

UNICORN SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
238 KEW ROAD, RICHMOND, TW9 3JX
Tel: 020 8948 3926
www.unicornschoo.org.uk

No 955

WEEK COMMENCING: MONDAY 26 JANUARY

SPRING TERM 2026

'We are courageous, reflective and, above all, kind'



Bird Week Count



MONDAY

8.40am Bird Week Assembly
2.00pm Violet and UV Hockey matches v Prospect House (h)
6.30pm **Violet Parents** - Secondary schools briefing **via Zoom** (scroll down for details)

TUESDAY

9.00am Rose Theatre Workshop for Indigo Class
10.00am Rose Theatre Workshop for UV Class
1.30pm Rose Theatre Workshop for Violet Class
2.30pm Rose Theatre Workshop for Blue Class

WEDNESDAY

2.00pm Blue and Indigo Hockey matches v Prospect House (a) GAOLS New Malden
3.15pm Yellow Class Cake sale on the forecourt (weather permitting)

To book wraparound care, please click: [Richmond Rugby Club \(WAC\) Booking](#)

Breakfast club: **Run by school and NO need to book in advance**

To report a child absent, please click: absences@unicornschoo.org.uk



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:
Flo (Y), Lola (V) and Luna (B)



Yellow Class had a visit from Ranger Stu on Monday and he brought some of the animals from his zoo with him. The children have been learning about classifying different animals last term and Ranger Stu was really impressed with their knowledge of mammals, reptiles, arachnids and amphibians. Everyone had a turn handling one of the animals; Abiola and Ted were much braver than Miss Botes and Mrs Gardener because they volunteered to handle 'Tallulah the Tarantula'!





Violet Class Parents - Secondary School briefing meeting (via Zoom) - Monday 26 January at 6.30pm where we will be sharing some more information on secondary schools and our preparation for the 11+ entrance process. It should last around half an hour.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/71163050781?pwd=QWpyV1ZocjVQeklHamFOS0pUYndtZz09>
Meeting ID: 711 6305 0781
Passcode: Unicorn

In Orange Class this week we were lucky enough to have Dylan's mummy come in and talk to us about the Bulgarian carnival, **Kukeri**.

Kukeri are people in big, colourful costumes who come from Bulgaria. They wear funny masks with horns and bells that go *clang-clang* when they walk or dance.

A long time ago, people believed the Kukeri chased away bad spirits and brought good luck, health, and a happy year. So, the Kukeri dance, jump, and make lots of noise to scare the bad things away and invite good things in!

They might look a little scary at first, but they're actually there to protect people and make everyone happy.

We had great fun dancing and making lots of noise in our masks!



**Second Hand Uniform Sale on the forecourt
Wednesday 4 February at 8.00am**

**2nd hand
uniform**

Donations:

Good quality duffle coats, polos, sweatshirts, sports tracksuit bottoms, new style sports jackets, PE tops, skorts, gym shorts, trousers but please **NO** old school sports jackets.

Please bring your clean uniform donations and leave them in the office by **Monday afternoon 2 February**. Please do not bring donations on the day.

Violet and UV at the Young Voices Concert Violet and UV had an unforgettable experience singing at the iconic O2 Arena with Young Voices! Joining thousands of young performers to form the largest children's choir in the world, they filled the arena with energy, harmony, and excitement. Performing on such a world-famous stage was a truly inspiring moment and a memory they'll treasure for years to come. Below left is also Skye (I) and Quinn (G), Leon's brother and sister working 'behind the scenes' to make a lovely banner they took to the O2 and spent all evening waving it for Unicorn!



Unicorn 100 Book Reading Challenge - Launching Next Week! ✨

We are excited to be launching the Unicorn 100 Book Reading Challenge next week for all our junior children! The aim is simple: to help children fall in love with reading while working towards the goal of reading **100 books**.

Children who read regularly (even just 20 minutes a day) build stronger vocabulary, comprehension and confidence - and this challenge is all about making reading fun and rewarding.

✨ What's included?

- 116 brilliant books carefully chosen by Mrs Gladstone
- A mix of new titles and old favourites
- Diverse characters, themes and stories for the children to enjoy

📖 How it works

Each child will receive a reading booklet in their library lesson next week. They will then choose books to read, complete a short review after each book, and earn a gold star for every book they read.

🎁 Rewards along the way!

- Including certificates, bookmarks, lunch passes (skip-the-queue favourite!), extra playtime with a friend and book vouchers.
- Children in **Violet and UV** will follow a slightly adapted reward system to reflect their time left in school and can include approved books from home or the library if needed.

Please support your child as much as possible - chat with them about what they are reading and encourage them to visit local libraries or bookshops. (Charity shops are great for second-hand books too!)

