



THE RUSSELL SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

IN OTHER NEWS...

Save the date.....Our PTA are hosting our annual Christmas Fair on Friday 1st December from 3.15. Join us for fun, festivities and frolics! More details to follow soon....



Headteacher's Update

This is my first newsletter since we have returned after our half term break and Autumn is most certainly upon us and at The Russell School, where we are surrounded by such stunning woodland, it's an opportunity to see the trees and leaves in all their splendour!

Last week, the PTA hosted a *spooktacular* disco in the school hall. Thank you so much to all of our amazing volunteers for making this happen. A great time was had by all!

With volunteering in mind, Miss James has sent out communication seeking volunteers to come and help in the school. If you are interested, do get in touch. We love having you in! On a slightly different note, if anyone in the community has any contacts / ideas which could help me with marketing and promoting the school in the wider community, I would love to hear from you!

The children have settled back into their learning and are all enjoying their new projects. Do have a look at the resources which have been sent home as they will give you a good understanding of what is happening in the classroom; as will the pictures and descriptions below...

November is such a poignant time of the year in terms of festivals, traditions and moments of reflection. With fireworks last week, Remembrance this weekend, Diwali coming up and Anti-Bullying Week on the calendar, there are so many opportunities to think, reflect and learn and I am so proud of the way our children embrace these skills.

On Monday, children are welcome to wear odd socks to launch *Anti Bullying Week*. This year's theme is '*Make a Noise About Bullying.*' We will be thinking about our responsibilities if we see or hear something we think is unkind. We will also be exploring how our words can be interpreted; what we might feel is 'funny' or 'banter' may not be perceived this way by others. These areas of exploration tie in so well to our school values and are so important to ensure everyone feels happy, included and supported.

Next Friday evening, the Petersham and Ham Horticultural Society are hosting a Cheese and Wine event at the school. Do come along and enjoy some social time with some food!

Have a wonderful weekend,

Laura Brooks



GOLDEN SCROLL WINNERS



This week's winners.....

Heorhil, Elodie, Zara,
Daniel, Amarissa and
Wiliam for:

*Showing respect for
others, even when we
don't agree*

Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

EYFS....

In Nursery, we have been talking about Autumn, as the days grow shorter and the leaves are falling from the trees. We have been talking about the leaves changing colour and what else we might see at this time of year. We have explored and studied the Pumpkin, using our senses to feel the pumpkin and make pictures using paint and pens. We are keen to learn new vocabulary and add it to our word wall. We have enjoyed reading stories such as 'Room on the Broom' and 'Winnie the Witch' and enjoying the rhyme and repetition as we reread the stories.

This week many of us had visited firework displays and we have made firework pictures from a variety of materials and also rockets from cardboard tubes. We enjoyed making our own fireworks display using chalks and a bonfire for all the animals to sit around!

In our Jigsaw activities we have been thinking about ourselves and things we are good at and why we are special.

Please look at Google Classroom regularly as we often post photos and updates of activities we are doing.



We have come to Autumn, a season of celebrations that help cheer us as the nights draw in. We have started our season by looking at the most autumnal of vegetables, the pumpkin (although the children assure me that the best orange vegetable is in fact a carrot...) We explored how they grow from seeds on a vine and looked at some of the stories they appear in, such as Cinderella. Pumpkins led us to Halloween; the children were very excited for this one so we took the opportunity to look at some of our favourite magical words, inspiring the children to write and act. Next up we thought about fireworks, creating some firework prints before looking at the festival of lights, Diwali. We developed our maths and physical skills by creating rangoli and mehndi patterns and made our very own diyas to light at home. Finally, we learnt about poppies and why so many people wear them during November. If you would like to find out more about our learning each week you can find it all on Google Classroom, along with some ideas to further our new skills at home.

Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

Years 1 and 2....

Year 1 had some visitors from outer space this week! After reading our text, *Aliens Love Underpants*, we made some underpants to encourage the aliens to come and visit us. Unfortunately, because of the storm this week, the aliens accidentally crashed their spaceship outside the classroom but we spotted lots of footprints! In science, we have been looking at the different materials that we could find from the crash site.



Bolt Class have had a great start to the new project learning all about significant people from both the past and present. We started with Mo Farah and have learned all about keeping healthy and how the Olympics have changed over the years. We are keeping a close eye on how healthy we are being, checking that we are doing our daily mile, eating our fruit and drinking lots of water every day so that we can be as fit as athletes. Our class even has a miniature farm growing tiny crops of food we can taste!

This week we have been hearing about Greta Thunberg and the importance of her voice for what she cares about so we have been writing about how we can help our environment. We are really trying to focus on improving handwriting and forming all letters correctly.

There has been some excellent maths learning happening outside, collecting pairs of leaves to count in our multiplication focus on 2x table.



Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

Years 3 and 4....

