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Newsletter 3

Friday 25th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Big Future - A message from the Childrens' Commissioner

The Big Future is asking children and young people about their lives, their experiences and their hopes for the future. I will be using what they tell me to build a national picture of what matters to children today and to ensure their views are heard by Government. I would love to gather the views of as many children as possible, so please take a moment to fill in the survey. It can be accessed here

Super Homework Y3

Thank you for the positive feedback regarding homework, and well done to all who have completed and handed in tasks in homework books and on Google Classroom. It was particularly great to hear how Year 3 are enjoying using our websites to develop their maths fluency at school and at home, and lots of Numbots certificates were shared today. We are happy to help with any teething problems with Google Classroom, so please do let your child's class teacher know if any help is needed. Year 3 staff

were so impressed when each class shared their reading calendars; we are all so proud of how much independent and shared reading is happening over the week. A special mention is deserved, as we think another new Strand record has been set with the number of families reading for at least 20 minutes per day and completing the reading calendar. Quite a few are hitting 10 minutes; please remember research shows how vital reading is for developing reading skills, building vocabulary, background knowledge and, importantly, building a love of reading. Please aim for 20 minutes, as the impact will be well worth the effort. **#ScholarlyStrandites**

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

It was great to see so many parents at the Curriculum meetings in Years 4, 6 and Swan. The meetings are full of useful information and curriculum booklets, and Milestones documents are available in each Year Group section of the website (Yr3, Yr4, Yr5, Yr6). If you have any queries about timings, events or clubs, then please contact the office in the first Instance. Any queries re curriculum etc should go to your class teacher.

Author Visit - Jenny Pearson

This week the author Jenny Pearson visited Strand and the children were enthralled by her tales of how she created her book 'How to be a Pirate'. The children asked great questions, and in return Jenny taught them all a great Pirate impersonation - just ask them to show you at home! Thank you to Helen Jones who organised the event.

Secret Strandites

Occasionally we celebrate Strandites who have achieved great things out of school. Last weekend in a national speaking competition, Rania from Yr 4 achieved 2nd position in her age range. Rania had to prepare and deliver a speech in Urdu in front of a big crowd, and she delivered her speech with aplomb, showing great confidence and dedication. Well done, Rania!

Sports Star of the Week

This week's PE Star of the Week is Robin in 6H. In PE, we have been working very hard on Fundamental Movement Skills alongside Cross Country. Robin has shown excellent progress in both activities, really pushing his limits across all of PE. He has shown great commitment to improving his long-distance running and also takes his time to participate in Park Runs at the weekend. Massive well done, keep up the hard work!

Summer Reading Competition

Thank you to everyone who took part in our reading newsletter competition; we had a lovely variety of entries. Well done to our runners-up - Miah, Siena and Aidan - who sent in a poem, a comic strip and a review about their favourite book. The winner is Maddie from Year 5 for her picture inspired by Warrior Cats, which you can see displayed in the library.

Term dates and Events

A year calendar of events came home this 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. The diary is also on the website and can be synced with your Outlook, Google and iPhone calendars. Simply scroll down to the bottom of the Diary page and follow the instructions.

Class Reps Needed for 3C and 6R

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to be a class rep. We are still looking for volunteers for two classes, 3C and 6R. Please contact your class teacher or Mrs O'Neil if you are happy to volunteer.

Strandites Celebrated

Each week in assemblies, we celebrate children who consistently show they are **#spirited**, **#scholarly** or **#supportive**. This week, certificates went to:

#Scholarly: Stepan, Mia, Annie, Olivia, Cleo D, Yaroslava, Alfie, Asma, Jasper, Ruella, Leana

#Spirited: Ismael and Asiya

#Supportive: Mirha, Clea, Viktor, Jaylen and Carmen

And Finally – Dangerous Driving - Again

This morning we almost had an accident in the Brooks Lane turning head outside of school. A car pulled up on the double yellow lines outside of the Junior entrance and reversed, almost hitting an Infant child. This was one of several dangerous situations I witnessed this morning while on door duty, caused by people parking on corners or on double yellow lines, or pulling up in the turning head to drop off children while parked randomly in the middle of the road. Protect your children. Parking on a double yellow line is an offence and unsafe.

Being a traffic warden is not in my job description, but being responsible for the health and safety of Strand children and families is. Consequently, I have contacted parking enforcement and asked for a warden to be present at pick-up and drop-off so fines can be issued to those parents who fail to follow the rules of the road.

Please do not enter the Brooks Lane turning head at the pick-up or drop-off to park. Leave 5 minutes earlier for pick-up and park a little further away to avoid the area becoming unsafe.

Ruth Woods
Head Teacher

Key Dates to Remember...

SEPT 29
Flu Vaccine

SEPT 29
Brentford Player Visit

OCT 1
Author Visit Y3 and Y4 Alex Milway

OCT 2
Time Givers Assemblies

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