



THE RUSSELL SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



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SCHOOL INFO

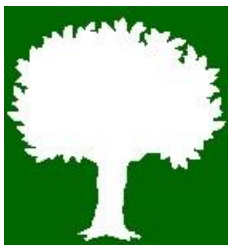
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND SCHOOL CALENDAR



Headteacher's Update:

Dear families,

First of all, thank you to all the families who joined us for our 'Meet the Teacher' event yesterday. We hope you found it useful and we look forward to working with you lots more in the future.

Our PTA are hosting a **coffee morning next Friday, 4th October, after morning drop off**. Please do come along and get to meet some new faces and learn more about what is on offer. Do read our separate PTA section below to find out about how you can get involved!

Just a reminder that our Community Music Concert is taking place on **Sunday 20th October at 4pm at St Andrew's Church, Ham Common**. Some of our fabulous volunteers will be serving soft drinks, wine and cakes at the event. In order to make this happen, we would really appreciate any donations of wine bottles or other drinks and / or cakes (all nut-free please!). If you are able to support this with donations, please drop off non-perishable items at the school reception during the week beginning 14th October, and anything fresh at the church on the day (open from 1pm).

This fundraiser will go towards the purchase of our own stage. We are well on the way to achieving this, and work is now happening around sizing and costing and we really hope to have this in place for our December performances. We have relied on the kindness of St Peter's Church and Richmond Golf Club who have lent us their stage up until this point, but having our own will be a huge addition to the performing arts at The Russell School. The link to donate is here: <https://localgiving.org/fundraising/RSCF24>. For children taking part in the concert, please keep an eye out for an email which will be sent out next week with full details about the event, (including when to arrive at the church - there will be some rehearsals from 2:30pm). Similarly for audience members, the concert is non-ticketed and free to attend, but an indication of numbers is hugely useful beforehand. Please also note that parents are required to supervise their children throughout. Thank you for your support!

We would also appreciate any support with donations for the food bank as part of our harvest celebration. Please send any donations in with children next week. Thank you!

You will have noticed from our dates section below that Parents / Carers' meetings will be taking place after school on Tuesday 15th and Thursday 17th October. Booking details will be coming out next week so look out for that information.

I have been made aware that there has been some concern that The Reading Hut is not being fully utilised. For those who weren't able to attend on Tuesday, please be assured that this term, we have zoned the playground at playtime and lunchtime and we have made the reading hut a 'zone.' This means that a member of staff is based there and the children are free to use it as they wish! I have also put in a bid to Barnes Literary Society for a grant to support the purchase of some more books (including a range of dual language texts) for the exclusive use of the reading hut. There a couple of pictures of the reading hut in action below.

Finally – I want to do a little plug for our amazing, free sports clubs: Athletics club for years 3 and 4 on Wednesday mornings 8am - 8.45am, drop off is at the Petersham Road gate. Our club is led by an excellent coach, Josh Grace. Josh is looking forward to welcoming more children to the club - come and join the fun! Rugby club for Years 5 and 6 on Thursdays mornings from 7.55am, run by Richmond Rugby Club. Drop off at Meadlands gate. These are drop in clubs, we do ask for safeguarding reasons that you drop your child off. Do come along!

Wishing you all a restful weekend,

L Brooks

Our fabulous PTA need you!

Our PTA is a great way to get to know new people, get to know the school and support us with fundraising! We have a very hard-working band of some parents and carers who take on key roles, however they need your help and support! If anyone has **accountancy / finance / bookkeeping experience, and would be interested in taking on the role of joint treasurer**, we would be particularly interested in hearing from you.

Our Parent / Carer reps are a great liaison between families and teachers. Currently, there are vacancies in Nursery, Year 3 and Year 5. Have a look at the role description below and get in touch with Anke if you have any questions. Please note – this role is not managed or overseen by the school.

- *Communicate with parents/carers and class teacher*
- *Act as a contact point for parents/carers, share information from the school and PTA, contact new parents/carers to welcome them.*
- *Encourage participation*
- *Encourage parents to participate in school events and fundraising activities. They may also help organise parents/carers to help with school visits or swimming.*

Please do join us for a coffee next **Friday, 4th Oct**, after morning drop off.

