

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of another academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and partnership with Kestrel House School. It has been a privilege to work alongside our dedicated staff, wonderful children, and supportive families.

This year has been full of growth, learning, and achievement across all year groups. From academic progress and personal development to memorable events and trips, the pupils have shown incredible resilience, enthusiasm, and kindness. We all feel incredibly proud of all they have accomplished.

I am also pleased to share with you that I have been appointed as the permanent Headteacher of Kestrel House School. It is an honour to be entrusted with this role, and I am excited to continue working with you and the wider school community to build on the strong foundations we have in place. Together, we will continue striving to ensure that every child feels safe, happy, and inspired to achieve their full potential.

We have a few goodbyes to acknowledge as several valued staff and students are leaving us. The following staff are going on to their next flight path:

- Shekira – Paddington class
- Heather – Paddington class
- Lolly – Victoria class
- Rocio – Angel class
- Meiyu – Angel class
- Ruth – Paddington class

The Kestrel House community will miss them, and we wish them the best of luck!

I also want to take this opportunity to say goodbye to our fabulous Year 11s who are transitioning into their new school, and we wish them all the best in their next journey. We know they will be successful!

As we look ahead to the new academic year, we look forward to welcoming the new staff starting with us. We remain committed to providing the highest quality education and care for all our pupils. We have exciting plans in place and look forward to working together to make next year even more successful.

On behalf of all the staff, I wish you and your families a restful, safe, and enjoyable summer break.

With warmest regards,
Aimée McMillan

Angel Class

Our theme this term is 'All Aboard' we have explored this through English, Maths, and explorative play.

This summer term, our learners have enjoyed exploring '*The Tiger is on the Train*' and '*We Are All Going Travelling By...*' using a rich mix of sensory experiences — from vibrant visuals and catchy music to fun dance activities. These multi-sensory inputs have helped deepen the children's understanding and engagement with the stories as well as developing their fine motor skills.

We're so proud of their progress and enthusiasm for learning through sensory exploration!



In Maths, learners participated in a social story and role-playing activity focused on shopping. This encouraged the use of their core communication boards and helped them become more confident with exchanging money. The children also explored sizes, shapes, quantities, and patterns through interactive and practical tasks, laying the groundwork for key mathematical concepts.



Physical & Sensory Regulation

Our learners have shown impressive dedication to their daily movement sessions, where they practiced simple. These sessions combined physical movement with calming strategies like deep breathing, promoting relaxation, body awareness, and emotional regulation.



PSHE/SMSC

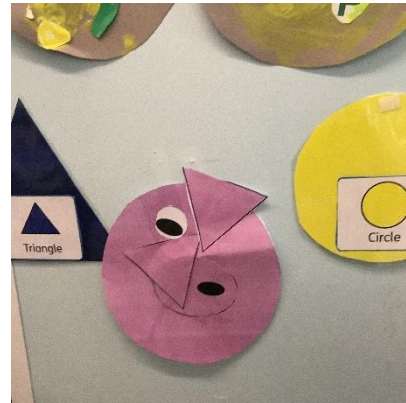
We had a lot of fun holding and stroking the animals and being firefighters!



Victoria Class

Maths

In maths we have been learning about shapes and where we can find them around the school and in the community and making pictures using different shapes



English/phonics

In phonics we have been learning the sound S, T, A, P, I

We have been decorating pictures, and we enjoy playing silly soup and we have been able to match the objects with the correct letter. In English we have enjoyed different sensory stories. Our favourite was 'And we all go traveling by.' We made different types of transport and even took the bus to Ally Pally Park.



We have been having fun this term going out on trips and doing lots of messy play and water play



Pimlico Class



Pimlico class has had a truly sensational summer term, brimming with creative and engaging activities that have significantly boosted our students' skills and personal growth.

A standout feature has been our community trips, including walks and our popular weekly swimming sessions at Park Road Leisure Centre. It's been incredibly rewarding to witness our learners' confidence blossom each week as they participate in these outings.

