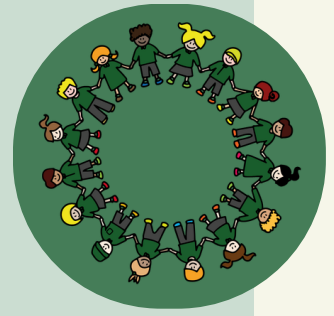


Richmond Avenue Primary & Nursery School

Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Responsible,
Enjoy Learning



NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term
2026 - Vol 1
WE: 11th September

Sustainability

We are delighted to share that our recent Ofsted report highlighted our commitment to sustainability and climate education, recognising how our pupils are developing a strong understanding of environmental issues and their role in protecting our planet.

We remain committed to continuing our sustainability journey and empowering our pupils to become responsible global citizens who care for our planet.

Thank you to our staff, pupils and families for your ongoing support in making Richmond Avenue a greener, more sustainable school. If you have any ideas or would like to get involved, please contact the school office.

SECAT CEO Q&A Session

SECAT CEO Q&A session on Wednesday 30th September at 12:00 – please email questions in advance to admin@secat.co.uk

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/38239377673048?p=s3o5e4H43BYZuk6N12>

or use the QR code below:



In this weeks newsletter;

Sustainability Matters

Latest News

Upcoming Events

Dates for the Diary

Other News

Free School Meals



office@richmond.secat.co.uk

Empowered by SECAT





LATEST NEWS...

New Academic Year!

We are thrilled to welcome everyone back for the 2026/27 academic year! Before we look ahead, we want to share some incredible news – our recent Ofsted inspection resulted in an amazing outcome that we are incredibly proud of! This achievement reflects the hard work and dedication of our entire school community. Please see our Instagram page for full details of our inspection results and what they mean for our school.

To all our returning pupils, it's wonderful to see you back after the summer break. A very special welcome to all our new children and families joining us – whether you're starting in nursery, reception or other year groups, we know you're going to love being part of the Richmond Avenue family.

Upcoming Events...

New PTA and Volunteer Opportunities

We are excited to announce that we are setting up a new PTA this year and would love as many parents and carers as possible to get involved. If you're interested in supporting school events, joining the PTA, listening to readers or volunteering in any other way, please join us on Friday 18th September at 2:30pm for coffee and biscuits in the school hall (enter via the school office).

First PTA Event - Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

Our PTA's first event will be a Macmillan Coffee Afternoon in the school canteen on Friday 25th September at 2pm. Please come along, have a chat, eat cake and donate to a worthy cause close to many of our hearts. If you would like to donate any cakes or treats please bring them into the office.

Flu Vaccinations

Just a reminder there will be Flu vaccinations on Friday 25th September. If you do NOT want your child to be vaccinated please complete the online form and let the office know.

Individual school photos

The photographers will be back on Wednesday 30th September to take individual school photos. Please ensure your child has the correct uniform, as usual, including their school jumper.

KEY NEWS:

WINNERS

Well done to LC1 & EB3 for having the highest class attendance this week!

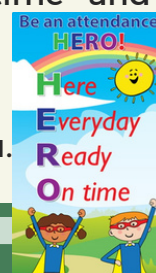
HOT DINNERS?

Please ensure you book dinners in advance via MCAS. Remember we have an alternative menu for census day!

ATTENDANCE

Being in school, on time, every day matters.

For children to learn and thrive to reach their potential, they need to be in school. Our gates are open **daily from 8.35am - 8.45am**, please ensure your child enters the school between these times so that they can get to class on time and engage in the important start of day activities and learning. Thank you.



Dates for the diary...



September

- Fri 18th - Volunteer / PTA open session 2.30pm
- Thurs 24th - Team Challenge morning (All children to come into school in their PE kit, including their house colour top)
- Fri 25th - Flu Vaccinations
- Fri 25th - Macmillian coffee afternoon in school canteen 2pm
- Wed 30th - Individual school photos

October

- Thurs 1st - Census Day (alternative lunch menu- See MCAS)
- WB 5th - Food donations welcome from today for Harvest Festival (Food Bank)
- Fri 9th - Parent Challenge Morning 9.30am–11.00am
- Fri 9th - World Mental Health Day (All pupils to wear yellow)
- WB 12th - Parent Consultation Meetings all week (during school hours)
- Wed 16th - Afterschool Parent Consultation Meetings (bookings via MCAS nearer the time)
- Fri 16th - Harvest Festival
- Fri 16th - PTA Spooky Spoons Competition