Our **PTA AGM will now be held on Wednesday 23rd October at 7pm at The Fox and Duck**. Please come along!

If you are interested in any of the roles above, or would like some more PTA info in general, please contact **Anke on 0797149704**



A Musical Master in the Making!



Reuben, Year 4, has just passed his Grade 5 Cello exam, achieving a distinction! This exam is usually sat by much, much older musicians so it is an exceptional achievement. Reuben – we are all so proud of you!

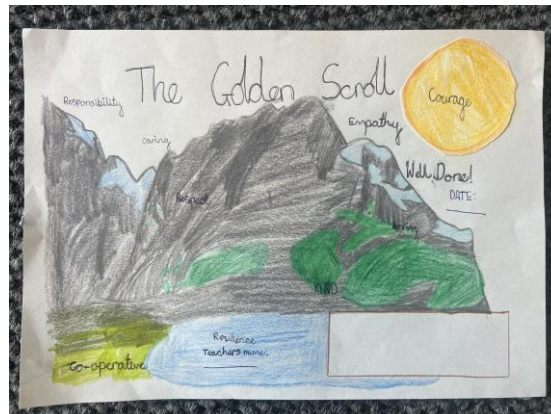
A Reading Sanctuary

During yesterday's rainy lunchtime, the reading hut provided a dry sanctuary for our avid readers!

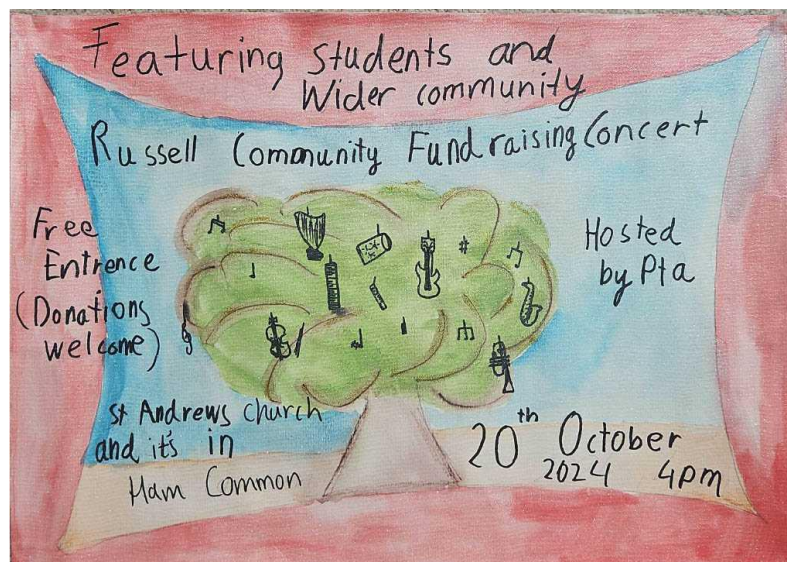


Our Poster Winners!

We received a wonderful range of entries for our Golden Scroll certificate design and all of them are now on display outside the hall. As the standard was so high, I asked governors to support with the short-listing and we decided that this year, we would have three certificates – one for the autumn, one for the spring and one for the summer term. Well done to Olive in Year 1 (autumn), Bibi in Year 4 (spring) and Isla in Year 6 (summer) for their winning entries. Designs are below, in order of the term in which they will be used:



Thank you to all those who entered our competition to design a poster for our community music concert. A very well done to Robin and Roya in Year 6 and 4, whose design below is the winning entry.



Look What We Have Been Learning...

Nursery

We have been welcoming lots of new children into the Nursery in the last few weeks. The children have settled well into the routines and have been enjoying some sunny days in our EYFS garden. They are already making friends and exploring the classroom confidently. We have welcomed the new children and parents to a 'Stay and Play' session and have been talking about our families and drawing pictures of them. This week we have been looking at the 'Colour Monster' Story and exploring all the colours that represent our feelings. We are learning to share and talk to each other about what we like to do.



