



# THE RUSSELL SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER



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Goodfellow Class are enjoying lots of exploring outside in science week. We have been learning what plants need to grow this term so have many plants growing, ready for our allotment soon.



# Headteacher's Update



There has been lots happening in the past two weeks at The Russell starting with a fantastic display of art based on Ukrainian artists, Maria Prymachenko, Kateryna Bilokur, Alexander Archimpenko and Anatoly Kravolap. There were so many fantastic pieces that Mrs Nolan had some really tough decisions to make. Congratulations to Olive, Maaïke, Thea, Clara, Francis, Diaz, Wai Szi, Sham, Dev and Olivia for your fantastic representations. The exhibition raised £151.30 to help a Nursery in Ukraine provide lighting for its children.

We have also been raising money to help children in hospital to have access to beautiful new books. Through our readathon we raised £530.60, some of this money will fund new books for our library too!



Our Ukraine art competition winners!



This week also saw parent volunteers heading in to school for our Science week, lots of very interesting experiments and information shared, the children were absolutely buzzing with knowledge and excitement. We are very grateful to all of the adults who came to share their knowledge.

Today we had lots of children and staff dressed in red for fun! All in aid of Red Nose Day. Thank you to all of those who have helped contribute to all of the good causes over the past few weeks.

**Have a lovely weekend**

**Miss James**



## HEADTEACHERS AWARDS



Year two had been writing Carnival poems for their 'Rio de Vida' project. Woodrow, Maaike, Trent and Reuben wrote some fantastic descriptive poetry.



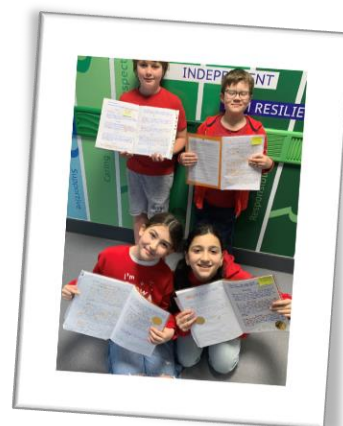
Reception have been so busy writing their own versions of Percy the Park keeper books! James, Kingsley, Lorcan and Ruben came to visit me and I was so impressed with their use of phonics and thoroughly enjoyed being read to!



Lucy got her headteacher's award for her RE work all about the five pillars of Islam. She had very carefully thought of her answers to questions and developed her ideas.



Book writing is in the air this week. Francis had created a fantastic book of facts all about the Bronze and Stone age. He had researched his facts on the internet and illustrated his pages.



I had a **huge** group of year five children come to see me today all had written some outstanding pieces of factual writing about human development, suspenseful stories and diary entries about Ancient Egypt! What a great way to end the week! Valentine not only got an award for his creative writing but also for his RE!



# Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

## Donaldson Class (Nursery)

We have been busy sharing our favourite books from World book day and bringing them in for show and tell. Some children enjoyed showing us books in their home language. We have been looking at some favourite stories and talking about which part we like best. We have been busy learning the sounds 'r' for rainbow, 'u' for umbrella and 'h' for helicopter. The children love to find objects around the nursery that start with our sounds and also play the game with their names-e.g. 'Thomas likes tasting toast'. This week has been Science Week so we have been investigating how we can move things without touching them-using water and wind. We experimented with windmills and waterwheels. We read the story of 'The Three Pigs ' and talked about how the wolf blew the houses down. We tried to make houses that were strong and some that we could blow down. We also tested blowing small balls with straws to see how far we could get them!



## Brownlee Class (Reception)

This week is National Science Week and the theme is connections, after all that's what science is all about, making connections! In school we considered forces and renewable energy and thought about the natural resources we have that could power our man made world. The children read 'After the Storm' by Nick Butterworth, which tells the tale of a great storm that blows down one of the trees in Percy's park. The children explored how they can move things without touching them by harnessing the power of the wind. They experimented moving different objects with this force and then thought of different ways they could create wind. They also explored water, building a water wall and then using all they had learnt about these natural resources to help them find a solution from the story as the animals found themselves drifting in a lake.



