

ORLEANS PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday 11th September

Dear Families,

A new academic year often brings with it mixed emotions: for our pupils and indeed for many of their families navigating a new school or a new home, genuine excitement is combined with a small undercurrent of apprehension. The playground remains our most reliable barometer of how successful this transition is and at drop-off, lunchtime, and collection alike, we see children clearly delighted to have returned. Year 1 pupils are relishing the sheer scale of the playground, while our older children are proving themselves compassionate and attentive play buddies.

Several new clubs, among them Young Architects and Debate Club, have launched this term, broadening the range of ideas and disciplines that we expose our pupils to. We remain committed to developing our extracurricular offer at Orleans.

Reading continues to be the fulcrum on which our academic work turns and we are developing plans to expand the library and embed this within our wider academic offer. This will enable us to give more book recommendations and help us to guide pupils toward the genres and titles that they enjoy. We are also looking for a librarian for each class; interested applicants should write to me setting out why they consider themselves suitable candidates, by Friday 25th September. Given the quality of applications received so far, this promises to be a genuinely difficult decision.

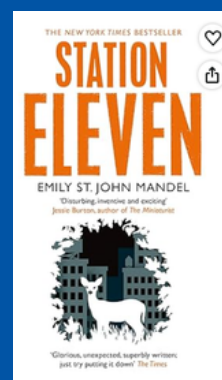
Many children were recognised in last week's assembly for their participation in the Richmond Library Summer Challenge, some arriving with their medals, others with photographs showing their summer reading.

Reading for pleasure in early childhood is associated, across both national and international studies, with stronger writing ability, improved cognitive performance and greater wellbeing and confidence extending into adolescence. Some evidence points to long-term economic benefit. Despite this, in England, roughly one in two adults does not read regularly. If children do not see the adults around them reading, they are unlikely to consider it as a worthwhile pastime. That alone might justify the effort, though it is worth adding that reading is one of the more satisfying ways we might spend our time.

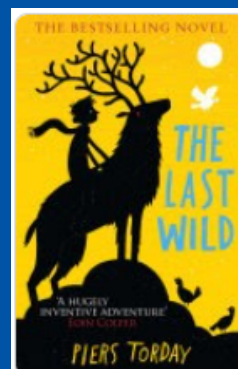
As mentioned last year, attendance remains a further meaningful indicator of success and we are pleased to celebrate the twenty children (listed on the next page) who achieved 100% attendance across 2025 and 2026; this is no small achievement given the wide variety of bugs they must have resisted along the way.

Shanah Tovah and Chag Sameach to all our Jewish families celebrating Rosh Hashanah this weekend.

Victoria Coward



Here are some of our favourite dystopia and post apocalyptic books for adults and years 5 and 6 .



Station Eleven creates a memorable view of a scary world where plays and Shakespeare bring people together.



The Last Wild is a moving story of a boy who can speak to animals and is searching for his parents.

Look Up! is a fun and exciting story about space.



If you wish to sign up to the **Tag Rugby** tournament please click this [link](#). It promises to be a really fun day!
Thanks Team OPPTA

Further work on the **playground** will take place over half term; an outline of the design for the lower playground is on our website [here](#). Fundraising for the middle playground will continue and this will include the **OPPTA ride to Bruges** on 11–12th June 2027.
Further details will follow soon.

The OPPTA AGM is on 28th September and there will be the election of the new OPPTA bench.

100% ATTENDANCE

2025-2026

Indigo

Mae

Lotte

Joshua

Julia

Gaia

Lily

Felix

Jasper

Zara

Sofia Rose

Ede

Rosie

Mia

Adelaida

Jupiter

Len

Leo

Leo

Sophie

Jaume

Maxi

Elita

Emily

Hari

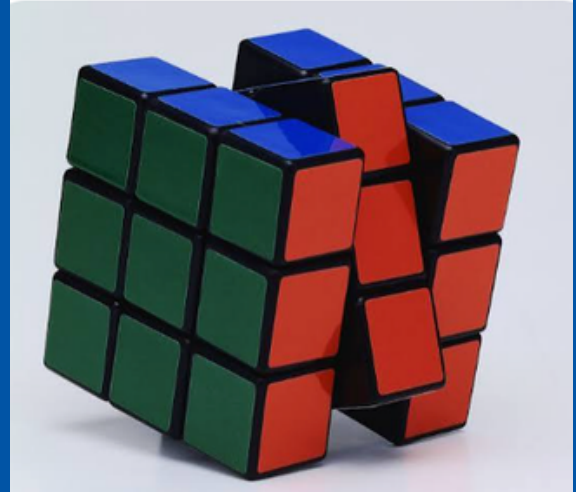
Liliana

Roy

Harriet

OFFERS AND REQUESTS

We are looking for a fitness trampoline as part of our Occupational Therapy stations. If you have one hidden away at home and no longer need it please send it our way.