*** Half Term 19th–30th October ***

Children return to school Monday 2nd November

Other News:



PE Days

- Reception: Monday
- Year 1: Monday & Friday
- Year 2: Monday & Friday
- Year 3: Monday & Thursday
- Year 4: Monday & Thursday
- Year 5: Tuesday & Wednesday
- Year 6: Monday & Thursday (DH6 swimming) & Friday (OC6)



Food donations

We welcome food donations from week beginning 5th October for the Harvest Festival to give to Shoeburyness & Thorpebay Baptist Church foodbank.



Nut Free School

Just to inform you we are no longer a banana free school, however we remain a NUT free school. Please check food labels correctly and do not give your child anything that states "may contain nuts" or "made in a factory that handles nuts"



Important changes to Free School Meals from September 2026



Good News for Families!

From September 2026, all households receiving Universal Credit will be eligible for free school meals in England, removing the current £7,400 income cap. Over 500,000 More Pupils Eligible and can save families up to £495 per child per year on school lunches

What's Changing?

New Eligibility Rules

Any household receiving Universal Credit will qualify for free school meals, regardless of income level. All reception, year 1 and year 2 pupils are eligible for free meals regardless of household income. No application is required for these year groups.

Do You Need to Apply?

YES! Although you're ultimately responsible for checking eligibility, your LA can carry out checks via the DfE's eligibility checking system. Even if you receive Universal Credit, you must still submit an application through Southend-on-Sea Council to receive free school meals for your child.

YOU CAN APPLY NOW

How to Apply

Parents or guardians should apply through their local council or visit <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> to start your application.

- You will typically need your National Insurance Number and details of any qualifying benefits.
- Even if eligibility is automatic (e.g., Universal Credit recipients from September 2026), families must still submit an application to receive the benefit.

If circumstances change, such as a change in income or benefits, parents should update the school or council to ensure continued eligibility.

Transitional Protection Ending

The protections will remain in place until the end of the 2025/26 school year. From September 2026, only Universal Credit recipients will qualify.

Need Help?

Please contact the school office at office@richmond.secat.co.uk if you have any questions.



Small
Rocks
Big
Adventures!
♥

Adopt a Rock!

Our Summer Project

Different
places...
Different faces...
But always
part of
our Richmond
family!
♥

EXPLORE

CREATE

BE KIND

HAVE FUN

MAKE MEMORIES



A huge thank you! ♥

We just wanted to say a big thank you to all of our children (and families!) who took part in our 'Adopt a Rock' summer project. It has been wonderful seeing your photos, stories and completed leaflets – and the adventures your rocks have been on!



We have loved seeing... ♥

- ♥ Where your rock has travelled
- ♥ The creative ways you have decorated it
- ♥ The photos of your rock in new places
- ♥ The fun activities you have completed
- ♥ The thoughtful and kind messages
- ♥ How much enjoyment it has brought

Kindness
can rock
the world
♥



Why we did it... ♥

The 'Adopt a Rock' project was designed to give our children something a little different to enjoy over the summer – a chance to be creative, explore their local area (or further afield!), notice the world around them and make some happy memories.

It has been lovely to see so many of our families embrace the idea and take part.

Little
rocks...
Big
adventures...
Brighter
futures!
♥

Thank you
for supporting
our little
project! ♥

Well done to everyone who took part! ♥

You've shown that even a small rock can be part of something big – full of kindness, curiosity and adventure.



Explore • Be Kind • Make Memories • Brighter Futures ♥



**JOIN US FOR BEFORE SCHOOL CLUB
HERE AT RICHMOND**

To book for breakfast
club scan here:

**Breakfast Club 7:30-8:30am
£6.99 per morning
Held on site at Richmond Primary School**



For after school, the children
are collected and walked to the
club held at Thorpedene.

To book for
after school
scan here:



**£6.95 per Activity Club 3-4:30pm
£14.50 per Discount care
package including food 3-6:00pm**

**Monday
Arts & Crafts**



**Tuesday
Fun & Games**



**Wednesday
Lego**



**Thursday
Multi
Sports**



**Friday
Mad
Labs**



Book now at www.clubscomplete.co.uk 01530 412750

