

ORLEANS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday 8th May

Dear Families,

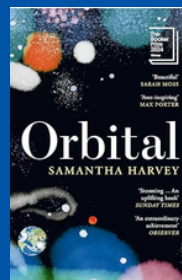
Across the school today, we saw proud children sharing their work with their families during our Open Morning. One of those families included a grandpa (at the grand old age of 81) who himself had been a pupil at Orleans Primary School. It was fabulous to be able to discuss how warm and welcoming our school is now and how this is how it felt when he was here. So we have grandparents, parents and staff who came to our school during those crucial formative years. Over time, they are drawn back to St Margarets and our school. Who of our current cohorts will be here looking at their grandchildren's books in over 70 years time? What a thought. The one book that children were particularly delighted to show off was their art sketchbook where you can see the development over the years. Although in the other books that we see on a daily basis, we can see the transformation of their work from September to now too.

Year 1 footballers travelled to Rocks Lane and had a very exciting morning playing football against 8 other schools winning 7 of their matches. Mr Marks commented that they also exhibited great sportsmanship and work as a team in these matches.

Year 3 had a fabulous trip to Kew Gardens and although this is a place that many are familiar with, the workshop they took part in showed them a more in-depth view of the interesting work that takes place at Kew Gardens.

Heisenberg's uncertainty principle sprang to mind whilst watching the children at lunchtime this week. Knowing the position and simultaneously the momentum of the children at any given time cannot be known with absolute precision as they race around. Uncertainty is an inherent feature of our universe but we can create some certainty for our children through our key messages in our values, rules and lessons to ensure our children feel safe, heard and thus they can thrive. On the page below, you will see our key messages (developed last year) that we share with the children on a daily basis. This may help our community to understand how we strive to create some certainty for our pupils. The weekend may feel a tad short so enjoy every minute.

All the best,
Victoria Coward



A selection of uplifting books to mirror the mood of the warm days and light evenings.





Orleans Primary School

The Orleans Way

This is how we do it here...
At Orleans Primary School high expectations for learning,
behaviour and respect for each other underpin everything we do.
This drives us in our pursuit of excellence every day.

Visible Adult Consistencies

Meet and Greet

First Attention to Best Conduct

Calm and Caring

Golden Rules

Ready

Respectful

Safe

The 'Over and Above'

Values

Attitudes

Effort

Initiative

Relentless Routines

Wonderful Walking

Legendary Lining-Up

Terrific Transitions

Restorative Conversation

What happened?

What were you thinking
at the time?

What have you thought since?

How did this make people feel?

Who has been affected?

How have they been affected?

**What should we do to
put things right?**

**How can we do things
differently in the future?**

WRITING CURRICULUM FOCUS

Here you will see a selection of work from year 5 and year 3 showing how the children are developing themselves as writers through careful choices of vocabulary, varied sentence structures and throughout it all thinking what effect they want to have on their audience.

Robot Functions. It has a speaker for communicating a flare in case it is broken (Well) ^{and} it can see through the dark as walls too.

It can also carry the whole entire world and juggle the sun .It's completely fireproof ,waterproof , indestructible .faster than it can climb anything it can walk on anything .

It can help armies win in battle.You ^{can} have a free app on your phone to change the sound of its voiceYou can speak many languages.It can fly very high . ^{it}

Listens very well,anything can w through the shopping. That's attached to the bigger robot .

The robots can also cook dinner, lunch and breakfast .

5 Fun facts

It can fly and shoot very big bullets ^{with} and a massive laser gun .Giant Flamethrower and a massive unbreakable armour. ^{away}

A radioactive laser can go as far as 6000000 kilometres, it has a massive sword anything

It has a colossal, massive sword which is ~~no~~ bigger than anything .

