



THE RUSSELL SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER



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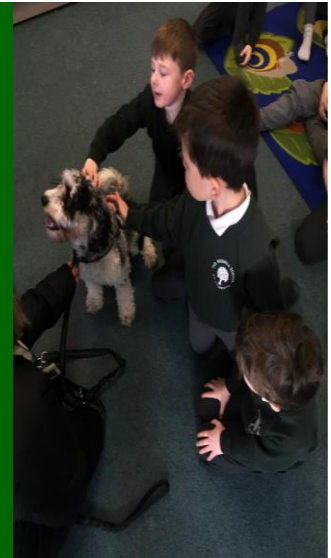


IN OTHER NEWS...

Josh in year five has been performing in the latest Royal Opera House performance of 'The Magic Flute' we are very proud of him, well done Josh!



Headteacher's Update



The past two weeks have seen lots of events in school. Our PTA coffee morning refreshed the spark from the Christmas Fair with some brilliant ideas for fundraising in 2023 towards our 'Reading Den'. Look out for discos, movie nights, sponsored events and quizzes. A huge thank you for all work that goes on behind the scenes with our PTA committee and our class parent reps.

We held the first of our Learning Looks this week. It was lovely to see so many parents spending time pouring over their children's work. So many smiling faces and lots of very proud children and parents. We are looking forward to welcoming parents from year four to six and Early Years next week.

Today we welcomed parents from year two to watch our first class assembly in a while. It was lovely to see how confident the children were and how much they have enjoyed their castles project this term. They are very excited to be heading off to Windsor Castle very soon!



I would like to welcome our new Teaching and Learning Assistant Mr O'Hara (junior!) to the team and to formally welcome Mr Jack, some of you might remember him as Stuart, who is now a fully-fledged member of the team.

Finally thank you so much for your support with the upcoming strike action next Wednesday. I know it is going to cause most of our families disruption but I hope you understand. As I have previously said, although teachers have come forwards and told me they are striking they are completely within their right to choose to strike on the day. I will send a parent mail on Wednesday morning to confirm the open and closed classes.

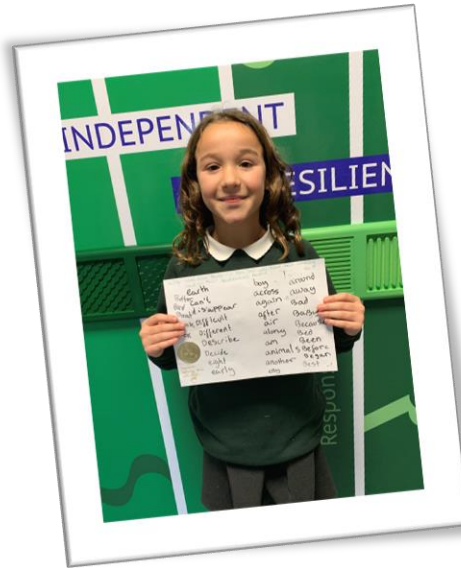
Miss James



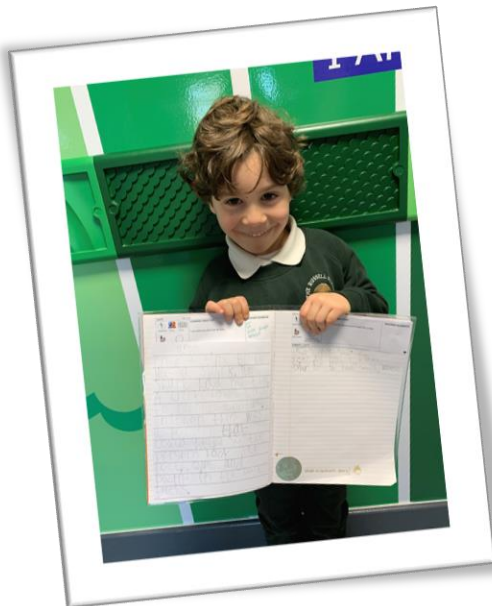
HEADTEACHERS AWARDS



Well done to Anna who has been trying so hard with many of the spellings she finds tricky. She got 100% of them correct and was very proud of herself. She is going to try her best to use them in her writing.



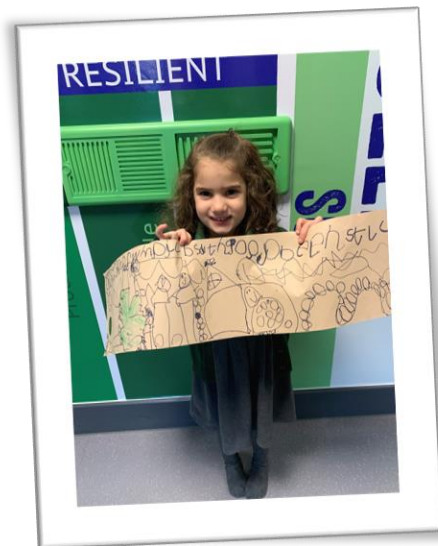
Lorenzo is on his second Headteacher's award of the year with more wonderful writing. He has made so much progress even since his last award. Miss Brown was so pleased with how much effort he has been putting in.



