



THE RUSSELL SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND SCHOOL CALENDAR



Dear Families,

I cannot believe this is the last newsletter of the academic year! So much to look back on and celebrate:

September saw us welcome our new Reception cohort. We have loved watching them grow into inquisitive, kind and confident little learners.

In **October**, we welcomed Parents and Carers into school for our first Parent/ Carer eve, sharing the flying starts the children had made to their year.

In **November**, our Year 5 children ventured to Sayers Croft, enjoying new experiences and getting to grips with the outdoors.

In **December**, we sang, danced and acted our way through the festive season and all children from year one upwards enjoyed a Panto. Oh yes they did!

In **January**, there were trips and sports matches a-plenty across the school.

In **February**, our annual Bounceathon caused much hilarity and fun for everyone.

In **March**, World Book Day brought us all together with our love of reading.

In **April**, lots of our mini athletes took part in the London Mini Marathon.

In **May**, our Year 6 children took on the challenge of their SATS with confidence, maturity and conviction. And the results are testament to their work. Our Year 2 children enjoyed a splashing good time at The London Aquarium.

In **June**, our Year 4 children tackled their multiplication check and our Year 1 children completed their phonics screening check and both year groups should be exceptionally proud of their performance.

In **July**, we rocked out for our third annual Russell Rocks, we all came together for sports' day, we enjoyed many musical performances and our Year 4 – 6 end of year production was a wonderful medley of music and dance.

And now we find ourselves at the end of **July**, saying goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 class and there is so much we haven't even mentioned; from class assemblies to sporting achievements and trips and performances. It's been a year of growth and discovery, progress and achievement. As ever, I thank you all for being such an important part of the life at The Russell School. Much as it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a village to run a school so thank you for all that you do.

I have tried to plot most major dates for the first half of the autumn term in the calendar section below. I know how frustrating it is to be faced with last minute dates so hopefully this will help with forward-planning!

Do remember that Footyfun4kids will be running a holiday camp all summer. Make use of it as it's a great offer!

Have a wonderful, restful summer and to those staying with us, I look forward to seeing you in September. To those of you moving on, thank you for being part of the school and please keep in touch!

Laura Brooks

Nursery

It has truly been an amazing year in the Nursery!

We have welcomed lots of new children at different times of the year and we have formed new friendships along the way. We were so proud of the children standing on the stage at Christmas in our concert and for some that was their first time in the hall, let alone performing.

Over the year we have explored fairy tales, watched caterpillars change into butterflies and planted seeds. We have developed our skills at cutting, painting, drawing and building.

The children have had exciting developments in our outside area and have loved riding the bikes around our new bike track and hanging upside down on our climbing frame!

Just today, we were delighted to welcome Mrs Todorova back for our graduation ceremony. We all wish her well and miss her.

The children have all developed so much this year. Many are moving on the Reception and a few are staying with us for another year. We are sending them off with their graduation ceremony and we are so proud of how far they have come. We will miss all the children moving on but we know they are ready for new adventures.

Reception

It has been a roller coaster of a year in Reception. We have spent the last few weeks reflecting on the year and it has been so difficult to choose our most favourite memory. Dressing up as numbers, competing in sports day and meeting Santa were very popular choices as well as our incredible Forest School trip last week, but I think the memories we have made with our friends are the ones that will stick with us for years to come. And the great news is that their friends will be with them as they continue their journey at The Russell. It has been a fantastic year Packham class and I wish you all the best as you fly onwards to Parakeet Class!



Year 1

What an absolutely wonderful year we have had in Year 1! I am incredibly proud of how much the children have grown, both in their learning and in their independence, since they stepped through the classroom door last September. This year has been packed with fantastic memories, from seeing their reading confidence soar to watching their creativity bloom and new friendships develop. They have shown such brilliant curiosity, resilience and kindness toward one another every single day.

I want to say a huge thank you to all parents and carers for your brilliant support and partnership throughout the year—it has truly made a world of difference. I wish all the children a safe, happy and sun-filled summer holiday and I know they are going to achieve amazing things as they move into Year 2!