Year 1

In Year 1, we have been looking into the history of the The Russell School. The children have enjoyed re-enacting the story and pretending to be Lord Russell. We have also been practising how to clean our hands properly so that we can stop the spread of germs. In English, we have begun to write our own version of 'The Enormous Turnip' and we can't wait to begin to write our own story for others to read.

Year 3

What an incredible week we've had! We have produced some fantastic pieces of writing whilst exploring the character of 'the boy' from The Stone Age Boy. In maths, we focused on bridging one hundred, and I'm proud of their progress. Thank you to everyone who attended our 'Meet the Teacher' event. It was wonderful to connect with so many of you. I am truly impressed with the amazing work our students have accomplished and I look forward to another exciting week ahead!

Year 4

This week in Year 4 we have really enjoyed writing adventure stories in our orange books! We had lots of fun with a drama lesson that really helped us to understand the structure of a story, before moving on to planning and writing our own creative pieces! It has been so much fun reading all the children's ideas and seeing them engage with story writing. I also really enjoyed meeting so many parents on Tuesday afternoon and look forward to getting to know you all further!

Year 5

In Year 5 we have been learning about The Black Death and the devastating symptoms during medieval England. We have been learning about the spread of bacteria and viruses and have been conducting our own investigation to see how clean our own hands are and how clean our surfaces are. The children have another week to complete their ancient diaries – some of them are complete already and they look amazing!

Year 6

Year 6 have been very busy this week writing a balanced argument exploring whether sideshows were necessary during the Victorian time. In maths we have been showing what 100,000 and one million are composed of. We have been creating some detailed pieces of art using a variety of materials. We have also completed our very first Year 6 trip to Holly Lodge. We experienced life as a Victorian child including *the three Rs* and the punishments that came when *the three Rs* were not completed successfully!



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



Submissions close Friday 6th December 2024

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 recent 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!



Arts Richmond, Room 21, ETNA Community Centre, 13 Rosslyn Road, Twickenham TW1 2AR.
Registered Charity in England and Wales No 251359

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‘Helping children with...’ Webinars for parents 2024/25

Achieving for Children's Mental Health Support Teams are delivering a series of webinars for parents of primary-aged children. The ‘Helping Children with ...’ series of webinars will cover a range of common difficulties experienced by children and will aim to share evidence-based strategies to help parents and carers support their children with these difficulties. Below is a list of webinars on offer over the coming months.

Helping children with ...	Overview of webinar	Morning 9am	Evening 6pm
Worries	The ‘Helping children with worries’ webinar will help you learn ways to support your child in dealing with their big feelings, worries and fears. This webinar will give you practical ideas on how to help your child to think more positively and develop their self confidence. You will also be introduced to some helpful cognitive behavioural therapy concepts.	Tuesday 12th November 2024 AND Friday 25th April 2025	Friday 24th January 2025
Resilience	The ‘Helping children with resilience’ webinar will support you in understanding how children develop resilience, while exploring a variety of helpful coping skills, and what you can do as a parent or carer to help them be their most confident self.	Friday 31st January 2025	Monday 14th October 2024 AND Thursday 20th March 2025
Friendships	In this webinar we will learn how to support our children develop their friendship skills: learning to communicate better, repair difficulties, and negotiate solutions when relationships between peers are tricky.	Friday 28th February 2025	Monday 18th November 2024 AND Tuesday 29th April 2025
Challenging behaviours	Children often communicate their needs through their behaviours. The ‘Helping children with challenging behaviours’ webinar will help you to learn about the different factors that can impact children's behaviours, build or strengthen positive relationships by reinforcing the importance of giving positive attention. You will also learn strategies to establish home rules and	Friday 6th December 2024	Tuesday 24th September 2024 AND Monday 3rd March 2025