In literacy, we have enjoyed captivating stories like "You Can't Take an Elephant on The Bus" and "The Boy Who Sailed the World." Our students have shown remarkable progress in understanding new vocabulary through our interactive matching activities.

Maths sessions have brought practical skills to life, focusing on money and time. Our class shop, where students use play money to "purchase" items for calm time, has been a fantastic way to learn

about money. We have also celebrated significant strides in their ability to correctly identify both analogue and digital times.

The term concluded perfectly with an unforgettable trip to Willows Farm, where the sheer joy of our learners exploring the diverse activities was truly inspiring.



Westminster Class

This summer term in Westminster Class, we've had a great time exploring new topics through sensory stories, music, and hands-on activities. We've continued developing our communication and independence skills, with a focus on making choices, requesting needs, and taking part in daily routines. The children have enjoyed outdoor learning, explored water play, and participated in movement sessions that support regulation and well-being.



Paddington Class

Paddington have had a wonderful summer term, we've engaged in lots exciting learning, developed our skills, engaged and participated in lots of meaningful learning activities, and have worked hard toward and achieved our targets and AQA awards. We've enjoyed lots of fun learning activities and we've been going on lots of lovely community walks to enjoy the weather. Well done everyone!

In Literacy our main focus books have been "You Can't Take an Elephant on The Bus" and "The Boy Who Sailed the World." We've done lots of comprehension and matching activities based on these books and have also been working on developing our writing and typing skills. Our morning phonics sessions have been really engaging, and we've loved joining in with group games and activities. Our reading sessions have been very relaxing, and we've read, watched, and listened to some really great stories.

In numeracy we've been learning to tell the time to the hour, exploring currency, and working on our counting ability. We've really developed our skills and enjoyed numeracy games as a group.



In Science we've been learning about the body and doing lots of fun experiments. We've been learning about different parts of the body, and their functions; and keeping healthy.



In Art we've learned about lots of different topics and celebrated lots of different events. We've been busy engaging in creative activities and celebrating fun days as a class.



During our RSE and PHSE we have been learning about safe people, personal space and touch, and different careers; whilst also developing our self-care, independence, and life skills. Our independence has grown, and we are developing more of an understanding of the wider community.



Hampstead Class

Creative: Hampstead class have enjoyed plenty of creative learning opportunities this term. We have made artwork based around different modes of transport that we may use. Boat, bus, car, plane, and train. Creating the artwork has used different resources and techniques.

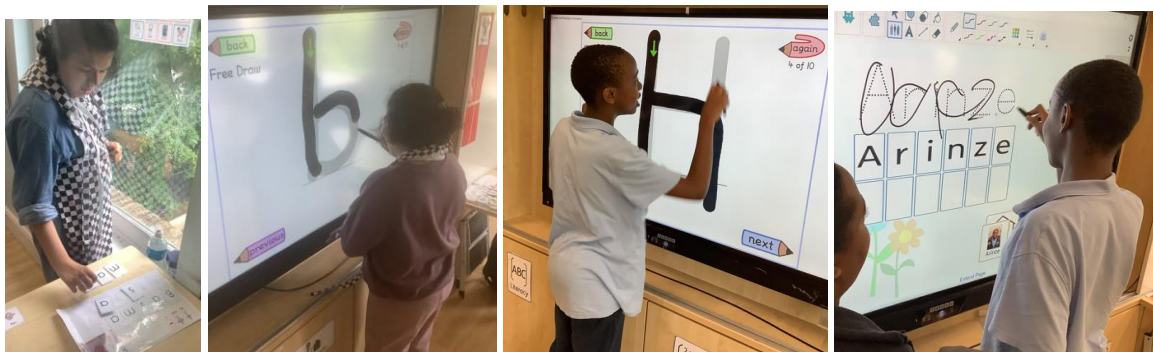


Career: Hampstead class have learned about lollipop men and women this term and the work they do. Learners have pieced together a jigsaw puzzle to show a lollipop woman and man as well as piece together a lollipop person in their work uniform.

