



APRIL 2026 | ISSUE 6

# KENSINGTON JUNIOR ACADEMY

## ***Newsletter***

Welcome back to the start of a busy summer term at KJA. As always, we look forward to your continued support and collaboration over the coming weeks.



We are delighted to welcome three new members of staff to KJA.

Mrs Flindall, who joins us from Holbrook School for Autism, will be the new Year 4 Simmonds Class Teacher. She brings a host of specialist experience to the school as well as sporting expertise through Derbyshire Cricket Foundation.

Mr Mistry joins us as Cover Teacher for PPA and Leadership time and has over 10 years' experience of working across a variety of local schools.

We also have a new Office Manager, Ms Loynes, who joins us from St John Houghton school where she accumulated a host of valuable skills and experience that will support KJA.

We wish all three the very best in their new roles!

## MOBILE PHONES & SMART WATCHES



As of February 2026, the Government reiterated the mandate that all schools, including primary schools, should be mobile phone-free by default. The policy covers the entire school day, including lessons, breaks, and lunchtimes. We would ask that all children who need to bring a phone or smart watch to school, leave it in reception on their way in.



## BREAKFAST CLUB

The launch of our FREE Breakfast Club has been a huge success with many pupils now enjoying a range of healthy, nutritious foods and great activities before the start of the school day. The club has a charge of £1.50 between 07:45 - 08:15 and is completely free from 08:15 - 08:45. To take advantage of this free Government funded breakfast provision please book your child on via Arbor.

## NEW READING HUT

Our Year 3 & Year 4 pupils have been loving their new Reading Hut on the playground! As a school we are passionate about instilling a love of reading in all pupils and this great space is designed to help just that. Children have commented that it is a nice place to sit, chat, read, be creative and do something alternative to sport related activities on offer. If you have any pre-loved bean bags, cushions or blankets to make the space comfortable, please drop them into Reception.

## WATER BOTTLE



As the warmer weather begins to arrive (hopefully), can you please ensure your child has a named water bottle, along with named clothing, and where appropriate, suncream applied.

## ATTENDANCE

At KJA, we know that excellent attendance is key to every child's success. National data shows that school attendance currently averages around 92–94%, meaning even small amounts of absence can quickly add up. Pupils who miss 10% or more of school (just one day every two weeks) are classed as persistently absent, and this now affects around 1 in 5 children.

Research consistently shows that pupils with higher attendance achieve better outcomes and feel more connected to school. We understand that challenges can sometimes make attendance difficult, and we are here to help. Please speak with us if you need support—working together, we can ensure every child thrives.

