



THE RUSSELL SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER



PAGE 2

A NOTE FROM MS BROOKS

Headteacher's Update

PAGE 3

SCHOOL INFO

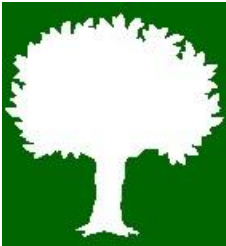
PAGE 4

ENRICHMENT UPDATES

A round up of the week

PAGE 7

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND SCHOOL CALENDAR



Headteacher's Update:

Dear Families,

We are starting our Summer term with sunshine and blue skies. Long may it continue!

A warm welcome to all our new families who have joined us this term. The children have come back to school full of energy and enthusiasm and ready to take on their final term in their current year groups. We have lots of events coming up this term - from statutory tests to trips and performances - so please do look at all the dates at the end of the newsletter.

Our Russell Rocks performance, combined with our summer fair is taking place on Friday 27th June 5pm – 8pm. A huge well done to Ben in Year Six, whose art work won the poster competition and this will be displayed on Gibson Lane estate agent boards advertising this event. Please save the date in your calendars. It will be a fantastic evening of music and merriment!

Lots of our children took part in last Saturday's mini-marathon, with smiles, pride and medals for all. We all enjoyed wearing our medals on Wednesday! A huge thank you to all of you who supported me with my big run on Sunday. The heat certainly changed the race for me but it was the most uplifting experience and I loved every minute and with thanks to your support, I have raised over £3000 for Breast Cancer Now.

Our PTA-run gardening club got off to a great start this week with lots of children getting stuck in! Improving our outdoor space is very much part of our ongoing work and this club is helping to get the children involved in enriching our environment.

We launched our *Rights Respecting* work in assembly on Monday and the children have spent time in their classrooms looking at some of the rights of a child. We discussed how lucky we are to live in a country where children's rights are protected and enforced and with the support of our school council, we looked at all the aspects of our school life which promote and develop these rights. There is more information on this below.

Statutory tests are fast-approaching, with Year 6 SATS taking place week commencing 12th May and then Year 4 multiplication check and Year 1 phonics screening check in June. We do lots of work in school to ensure the children feel prepared and therefore less-anxious about these tests. Revision and re-cap at home will help to build confidence and resilience so please do encourage your children to complete any homework tasks related to these tests.

I hope you all have a lovely long weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Tuesday 6th May.

Laura Brooks

Rights Respecting Launch Day



As you are aware, The Russell School has entered the Unicef Rights Respecting Schools Award. On Monday 28th April, the whole school participated in our Launch Day. The School Council opened the event by leading an exciting whole school assembly. Thank you School Council for all your hard work.



Earlier this term, the School Council visited Parliament. On their return to school, they have been learning about children's rights and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

In the assembly, the School Council explained to the school about the CRC. Did you know that the CRC is the most widely ratified human rights treaty in the world?

Back in their individual children discussed articles further. For

Nursery explored Article 24. They talked about the importance of They also enjoyed making healthy fruit kebabs for their morning snack!



classes, the some of the example, healthy foods.



Over this week, the children articles and identifying rights are respected within week the children will findings in a special

are exploring the where their our school. Next present their assembly.

The School Council introduced the children to some new vocabulary including 'Articles' 'Duty Bearers' and 'Rights Holders'. Ask your child at home, do they remember the meaning of these words?

Mighty Marathoners!



Nursery

The Nursery have welcomed 4 new children this term. We are enjoying the sunshine and being outside to explore and learn as much as possible. It has helped us talk about what keeps us safe and healthy and how we can keep cool in hot weather. We have also been looking at healthy foods and unhealthy foods. We have made fruit kebabs and explored some new and more unusual fruits and vegetables. Next week we are going to start planting some seeds and watching them grow!

Reception

Reception have thrown themselves in to their new topic, 'Look at it go.....' We will be exploring different forms of transport and thinking about how they go and who might use them. This week we finished off our story, **Bunnies in a Boat by Phillip Ardagh**. It ends with the bunnies finding another form of transport to make havoc in - an aeroplane! We made up lots of different sentences thinking of different characters who could be on the boat, including dogs and cats. We can't wait to find out more about aeroplanes next week!



Year 1

Year 1 have enjoyed immersing themselves into our new topic 'Paws, Claw and Whiskers'. They have thoroughly enjoyed the new Vets role play area and have written an animal related acrostic poem. In maths, we have been learning about money and the children are becoming more confident in recognising the coins and they have enjoyed setting up their own shop. We also had an incredible trip to Ham library. The children were amazing and enjoyed exploring the library and sharing books with their friends. The library also have free events, including lego club and film and craft events (See flyers below).



Year 2

The past two weeks have been full of change and excitement for Year 2. The children have adapted brilliantly to new classroom routines and teaching staff, showing resilience and a very positive attitude. We are very proud of them! They've zoomed through scooter training, learning how to ride safely and with confidence. In maths, we've been busy exploring fractions – focusing on halves, thirds, and quarters. We have used practical activities to help make it fun and clear.

In English, we've been getting ready to write our own Clean Up! inspired stories – there's been lots of creativity and drama! In science, we've begun learning about habitats, and in history, we're diving into the topic of Seaside - Then and Now. The excitement is building for our upcoming aquarium trip – we can't wait!