If your children would like to buy an ernoscube they can use the Orleans 25% discount code ("ORLEANS") at www.ernoscube.com



Chatterbooks Library Club

After-school fun for ages 8-10

In these hour-long themed sessions children are encouraged to think creatively, explore new stories and have a lot of fun playing games.

Make new friends and discover fantastic books by amazing authors. Whether you love fantasy, ghost stories, tales of adventure or learning about ancient history, our free Chatterbooks groups are open to everyone!

Scan the QR code to register your interest!



To find out more about Chatterbooks visit:
www.richmond.gov.uk/services/libraries



Do you want to learn more about how you can support your **dyslexic child**?

We are hosting a series of events this autumn with
experts in the field of **dyslexia**



5th October

19:15-20:45

Working Memory.

Paloma Forde



2nd November

19:15-20:45

Dyslexia and Maths

Eryn Caddick



16th November

19:15-20:45

Navigating Secondary School

Katrina Cochrane

Go to events page

VENUE
Richmond Library Annexe
Quadrant Road
TW9 1TP

SCAN THE QR



TO LEARN MORE



www.richmonddyslexia.org.uk



£9 per talk

The Parenting Puzzle

The 'Nurturing' programme helps deal with those challenges so that you can have a calmer happier family life. Suitable for parents and carers of children up to 11 years of age.

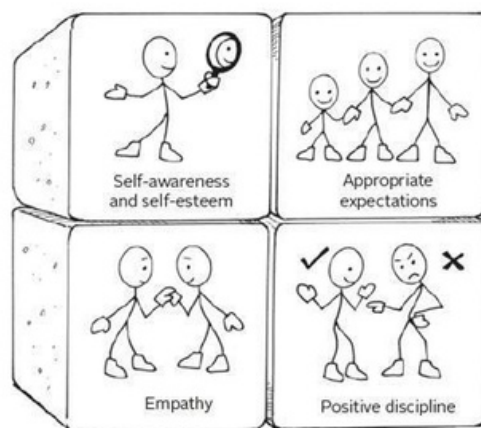
The course will help provide adults and children with the understanding, skills and ability to lead emotionally healthy lives, build resilience, empathy, self-esteem and support positive relationships.

Over 10 weeks you will look at different topics including:

- understanding why children behave as they do
- recognising the feelings behind behaviour (ours and theirs)
- exploring different approaches to discipline



The Parenting Puzzle:
your Guide to
Transforming
Family Life



Where: **Tolworth Children's Centre, School Lane, Surbiton, KT6 7SA**

The group starts on **Wednesday 30th September 2026** and runs from **10.00am to 12.00pm**

Kingston courses: Contact Karen Williams
E: karen.williams@achievingforchildren.org.uk
T: 07771 974388

Richmond courses: Contact Tom Maybey
E: tom.maybey@achievingforchildren.org.uk
T: 07864 609913



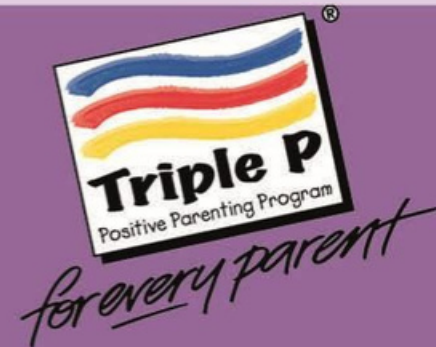
Triple P Seminars for: all parents and carers of 0 to 12 year olds

Triple P seminars are for a group of parents or carers. They are informal presentations, a little like a public forum.

There are four seminars in the Triple P seminar series. You can choose to do one or all of them. They deal with the most common parenting issues we all face. Sessions are two hours long.

The topics are:

- the power of positive parenting
- raising confident, competent children
- raising resilient children
- helping children develop healthy screentime habits



Sessions will be held at Chessington Children's Centre, Buckland Road, Chessington, KT9 1JE from 10am-12pm on Tuesdays

The power of positive parenting – 29th September 2026

Raising confident, capable children – 6th October 2026

Raising resilient children – 13th October 2026

Helping children develop healthy screen habits – 20th Oct 2026

To find out more or to book your place on these sessions, please contact Karen Williams,

Email: karen.williams@achievingforchildren.org.uk

**BEST
START
IN LIFE**



**achieving
for children**