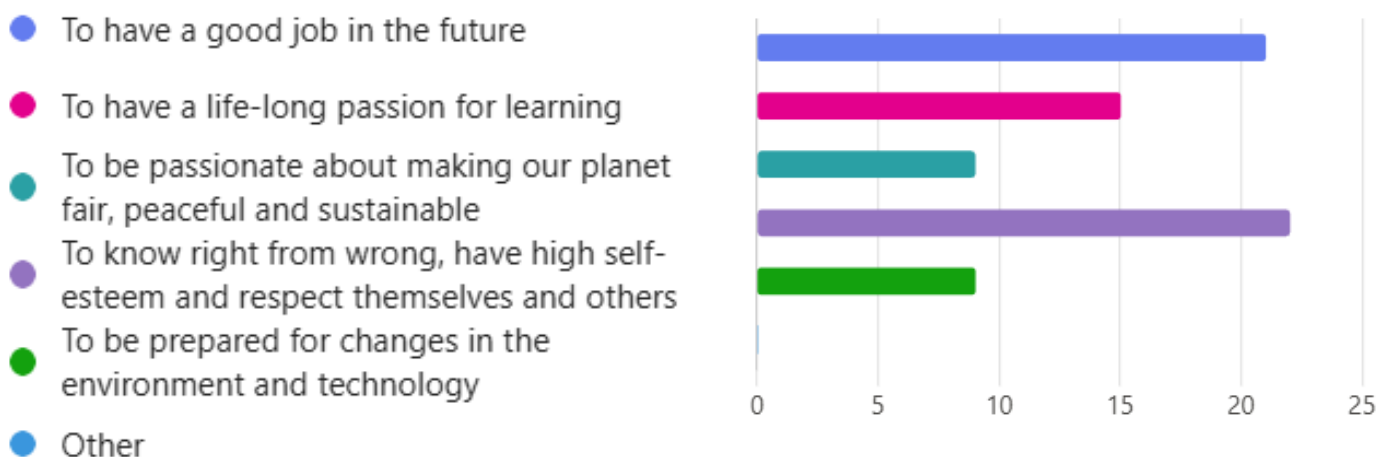
## PARENTS EVENING & QUESTIONNAIRE

It was a pleasure to see so many parents & carers over the recent parent meetings held at the end of the Spring term. Whilst it gives you an opportunity to see your child's work, its also a great way to ensure both you and the class teacher understand where progress has been made and importantly where we need to collaborate to support area of development.

Huge thanks to the many parents who gave us detailed feedback from the recent parent survey. You have given us some great suggestions to help improve KJA including increasing opportunities for cooking, gardening and a wider spectrum of sports. You were also clear, from the graph below, what your priorities for your children are which we can ensure is supported through the curriculum.

When asked to describe the school in three words, the response was incredibly positive!

Thank you once again for taking the time to complete the survey.



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## Changing Lives Craft Morning

Year 3 parents & carers are invited to join us for a craft morning led by Changing Lives on Wednesday 20th May at 9.00am. Lasting for approximately an hour they will lead pupils and families through a range of craft projects which has proven to be a really enjoyable and positive start to the day.

## KJA Coffee Mornings

Look out for the advertised coffee mornings with Mrs Bailey and Miss Powlson! Held every three weeks, they are a good opportunity to discuss the challenges we all face as parents and possibly get some new tips and tricks as well as share your own experiences. There is often an invited guest from an agency that can offer specific information and advice on specific topics so please look out for the next coffee date on Class Dojo.

## KEY DATES

**Here are some key dates for the rest of this term:**

*(subject to change)*

|          |                                           |                                    |
|----------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| May 2026 | Thursday 7th May                          | Year 3 – Families at the Table     |
|          | 11th – 14th May                           | SATS Week                          |
|          | Tuesday 12th May                          | Year 5 Victorian Day               |
|          | Thursday 21st May                         | World Culture Day                  |
|          | Friday 22nd May                           | Last Day of Term                   |
|          | <b>Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May</b> | <b>Half-Term – School Closed</b>   |
| Jun 2026 | Tuesday 2nd June                          | Year 6 Leavers Photos              |
|          | Tuesday 9th June                          | Year 4 Trip – Galleries of Justice |
|          | Wednesday 10th June                       | Year 5 – Families at the Table     |

## Key Dates continued...

|          |                                         |                                                    |
|----------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
|          | Wednesday 10th June                     | Years 3 & 4 Sports Day (am)                        |
|          | Thursday 11th June                      | Years 5 & 6 Sports Day (am)                        |
|          | Wednesday 17th June to Friday 19th June | Year 6 Residential – Lea Green                     |
|          | Thursday 18th June                      | Year 4 Performing at the Hallé Derby               |
|          | Friday 19th June                        | Year 5 Transition Day to OIEA                      |
|          | Friday 26th June                        | Summer Fayre                                       |
|          | Tuesday 30th June & Wednesday 1st July  | Year 6 Transition Days – OIEA                      |
| Jul 2026 | t.b.c.                                  | Year 6 Performance                                 |
|          | t.b.c.                                  | Year 6 Leavers Assembly                            |
|          | t.b.c.                                  | Year 5 Science Afternoon at OIEA                   |
|          | Wednesday 1st July                      | Year 2 Transition Day                              |
|          | Thursday 2nd July                       | Year 4 – Families at the Table                     |
|          | <b>Friday 3rd July</b>                  | <b>INSET DAY – School Closed</b>                   |
|          | Monday 6th July                         | Year 6 – Families at the Table                     |
|          | Tuesday 7th July & Wednesday 8th July   | Year 6 Transition Days – OIEA, KHCA & SJHCVA       |
|          | Friday 17th July                        | Family Summer Picnic                               |
|          | Monday 20th July                        | End of Year Reports                                |
|          | <b>Thursday 23rd July</b>               | <b>Last Day of Term – Break-up for the Summer!</b> |