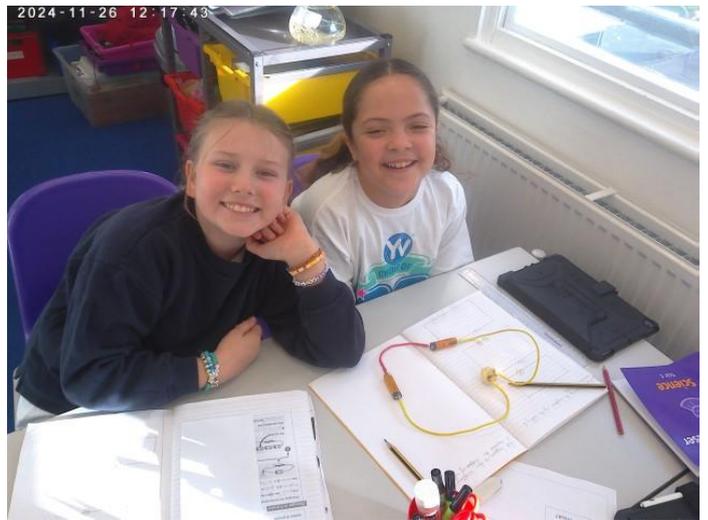
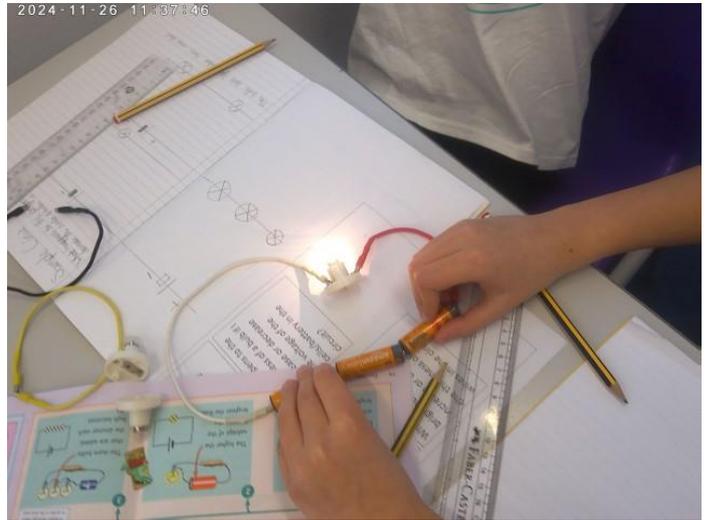
For more details, please see the email sent by Mrs Gladstone on Thursday.

Some of the fabulous art at Unicorn





UV Science - This week, UV investigated electrical circuits through a series of 'What if?' questions. They explored how adding more bulbs makes each one dimmer, while increasing the number of cells makes a bulb shine more brightly. They also learned that too much voltage can cause a bulb to blow by breaking its filament. Throughout their investigations, pupils checked for loose connections and discovered how these can cause short circuits where components stop working.



Our Stars of the week

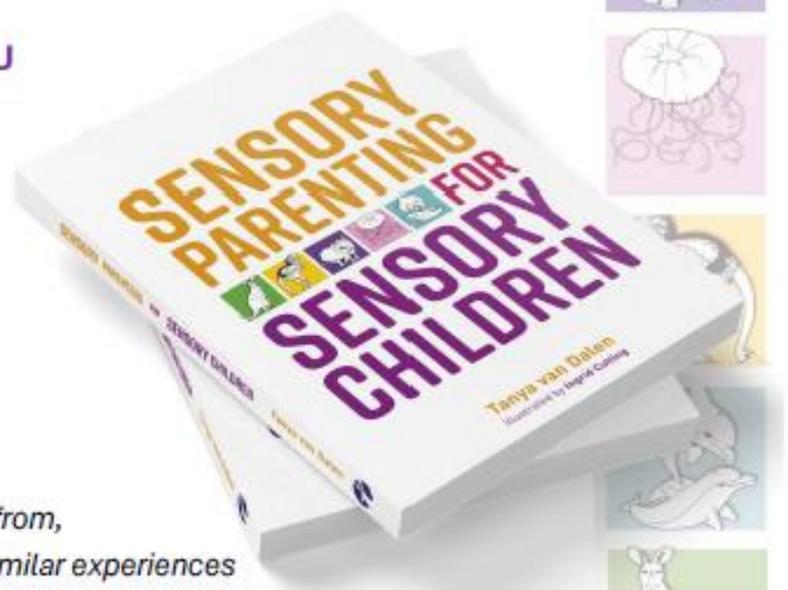


SENSORY PARENTING FOR SENSORY CHILDREN

Are you a parent of a sensory child? Join our in-person event to learn all about sensory parenting! Discover effective strategies and techniques that will help you understand and support your sensory child's unique needs. Emtia Bartlett, Occupational Therapist, will share her knowledge and encourage discussion with reference to the book 'Sensory Parenting for Sensory Children' by the author Tanya van Dalen. Don't miss this opportunity to connect with other parents facing similar challenges, and gain valuable insights into sensory processing issues and parenting styles and how they impact and are influenced by sensory children.

