



Newsletter 4.9.23

Happy September Riversiders!

Yet another exciting year ahead at Riverside... where every moment is a learning moment as we live out our core values: BE KIND. BE SAFE. BE A GREAT LEARNER.

A huge welcome back from all your Riverside family – we can't wait to see you all on Wednesday 6th September and for our new F2 Otter children, on your allocated return date over the next two weeks.

On Tuesday, your new class teachers will send out our usual welcome back video message, which will also be on the website, to show you the entrance you will come in and where pick up will be. Looking forward to seeing you all on Wednesday morning.

Mrs Lahive :)

Restoring our beautiful little haven...

During the holidays, you will have seen that our playground areas were vandalised – destroying the wonderful work of Mr Andy and the children. [Link to newspaper article.](#)





In true Riverside spirit, we responded with action and, thanks to Mrs Donoghue setting up a fundraising page, we raised over £1500. The funding came from friends, families, church groups as well as author and scriptwriter Frank Cottrell-Boyce. A special thanks to our parent governor, Mr Parsons, who liaised with Police, Magenta and Councillor Paul Stuart to help restore the playground.

Last Thursday, some staff and parents also helped to make sure everything is looking amazing for the children's return and we have been busy updating our security systems. Have a listen to Mrs Benson and Miss De Jesus giving their interview about the matter for BBC Radio Merseyside.



1 - Mrs Benson and Miss De Jesus giving their interview about the matter for BBC Radio Merseyside.

Further Building News

Preliminary work and ground searches for our new build began over the holidays with the hopeful time of the major works beginning next summer. The DfE have issued this letter with regards to the RAAC issues that some schools are facing. Fortunately, **Riverside is unaffected by this issue** and The DfE sent this statement to pass on.

‘You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete; because it is weaker than regular concrete, concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and as a result areas in affected spaces will be vacated.

We wanted to inform you that we are not affected by this decision as we do not have RAAC in any of our buildings and therefore they will continue to function as normal. We understand that parents may want to understand more about the support to educational settings to manage RAAC safely. You can read more through the article published by the DfE on the Education Hub.

I hope that this offers reassurance.’

Having just become a nan again – to beautiful twins – James and Rowan - Mrs Murray our amazing governor, TA and all round wonder woman, is living out our school motto: ***Ancora Imparo – I am still***

learning by hitting the headlines [\(click here\)](#) with the amazing news that she passed her maths GCSE. Congratulations!



Fond Farewells...

We wish our last year 6 Kingfishers class the very best of luck as they start the next stage in their education: Oldershaw, Weatherhead, Mosslands, St Mary's, Birkenhead Park Academy, Upton Hall, Calday Grammar and Wirral Grammar are all very lucky to be receiving such wonderful children.

We would also like to pass on our congratulations to former Riversider, Bori Pasztor, who has just finished at Weatherhead and has gained a place at Oxford University. Bori and her sister joined our school from Hungary, with English as an Additional Language – this is a remarkable achievement and we wish her every success.



2 - Our Kingfishers waving a fond farewell to Riverside as they embark on their new journey into secondary education.

Fond Farewells...

Unfortunately, due to lack of funding, we have to say good-bye to our Academic Mentors Miss Devine and Mrs Hesketh-Osgood. Miss Devine is off on her travels to Australia, before joining the world of banking and Mrs Hesketh-Osgood has been appointed as an English lecturer at Wirral Met College. We also have to say goodbye to Mrs Barnett, who was with us covering a maternity leave, and Mrs Devine who was supporting one of our Y6 children. The impact that these members of staff had on the future outcomes of the children they worked with was outstanding and we are so sad that they are unable to carry on the brilliant contribution they have all made to our school.

Fond Farewells...

Following his retirement from headship of St Laurence's, Mr Walsh joined Riverside in 2010 promising us that he could possibly give us a year or two before fully retiring from the world of education... 13 years later, he finally handed in the letter we were all dreading - his resignation! A gentleman – a scholar – a sportsman: the Wonder of Walshie legend will live on in the hearts of every child and every member of staff who had the privilege to be taught by him or work alongside him. As you would expect, Mr Walsh's retirement will not be a typical one, as his grandchildren, family and teammates will make sure of - there are many exciting trips across the world ahead of him. If he can squeeze in some time between his many sporting and family commitments, Mr Walsh has promised to join us on our residential trips too. YEAH!

As you are aware, each class has their own British Hero and we thought it was about time that the staff had their own inspirational hero to stand shoulder to shoulder with Great Britons such as Sir David Attenborough, L.S Lowry and Marcus Rashford. Mr. Walsh: the epitome of everything that a great British hero is, was our No 1 choice. We have in his honour, nominated him for Educate's Teacher of the Year award so watch this space...



3 - The one-and-only, Mr Walsh.



4 - Introducing our new British Hero, Mr Walsh :)

Thank you...

As we begin this new school year, can I thank you once again for your support and kindness – so many great achievements from last year and so many more to come. With a family like Riverside the sky is the limit! There really is no place like Riverside!

If any of you need any help with the start of the new year please contact Mrs Bowness who will be available from Tuesday 5th September on the usual school mobile number 07955 703 575.

Upcoming Events and Dates for your Diary



Breakfast and After School Clubs will be available to book on Arbor from midday on Tuesday 5th September. Further to the link you were sent over the holidays, please ensure you read the updated charging policy that is on the school website, as there have been some price changes for both clubs and school meals. [CLICK HERE.](#)

Autumn Term 2023

Inset Days for staff – Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th September 2023

Open – Wednesday 6th September 2023

Close - Thursday 19th October 2023

Inset Day for staff – Friday 20th October 2023

Half Term - Monday 23rd October 2023 - Friday 27th October 2023

Open – Monday 30th October 2023

Close - Friday 22nd December 2023

Christmas Break - Monday 25th December 2023 – Friday 5th January 2024

Spring Term 2024

Inset Day for staff – Monday 8th January 2024

Open – Tuesday 9th January 2024

Close - Friday 16th February 2024

Half Term - Monday 19th February – Friday 23rd February 2024

Open - Monday 26th February 2024

Close – Thursday 28th March 2024

Spring Break – Friday 29th March 2024 – Friday 12th April 2024

Summer Term 2024

Open - Monday 15th April 2024

May Day (closed) – Monday 6th May 2024

Close - Friday 24th May 2024

Half Term - Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May 2024

Open - Monday 3rd June 2024

Close – Monday 22nd July 2024

Inset Day for staff – Tuesday 23rd July 2024

[CLICK HERE FOR THE SCHOOL WEBSITE CALENDAR](#)

Thank you for reading...

