



THE RUSSELL SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

NEWSFLASH...

Announcing an exciting new project that The Russell School is leading on, with local primary schools: *We Are Listening*; a climate change initiative.

We have established contact with schools in Uganda, Kenya, India and two in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Stage 1 of the project is complete. This week in class the children raised questions about how climate change is affecting those school-children. We have sent them our questions and we will wait to hear their answers and climate stories.

In Stage 2 of the project we will respond to what we hear and learn, through art and poetry. This will culminate in another great Russell School art exhibition in early December, so watch this space!

In the meantime if you would like to know more about the *We Are Listening* project, please contact Mrs Nolan at j.nolan@russell.richmond.sch.uk



Headteacher's Update

It's hard to believe that October is upon us already, and still the sun continues to shine!

I can't believe I'm typing this, but please do apply sunscreen to your children on Monday, if the current forecast remains in place!

October is Black History Month in the UK and we launched this in assembly on Monday. We are thinking particularly about what we can learn from local (London-based) Black women who have made a significant contribution in their field. In assembly, we learned about Clara Amfo, the Kingston-based Radio 1 DJ who also took part in *Strictly*.

I need to share my concerns around school attendance with you all. When I met with some of the families who came to our year group information evening, I spoke of the importance of school attendance. I cannot stress enough how important it is that the children come to school every single day, health-permitting. There is stark evidence which shows the direct link between lower school attendance and lower outcomes at exam time. I continue to get a significant number of requests for term-time holidays. I urge you to consider the impact that time out during the school term has on your children; not just the lost learning, but the break from friendships, routine and community. The Russell School is an excellent place to be and I really hope you will work with me to ensure that your children are here, in class, with their friends. If we can support you in any way, please do contact the office and we will work with you to find solutions.

On a happier note, (pun intended) ... I want to alert families to a very exciting upcoming musical fundraising event, taking place at St. Andrew's Church, on Sunday 15th October at 4pm. This tea-time treat has been put together by some of our talented families, supported by our PTA, to raise money which will go towards a stage for our hall. Alongside the performances of our musical families, a number of our children will be taking to the stage as well! Please do come along if you're free. I continue to be inspired by the breadth of musical opportunities offered at The Russell School and this concert will showcase a snippet of these. Entry is free, but donations will be welcome and there will be a QR code to make this accessible for all.

I hope you all enjoy the sunshine this weekend!

Laura Brooks



GOLDEN SCROLL WINNERS



Well done to Manue, Oliver, Teddy, Adam, Kimiya and Wai Sze for:

Showing responsibility for the happiness of others through your actions.

Photo courtesy of Gabriel and Rowan from the Digital Leadership Team

Food Bank Collection

On Monday 16th October, as part of the harvest theme, we will have an assembly with a focus on thankfulness. We welcome any donations for The Vineyard Foodbank. Please see the list below for preferred items:

Tinned goods: Vegetables, Meat Puddings and rice puddings, Fruit, Tomatoes, Baked beans and pulses, Soups.

Pasta, Rice, Sugar, Potato (packet mashed), Biscuits, Breakfast cereals and porridge, Lentils, couscous etc.

Jars/ cartons: Pasta and cooking sauces, Milk (long life UHT), Tea and coffee, Jams/marmalade, Long life fruit juice.

Toiletries: Toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, bars of soap, toothbrushes, sanitary ware, nappies

Please drop any donations to the office, or with your class teacher.



Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

Nursery and Reception

Attenborough Class have been welcoming lots of new children this term. We have been learning to come into school on our own and put away our things. All the children have been learning the routines of the Nursery and enjoying exploring all the areas, both inside and out.

In cooking we have been developing our fine motor skills by making sandwiches. We used a knife to butter our bread and spread the fillings, and finally cut our sandwich into shapes. It was tricky but we managed it and then the following week we had a go at doing it all by ourselves.

As we are called Attenborough Class after David Attenborough, we have been listening to lots of animal stories. We have painted patterns that we can see on different animals such as tigers, zebras and cheetahs to name a few!

This week we took a walk outside to look at nature around us. We discovered lots of signs that Autumn is here. In cooking we made puff pastry snails and used our skills to roll our pastry in to snail shells.