Saturday 28th Feb 10am-3pm in person
Wednesday 4th and 11th March 7:30-9pm online
Saturday 21st March 10am-3pm in person

110 Selkirk Rd TW2 6PU
Sign up [here](#)



'It was great to be able to hear from, and talk to, people who have similar experiences to my own with their children. I've dealt with this on my own (with my partner) without discussing with friends and family. To hear other peoples' methods and struggles helped me so much. We have incorporated several of the tactics discussed and become more accepting of some behaviours too after understanding more about sensory challenges'

Camp Beaumont Holiday Camp - January Sale



15%
off ALL
2026
camps

Use
code
JAN15

JANUARY SALE

Unicorn Sport week beginning 26 January

For Directions to Sporting Venues

[Directions to Barnes Hockey Pitch, Dan Mason Drive, Chiswick, W4 2SH](#)

[Directions to Old Deer Park \(London Welsh\), TW9 2HN](#)

| Date | Sports information | Parents information |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| <p>Mon 26 January</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violet and UV MATACHES (Hockey) v Prospect House 14:00 – 15:00 <p>Match address: Barnes Hockey Pitch, Dan Mason Dr, Chiswick, London W4 2SH</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UV to WEAR KIT TO SCHOOL: trainers, long navy socks, navy shorts/skorts, navy polo top, FULL Unicorn tracksuit, SHIN PADS and MOUTH GUARD and water bottle. CHILDREN MUST HAVE SHIN PADS & MOUTH GUARDS. <p>Violet and UV parents to collect their child from school at 15:35 or from Barnes Hockey Pitch at 15:00.</p> |
| <p>Tues 27 January</p> | <p>Swim Squad @ Pools on the Park (selected pupils only) 15:45 – 16:30</p> <p>Swimming lessons for ORANGE CLASS 14:00 – 15:00</p> | <p>Swim Squad parents to collect their child from Pools on the Park at 16:30 (in changing rooms).</p> |
| <p>Wed 28 January</p> | <p>Swimming lessons for BLUE CLASS 14:00 – 15:00</p> <p>INDIGO CLASS MATCHES (HOCKEY) v Prospect House School (a) 14:00 – 15:00</p> <p>Match address: GOALS New Malden, Beverley Way, Wyvern Estate, New Malden, KT3 4PH</p> | <p>Indigo Class to come to school in Games kit. They must have their MOUTH GUARD and SHIN PADS.</p> <p>Parents to collect from GOALS New Malden at 15:00 or back at school at 15:45</p> |
| <p>Thurs 29 January</p> | <p>SQUAD for Blue, Indigo, Violet and UV Old Deer Park (London Welsh) 15:15 – 16:15</p> <p>Swimming lessons for YELLOW CLASS 14:00 – 15:00</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SQUAD - Parents to collect their child at 16:15 from Old Deer Park or back at school at 16:30 |
| | | <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Continued ...2</i></p> |

Fri 30 January

- **Swimming lesson for UV CLASS**
 - **Parents to drop children to the pool for 08:45**
- **Green, Blue and Indigo Games lesson 13:30 – 14:50**

Games address: Barnes Hockey Pitch, Dan Mason Dr, Chiswick, London W4 2SH

- **Green, Blue and Indigo to WEAR KIT TO SCHOOL:** trainers, long navy socks, navy shorts/skorts, navy polo top, **FULL** Unicorn tracksuit, **SHIN PADS and MOUTH GUARDS** and water bottle.
- **CHILDREN MUST HAVE SHIN PADS & MOUTH GUARDS.**
- **Green, Blue and Indigo** parents to collect children from school as normal at 15:35 or from Barnes Hockey Pitch at 14:50.

Lunch Menu

Week commencing 26 January

| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|-------------------|---|---|---|--|---|
| Morning Break | Selection of sandwiches on Granary bread (G, S, D) | Crudités with hummus (SE) and rice cakes | Cheese and crackers (G, D) | Spinach mini muffins (G, E) | Fruit and seeds Flapjack (G) |
| Mains | Homemade beef meatballs In a rich tomato sauce (D, E) | Slow cooked garlic and Thyme roast pork | WORLD FOOD DAY Russia | Salmon and dill fish cake (F, G) | Chicken korma |
| Vegetarian Option | Roasted vegetable and Cheddar cheese frittata and mozzarella (G, D) | Quinoa and mixed bean Stuffed sweet peppers | Chicken Stroganoff (D) Wild and basmati rice Steamed carrots Green beans Wild mushroom Stroganoff | Mushroom and lentil Stew | Chickpea and tofu Curry |
| Sides | Penne pasta Broccoli, sweetcorn Parmesan cheese (D) | Baby roast potatoes Garden peas Onion gravy | + Salad bar | Savoy cabbage Baked beans, curly kale Lemon mayonnaise (E) | Basmati rice Bombay potatoes Roasted cauliflower Mango chutney |
| Dessert | + Salad bar Banana and custard pots (D) + fresh fruit | + Salad bar Rainbow jelly + fresh fruit | + Salad bar Sahrlotka – apple sponge Cake (G, E) + fresh fruit | + Salad bar Mini fruit pots + fresh fruit | + Salad bar Mango cheesecake (G, D) + fresh fruit |

Contains: G = Gluten D = Dairy E = Egg F = Fish SE = Sesame CE = Celery
M = Mustard S = Soya SF = Seafood SP = Sulphite C = Crustasean