Millie earned a Headteacher's award this week not for one piece of maths work but her whole book this year! Miss O'Brian was so proud of the effort and dedication she has shown this year even when she finds something tricky.



Arpi wrote a fantastic story all by herself about Jack and the Beanstalk. She read the story too me and what fantastic phonics she had used! Beautiful illustrations too with wonderful attention to detail.



Well done to all of the Headteachers Award children this week I love giving them out.

Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

Donaldson Class (Nursery)

This week we have been busy learning about Chinese New Year. We were fortunate to have Elisabeth's mum in to tell us all about the celebration and share a special book. She also gave each child a special envelope containing a treat! We have been developing our cutting skills making rabbit and dragon pictures using shapes we had to cut out. We have also made some lanterns. We loved trying out some yoga based around the festival too. The children have enjoyed cooking and tasting noodles! With the weather being so cold last week we have explored the ice and frost in our outside area and watched it melt away as it got warmer or the sun was shining. We have a few birthdays this month so the children have enjoyed sharing their birthday news! We have been practising our counting by singing songs like 'five currant buns' and 'five speckled frogs' Finally we have continued our daily phonics games learning the sounds 'g' and 'o'



Brownlee Class (Reception)

Brownlee Class have been continuing their learning about Traditional Tales, sharing lots of Fairy Tales together. Last week they read Jack and the Beanstalk and were lucky enough to find a pack of magic beans, what do you do when you find magic beans? Build traps for giants of course! When they planted them, beautiful flowers grew and inspired stories and cooked a three-bean salad. This week the children explored the Lunar New Year, this was a great opportunity to find out about a widely celebrated festival and look at different countries, the children compared where they live to China as well as sharing the story of the zodiac.



Singer Class (Year One)

Singer class have had a very exciting week. They were lucky enough to have a special visitor in the class! Mrs Povey very kindly brought in her dog, Otto. The children asked lots of questions to help them find out how to care for a dog. They then used this information to create a list of instructions about how to look after a dog. The children clearly listened very well to Mrs Povey's answers to their questions as they all wrote super lists! In maths, the children have been learning about odd and even numbers. They have also been partitioning the numbers 6-10 into two parts. Singer class are becoming much more independent learners this term and are showing great resilience in their learning. I have been so proud of them all this week! Well done Singer Class.



Goodfellow Class (Year Two)



Goodfellow Class have been having such a great time learning all about castles and were excited to show you all of their work in our class assembly. A huge well done to everyone for making such great castles at home. We saw castles made of lego, cardboard, clay, plastic, wood and even gingerbread! You'll see Kit's incredible castle in the photo up high on a hill away from invaders! They all spoke very proudly about each of their castles whether big or small, explaining how they made them and describing the different parts using all the castle language we have been learning. Well done everyone! There has been some excellent learning in maths too at the moment with lots of learning about multiplication, making groups of 2, 5 and 10. We have been exploring the relationship between counting in fives and ten and solving problems using our multiplication skills. We even found out how many fingers there were in our whole class. It might be super cold outside but we have been busy keeping warm and fit in class through our daily movement challenges. On Thursday we did 'Thinking Thursday - Direction Dance'. We're finding lots of different ways to learn whilst also keeping fit!

Zephaniah Class (Year Three)

Year three have been computer wizzes this week! We have been working hard on our computing topic, 'programming' this term. The children have been able to programme a character to move when certain buttons are pressed as well as creating a sequence of sounds to create a piece of music using different computer instruments. We have also been doing some creative writing about erupting volcanos. Using metaphor, simile and personification the children have written some beautiful poetry and worked in groups to perform their poems in a mini poetry slam. In maths we have been learning about right angles and being able to identify them in different shapes and in our environment around us. Zephaniah class have also enjoyed learning about the creation of fossils within sedimentary rock and have designed their own ammonite motifs!



Angelou Class (Year Four)

The Battle of Hastings has been brutal and bloody. William the Conqueror has won the English throne and introduced the feudal system to help him rule his newly won country. We created kennings about different weapons used in the battle that are so fearsome they brought shivers to the spines of the staff. Angelou class have also been learning about the different roles in a Norman castle and how each level of hierarchy both benefits and supports others in the system. We all agree that the roles of peasants and serfs sound horrifically difficult and unfair, quite like an older version of slavery. We've also enjoyed learning more about the Bayeux Tapestry and have produced some incredible colour recreations of different scenes for our Big Question homework. Earlier this week we completed our sculptures of people in action and brought life to clay. There were many figures waving, dancing and jumping, and even a few doing the splits! The biggest challenges were figuring out the correct proportions and connecting limbs effectively so they wouldn't fall off, but overall the sculptures were a great success.



