

MARJORY KINNON NEWS

Headteacher: Ms. T Meredith



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Headteacher Update

Dear Parents & Carers

We are all getting nearer to the time of year when there are lots of events happening in school. Rehearsals are underway for our festive Primary Christmas Performance.

Please check the Autumn Events dates and add them to your diary.

Thank you for your contributions and continued support for the school.

KEY DATES

Autumn Term

Last Day of Autumn Term: **Friday 20th December 2024** - *Pupils finish at 1pm*

Spring Term

First Day of Spring Term: **Monday 6th January 2025** - *Pupils return to school*

Half-Term: **Monday 17th - Friday 21st February 2025**

Last Day of Spring Term: **Friday 4th April 2025** - *Pupils finish at 1pm*

Summer Term

First Day of Summer Term: **Tuesday 22nd April 2025** - *Pupils return to school*

May Day Bank Holiday: **Monday 5th May 2025**










Bank Holiday: **Monday 26th May 2025**

Half-Term: **Monday 26th - Friday 30th May 2025**

Last Day of Summer Term: **Tuesday 22nd July 2025** - *Pupils finish at 1pm*



Autumn Term Events

Event	Date	Time
Parent Coffee Morning – Meet the Secondary Leadership Team (Secondary Dining Hall) <div>     </div> <div> Mrs Higgins Head of Department Mrs Stacey Deputy Headteacher KS2&3 Mrs Grujic Assistant Headteacher KS2&3 Mr Gowers Assistant Headteacher KS4 </div>	20-11-24	9.15am
 <div> Marjory Kinnon Christmas Fayre Saturday 30th November 2024 (Hall) </div>	30-11-24	11am-1.30pm
Parent Workshop - Screen Exposure. The possible effects of early age electronic screen exposure. (Training Room) 	5-12-24	9.15am-11.30am
 Primary Christmas Performance (Hall)	10-12-24	10am–11am
	11-12-24	10am–11am
Christmas Jumper Day Pupil Christmas Dinner 	12-12-24	-
Parent Coffee Morning – Parents are invited to join the school's Therapy Team and Intervention Team for refreshments and an informal chat. Parents will have an opportunity to meet Himani Nahta, our new Occupational Therapist. (Secondary Dining Hall)	16-12-24	9am-11am
Carol Singing for Parents & Pupils Correction: Wednesday 18th December at 3-4pm 	19-12-24	3pm-3.15pm

Marjory Kinnon School Christmas Fair

Please come visit Mother & Father
Christmas



Plus join in the festivities with
affordable gifts for you to buy and
fun activities for all to enjoy!

Help Father Christmas find the
missing Nintendo Switch to WIN it!

Make a Christmas Bauble

Art and Crafts

Face Painting

Pre loved & New games & Toys to buy

Adults & Childrens clothes for sale

Christmas Nails

Cake Stall

Tombola

Raffle

and Refreshments

Saturday
30th November
11am - 1:30pm

Cash
Only



Marjory Kinnon School

REDESIGNATION

Parents may be aware that significant changes to the pupil intake to Marjory Kinnon has been changing over the last few years. As there has been a rapid rise nationally in the diagnosis of Autism there has been a greater demand for Local Authorities to provide the bespoke education required for the most complex / non-verbal pupils that cannot be catered for in mainstream schools.

The bulletin below has been shared by the Local Authority with educational establishments in Hounslow and neighbouring boroughs:

To meet the growing demographic and evolving needs within Hounslow Borough, Marjory Kinnon School has undergone reprofiling, effective from the start of the academic year.

Shift in Student Profile:

Commencing September 2024, Marjory Kinnon will transition from serving students with Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) to meeting the needs of students with 'Autism and Complex Needs'. Students will not need a diagnosis of Autism but will have exceptionally low levels of Cognition and Learning, Communication and Interaction needs, and require Autism based approaches to teaching and learning. Students with complex needs will include those with moderate medical needs, that can be met by trained school staff and would not require frequent medical health service involvement.