## Singer Class (Year One)

Singer Class have been really enjoying Science Week this week. Year One were set a challenge to build their own water wheel. They then compared how theirs worked with the original water wheel. The children discussed what worked well with their water wheel and what could have been improved. It was great to see so much team work and problem-solving taking place. Alongside this, Singer Class have also been planting some seeds ready to put in their allotment. They are very excited to watch the lettuce and chives grow! This week, Singer Class have also been listening to lots of Paddington stories. They have loved listening to these and recognising all the different London Landmarks. They have looked at the features of the Paddington stories and are building up to writing their own adventure story. In maths, the children have been solving missing number problems and are able to recognise the addends and the sum in an equation. Well done Singer Class for a great week!



### Goodfellow Class (Year Two)



Goodfellow Class are enjoying lots of exploring outside in science week. We have been learning what plants need to grow this term so have many plants growing, ready for our allotment soon. We have investigated how a bean grows and watched them germinate in our window bags and experimented with the best way to grow cress. We are watching for signs of spring emerging in our school gardens and pond area. In maths we have learned all about features of 2D and 3D shapes, enjoying a grand finale of shape fun with making shapes in different ways using constructions kits, straws, hammer and nails and elastic bands! Philip worked particularly hard to make an amazing 12 sided 3D shape called a dodecahedron. This week we have continued our work on rainforests in Brazil and learned about where chocolate comes from and heard how important rainforests are for the planet. We are looking forward to our own carnival day next week when we can wear the masks we're making, play instruments we're creating and make a lot of noise in our samba band! Sounds like fun learning Year Two!

### Zephaniah Class (Year Three)

Zephaniah Class have been honing in on their engineering skills this week. They designed and created their own bridges after learning about the different structures and properties of what makes a good bridge. We also went on a trip around the globe to see some world famous bridges. Eventually, they worked in groups to see who could come up with the bridge that could hold the most weight before collapsing! In science we have been studying the life cycle of flowering plants. The children had the opportunity to dissect some beautiful tulips to get a closer look at all the parts of a plant that allow it to reproduce. As well as labelling them and understanding the function of each part. Finally in English we have been researching the mysterious monument of Stonehenge ready to write an information filled fact file as part of our Tribal Tales topic!



### Angelou Class (Year Four)

There has been a lot of excitement in Angelou class as we welcomed two new children, Isla and Robin, and parent visitors for Science week. We learned about how before the mid-1800s surgeries and tooth extractions were done without anaesthetic, which was an incredibly traumatic experience for the patients involved. We tried to imagine what it would have been like having a tooth removed during that time and wrote some very harrowing letters describing our experience. Then came a miraculous new 'potion' called ether which put the patient into a painless sleep during surgery. We compared accounts of patients before and after the use of anaesthetics and wrote another letter to our imagined medical colleagues about the new breakthrough we had just witnessed. Following on with our potions topic we read the story of Romeo and Juliet and agreed that the ending was far too unfair, so we wrote our own endings! Finally, to round off the fortnight, Nico and Luka's Mums came in to share some incredible scientific experiments with us. We created ice cream by shaking the ingredients in ice cubes and salt and explored the wonders of static electricity. A big thank you to our parent visitors this week, we loved it!





## Nicholas Class (Year Five)

How lucky we have been in Year 5 these last two weeks! During our fabulous Science Week activities we have immersed ourselves in all things science! We have been learning about Dopamine, Serotonin and how the brain can affect addictions to sugar and Nicotine. This was really useful, especially after learning about the harmful effects of smoking and being able to make informed choices and decisions in the future, that will keep us leading healthy and active lives. In science, we have been using our 'Working Scientifically' skills to mummify tomatoes and will observe the changes closely over time. In our writing, we have been recognising and using subordinating clauses to write a diary in the character of Howard Carter and to write a Chronological report to explain the process of mummification in Ancient Egyptian times. In maths we have been recognising and identifying prime and composite numbers, we have been finding factors of numbers and working with multiples using Venn and Carroll diagrams. Thank you so much for all our parent volunteers, who came in to inspire us with their science. Robin's mum in Year 4 (Dr Parry), and Dani and Harris' mum talking nutrition and developing our engineering and problem solving expertise. Finally this week, we have also been perfecting and practising our Biographical speeches. You are invited to the culmination of this long project, to our Wax Museum on Tuesday 28th March at 3pm to see hear our stories come to life! We look forward to sharing them with you.



