nurse the children made posters to teach others about how to care for and brush teeth.



During Science week, Nursery also learnt about how scientists help others by finding out about the world and the children explored a range of different experiments

"It felt wonderful being up on stage! I was nervous but very excited! I am so proud of myself!"



YEAR 5: SHAKESPEARE PRODUCTION OF "A MIDSUMMERS NIGHT'S DREAM"

A huge congratulations goes out to our Year 5 children who performed their rendition of "A Midsummers Night's Dream" on a great stage.

At the Broadway Theatre in Barking, the children took to the stage with absolute determination and pride as they performed one of Shakespeare's most famous plays. It was a night to remember with our Riverley families, alongside supporters from other schools and the public, as we marvelled at the fantastic work of the children with the great help of Mr Guy and our Year 5 team.

Exuding great confidence, the children recited their lines with eloquence and clarity and their beautiful costumes brought the story and the characters to life. As an audience, we smiled and laughed throughout as the performance was not without its comedy!

The Arts is an important part of our curriculum and we aim to nurture creativity through opportunities such as this as it allows pupils to discover hidden talents, raise their confidence through public speaking and develop their critical thinking skills through engaging with the complexities of the content. Year 5 were involved in all aspects of the production through; writing, composing, performing and prop making.

It is always a pleasure and an honour to work with the wonderful Coram Shakespeare Schools Foundation. 'One night of Shakespeare' has been another one of the Griffin Schools Trust, Proud Traditions. Congratulations to Year 5!



"Hello little
'Change Maker'.
How are you
today?
I've got a big
problem! I just
don't know
what to say!"



AN AFTERNOON OF POETRY

This year, we celebrated World Poetry Day in the week beginning Monday 21 March 2022. World Poetry Day celebrates one of humanity's most treasured forms of cultural and linguistic expression and identity which is practiced throughout history – in every culture and on every continent.

In celebration of World Poetry Day, Riverley explored a range of poems during the week, inspired by the children's learning and our GST theme, "Change Makers". As we delved into this beautifully creative art, the children found how performance poetry encourages us to use our voices and bodies to share and evoke a feeling from our audiences through our expressions and actions.

Our performers painted with words many powerful ideas and messages leaving us entertained and inspired! Our performers proudly recited poems of their own so eloquently to their families and friends. Well done to all of our performers from children, to family members and our Riverley Team.



UPCOMING EVENTS

PROUD TRADITIONS

WIDE HORIZONS

HIGH ACHIEVEMENT

Key Dates:

Dates to Remember	
Date	Event
Friday 1 April	End of Spring Term School Finishes at 14:00 (no tea-time club)
Tuesday 19 April	Children return to school for the beginning of the Summer Term Swimming in the Olympic Park to begin for Year 5
Thursday 21 April	Year 2 SATs Information evening at 15:30
Friday 22 April	Spanish Celebration Day (Spanish is our language of choice and all children from Nursery to Year 6 learn the language)
Monday 25 April	Activity Clubs recommence
Tuesday 26 April	Family drop in to Reading sessions Year 1 and Year 2 and 9am
Wednesday 27 April	Family drop in to Reading sessions Year 3 and 4 at 9am
Thursday 28 April	Family drop in to Reading sessions Year 5 and 6 at 9am Maths Workshop for Reception families at 9am
Monday 2 May	Bank Holiday: School Closed
Monday 9 – Thursday 12 May	SATs week for Year 6
Monday 16 – Friday 20 May	SATs week for Year 2
Friday 27 May	Break up for half-term at 15:25 Tea-time club operates as normal
Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June	Half-term Break
Monday 6 June	Children return to school for Summer II

For more information or to find out what the children are discovering each week please visit:



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 <http://www.riverley-gst.org/>
 @RiverleyPrimary

Our Riverley Values



Creativity
 Ambition
 Responsibility
 Empathy

We care about our learning,
our school and our community