



Newsletter

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10 October 2025
Autumn Term Week 6

This week

A New Home for Our School Ducks

We want to let you know about an upcoming change regarding our much-loved school ducks. As many of you know, our three Indian Runner ducks have been part of our school community for some time, bringing a great deal of joy and curiosity to the children, especially in Reception. However, despite our best efforts, we have recently faced some challenges in continuing to care for them safely and responsibly.

We have been actively looking for a new home that could offer them a safer, more spacious, and enriching environment. We're pleased to share that a local farm - experienced in caring for ducks and other animals — has kindly offered to house them while we review the provision for animals at Meadway. The ducks moved to their new home yesterday, where they'll have more space to roam freely and be with other animals in a secure and natural environment. They will be returning to visit us in the summer when the farm comes to Meadway for the annual farm visit.

We know many children have developed a fondness for the ducks, and we'll be taking some time in school this week to talk with them about the move and how important it is for them to be cared for properly. If your child has any questions or feelings about the ducks leaving, please do feel free to talk to us or their teacher — we know changes like this can mean more to little ones than we might expect.

Thank you for your understanding and support in ensuring the wellbeing of all the animals and children in our care.

Important Safeguarding Notice: Children's "Spy" Books

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children's books by Andrew Cope, including the *Spy Dogs*, *Spy Cats*, and *Spy Pups* series.

Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author's website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content.

The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.

What this means for you:

- If your child has any *Spy Dog*, *Spy Cat* or *Spy Pups* books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.
- It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.
- We recommend talking with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in books without checking with an adult first.

We have checked the school libraries and will continue to share updates from the publisher as more information becomes available.

Poppies

Traditional poppies, reflective poppies, slap band poppies, bracelet poppies and stickers are available to buy from the office for a minimum of £1.

Reading Volunteers

 Calling All Reading Volunteers! Help us bring the magic of reading to KS2 pupils Are you already one of our wonderful reading volunteers? Thinking about joining our team? We'd love to see you! Coffee, Cake & Conversation Drop-In 
Wednesday 15th October at 2.30pm

 Meet at the school office Join us for a relaxed session where we'll:

-  Say a huge **THANK YOU** to our existing volunteers
-  Welcome anyone interested in becoming a reading volunteer
-  Share important **safeguarding updates**
-  Answer any questions you might have

No need to book – just pop in! Your time and support makes such a difference to our children's reading journey. We can't wait to see you there!

Water Bottles

We are seeing quite a few children bringing in a variety of water bottles. Could we remind you to send your child in with Trafalgar water bottles only. We would like to reassure you that the water bottles are BPA free and BSEN71 certified. We would be grateful if you could purchase a school water bottle accordingly. Thank you.

Lanyards

If you have accidentally taken home one of our visitors lanyards could you please return it to the office as our stocks are running very low. Thank you.

Children born between 1.9.2021 and 31.8.2022

If your child was born between 1.9.2021 and 31.8.2022 you need to apply for a place in Reception starting in September 2026. Go to www.richmond.gov.uk and click on School Admissions. **Closing date 15 January 2026.**

Y2 children

If your child is in Y2 you need to apply to join the Junior School in September 2026. Go to www.richmond.gov.uk and click on School Admissions. **Closing date 15 January 2026.**

Y6 children

If your child is in Y6 you need to apply for a secondary school place. Go to www.richmond.gov.uk and click on School Admissions. **Closing date 31 October 2025.**

DATES

FORTHCOMING FEDERATION EVENTS			
<i>Please note these dates may be subject to change</i>			
DATE	YEAR GROUP	EVENT	
w/c 20 Oct	All	Parent Consultations	
EYFS and KS1 DATES			
Fri 17 Oct	Y1	Joint Assembly at drop off – parents are welcome to attend	
KS2 DATES			
Thurs 16 Oct	Y3	Egyptian Day	

COMMUNITY

Half term holiday clubs

See attached flyers.

Black History Month



The poster features the MB Community logo at the top, with the text 'MB COMMUNITY TOGETHER WE CAN' below it. The main title 'MEMORIAL PARK BLACK HISTORY' is in large, bold, black letters. Below the title, the date '18TH OCTOBER' and time '11:30 - 2 PM' are listed. The event description reads: 'WHOLE FAMILY FUN : TREASURE HUNT, MUSIC, FOOD, EXPECT FUN PRIZES, INSIGHTFUL FACTS, FUN GAME'. A 'SIGN UP' section includes a QR code and a heart-shaped graphic with the colors of the rainbow flag. The location is 'Memorial Park, Chingford, 212 Chingford Mount Rd, E4 8LR'. At the bottom, there is an illustration of three hands in white, pink, and black, and the phone number '07432284736'.