Year 2

What an incredible year it has been! It has been an absolute privilege to teach such a kind, enthusiastic and hardworking group of children. Watching them grow in confidence, independence and maturity has been one of the greatest joys of the year, and I couldn't be prouder of all they have achieved. Together we have made so many wonderful memories, from seeing a talented author and illustrator at Richmond Theatre, to exploring the amazing sea creatures at the London Aquarium, and climbing to the top of Richmond Hill to enjoy the beautiful views. Along the way, the children have shown curiosity, resilience, kindness and a real love of learning, making every day in the classroom a pleasure.

Thank you to all our families for your kindness, encouragement and unwavering support throughout the year—it has meant so much. I hope you all have a wonderful, restful summer filled with fun and special family moments. Good luck to our amazing Year 2 children as they begin their exciting adventure in Year 3—I know they will continue to shine!

Year 3

It has truly been an amazing year! We've had a lot of fun but more importantly we have managed to squeeze in so many things in Year 3, so it's no surprise the end of this journey is suddenly upon us!

Amongst many other things during this busy year, we have journeyed around the UK and across Europe in our geography topics and travelled back in time to The Stone Age, Ancient Egypt, and Roman Britain with our amazing history topics! The children had great fun putting together the Romans Rule class assembly to show you all the things they learnt during the topic. Some of the highlights of the year must be our end of year show...The Wind in the Willows, our theatre trips for panto and Shakespeare and our coach trip to the Royal Festival Hall. In Year Three, we have experienced many new things, worked collaboratively, become more independent, developed resilience and built lasting relationships.

Your children have truly worked hard this year; they should be very proud of all their achievements. They have worked hard to be kind, caring and respectful and it has been a real privilege working with your children: I have really enjoyed our time together. I will miss them all and wish them well for the future. I hope they settle well into Year Four and enjoy the next stage of their learning journey, and continue to show what amazing individuals they are!

Thank you for all your support this year, especially if you helped on our trips or swimming excursions, and many thanks for all your kind messages and generous gifts. I wish you all a healthy, enjoyable and relaxing summer and look forward to seeing everybody upon our return in the Autumn.

Year 4

What a fantastic end of year we have had in year 4! The children had the best time at Thames Young Mariners, where their resilience, stamina, and team work skills were tested. They represented our school beautifully and achieved so much. We then created leaflets by using facts we had learnt to persuade other people to visit, and these were taken to the staff at TYM to use. Year 4 also participated in their first KS2 summer production - thank you to everyone that came to watch us. They sung and danced fantastically and should be very proud!

I hope everyone has a lovely summer, and I look forward to seeing you all in September!

Year 5

What a busy and memorable end to the school year we have had in Year 5! The final weeks have been filled with performance rehearsals, school trips, an inspiring drama workshop and the fantastic KS2 production. It has certainly been a busy finish, and the class has embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm, maturity and a positive attitude. One of the highlights was seeing our Year 5 pupils rehearse alongside Year 6 for the production. They represented our class brilliantly, demonstrating exemplary behaviour, respect and commitment throughout. Their teamwork, willingness to listen and mature attitude impressed every member of staff involved. They were a real credit to themselves and the school, and they should feel very proud of the way they conducted themselves. Despite the heatwave, everyone showed resilience and adapted well to the challenging conditions. They continued to work hard, made sensible choices and looked after one another throughout the final weeks of term.

Looking back over the past year, it has been a pleasure to watch the class develop both academically and personally. Year 5 marks an important transition into Upper Key Stage 2, where the curriculum becomes more demanding and greater independence, resilience and responsibility are expected. The pupils have risen to these expectations, making progress in their learning while growing in confidence and maturity. They have learnt to persevere when work has been challenging, reflect on their learning and support one another along the way.

As they move on to Year 6, we hope they continue to build on everything they have achieved this year. We have every confidence that they will embrace the opportunities ahead with the same determination, resilience and maturity they have shown in Year 5.

