



KENSINGTON JUNIOR ACADEMY

Newsletter

A Fantastic Start to the Year!

As we move through October, it's been wonderful to see how well our pupils have settled into the new school year. Everyone has adapted brilliantly to new routines and is embracing learning with enthusiasm. This term also marks the launch of our brand-new House system, with pupils proudly representing **Rutland, Gallows, Bennerley and Stanton**. House points are being earned for showing our **5 Cs - Care, Creativity, Curiosity, Collaboration and Conduct**.

We've got lots of events coming up next term, so please keep an eye on ClassDojo for updates and announcements. If you haven't yet signed up, please contact the school office and we'll be happy to help you get connected.



Finally, a huge well done to some of our Year 6 boys who represented KJA at a recent football tournament and won! They will now go on to represent the school and Erewash in regionals!

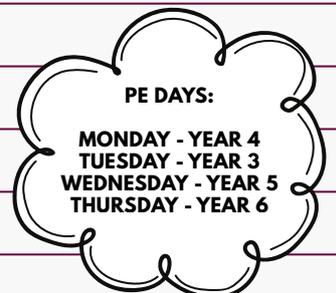


We were also so proud of the whole of Year 6 for taking part in our sponsored walk around Ilkeston - they showed amazing determination and team spirit throughout the 7.07-mile route.

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:

October	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
	Mon 10 Nov	Anti-Bullying Week
	Tue 13 Nov	School Photographer
	Fri 14 Nov	Children in Need - Wear it Spotty Non-uniform Day. £1 for Children In Need
	Fri 28 Nov	Christmas Panto in School - this will be at a cost of £5 per pupil. More information nearer the time.
December	Wed 3 Dec and Thurs 4 Dec	School Exhibition and Year 2 Open Evenings. If you have a Year 2 child please register your interest for the Open Evening here: https://forms.office.com/e/2JHrFNrhRw
	Wed 10 Dec	Christmas Disco - 5pm - 6.30pm
	Mon 15 Dec	Class Party Week
	Tue 16 Dec	Christmas Carols @ St John's Church
	Fri 19 Dec	Last Day of Autumn Term 2
Jan 2026	Mon 22 Dec - Fri 2 Jan	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
	Mon 5 Jan	INSET Day
	Tue 6 Jan	First Day of Spring Term 1



BEANY BREAKFAST

We're delighted that our Beany Breakfast has been such a big hit with the children! Due to its popularity, we'll now be running it every Tuesday and Friday morning (circumstances permitting). It's a lovely way for pupils to start the day with friends and a warm breakfast.

PARENTS' EVENING

Our first Parents' Evenings of the year will take place on Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th October 2024. Appointments can be booked via the Arbor Parent Portal from 7pm on Tuesday 8th October, closing at 9am on Monday 13th October. Please check your login beforehand to make sure everything is working smoothly. If you'd prefer a telephone appointment, please note this when booking.

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS



Apply now for your child's September 2026 secondary school place! The deadline for applications is Thursday 31st October 2025.

You can find all the information you need and apply online here: <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school-places/secondary-admissions/secondary-school-admissions.aspx>

Don't miss the deadline - late applications are far less likely to secure your preferred school.

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.



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!

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

Autumn & Winter Menu

Week 1

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Beef Wellington, Roast Potatoes, Gravy, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Mushrooms, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Sweetcorn, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper	Chicken Curry, Basmati Rice, Naan Bread, Green Beans, Carrots, Peas, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper	Roast Chicken, Roast Potatoes, Gravy, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Mushrooms, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Sweetcorn, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper	Beef & Bean Stew, Roast Potatoes, Gravy, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Mushrooms, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Sweetcorn, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper	Chicken Curry, Basmati Rice, Naan Bread, Green Beans, Carrots, Peas, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper

Week 2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Beef Wellington, Roast Potatoes, Gravy, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Mushrooms, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Sweetcorn, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper	Chicken Curry, Basmati Rice, Naan Bread, Green Beans, Carrots, Peas, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper	Roast Chicken, Roast Potatoes, Gravy, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Mushrooms, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Sweetcorn, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper	Beef & Bean Stew, Roast Potatoes, Gravy, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Mushrooms, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Sweetcorn, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper	Chicken Curry, Basmati Rice, Naan Bread, Green Beans, Carrots, Peas, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper

Week 3

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Beef Wellington, Roast Potatoes, Gravy, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Mushrooms, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Sweetcorn, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper	Chicken Curry, Basmati Rice, Naan Bread, Green Beans, Carrots, Peas, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper	Roast Chicken, Roast Potatoes, Gravy, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Mushrooms, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Sweetcorn, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper	Beef & Bean Stew, Roast Potatoes, Gravy, Peas, Carrots, Parsnips, Mushrooms, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Sweetcorn, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper	Chicken Curry, Basmati Rice, Naan Bread, Green Beans, Carrots, Peas, Onions, Garlic, Butter, Salt & Pepper

The Autumn/Winter menu will be starting after half-term – this is available to view on our website or please come and collect a paper copy from the office. School dinners cost £3.25 per day / £16.25 per week and should be paid in advance via Arbor. Please make sure your account balance is up to date. If you think your child may be eligible for Free School Meals, you can 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 2 OPEN EVENING

If you have a Year 2 child please register your interest for the Open Evening here:
<https://forms.office.com/e/2JHrFNrhRw>

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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