



SEPTEMBER 2025 | ISSUE 1

KENSINGTON JUNIOR ACADEMY

Newsletter

Welcome to Kensington!

Welcome back to school! We hope you had a lovely summer break and are ready for a busy and exciting term ahead. We are delighted to share some wonderful updates as we begin the new school year. First, a very warm welcome to Miss Payne, who has joined our team as a Year 3 teacher. She is already settling in well and we know she will be a fantastic addition to our school community. We also send our heartfelt congratulations to Mr Navarro on the arrival of his baby boy. We wish him and his family every happiness during this special time. While he is on paternity leave, his class will be taught by Miss Joyce. We would also like to give a special welcome to all of our new Year 3 pupils and their families as they begin their journey with us at Kensington Junior Academy. We are so pleased to have you join our school community.

We look forward to another fantastic year of learning, growth, and achievement together.

Our Classes this year are as follows:

- Y3

 Turing: Mrs Carter
 Johnson: Miss Payne
- Y4

 Thompson: Mr Moulds
- Y5

 Bhutto: Mrs Riley
 Zephaniah: Mr Navarro
- Y6

 Curie: Miss Ward
 Tesla: Mr Pilbeam

KEY DATES

Here are some key dates for now, with more events to be added as they are confirmed. Further details will be shared closer to each event:

September	Thu 4 Sep	INSET Day
	Fri 5 Sep	INSET Day
	Mon 8 Sep	First Day of Autumn Term 1
	Wed 24 Sep	Flu Immunisations - please consent here: https://nhslmms.azurewebsites.net/session/59d47934
	Thurs 25 Sep	Y3 Families at the Table - sign up via Arbor
	Friday 26 Sep	European Day of Languages
October	Wed 1 Oct	Y4 Families at the Table - sign up nearer the time

PE DAYS:

MONDAY - YEAR 4
TUESDAY - YEAR 3
WEDNESDAY - YEAR 5
THURSDAY - YEAR 6

	Wed 8 Oct	Y5 Families at the Table - sign up nearer the time
	Mon 13 Oct and Tue 14 Oct	Parents Evening
	Tue 14 Oct	Y6 Families at the Table - sign up nearer the time
	Fri 24 Oct	Last Day of Autumn Term 1
	Mon 27-Fri 31 Oct	HALF TERM
November	Mon 3 Nov	First Day of Autumn Term 2 & School Photographer
	Mon 10 Nov	Anti-Bullying Week
	Fri 14 Nov	Children in Need
December	Fri 19 Dec	Last Day of Autumn Term 2
	Mon 22 Dec - Fri 2 Jan	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Jan 2026	Mon 5 Jan	INSET Day
	Tue 6 Jan	First Day of Spring Term 1

READING MORNING

Every Wednesday | 8:45 - 9:05 AM

We invite all parents and carers to spend 20 special minutes reading with their child in the classroom. It's a wonderful way to share stories, support your child's love of reading, and enjoy some quality time together. We can't wait to welcome you!



COFFEE MORNING

Well-being Coffee Morning - Tuesday 23rd September - 9:00 - 10:00 AM

Join us for our first Coffee Morning of the year and meet the Changing Lives Team, who will share simple tips to support your and your child's well-being.

A perfect opportunity to recharge, connect, and start the day positively—all straight after drop-off!

We can't wait to see you there!

UNIFORM

At Kensington, all pupils are expected to wear school uniform. We ask for your full support in ensuring pupils adhere to these requirements, helping to maintain a smart, safe, and professional school environment:

Uniform:

- White, gold burgundy polo shirt/shirt/blouse
- Burgundy, grey, or black skirt or pinafore dress
- Burgundy or grey cardigan or jumper
- Grey or black trousers or loose-fitting grey/black school shorts
- Plain, dark, sensible shoes (trainers are acceptable)
- Suitable, waterproof outdoor coat (denim or leather jackets are not permitted)

P.E. Kit:

Plain, loose, comfortable clothing suitable for exercise (e.g., T-shirt, joggers, trainers)
Football kits are not permitted

Jewellery and Accessories:

One pair of small, plain stud earrings
One watch (smart watches are not permitted)
One small piece of religious jewellery is allowed
All jewellery must be removable for P.E.



KJA Personalised Backpacks - Order Now! ✨🛒

Our popular Kensington Junior Academy backpacks, personalised with your child's initials, are durable, spacious, and smart—order yours for £17 via Arbor > School Shop

SCHOOL DINNERS

School dinners are £3.25 per day/ £16.25 per week. Payments should be made in advance via Arbor. Please ensure that you keep your balance up to date. If you think your child may be eligible for

Free School Meals (FSM), please apply online here:

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/your-child-at-school/meals/school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>

Fruit is available every breaktime. Pupils can bring a small amount of money to purchase fruit - 40p an item. Alternatively, pupils are welcome to bring in fruit for breaktime from home.

YEAR 6 SECONDARY APPLICATIONS

Applications for secondary school places must be submitted by 31st October via Derbyshire County Council. Check the secondary schools' websites for open evening dates.

MAGIC BREAKFAST



Kensington Junior Academy is proud to be in partnership with Magic Breakfast, providing healthy breakfasts to our pupils so that they are settled and ready to learn. Magic Breakfast provides us with nutritious breakfast food to ensure children start their school day in the best possible way. All children are offered a breakfast item such as a bagel, toast or a crumpet in class.

CONTACT DETAILS AND PHOTO CONSENT

Please ensure your contact details and address details are up-to-date on Arbor. Please also check your photo/video consent on Arbor. Without consent, we cannot feature your child in school publications, the website, or social media.

FRIDAY CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

Each Friday, we hold a Celebration Assembly where two pupils from each class are awarded one of our 5Cs Awards for demonstrating outstanding behaviour that week.

Parents are warmly invited to join us to see their child receive their award! Please watch out for the text message and email invitation if your child is chosen.



ATTENDANCE

At Kensington Junior Academy, we use an Inclusive Attendance approach. This means we focus on supporting every pupil to attend school regularly, while recognising that some children may need extra help or adjustments to thrive.

Key points about our Inclusive Attendance approach:

- Everyone has a role: Staff, families, and external partners work together to support pupils.
- Tailored support: We use a tiered system:
 - Tier 1 - Universal: support for all pupils to maintain good attendance.
 - Tier 2 - Early Help: extra strategies for pupils who may be struggling.
 - Tier 3 - Specialist Support: for complex or ongoing attendance challenges, sometimes involving outside agencies.
- Positive reinforcement: Pupils are celebrated for excellent or improved attendance through postcards, certificates, calls home, and visits from our mascot Kip the Kangaroo.
- Monitoring and support: Our attendance team may carry out welfare checks at home after three days of absence to offer help if needed.
- Minimising disruption: Please avoid collecting your child early unless absolutely necessary, and try to book appointments outside school hours.
- Holidays: Term-time absence is only allowed in exceptional circumstances. Unauthorised absence may result in a Local Authority penalty.
- How you can help: Book appointments outside school hours, ensure your child arrives on time, and speak to us early if you need support.

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