Phased changes:

Primary - The transition will result in no new MLD intake into primary year groups. All currently attending MLD students will remain with the school until Year 6, but will not automatically transition into the secondary phase as will be subject to individual Annual Review and meeting the new criteria.

Secondary – All current MLD students will remain until Year 11. Where the school has vacancies for MLD cohort in Key stage 4 (year 10 & 11 between September 2024- July 2025) consideration for placement will be agreed. Consideration for Key stage 3 students would be subject to individual Annual Review and meeting the new criteria.

Curriculum Enhancement:

In response to the changing student profile, the school will provide a revised curriculum specifically designed to meet the needs of students with Autism and Complex Needs and will start to phase out the GCSE curriculum for students in KS4.

Are you a **parent** or **carer** of a **child** aged **5-19 years**?

We offer ***free and confidential** advice and support about your child's health, wellbeing and development.



Send a message to

07312 263 080

Receive an answer within one working day from a qualified school nurse.
Monday to Friday, 9am-4.30pm. No service on bank holidays.

*Messages are charged at your usual rates. The service is confidential, but we might have to inform someone if we are concerned about your safety, and we would speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other health care staff who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to you within one working day and you will get an immediate message to confirm we have received your text. Texts will not be seen outside working hours. If you need help before you hear back from us, contact your GP, nearest walk-in centre or dial 111. Our text number does not receive voice calls or picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (not from landlines, international mobile numbers and some "numbers masking" mobile apps). To prevent the school nurse from sending messages to you, text STOP to our number.

Augmentative & Alternative Communication (AAC) Events

October was Augmentative & Alternative Communication Awareness month and like last year the school held its own AAC Awareness Day.

Each class was encouraged to use a form of AAC to support one of their morning lessons. A list of lesson and activity ideas was circulated by Isobel Hatfield, our Speech & Language Therapist.

Photos and videos were collated for later use as a shared resource for ideas on using AAC within different activities.

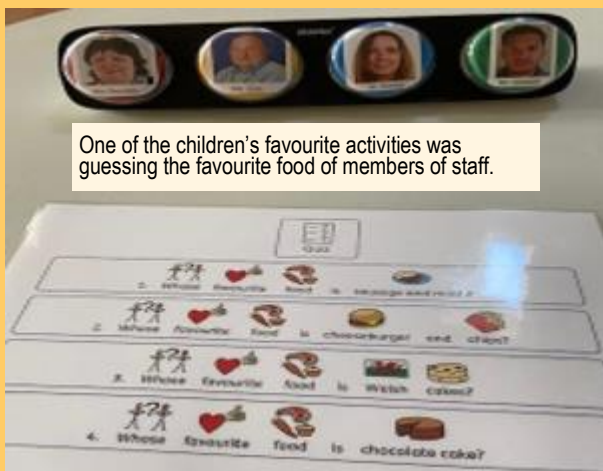
Resources included:

- iPads with TouchChat
- BIGmack (single message buttons)
- Paper based resources
- Makaton signing



Using BIGmack and symbols to support engagement with reading comprehension. iPad and TouchChat were used to help the children access the text.

Children loved seeing the flamingo dance, activated by a BIGmack 'go' button (visible at the top right of the photo).



One of the children's favourite activities was guessing the favourite food of members of staff.

In the afternoon staff and pupils played games and participated in activities in the Hall using different types of AAC.

Isobel and our SaLT Teaching Assistants (Sandy and Farhat) joined Jozsef Kalman (Deputy Headteacher for EYS & KS1) to support staff with ideas and resources and to answer any questions.

Mrs Öztürk, Chair of the Teaching & Learning Committee attended the event and reported back to the Governing Body on the impressive activities taking place.

Using symbols to help the children in the Guess Who? Game. Adding a little bit of fun with the 'This is fun' audio button. Encouraging children to communicate and play independently.



Encouraging turn taking supported by symbols and 'my turn' 'your turn' audio buttons. Adding a bit of fun with the 'Whoops!' button for when the bricks fell down.