Friday 13th March

As soon as Gloria was told by her anxious niece ^{and nephew} that her son had disappeared, she had demanded for a satisfactory explanation, thinking ^{that} it was a joke. Concerned, troubled, the recently divorced parents of Salim Ties have come together, sharing some possibilities of why their much-loved ^{son} might have vanished. Rashid Care, who is Gloria Ties' ex-husband, is blaming his ex-wife for this mysterious disappearance, as Salim was under her ^{care}. Anxious, panicked, self-doubting, Gloria questioned what she might have done to make Salim run away, if he has purposefully delayed moving to New York. Salim's unsuspecting parents are understandably distraught; their son has disappeared without a trace. The boy is gone. The boy is gone.

"I just want my baby boy back," Gloria wept. She then started sobbing hysterically and uncontrollably and therefore had to be taken out of the room.

Local police forces, who are working on this odious case, have discovered no more information. Salim's family are mourning. Gloria and Rashid is to Ted and Katrina Spork may be hiding something. Which just leaves us with this: what goes up, must come down, mustn't it?

1 DP. You are writing in a clear, lively, entertaining way. It is great to see even more variety in your sentence structures.

Friday 24th April

Werk des Herr Ringelmann
Uhrmacherstrasse 10
60574
Glockenheim
Deutschland

Monday 2nd January 1868

Dearest Mama, A great start.

Is everything all right? I hope Papa has healed from the war. How is grandma feeling? I know you want me to come with good ^{news} that is not the case.

Now that you know I come with bad news, I might as well tell you how it started. It began beneficially, as I felt buoyant, that Herr Ringelmann, the greatest clock-maker of all time, was my master.

The more I watched, the more I learned. Herr Ringelmann's hands would ^{move} and with ^{only} 30 minutes then a brand-new clock ^{would appear}.

How did this make you feel? Tell me more.

Is all the tools didn't distract me ^{if} the material didn't ^{disturb} in my arm, if the screws didn't ^{disturb} hide and seek, then I would as good as Herr Ringelmann.

I realized that he was the best and I was the worst. Some people like me, are doomed to jail, others like Herr Ringelmann climb the ladder so quickly that within one month, they are ^{already} at the top. I felt both cold and morose that I was the worst clock-maker-apprentice in history. I sat in the dark.

Some; others sentences.

Some ^{seems} looked new; others looked old.

Wednesday 22nd April 2026

Karl Letter Plan

A great start, Sara

Dearest Papa,
Please don't be mad at me, I'm using my best not to sail perhaps I was not King with my clock maker Herr Ringle-man, it wasn't that bad.

Come on, don't look like that, cheer up, I've done loads of workings, aren't you proud of me?

How are the others? They should be OK, and how are you? I hope your not ^{too} strict this time, but is you are it might be a tiny bit right?

I may be scared to tell you something but I have no choice, I have even started my ^{preparation} for it. It is really bad and I'm sorry for that but one day you ^{will} be proud.

Love, Karl

figure

RDP.

SCIENCE CURRICULUM FOCUS

Well done to Begum from 6ST on her fantastic hard work in creating such a professional-looking periscope for one of the Year 6 science homework challenges. She showed excellent creativity, problem-solving and practical design skills by carefully building it at home using wood and mirrors, and then testing it successfully to prove that it works. The whole class was impressed by the quality of the finished model and the thought that went into making it. Begum's project links brilliantly to the Year 6 UK science curriculum, particularly the study of light, where pupils learn how light travels and how mirrors reflect light to allow us to see objects from different angles. Well done on producing such an outstanding piece of scientific work!



UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES



Orleans Primary School Date Card



Summer Term 2026

April 2026	
Monday 13th	Summer 1 term starts and children return to school
16-17th	Year 4 to Thames Young Mariners
Wednesday 22nd	Author Visit Lisa Noguera
Thursday 23rd	Choirs regional rehearsal at school
Tuesday 21st	Class photos
Friday 24th	World Heritage Celebration Day
Saturday 24th	OPPTA Orleans vs St Stephen's football tournament at Moor Mead Park 9.30am Mini Marathon
Monday 27th	Year 5 to The National Gallery
Tuesday 28th	Phonics Screen Check Parent Workshop (Year 1 Families) Reception Walk to MHP
Wednesday 29th	4PB Music Showcase 9.10am in the large hall
May 2026	
Monday 4th	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 5th	Year 3 to Kew Gardens
Wednesday 6th	4GB music showcase 9.10am in large hall
Friday 8th	Open Morning 9-9.45am
11th-14th	Year 6 KS2 SATs Week
Thursday 14th	Year 6 to the Adventure Playground
Friday 15th	OPPTA Summer Fair 3.30-5.30pm
Monday 18th	Year 4 School of Noise Workshop
18th - 22nd	Year 6 PGL
Tuesday 19th	RMT Singing Festival at Rose Theatre (both choirs)
Friday 22nd	Year 2 Scooter Training

NOTICES AND MESSAGES

Tombola

Next week bring in a bottle for the Bottle Tombola, in exchange for a non uniform day on the day of the fair.
Donations to be taken to the library at drop off.

Following last year's programme, Richmond Council is continuing to host a series of Mega Skip days in each area of the borough during 2026, where local residents can get rid of up to six bulky unwanted items for free.

There will be a mega skip in your community on Saturday 9 May at Clifden Road, near the Station Road end, Twickenham from 9am to 11am (or until the skips are full – whichever comes first).

Residents can bring along up to six items (including furniture or mattresses, electrical appliances, black bags, etc). Collected items will be recycled where possible, and any furniture that's brought and still in good condition is taken by local charity Richmond Furniture Scheme, who upcycle second-hand furniture and sell on for a discount.

Please find the e-flyer with relevant info attached. Residents can also [refer to our website](#) for further information about what can and can't be brought to the skip.

Regards,
Tobbie

Tobbie Ho (she/her)
Communications Officer
London Borough of Richmond upon Thames

DEBATE CLUB 2026-27

We would like to start a Debate Club in Year 5 and 6 next year. Julian Bell from [Debating for Everyone](#) cannot fit us into his busy schedule but he is willing to train a parent to run the weekly club. Do you have any experience of debating or moots? Can you run an afterschool club one day a week? Morning or afterschool? Contact info@orleans.richmond.school.uk if you are interested. Miss Coward will support you too and is happy to attend debate competitions

‘Helping children with...’ Webinars for parents 2025/26

Achieving for Children’s Mental Health Support Teams are delivering a series of webinars for parents of primary-aged children. The ‘**Helping Children with ...**’ series of webinars will cover a range of common difficulties experienced by children and will aim to share evidence-based strategies to help parents and carers support their children with these difficulties. Below is a list of webinars on offer over the coming months.

Helping children with ...	Overview of webinar	Morning 9am	Evening 6pm
Worries and anxiety	The ‘ Helping children with worries and anxiety ’ webinar will help you learn ways to support your child in dealing with their big feelings, worries, and fears. This webinar will give you practical ideas on how to help your child to think more positively and develop their self confidence. You will also be introduced to some helpful cognitive behavioural therapy concepts.	Tuesday 28th October	Tuesday 20th January
Friendship difficulties	In this webinar we will learn how to support our children develop their friendship skills: learning to communicate better, repair difficulties, and negotiate solutions when relationships between peers are tricky.	Thursday 20th November	Tuesday 27th January
Challenging behaviours	Children often communicate their needs through their behaviours. The ‘ Helping children with challenging behaviours ’ webinar will help you to learn about the different factors that can impact children’s behaviours, build or strengthen positive relationships by reinforcing the importance of giving positive attention. You will also learn strategies to establish home rules and boundaries to create a safe and structured environment for your children.	Thursday 6th November	Tuesday 3rd February
Digital wellbeing	In this webinar we discuss the positive and negative impact of screen time and gaming on a child’s mental wellbeing. We will share the recommendations for screen time based on age, how to have this conversation with your child in a positive and effective manner and a simple and effective way to manage the use of screens	Thursday 13th November	Tuesday 13th January

APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN TO JOIN THE ROYAL BALLET AND OPERA'S YOUTH OPERA PROGRAMMES.