Nicholas Class (Year Five)

These last couple of weeks in Year Five, we have been thinking about our school values and trying hard to work together. We have been finding ways to encourage each other and ways to find the courage to be resilient when things become a challenge. Our friends can help us and we can help them, if we all work together as a team! In English, we have been recognising and using 'Modal Verbs' and 'Adverbs of Possibility' to write about things that might happen in the future. We have also been learning about the use of brackets (in our writing), and how they can add impact and information to our sentences. In maths, we continue to use our times table knowledge to solve division calculations, using the bus stop method. In Science, we have been continuing to learn about human life-cycles and the changes we will experience through adolescence and puberty. We have been learning about other cultures and the celebrations surrounding the Chinese New Year whilst in Geography we have been plotting important global features in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. Finally, the highlight of the last couple of weeks was a visit from an artist, who taught us some techniques for drawing portraits using tone, texture and shading skills.



Coelho Class (Year Six)

This week in year six, we have been learning about our new topic: Frozen Kingdom. We have made incredible leaflets advertising a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Antarctica. In grammar we have learnt to use semicolons accurately, which we then used in our writing for an Arctic adventure story. In maths we have been learning how to add and subtract related and unrelated fractions. Some of us have been taking part in music tech lessons, where we learn how to create our own piece of music using an app called 'Bandlab'. We are all looking forward to our trip to the magistrates' court next week. Hopefully, third time lucky, it will be able to go ahead!

Written by Lara and Gaia (House Captains)



NOTICEBOARD

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

30/1/23	Year 6 Lavender Hill trip (take 3!)
30/1/23 - 3/2/23	National Story Telling Week
31/1/23	Nursery and Reception stay and play
31/1/23	Year 4, 5 and 6 Learning Look (2:30pm)
31/1/23	Girls Football v St Richards
1/2/23	Strike Day 1
2/2/23	Year 6 singing Festival rehearsal St Richards 8:30-9:30am
2/2/23	Early phonics and reading meeting Reception and Year 1 (9am)
3/2/23	Year 1 Class Assembly 9am
6-10/2/23	Mental Health Week
7/2/23	Swimming Gala
7/2/23	PTA Movie Night
8/2/23	Nursery and Reception Mental Health coffee morning
9/2/23	Year 2 Trip to Windsor Castle
10/2/23	Last Day of term (dress to express yourself)
13-17/2/23	HALF TERM
20/2/23	Back to school

BREAKFAST CLUB & ACTIVE CLUB

Breakfast Club is available from 7.45am – 8.30am. Please book online with ScoPay.

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!

LEARN ENGLISH

 **Free English class for parents/carers**

Tuesdays
(term time only)
9am - 10.45am

St Richard's Primary School
Ashburnham Rd, Ham, TW10 7NL

Run by
Learn English at Home
hosted by
St Richard's School

Come along, meet new people and
Learn English together!
E-mail: richmond@leah.org.uk
www.leah.org.uk

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

ACTIVE CLUB

Providing exciting and stimulating clubs for children after school in a safe and friendly environment managed by professional staff.

We provide a range of healthy snacks and lots of fun activities and games making every day and every week a happy one.

The Pymouls School, Pymouls Rd, Richmond, TW9 1DL

For more information please call: 07740 392379 or email: activeclub@pymouls.co.uk or visit: www.pymouls.co.uk/activeclub

FOR CHILDREN FROM 4.15pm to 6.00pm

Sports Active Coaching
Twice a week in school

Big Sister
Monday to Friday
8.30pm - 9.15pm
Term time only

DRUMS

DRUM LESSONS WITH CARLO MORELLI

Carlo Morelli is a professional Drummer based in London.

Graduated on the one year diploma at the International Tech Music School and has studied privately with the best teachers too.
He played in different projects and music events (rock bands, Theatre productions, Orchestras...) in the UK and Italy.

You can check his drum solo videos on:

- Carlo Morelli iTunes
- Carlo drum solo 3

The lessons will be based on:

Technique
Coordination
Stick Control
Moving around the drum set
Improving your sound
Endurance
Studying different grooves
Sounding

How to play with music and many other subjects using different books.

CONTACTS:

email: drumscarlo@gmail.com
mob: 0776041993

MELLY'S MUSIC CLUB

MELLY'S MUSIC CLUB

A musical platform for students to learn how to find their voice through singing, performing music, songwriting and guitar!

Individual & Group Session.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

MELLYSSCHOOLOFMUSIC@GMAIL.COM

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
AHS GLOBAL
LITTLE WOLVES SINGING
& SONGWRITING