The children used Makaton signing, symbols or TouchChat to request a biscuit or drink from Jozsef. Mrs Öztürk said it was lovely to see how focused and highly motivated the children were when doing this activity.

PARENT FEEDBACK

We will be putting a Suggestion Box in Reception where parents can post enquiries, concerns and their feedback to the school.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Parents who would like information on what After School Clubs are available to their child - please ask your Class Teacher.

SURPLUS TO SUPPER

Whilst the weather is still mild, we continue to put a table outside on a Friday with the food from [Surplus to Supper](#) for parents to help themselves. Much of this offer may contain nuts or traces of nuts, so please check the ingredients list carefully if any member of your family has an intolerance.

Please remember to bring a bag, as we are very short on supply.

Work has been carried out in the car parks to improve safety for all users. We have introduced additional speed reducing humps and new signage.

SAFETY IN THE CAR PARK

Line markings in the Visitors Car Park have been refreshed and extended.

Please support us with car park rules and safety by:

- ♦ Respecting the 5mph speed limit when driving into school, particularly at peak times. The speed limit is there to protect our vulnerable children - many of whom do not have road safety awareness.
- ♦ Scooter and bicycle users are asked to dismount whilst on the school site for their safety and the safety of others.
- ♦ Please do not park in a disabled bay unless you have a blue badge.

**Our Kids Are
Counting on You!**

**Practice Safe
Drop Off & Pick Up**



GOVERNANCE UPDATE



Marjory Kinnon says goodbye and thank you to Andrew Wood who held the role of Co-opted Governor since 2013 and the role of Chair of Governors between 2021 and 2023. Andrew will be stepping down in November after 11-years and having overseen many changes in the school, including the increase of student numbers, the move to the new school premises, two Ofsted inspections and the Pandemic.

Throughout his tenure, Andrew has shown a commitment and determination to improve the quality of education for the students and to make MKS the best possible environment for everyone within the school community. Whilst the school was meeting the ever-changing needs of running under the umbrella of Covid-19 regulations, he maintained regular contact, wrote to staff and when restrictions were lifted, Andrew visited to speak to staff about their wellbeing.

MKS and his Governing Body colleagues have benefited from Andrews skills in coaching, facilitation and organisational change. His care, thoughtfulness and good humour will be missed by his fellow Governors.



We also say goodbye and thank you to Catherine Olson who stepped down as our Local Authority Governor in October after 2-years on the Governing Body.

In her role as Careers Link Governor Catherine attended school events and gave valuable feedback on planning for opportunities for the changing cohort and expanding career pathways.

Notice of Parent Governor Election in the Spring Term

The school will be inviting parents / carers to stand for election as **Parent Governor** when the term of office for the current incumbent expires in March. We will have 1 vacancy and the term of office is 4-years.

Volunteers need to be a parent, carer (or someone who has parental responsibility) for a child at Marjory Kinnon School. You do not need any specific qualifications. To fulfil the role, you will need to attend regular meetings (around 6 each year); visit the school occasionally; do background reading; take part in induction training and ongoing development (which will be provided).

The governing board needs a balance and diversity of knowledge, skills and experience and would welcome applications from nominees with finance experience.

We will write again to parents /carers in the Spring Term with information on the core functions of the governing body, the role of a governor and a summary of the circumstances under which someone cannot serve as a parent governor. At that time we will invite applications and if there are more nominations than vacancies, a ballot will be held.

To Primary Parents

Your child in Primary receives free school meals automatically, for which you currently do not need to apply.

However, did you know, if you are eligible for **benefits-related** free school meals but you have not registered - you and the school may be missing out on other benefits such as:

- ◆ A free place (including a free hot meal) at a Holiday Club funded by the Government and run by the council. Each child is entitled to:
 - ◆ 16 hours during the Easter break.
 - ◆ 64 hours during the summer.
 - ◆ 16 hours during the winter break.
- ◆ School uniform grants.
- ◆ Free milk from CoolMilk for your child each school day.
- ◆ Food shopping vouchers during the holidays (up to £195 per child, per year) may be available through the Household Support Fund.
- ◆ And the school will receive additional Pupil Premium **funding up to £1,300 per child**. That's extra money to spend on enrichment activities, teacher development and targeted support for the children that need it most.