	boundaries to create a safe and structured environment for your children.		
Screen time	In this webinar we discuss the positive and negative impact of screen time and gaming on a child's mental wellbeing. We will share the recommendations for screen time based on age, how to have this conversation with your child in a positive and effective manner and a simple and effective way to manage the use of screens in your home.	Friday 14th February 2025	Wednesday 2nd October 2024 AND Friday 2nd May 2025
Sleep	The 'Helping children with sleep' webinar introduces a number of key concepts and strategies to support you in creating a healthy bedtime routine for your child. This webinar focuses on the importance of sleep due to its impact on child development and wellbeing, and explores key components in enhancing sleep quality.	Friday 9th May 2025	Wednesday 27th November 2024 AND Tuesday 8th July 2025
Transition to Secondary	In this webinar we will explore the main worries children may experience when moving from primary to secondary school. We will help parents/carers think about the different ways to help to support and get their children prepared for the transition.	Thursday 22nd May 2025	Tuesday 20th May 2025 AND Tuesday 10th June 2025

*All Webinars are 60 minutes long, with 15 minutes at the end for questions and answers.

**Please have a pen and paper handy for the webinar.*

How to sign up

Parents and carers can sign up to the webinars by scanning the QR code or using the link below:



https://afc-self.achieveservice.com/service/MHST_Helping_Children_Webinars_Primary

You can choose the date you would like to attend, and will need to provide your email address, the school your child attends, and their year group.

Who to contact

If you have any questions, please contact the school Mental Health Lead, who will direct queries to the allocated MHST practitioner.



Half Term at MUSEUM of RICHMOND

FAMILY WORKSHOP: SPOOKY STAINED GLASS

Tuesday 29 October to Friday 1 November, 10am to 12noon
Discover the stories of the Ghosts that haunt the remains of Richmond Palace... Join us on a ghost walk around the Palace's remains, then head back to the Museum to create spooky stained glass, inspired by the Tudor stained glass we have from the Palace! £6 per child - adults are FREE
To book scan the QR code or visit: <https://museum-of-richmond.arttickets.org.uk/the-museum-of-richmond/2024-10-29-family-workshop-spooky-stained-glass>

FREE CRAFTS: SPOOKY PUMPKINS

Need to get the kids out of the house for a few hours? Pop in to the Museum for our FREE crafts and get creative as a family! Available from 1pm each weekday and Saturday the Museum is open. No need to book, just drop in. Everything you need will be set out for you, including instruction sheets and materials.
In October: make your own simple, but spooky pumpkin decorations to get your home Halloween ready!
Please note: these activities are self-led and children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

FREE TRAIL: SOMETHING SPOOKY...

Explore the museum with mascots Lizzie and Harry, and see if you can find all 9 spooky objects and their stories! Tick them off as you find them and see if you can spell out the special message! Once you are done, claim your prize! Just drop in any time the Museum is open in October.

Museum Opening Hours

Tuesday to Friday, 11am to 5pm and Saturdays 10am to 4pm
CLOSED Mondays and Sundays



Museum of Richmond, Second floor, Old Town Hall,
Whittaker Avenue, Richmond, TW9 1TP
www.museumofrichmond.com/families
learning@museumofrichmond.com
020 8332 1141





NOTICEBOARD

30.9.24 – 4.10.24	Food bank donations accepted into school
4.10.24	PTA coffee morning in the school hall after drop-off.
15.10.24	Parent / Carer's eve - time TBC
17.10.24	Parent / Carer's eve – time TBC Flu immunisations in school
18.10.24	Year 3 Richmond Museum
20.10.24	Sunday Music Concert 4pm, St Andrew's Church
22.10.24	Year 4 to Richmond Museum
23.10.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual School photos• Sayers Croft Info meet for Yr 5 families, 6pm• PTA AGM, Fox and Duck, 7pm
25.10.24 – 3.1.24	Half term

Breakfast Club
<p>Breakfast Club is available from 7.45am – 8.30am. Please book online with ScoPay AT LEAST 4 days prior to the session/s required.</p> <p>Active Club is also available from 3.15pm to 6.00pm. Please contact Active Club directly.</p> <p>Both are such a valuable resource for the school – please use them!</p>