NEWSLETTER

23rd October 2026

A Trip Back in Time: Our Victorian Assembly



What a busy and action-packed first half term it has been! It has been wonderful to see how quickly the children have settled into the new school year, embracing classroom routines, showing enthusiasm for their learning and working incredibly hard across the school. We are so proud of the positive attitudes and fantastic effort we have seen in every year group.

We have also enjoyed some lovely opportunities to come together as a school community. Our Harvest assemblies were a wonderful celebration, Year 3's Stone Age Day and Year 5 treated us to a fabulous Victorian assembly, showcasing their learning with such confidence and enthusiasm. As we look ahead to Autumn 2, there is so much more to look forward to, including memorable school trips, new learning opportunities and plenty of special events as we head towards the festive season!

Thank you to all our families for your continued support throughout this busy first half term. We wish you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back for another fantastic term!

Hannah Gilbert
Assistant Head and SENCO

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Times, dates and places for your diary

- **Monday 2nd November** - 6D and half of 6P Bikeability; Reception Wonder Dome workshop
- **Tuesday 3rd November** - 4K swimming
- **Wednesday 4th November** - Apple class to Hampton Court
- **Thursday 5th November** - Girls football tournament
- **Friday 6th November** - School tour 9.15am for prospective students
- **Monday 9th November - No extra curricular clubs this week**
- **Tuesday 10th November** - Parent Consultations; 4K swimming
- **Wednesday 11th November** - Willow class to Hampton Court
- **Thursday 12th November** - Parent Consultations
- **Friday 13th November** - FoCB Year 6 cake sale; FoCB School discos; FoCB Non-uniform day

Holiday dates for the academic year 2026-2027

- Friday 27th November - **INSET DAY**
- Friday 18th December - **TERM ENDS**
- Tuesday 5th January - **TERM STARTS**
- Monday 15th - Friday 19th February - **HALF TERM BREAK**
- Thursday 25th March - **TERM ENDS**
- Monday 12th April - **TERM STARTS**
- Monday 3rd May - **BANK HOLIDAY**
- Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June - **HALF TERM BREAK**
- Tuesday 20th July - **END OF YEAR**

Message from Chair of Governors

It is my pleasure to write to you as Chair of Governors and to share some positive news about the school as we look ahead to an exciting new chapter in its journey.

Once again, Chase Bridge is reporting strong outcomes and continues to be in a very healthy position. At a time when many schools, both locally and nationally, are experiencing falling pupil numbers and increasing challenges in filling places, Chase Bridge is bucking the trend. The school is

currently full and we anticipate that this will remain the case into the 2027/28 academic year. This is a significant achievement and a testament to the strength of the school, the quality of education it provides and the confidence that families continue to place in it.

This success would not be possible without the dedication, hard work and commitment of the entire Chase Bridge staff team, supported by a clear-sighted Executive Headteacher and his leadership team. I would also like to recognise the important role that you, our parents and carers, play in the life of the school. Your continued engagement, encouragement and support make a real difference and help to create a positive, ambitious and inclusive community of which we can all be proud.

Monday 2nd November marks an important milestone as we formally establish the TEAM Federation in partnership with Orleans Primary School. As you will know, the two schools have been working together under an interim arrangement since 2025, building a strong foundation for closer collaboration. This next step formalises that partnership and provides a framework for both schools to continue working together, sharing expertise and building on their respective strengths for the benefit of their pupils and communities.

As part of this transition, at midnight on 1st November, the existing governing boards of both Chase Bridge Primary School and Orleans Primary School will formally cease to exist. They will be replaced by a single TEAM Federation Governing Board, which will be formally established on the morning of Monday 2nd November.

The meeting will take place before the school day begins. During this meeting, the appointment of governors to the new board will be confirmed, alongside agreement of the Federation's Instrument of Governance with the Local Authority. These are important formal steps in bringing the new governance arrangements into effect and ensuring that the Federation has a clear and robust structure to support its work moving forward.

While this represents a significant change in governance, our focus remains firmly on maintaining the high standards, strong relationships and positive school experience that families value. The Federation offers an opportunity to strengthen collaboration between the two schools, learn from one another and continue to provide the best possible opportunities for our children.

I would like to thank you once again for your continued support of Chase Bridge Primary School. It is a privilege to see the school continuing to thrive and I look forward to sharing further updates as the TEAM Federation begins this next phase of its journey.

In the meantime, I wish all our pupils, parents and carers a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

Transfer to Secondary school: September 2027

The admissions brochure highlights key information relating to the secondary transfer process for September 2027 - click here for the Richmond Admissions brochure. If you have any questions about the application process, please contact the School Office in the first instance. A reminder for parents that applications for secondary school places need to be made this term! You must submit your application form by **Saturday 31st October 2026**.

Absence before/after school holidays

Just a reminder that absences directly before or after school holidays will be unauthorised unless you can provide medical evidence of absence.

New School Lunch Menu From Monday 2nd November

Caterlink are providing the new school lunch menu, starting on **Monday 2nd November**:
Please can Reception parents select meal choices from the new menu for their children on Arbor by **Friday 30th October.**

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations are scheduled for after half term **Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th November. PLEASE NOTE that there will be NO before or after school clubs week commencing 10th November.** Early morning Squad training and Lions will run as normal.
Please make your appointment on Arbor by 6.00pm on Friday 6th November.

Changes in pick up arrangements

Please may we ask that if you have changes to pick up arrangements that you contact the office by 2.45pm wherever possible. Many thanks in advance.

Attendance Ambassadors

We have been delighted with the effort and time the children have taken to apply for the Attendance Ambassador roles in KS2, this year has been a bumper year! We would like to celebrate everyone who applied and say a massive well done!

The final selection by class has been made and shared with the children, please take time to ask your child if they were successful!

The first meeting took place this week ready to launch after half term.

Thank you to everyone for your support, we can't wait to see what ideas the children have this academic year! Mrs Pyke

The impact of arriving at school on-time

School punctuality plays a crucial role in pupils' learning, wellbeing and long-term outcomes. While absence understandably receives attention, persistent lateness also contributes to lost learning time, reduced curriculum access and anxiety.

Why school punctuality matters

Small amounts of lateness accumulate into significant missed learning. For example:

- 5 minutes late every day adds up to 3 days of lost learning per year
- 15 minutes late every day adds up to 2 weeks of lost learning per year
- 30 minutes late every day adds up to 18 days of lost learning per year

This means pupils could miss the equivalent of several weeks of teaching time without being classified as absent for a full day.

The impact of being late

School punctuality is closely linked to pupils' engagement and confidence. Regularly arriving late can negatively affect pupils by:

- creating embarrassment or anxiety on arrival at school
- reducing confidence and willingness to participate
- causing them to miss instructions, explanations and pastoral messages
- disrupting the learning of others
- increasing confusion when joining lessons mid-task
- interrupting routines and structures that support learning.

Morning arrival also includes important social and pastoral interactions, which help build support and foster a positive attitude towards school. Persistent lateness can result in missed opportunities for building friendships and settling.

From a curriculum perspective, pupils who arrive late miss tasks, retrieval practice, modelling and instructions. This increases the risk of misunderstandings, slows progress, and may lead to gaps in learning that affect assessment and attainment.

Good school punctuality is not only about arriving on time, it is about safeguarding, learning, curriculum access and schools' effectiveness. Ensuring pupils arrive promptly gives them the best opportunity to engage fully with the school day, supports and contributes to positive outcomes across the whole school community.

If you would benefit from further support and help with arriving to school on-time please get in touch with the Attendance team via info@chasebridge.richmond.sch.uk