Phonics: Learners have been offered phonics learning opportunities at their desks and the interactive whiteboard. Learners have been using threading boards to form sounds, and they have matched pictures and words as well as chosen the focus sound of the week from a selection of choices using their fine motor skills with the use of a peg or showing their choice with their fingertip or using a felt pen.



Writing: Learners have been using the interactive whiteboard during circle time register to trace or write their names. Writing has also been offered during phonics lessons as well as story comprehension for *You Can't Take An Elephant On The Bus* by Patricia Cleveland-Peck. The formation of numerical digits 0-9 has been offered regularly as a tracing exercise during numeracy input before individual work begins.



Reading: Stories have been read on four days of the school week. A selection of story books and entry level reading books are always offered, and learners can choose what is read. Learners will pick books to be read, or they will select stories which have been selected by an adult and brought to the work desks. The expectation is for learners to be sat at desks for the reading and learners to turn pages when prompted to do so.

You Can't Take An Elephant On The Bus by Patricia Cleveland-Peck has been read to all the learners prior to the story books being brought out from the cupboard for reading. Learners are brought together with chairs forming a horseshoe facing the adult reading at the front of the class with learners being encouraged to sit as part of the group arrangement rather than at their work desk.



Numeracy: Learning opportunities have been based around time and clocks this term. These activities have been offered at both the whiteboard and at work desks. Opportunities range from matching analogue and digital clocks together with the correct time, using Velcro clock resources to make a clock face, using colour pens to draw clock faces and counting clock quantities. Learners have also been offered clock resources to manually move the minute and hour hands to make times. The times have been focused on daily timetables they follow during the school week.



Waterloo Class

As we come to the end of the summer term, we want to take a moment to celebrate what a fantastic year it has been in Waterloo Class. Our learners have come so far and made incredible progress – both in their learning and their confidence. It's been a joy to watch them grow and thrive.

Throughout the year, the class has developed new friendships, supported each other, and shared so many lovely moments together. From learning new skills in the classroom to exploring the outdoors, it's been a year filled with achievement, laughter, and fun.

One of the highlights of the summer term was our wonderful trip to Willow's farm. The excitement on the learner's faces as they met the animals, enjoyed the play areas, and explored the farm was truly special. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to engage with the world around them in a meaningful and joyful way.

We are so proud of each and every one of our learners in Waterloo Class. Thank you to all the parents and carers for your continued support – it really makes a difference.

We wish you a restful and happy summer break, and we look forward to seeing everyone back for another brilliant school year ahead!

Warm wishes,
The Waterloo Class Team.



Clinical Team

The Speech & Language Therapy team have been running group sessions across classes this term. We have been enjoying doing a range of different activities with learners, such as cooking, music, arts & crafts, and sensory play. We have been focusing on developing Core Boards for each learner in the school, to support with their communication skills. We have had lots of fun working in classes with everyone and have seen some wonderful examples of positive communication being used, for example, when making requests for things they want, for making comments or when asking and answering questions.



We are delighted to welcome back our OT, Lucy Allen, from maternity leave, and look forward to being a team at full capacity, working jointly again in the Autumn Term.

Kestrel Family Nest

We have had a very busy term with KFN, I would like to say a big thank you to all of you for your continued support for KFN this academic year.

Our last workshop we looked at Parent Portal Isams. This is another way for families and carers to stay in contact with the school and have letters and documents sent in and out electronically.

A huge thank you must go out to our reception administrator Gabrielle for all the hard work she has put in and delivering the session too.



We are looking forward to putting on more workshops next year.



KFN celebration!

It was lovely to see families and carers at our KFN celebrations where we shared conversation, foods that families brought in from their home and culture and a chance for everyone to chat to the other families and gain so much more knowledge and information from each other.

Here are some pictures from that morning.



... and finally

Pupils are back to school on Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Have a wonderful summer break!