## Coelho Class (Year Six)

On Monday, Year 6 walked to Holly Lodge to take part in Junior Citizen. After a long (and muddy!) walk, we arrived ready for a morning packed full of activities. There were lots of volunteers from the Metropolitan police, to bus drivers ready to teach us important lessons. We were split into 4 groups and scored points out of 10 for each activity. One of our groups scored an impressive 96 out of 100! The activities were: road signs water safety, safe cycling, DR ABC, bus safety, tube safety, drug awareness, stranger danger, wildlife crime, and fire safety. We definitely learnt a lot and will all make an effort to be good citizens. This week was also British Science Week. In Year 6, we were looking at sustainable energy sources. We worked scientifically to create a wind up toy that could be used as an alternative to batteries. We used a cotton reel, rubber bands, cocktail sticks, and lollipop sticks. We changed variables to find out which combination would travel the furthest. We found out that short, thick rubber bands combined with 20-30 turns produced the best results!



# NOTICEBOARD

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

21/3/23	Year 6 Richmond Singing Festival
24/3/23	Year 3 Class Assembly
28/3/23	Curriculum Display afternoon 3pm-5pm
30/3/23	PTA Bouncathon
31/3/23	School finishes for Easter break 1:30pm
17/4/23	INSET day School closed
18/4/23	First day of the Summer Term
28/4/23	Year 5 Class Assembly
1/5/23	Bank Holiday
4/5/23	Coronation Discos
8/5/23	Coronation Bank Holiday

## THE RUSSELL SCHOOL NURSERY

**Admissions for our Nursery class 2023 is now open. If your child turns three between now and December 2023 please pop in to the school office for an application form or to book a tour.**



## MAKERS UNITED

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at Fox and Duck in Petersham

EVERY TUESDAY MORNING FROM 9:30 - 11:30

Makers United is an award winning enterprise based in Richmond.

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194 Petersham Rd,  
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(65 bus stops outside)

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APRIL	Clothes revamping
MAY	Paint on fabric
JUNE	Crocheting
JULY	Make a summer bag
AUGUST	Creative craft club
SEPTEMBER	Basic alteration

Only £5

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## AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

**Active Club provides a stimulating care for children after school.**

**Healthy snacks and lots of fun activities are included. Children are collected from class at 3:15 or after their club at 4:15 and are able to stay up to 6pm daily.**

**Please arrange direct with Active Club:**

**07740 292 379**

**[info@sportsactivecoaching.co.uk](mailto:info@sportsactivecoaching.co.uk)**

**[www.sportsactive](http://www.sportsactive.co.uk)**

## SWIMMING

### INTENSIVE HOLIDAY COURSES

ST RICHARDS POOL, HAM

**SMALL GROUP LESSONS**

**EASTER**

**MON 3RD - THUR 6TH APRIL**

**TUES 11TH - FRI 14TH APRIL**

**BOOKINGS ALSO NOW OPEN FOR :**

**MAY HALF TERM**

**MON 29TH MAY - FRI 2ND JUNE**

**SUMMER**

**MON 24TH JULY - FRI 28TH JULY**

**MON 31ST JULY - FRI 4TH AUG**

**MON 28TH AUG - FRI 1ST SEPT**

**TEL: 0208 239 0081**

**EMAIL: [admin@springboardswimmers.com](mailto:admin@springboardswimmers.com)**

**WEBSITE: [www.springboardswimmers.co.uk](http://www.springboardswimmers.co.uk)**



## HOCKEY

OLD KINGSTONIAN HOCKEY CLUB

### EASTER HOCKEY CAMP

TIFFIN GIRLS SCHOOL, KT2 5PL  
4 & 5 APRIL 2023 • 10AM TO 2.30PM  
SCHOOL YEARS 2-11

FIELD PLAYERS & GOALKEEPERS • ALL ABILITIES WELCOME  
MORNING & AFTERNOON SESSIONS AVAILABLE  
(LUNCH BREAK 12-12.30PM)

MEMBERS: £15 PER SESSION/£30 PER DAY  
NON-MEMBERS: £20 PER SESSION/£40 PER DAY

Members: please book via your member account

Non-members: please go to [www.ohhockey.com](http://www.ohhockey.com) to book your place or email [administrator@ohhockey.com](mailto:administrator@ohhockey.com)

**BOOKING NOW OPEN!**

