

Kensington Junior Academy

HEADS UP

HEAD TEACHER NEWSLETTER

Embracing an Ethic of Excellence Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and a warm welcome back to the second half of our spring term. At KJA, we are committed to fostering an environment where every child can achieve their very best. To support this, we have been embedding an 'Ethic of Excellence' approach throughout our school for last couple of years. This philosophy, inspired by the work of educator Ron Berger, emphasises high expectations, a culture of craftsmanship, and a belief that all children can produce outstanding work through dedication and effort.

What is an Ethic of Excellence?

An Ethic of Excellence is not simply about aiming high; it is about instilling a deep sense of pride, persistence, and resilience in every pupil. It shifts the focus from grades to the process of learning—encouraging children to embrace challenges, refine their work through feedback, and take ownership of their progress. By fostering a mindset that values continual improvement, we equip our pupils with the tools they need to succeed not only academically but in life beyond school.

How Will This Benefit Your Child?

1. High Standards, High Expectations:

Your child will be encouraged to produce work that is not just 'good enough' but truly excellent. We will support them in setting high personal standards and striving to meet them through perseverance and refinement.

2. A Culture of Reflection and Feedback:

Mistakes are an essential part of learning. Through peer review, self-assessment, and teacher feedback, children will learn to see feedback not as criticism but as an opportunity to improve and grow.

3. Deep Engagement in Learning:

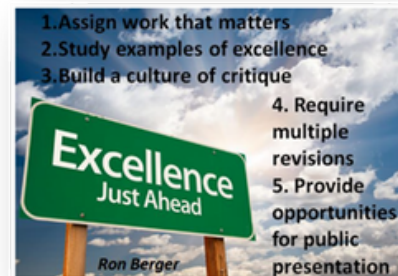
Learning becomes more meaningful when children see the purpose behind their work. Our personalised curriculum encourages pupils to engage in authentic, real-world projects that ignite their curiosity and inspire them to produce work they are proud to share.

4. Developing Character and Confidence:

As pupils experience the rewards of sustained effort and see tangible improvements in their work, they will develop resilience, self-motivation, and a belief in their ability to succeed—qualities that will serve them throughout their lives.

How Can You Support This at Home?

- Encourage a growth mindset by praising effort and perseverance rather than just results. [Growth Mindsets: help your child try new things - CBeebies](#)



- Show interest in your child's learning journey and celebrate improvements, no matter how small.
- Support them in taking time with their work, understanding that excellence is achieved through practice and refinement. [AEOE.pdf](#)

At KJA, we believe that by embedding an Ethic of Excellence into our daily teaching and learning, we will empower our pupils to reach their full potential. We look forward to continuing working together with you and sharing your child's achievements at our parents evenings and school exhibition later this term.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes,

Mr Oakland
Headteacher

At Kensington Junior Academy, we will ensure that our pupils are academically, socially and emotionally able 21st century citizens.