Year Four enjoyed serving, entertaining and getting to know our wider community this week as part of our annual *community tea*! It was such a memorable afternoon and Year Four lived and breathed all of our school values through their planning, preparation and execution of the event, supported creatively by many of our talented musicians and singers! We have had wonderful feedback from our visitors and it is an afternoon we will remember and cherish forever! Thank you so much to all the parents and carers who supported this event.



Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

Years 5 and 6...

Year Five launched straight into their new topic, Stargazers, with a report about Neil Armstrong's amazing first steps on the moon in 1969. We have jumped into the role of journalists to write our own newspaper articles and have been considering how to carefully structure our paragraphs. In science, we have been creating mnemonics to remember all the planets in the right order and created a mini solar system to understand the scale and distance of our celestial Milky Way. In maths, we have been recognising notes and coins, solving problems involving money and adding and subtracting using decimals. So many events in between, including fireworks, Diwali and Remembrance Sunday. Finally, we have been thinking about our feelings and excitement for the trip to Sayers Croft and have begun to learn some amazing campfire songs with Mrs Thomas. Another eventful fortnight in Recoque Class!

Year 6 have started their new project, Hola Mexico, and began with an immersion day where they learnt all about the culture and traditions of Mexico. From making their own traditional Mexican food and drink (Aguas Frescas) to traditional Latin dancing which they all had a go at very successfully! The children also located Mexico on the world map, honing in on its cities and important places. They had a great day and it has sparked a lot of enthusiasm for the project. This week, as well as having a bit of practice towards next May's SATs in Reading, maths and grammar, punctuation and spelling, we also learnt how to use the design program 'Tinkercad' to design our dream home (some were very interesting!)



Some school successes to celebrate and share

We are delighted to have again been invited to be a Music Mark School this year! This is in recognition of our continued commitment to high-quality music education! Thank you so much to Mrs Thomas for all the fantastic musical opportunities she creates for the school!



Tag Rugby Tournament Wed 18th October

A team from Year 6 took part in a tag rugby tournament at Richmond Rugby Club. It was a fun day despite some difficult opposition but the team worked hard together.

Boys Football match v Meadlands (h) Thursday 9th November

Yesterday, our Year 5 and 6 footballers played a very tightly-contested game against Meadlands. We went 2 nil down and then fought back with a final score of 2 -1 to Meadlands.....Great teamwork was shown by all!

Community News.....

St Peter's Church, Church Lane, Petersham is looking for a part time (8 hours a week) parish administrator. The successful candidate will have administrative and organisational skills, good written and verbal communication and an ability to relate to a range of people and situations. He/she will also be sympathetic to the aims of the church and its mission to the community.

If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office st.peters.petersham@googlemail.com for full details. Closing date for applications: 20 November 2023.



NOTICEBOARD

13.11.23	Year 6 local walk Boys' football vs St Elizabeth's (Home)
13.11.23	Flu Immunisations
15.11.23	Boys' football vs St Richard's (Away)
15.11.23 – 17.11.23	Year 5 Sayers Croft Trip
1.12.23	PTA Christmas Fair
23.11.23	Year 3 Singing at Fenwicks
6.12.23	Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch day
11.12.23	KS2 production 5pm
12.12.23	KS2 production 1.45pm
13.12.23	Yr 1 – 6 Panto trip
14.12.23	Yr 1 – 3 production 2.00pm
15.12.23	Yr 1 – 3 production 9.15am
18.12.23	Carol Concert Rehearsal St Peter's
19.12.23	Carol Concert St Peter's
20.12.23	Christmas Class Parties
9.1.24	Children return to school

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is available from 7.45am – 8.30am. Please book online with ScoPay AT LEAST 48 hours prior to the session/s required.

Active Club is also available from 3.15pm to 6.00pm. Please contact Active Club directly.

Both are such a valuable resource for the school – please use them!

Join Nutkhut to celebrate the Festival of Lights with illuminations, giant puppets, dancing and lantern making*.
Free to attend.

* Lantern making must be booked in advance.

In partnership with

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 **COMMUNITY FUND**

 **Heritage Fund**

 **ENGLISH HERITAGE**

Step into England's story

The English Heritage Trust is a charity, no. 1140351, and a company, no. 07447221, registered in England.

Young Writers' Festival

Illustration by Astrite Vula



Please visit our website for more information and to submit your work: ArtsRichmond.org.uk

Submissions close Friday, 1st December

Anthony Horowitz writes:

I am very happy to be working with Arts Richmond and their Young Writers' Festival. I have recently moved to Richmond and love the area...in fact my next book is set here.

More to the point, I'm always keen to encourage young people to develop their creative skills and if they're living in this area, there's plenty to inspire them. Just walking along the river, in the park or on the green, we're surrounded by history and enchantment and there are stories everywhere. Good luck. And get writing!