Year 6

Year 6 – What A Year It Has Been!

What a brilliant year it has been for our Year 6 students! We are so proud of everything you have achieved. Over the past year, you have grown into independent, confident young students, showing hard work, dedication and resilience. Your determination has helped you reach your full potential and you should all be proud of yourselves.

The memories you have made at The Russell will be never be forgotten. The friendships you have built, the kindness you have shown to one another, to staff and to yourselves has inspired and influenced the future students.

As you begin your exciting secondary school journey, remember to carry your motivation, positivity and strong hard-working attitude with you. Never forget the importance of being kind, trying your best and asking for help when you need it.

I wish each and every one of you the very best for the future. Good luck, Year 6 – you've got this!

Enrichment Updates

Russell Rocks Rocks Again!

Our third annual Russell Rocks was a very hot but happy celebration of everything that makes The Russell School special. With musical performances crossing cultures and genres, the community came together and rocked the playground! Thank you to everyone who supported, planned, played, sang, spectated and celebrated! We're already looking forward to Russell Rocks 2027!

Thea, our wheely great girl, has won bronze in the Road Cycling Time Trials u10 girls event at the London Youth Games. We are so proud of her!



Russell School Chess Club Summer Term 2026 - Results

Competition for the trophy was as fierce as ever this term but Samunnat was determined to win it and did not lose a single match coming first. Runners up were Enoch, Thaddeus and Dylan who picked up gold, silver and bronze medals. Well done to everyone. Next term a new chess tutor will be running the chess club which will change to a Monday after school. In the meantime Happy Holidays!

Setting parental safeguards on your child's devices

If you're viewing this on a screen, tap (or click) the appropriate icon below.

If you're looking at this on paper, point your phone's camera at the appropriate QR code and tap the link that appears.

Follow the instructions on the website exactly, in particular setting the age of the child.

We recommend you set the device not to allow *any* apps or games to be installed without your permission.

Protect your settings with a strong password that is not known to the child.





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4 KIDS

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Are you raising the child of a relative or a friend?

Whether you have a special guardianship order, child arrangement order or no legal order in place, you and your child are eligible for support and advice to help with education.

This could include:

- Pupil Premium funding
- advice and support from AfC Virtual School
- advice and support from other organisations



For more information, please contact Rebecca Lloyd at AfC Virtual School or the designated teacher in your school.

Email: rebecca.lloyd@achievingforchildren.org.uk



**FOOTY FUN
4 KIDS**

BREAKFAST CLUB

7:45 AM - 8:45 AM

- Early drop-off from 7:15 AM
- Porridge
- Fruit and cereals
- Toast and spreads
- Fruit smoothies
- Fun activities

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

3:15 PM - 6:15 PM

- Late pick-up till 6:45 PM
- Sports
- Creative arts and crafts
- Dance
- Outdoor activities
- Themed rewards
- Cooking and baking
- Healthy meals
- Gardening
- Snacks and drinks

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NOTICEBOARD

Upcoming dates for Autumn term

3.9.26	INSET day. School CLOSED to children
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7.9.26	Children return to school – gates open at 8.30
8.9.26 – 11.9.26	Staggered start for new Reception children
14.9.26	Harvest Assembly
15.9.26	Year 1-6 parent / carer welcome and curriculum presentation 3.30 in the hall
17.9.26	Racial Justice Policy consultation with parents / carers 5pm in school hall
21.9.26	Jeans for Genes day and International Day of Peace
1.10.26	Black History Month Commences
1.10.26	ADHD awareness month
1.10.26	Individual photos taken
1.10.26	PTA quiz night
12.10.26	NSPCC Talk PANTS week
13.10.26	Parents / Carers' eve
15.10.26	Parents / Carers' eve
15.10.26	EYFS and KS1 Drama Workshop
20.10.26	Year 4 community tea
23.10.26	Final day of the first half term
2.11.26	Children return to school – gates open at 8.30