It costs nothing to apply, so why don't you try it and see what you are entitled to. You can check your eligibility for free school meals [here](#).

Apply [here](#) for free school meals on the London Borough of Hounslow website. If you would like help to register, please contact [Rochelle McIntyre](#), Family Support & Community Outreach Worker.



Are you entitled?

Healthy School Initiative

Due to the high number of pupil allergies and the vulnerabilities of our special needs children, we would like to ask parents who wish to bring in something to celebrate their child's birthday, not to send in birthday cake, sweets or party bags with food in them.

We would be very happy for you to **send a book** - of a similar value to a cake - as a birthday treat that can be read to the children.

You would be supporting us with our Healthy School initiatives and our School Development Plan targets to improve reading and engagement with books.

We would also like to remind Parents and Carers that **MKS is a nut-free school**.



Whilst MKS passes on information about events and services for families from the Local Authority and other providers in the community, this is general information only and does not constitute formal advice or a recommendation on the appropriateness of the events/services for your child. Families seeking to use or access a service or provision are responsible for undertaking their own checks to determine the suitability and fitness for purpose of that service and provision, as well as to ensure that the service has adequate policies and procedures in place including child protection and for the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and young people.



Community Hubs across Hounslow connect residents with a variety of services and activities in their local area.

Hounslow Council is working with voluntary sector organisations to provide a programme of advice, guidance and support across the borough.

Everyone is welcome at the Community Hub and more activities and services are being added all the time, so please check the website for details. No booking needed, just drop in.

If you can't find the support you need locally, you can call Community Solutions on 020 8583 2211. The line is staffed Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm and a friendly officer will find out more about your circumstances and give you the advice you need.

Hub locations and timings

Mondays 10am – 1pm Hounslow House

Tuesday 2pm – 5pm Feltham Assembly Hall

Wednesday 10.30pm – 2.30pm Beavers Childrens Centre & Library

Thursday 1pm – 4pm Feltham Library

Friday 10am – 2pm Brentford Library



Calling all schools in Hounslow



We have been asked to share information on the **Hounslow Transport Strategy**

Background

We are in the process of updating the borough's Transport Strategy which was last published in 2019. The borough and how we live has changed substantially since then with more varied travel patterns in a post-pandemic world, a cost of living crisis and the declaration of a climate emergency. The relationship between transport, public health and equalities outcomes is also more pronounced. The context in which the council is operating is different and, in many ways, more challenging. In recognition of this, we would like to ensure the transport strategy is reflective of people living and working across the borough and considers the future of travel in Hounslow.

Get Involved

Please read the [Executive Summary](#) (3-5 mins) for an overview and the full [Draft Transport Strategy](#) (15-20 mins) if you would like further detail.

Let us know your views by filling out the [short survey](#), which will take approximately 5 minutes to complete. It is an opportunity for you to tell us what you think and to ensure that your voice is heard as we refine the Strategy.

Contribute to the [map of priorities](#). These will be reviewed in the new year with a response provided on how we will use this data to inform our work.

Meet the team - a range of in-person and online engagement sessions will be organised for people to attend. Some of these have been confirmed and others are in the process of being finalised. For the latest information, please visit our dedicated [Eventbrite page](#) and check back for updates.

If you would like to see what the council's plans are for [Walking & Wheeling](#) and [Cycling](#) in Hounslow, our draft action plans for these modes are also available to review and comment on. Please see our [Active Travel webpage](#) for more information.

Next Steps

We will use your feedback to better understand whether the draft Transport Strategy reflects the vision, priorities and actions that local communities would like to see in Hounslow. We will make changes to the strategy based on this information, and the final strategy will be submitted to Borough Council for approval in early 2025.

If you would like a printed copy of this consultation, or an accessible alternative, such as Braille, large print or EasyRead, please email engage@hounslow.gov.uk. We are in the process of organising a British Sign Language (BSL) version of the survey which will be available shortly.