Year 3

We have completed the first two weeks of the summer term and it has been lovely to have such lovely weather to start the term off. We have started our amazing new history topic – The Romans- learning about Emperor Claudius and Boudicca. In English we have started to look at our new book ‘Escape from Pompeii’ and are starting to write a setting description. In maths we have continued to learn about fractions with a focus on non-unit fractions. We have also had a very engaging trip to the synagogue to learn more about Judaism.

Year 4

What a lovely sunny start to summer Year 4 have had! We have begun exploring persuasive speeches in English, building on the persuasive skills that we use in our weekly debates. In history, we are deepening our knowledge on the Anglo-Saxons by learning more about King Athelstan, and the role of Kingston and the Coronation Stone in British history.

Year 5

It's hard to believe we are in May and enjoying the summer term already! In Year 5, we have been thinking about what it means to be a Rights Respecting School and how children as 'Right's Holders' understand what their rights are as part of the convention. We learnt about St George's Day and what the Patron Saint is famous for. Thank you for all our parent volunteers who came on the trip to Hampton Court Palace. It was a lovely day, especially eating our picnic outside in the shade and listening to the talk from the staff at Hampton Court. We have really enjoyed the start of our topic and understanding the legacy The Tudors left behind.

Year 6

Fanshawe class has been enjoying our new book, *The Boy at the Back of the Class*. We have been exploring a variety of vocabulary and honing our prediction skills. Our current English topic involves creating an information text to guide a 'new child,' inspired by our book. We has been busy with maths revision, focusing on different topics each day, including daily word problems. Some children participated in the Isle of Wight sale today, where they sold a variety of their creations. As SATs approach, please make sure you complete all homework!



Art work by Ben, Year 6

We are delighted to announce that Gibson Lane will be sponsoring our Russell Rocks Summer Festival on Friday, 27th June 2025! 🎵 Their generous support includes estate agent advertising boards, with each board sponsored for £15, contributing to an impressive total of £750 for up to 50 boards.

To participate, please fill in your address in the form below:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf0YxDxzRtyhBS03PhpRcLMkWkzggw6wXfz6OaAf1EfxV6IQQ/viewform?usp=dialog>

Gibson Lane will ensure the boards are installed approximately two to three weeks prior to the festival and will take them down about one week afterward.

Lastly, please double-check that your properties are permitted to have an estate agent board put up before signing up!

Thank you for your continued support!



Ham Lego Club

Explore your creativity with Lego and become a master builder

Everyone loves making things with Lego! Design and build amazing creations and take part in fun Lego challenges. Lego Club is great way to meet new friends, share tips and show off building skills. Lego will be provided, so just bring your ideas and enthusiasm.

Children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Open to children of all ages. Free drop-in event.

Starts January 2024.

Second Saturday of the month

2.00pm – 3.30pm

Ham Library

Ham Street, Ham

TW10 7HR



For more information please visit
www.richmond.gov.uk/libraries



FILM & CRAFT

SATURDAY EVENT

31st May 2025

1.30 - 3.30PM

Ham Library

Ham Street

TW10 7HR

020 8734 3354

Join us for an afternoon of Film & Craft fun at Ham Library. With a family film, paired with a matching themed craft event.



Please Register An Interest

Suitable for children: 3 years+

Adults to stay with children at all times



The Friends of Ham Library

B SHARP STUDIOS
PRESENTS

ROCKBAND PROJECT

A FUN-FILLED PROGRAM DESIGNED TO
INTRODUCE CHILDREN TO THE EXCITING
WORLD OF ROCK MUSIC



SAVE THE DATE

HAM FAIR SATURDAY 14TH JUNE 2025 HAM COMMON,

11:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

- Free to attend popular and busy community event
- Held annually in June; has been running for over 40 years
 - Dog Show
 - Live Bands
- Local school performances
 - Childrens rides
 - Vintage vehicles
 - Over 140 stalls
- Antiques; books; bric-a-brac; clothes; gifts; toys; vintage & much much more!
 - Hot and cold food stalls
- Many other attractions – something for everyone.



NOTICEBOARD

Upcoming dates

| | |
|---------|---|
| 5.5.25 | May Bank Holiday – school closed |
| 9.5.25 | Year 1 farm trip |
| 12.5.25 | Year 6 SATS commence |
| 18.5.25 | Petersham Open Gardens ice cream sale at The Russell |
| 19.5.25 | Year 1 Barnes Childrens' Literary Festival visit |
| 20.5.25 | Year 3 Barnes Childrens' Literary Festival visit |
| 23.5.25 | Whole School Class Photos |
| 23.5.25 | Year 1 Class Assembly Last day of half term |
| 2.6.25 | Children return to school Year 6 to Isle of Wight Year 4 Multiplication Check week |
| 9.6.25 | Year 1 Phonics Screening Check week Year 5 Rose Theatre Childrens' Literary Festival visit |
| 12.6.25 | Bounceathon |
| 13.6.25 | Year 6 Isle of Wight assembly 9.00am |
| 14.6.25 | Ham Fair |
| 16.6.25 | Readathon |
| 17.6.25 | International Day |
| 27.6.25 | Russell Rocks and Summer Fair |
| 3.7.25 | Year 4 to Thames Young Mariners |
| 8.7.25 | Year 3 create day |
| 9.7.25 | Year 4 – 6 production (afternoon performance 1.45pm) |
| 10.7.25 | Whole school transition morning Yr 4 – 6 Evening production |
| 11.7.25 | Sports Day morning |
| 17.7.25 | Leavers' evening |

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is available from 7.45am – 8.30am. Please book online with ScoPay AT LEAST 4 days 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!