Ruth Woods
Head Teacher

Gill Coulton
Deputy Head Teacher

Tara Ristic
Assistant Head Teacher

Dr. Elly Yule
Chair of Governors

Newsletter 1

Friday 11th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back!

It is good to see everyone embracing the new school year! The children have shown lots of enthusiasm, good cheer and some really focused learning.

A Super Start for Year 3

What a great start to life in the Juniors! Thank you to all who were able to join us for the class picnics this week, with a special mention to the spirited 3R children and adults who had a very wet picnic but still managed to make the best of it. It has been lovely to have such positive feedback from the children, staff and families about how the first week has gone. Every child has received their 'Passport to the Juniors' and were very proud to receive the first stamp today for showing how #supportive, #scholarly and #spirited they are already. What a great way to show that they all belong and are Juniors Strandites! We were particularly amazed at how they managed the new learning routines and also at lunchtime, when we were so impressed by the great listening, manners and good choices when eating and getting to know new staff and systems. A special mention to all of

the children who have joined from other schools and to everyone who has made them feel so welcome. If you have any comments, questions or concerns please see your child's class teacher in the playground at pick up or email or telephone the office and your child's class teacher will contact you. Please remember you are welcome to pop into your child's classroom to see the room if you were not able to attend the picnics or for them to share some of their learning with you; after school is best please.

Drop Off Times

The drop off times this year are as follows:-

	Doors open	Doors close	Lessons start
Year 6 and siblings	8:30 am	8:45 am	8:45 am
Year 3, 4, 5	8:40 am	8:50 am	8:50 am
River and Otter	8:45 am	8:50 am	8:50 am

To encourage good punctuality and to ensure that nobody's school lunch choice is overlooked, we will be closing the doors promptly at 8:50, the start of the school day. Children arriving late will need to report to the office to sign in before going to class. A reminder that at the end of the day, Year 6 leave from the red shutter at 3:15, and children in Years 3-5 should be collected from the playground at 3:20, with entry for parents at the main front door. Thank you for adhering to the one way system at this busy time and exiting via the red shutter under the arch.

Independent Stars in Year 4

All of the Year 4 team have been so impressed with how easily the children have settled into their new routines. They have already started displaying some core Strand values. Well done Year 4! We are very excited to start French next week and brass on 23rd September.

Super Start in Year 5

Year 5 have made an excellent start this week. We have already begun our science topic: May the Force Be With You. The children have been demonstrating their excellent knowledge of Earth and the Sun, and how we get day and night. They have all been so focused, polite and helpful - a super start.

Bravo Year 6

Well done to Year 6, who have hit the ground running, quickly adapting to the earlier start time and new routines. Some excellent maths and extended writing has already been on display!

PE

This week has been a fantastic first week of PE on the rec! The children have really enjoyed their sessions. The PE team have been very impressed with the positive attitudes and skills on show, especially for many children, particularly those in Year 3, as this is their first time on the Rec. Keep it up! Please remember children need a light raincoat on their PE days.

Secondary Transfer for Yr 6

Children in Hounslow who are currently in Year 6 and were born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016 will transfer to secondary school in September 2027. The closing date to apply is Saturday, 31 October 2026. Hounslow Council's Schools Admissions Team are available to offer advice and assistance by phone on 020 8583 2711/2721 or via email on admissions@hounslow.gov.uk. For information on primary and secondary schools in Hounslow, details of the application process and application forms, visit Hounslow Council's school admission website.

Curriculum/Secondary Transfer Meetings

Advance warning of some key meetings - full calendar for the year to follow. Y4-6 meetings are in the hall, Otter and River in classrooms.

Day	Year Group	Time
Wednesday 16th September	Curriculum Mtg Year 5	9 - 9:30 am
Monday 21st September	Curriculum Mtg Year 4	9 - 9:30 am
Wednesday 23rd September	Curriculum Mtg Year 6	9 - 9:30 am

Term dates and Events

A year calendar of events will come home next week. For those of you being super organised and booking next year's holidays please check the end of term date - it's a late finish this year.

Uniform Refresh and Rule Reminder

The new term is a great time to refresh uniform expectations. Shoes should be black, sensible, comfortable school shoes **with trainers worn on PE days only**. Jewellery is not part of school uniform unless it is of a religious nature. Earrings are allowed for pierced ears only, and these should preferably be studs. We will discuss uniform at the Parents' Meetings later in the term so everyone is clear on the rules. PE uniform is black joggers or black shorts with a T-shirt or sweatshirt in team colours. PE Trainers should be black sports trainers, not fashion trainers, and offer good support for growing feet.

No fidgets, squishies, dumplings or sensory toys should be brought in from home. We will supply sensory supports for those children who have been identified by professionals as needing these. Thank you.

Smartwatches are not allowed, and mobile phones must be 'dumb phones' with no internet access or cameras. These must be handed in to staff.

Cyclists must wear a helmet, and bikes and scooters should not be ridden on site.

And Finally - Active Am - The Right Days!

Apologies for the confusion over Active Am Days this week. The correct Active Am days are as follows:-

Monday 8:30	Tuesday 8:30	Wednesday	Thursday 8:30	Friday 8:30
Year 6	Year 5		Year 4	Year 3

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Ruth Woods
Head Teacher

Key Dates to Remember...

SEPT 16

Curriculum Meeting/Meet the teacher Yr 5

Find out what your child will learn and how you can help.

SEPT 21

Curriculum Meeting/Meet the teacher Yr 4

Find out what your child will learn and how you can help.

SEPT 23

Curriculum Meeting / Meet the teacher Yr 6

Find out what your child will learn and how you can help.

For the full calendar of school events please visit **www.strandjuniors.co.uk**