



West Acton Primary School is full of fond memories for Kai which he's enjoying sharing with his wife Sarah and their boys AJ and KJ

Kai and Sarah have AJ age 6 in Year 2 and KJ age 9 in Year 4

Following in dad's footsteps

Kai went to West Acton primary school. Being able to share his childhood school community with his family feels special. Kai says, "It's over 30 years since I was a pupil at West Acton. The school feels like a safe place and the community is welcoming. The boys have settled in well. I share my memories of West Acton with them which is adding to our experience of school life, it feels pretty special."

Happy learning

"I'm very happy with how the boys are settling in. They're working hard and they're enjoying learning. They have a good group of friends and enjoy playtime. Their favourite lessons are Music, they both have instrument lessons where they are learning the guitar and ukelele. Maths is also a favourite and they both love Times Tables Rockstars," says Sarah.

School trips

Kai says, "School work hard to provide different school trips for the children, we know from friends and family that not all primary schools are able to offer trips. A few weeks ago they went to the aquarium and AJ has a trip coming up to Kensington Palace. He's also been to Gunnersbury Nature Reserve and they've been to the beach. The trips are always linked to something they're learning in school and they come home talking about everything they've seen. The trip to the London Transport Museum was very popular."

Relaxed and welcoming

"School feels friendly and welcoming. The teachers are always there on a morning to say "hello" and to welcome the children into school. We don't have a formal way of communicating with other parents, but we all know each other. You get to meet people thanks to the social side and events at school and as the children make friends. It's a relaxed and easy parent community. You get to know other parents as the kids make friends and you see familiar people at assemblies. It's a friendly group," says Sarah.

Rewards and celebrations

At West Acton success is acknowledged with Head Teacher Awards. Each week there is an assembly where children are given certificates for consideration, collaboration and encouragement. Sarah says, "Once a year the parents are invited to a big assembly and the children sing songs, it's usually in the summer. There are other events that parents are invited to, AJ has done

the Easter Bonnet Parade this year. The teachers also organise it so that parents can go in and see the children's work, it's called a "Book Look", that's something we look forward to going to.

Children are also awarded wrist bands if they do well in a particular activity, for example they might get the "Star Musician" wristband or the "PE Star."

Approachable teachers

"We've always found the teachers at school approachable and they're always there when you need to check in or have a chat. They're very open and you see them every day. Everyone is always polite and friendly which makes school feel a nice environment for the children. They get the balance of having fun with friends and classroom learning right so the children feel secure and enjoy being at school," says Kai.

Involving parents

Sarah says, "School are very proactive at involving parents in the children's learning. When there are new topics or lessons being introduced, workshops are hosted for parents so that they can learn how to support the children. It's a nice way to make everyone feel involved."

Children say:

AJ says: "I love being with my friends."

KJ says: "I like playing Times Tables Rockstars."