WE ARE INVITING YOUNG SINGERS AGED 8-11 (ON 1 SEPTEMBER 2026), TO APPLY TO JOIN OUR YOUNG VOICES PROGRAMME AND YOUTH OPERA COMPANY THIS SEPTEMBER.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE AT MIDNIGHT ON SUNDAY 10 MAY.

BOTH PROGRAMMES ARE FREE AND OFFER AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO DEVELOP THEIR SINGING, PERFORMANCE SKILLS, AND CONFIDENCE.

YOUNG VOICES (AGES 8-9)

A SIX-MONTH SINGING TRAINING PROGRAMME DEVELOPING VOCAL SKILLS AND MUSICAL UNDERSTANDING, WITH PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES IN SHOWCASES AT THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.

YOUTH OPERA COMPANY (AGES 9-11)

A MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OFFERING ALL-ROUND TRAINING IN THE PERFORMING ARTS. MEMBERS DEVELOP VOCAL TECHNIQUE, LANGUAGE, STAGECRAFT, MUSICAL LITERACY AND CREATIVE SKILLS. THEY ALSO HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO CREATE AND PERFORM THEIR OWN NEW OPERAS, AND TO AUDITION FOR THE CHILDREN'S CHORUS, WHO PERFORM IN PRODUCTIONS ON THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE MAIN STAGE.

SCHEDULE AND LOCATION

SESSIONS TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAYS DURING TERM TIME AT THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, COVENT GARDEN, WITH ADDITIONAL AND EXTENDED SESSIONS AROUND PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES.

YOUNG VOICES: 10:00-12:00 (SEPTEMBER-EASTER)

YOUTH OPERA COMPANY: 13:00-16:00

CURRENT MEMBERS SAY:

"IT HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING EXPERIENCES OF MY LIFE. BEFORE I JOINED YOC, I WAS A BIT HESITANT ABOUT OPERA, BUT I NOW REALLY ENJOY IT!"

— 2025 YOUTH OPERA COMPANY MEMBER

"YOC IS REALLY SPECIAL BECAUSE I'VE MET LOTS OF OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE WHO LIKE SINGING, LIKE ME. I'VE ALSO LOVED PERFORMING ON THE ROYAL OPERA MAIN STAGE IN THE MAGIC FLUTE AND IN HANSEL AND GRETEL."

— 2026 YOUTH OPERA COMPANY MEMBER

FIND OUT MORE AND APPLY HERE: [RBO YOUTH OPERA PROGRAMMES](#)

APPLICATIONS CLOSE AT MIDNIGHT ON SUNDAY 10 MAY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, OR RUN INTO ANY ISSUES COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM, PLEASE DO GET IN TOUCH AT YOUTHOPERA@ROH.ORG.UK.



For family or friends who step up to raise a child.



Buckingham School Kinship Peer Support Group

Come along and join us for a peer support group. Enjoy a cuppa and meet other kinship carers in your area

Helping children with ...

Overview of webinar

Morning 9am

Evening 6pm

Worries and anxiety

Tuesday 28th October

Tuesday 20th January

First Tuesday of each month, term-time
2.00pm - 3.30pm

Buckingham Road, Hampton, TW12 3LT

Our coffee morning is a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow kinship carers in your community. Come together to chat, share experiences, listen, and offer support to each other

Friendship difficulties

sr.

Thursday 20th November

Tuesday 27th January

Challenging behaviours

Thursday 6th November

Tuesday 3rd February

- free to join and open to all kinship carers - family or friends who are raising a child when their parents aren't able to (whether you have a legal order like an SGO or not)
- tea and coffee will be available, along with a play area for younger children

Digital wellbeing

Please confirm your place by emailing inclusion@buckingham.richmond.sch.uk or by call or text to Keren 07961 049807

Thursday 13th November

Tuesday 13th January

We'd love to see you there!

Visit kinship.org.uk to find out more about free training, advice and support for kinship carers.