It has been a fantastic few weeks for Nakate Class as they settle into all the routines and new learning that Reception brings. We have delighted in bringing children from our own Nursery and those in our community together and watching new friendships grow and have simply loved getting to know everyone. We have begun phonics and number time; so grown up, but have also loved exploring our feelings with the colour monster, sharing some of our favourite stories and surely the most important thing of all, learning how to make our very own play dough! We simply cannot wait to watch our children grow over the next year.

Year 1 and 2

In Year 1, for our project *School Days*, we have been discussing what school used to be like for children in the Victorian era. We spoke about how the dunce hat was used as a punishment for a child who had been naughty. We then looked at designing our own perfect classroom, thought about what this would include and made it out of lego.



Bolt class have thrown themselves into all things pirate! We were very excited to find a pirate's treasure chest full of interesting things to explore and write about, including a skull and a huge diamond!

We have really enjoyed talking about the jobs pirates might have had on-board ships and playing the roles of captains and crew. There's been some amazing map-making and writing instructions to follow a trail on the treasure map to get to X marks the spot. The class are now beginning to plan their pirate adventures using all their skills in constructing sentences, using punctuation and interesting topic words.

The children are keeping very active with a great running PE lesson every week, challenging themselves with improving their running form; the children are all aspiring Usain Bolts!

It's been a great few weeks. We're all trying our best so we can get to enjoy dressing up as pirates on our own class pirate day.

Year 3 and 4

In Year 3 we have had an amazing week! We have been working hard to make our own plan for a narrative we are creating based on *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark*. We have also been outside to look for things we would not normally find in nature as part of the 'Hidden Nature Challenge'- such as plants growing through concrete.

Hello from Jenner Class! This week we started a new and exciting topic in English which involves learning what calligram poems are and what their purpose is. The children planned and created their own calligram poems inspired by the sea as it continues to link to our *Invasion* topic. We have also finally started our weaving project now the children have picked their final designs. They have learnt how to weave a basic loom and will develop their loom and skills over the next coming weeks.

Year 5 and 6

It has been lovely getting back into the routines of school life again, and enjoying some of our collective experiences; beginning with our class name assembly. We found out all about our trailblazing superstar, Alice Recoque, who worked in the field of computer science and AI in the 1970's! We discovered the history of computers and the developments of AI, both recently and in the past. This inspired us to create our own digital art in the style of Roy Lichtenstein. For our topic this term, we have been writing diaries in character and using personification to create a description. In maths, we have been using our place value knowledge for numbers to 1 million and we have been beginning to calculate with smaller, decimal tenths. In science, we have been learning about microbes and have begun an investigation to discover the areas in our classroom that harbour the most unseen germs (including our hands!) We will be making close observations and recording our results over the coming weeks. We have been thinking a lot about our school and class promises and reminding ourselves of the importance of respect, responsibility and kindness. Thank you for encouraging your child to complete their Year 5 homework. So much work and time has been put into making their ancient journals and some of the results are amazing! The children have been very proud to show off their efforts. Thank you to those who were able to attend the class 'drop-in' session – I hope you found it useful. In addition to the weekly maths and Big Question tasks, the children should be choosing a reading book to bring home to read each evening and returning with this the following day. Spelling words will also be sent home to practice. It has been great getting to know your children over the past few weeks and I look forward to sharing our Year 5 journey and meeting you all shortly. We are looking forward to a busy and fun packed Year Five!



The last few weeks in Year 6 have been full of forensic fingerprints and frocks! The children have been working hard to persuade Ms Brooks into making sure we have equal rights as well as creating narratives about a change of identity. We were so impressed with their writing, they have worked so hard with the vocabulary and opening sentence starters. In Maths, we have been investigating numbers from 0.001 to 10, 000, 000 and looking at ways to problem solve.

Our identity work has allowed us to look at our genetic characteristics as well as our physical ones, our art work is looking fantastic (or will be!)



NOTICEBOARD



Children Years 1 - 6

HOLIDAY CODE CLUB

St Richards C of E Primary School
Ashburnham Rd, Ham, TW10 7NL

23rd October - 26th October
Mon - Thurs, 09:00 - 13:00 PM

DBS CHECKED & SAFEGUARD TRAINED

JUST £88 FOR A FULL WEEK!

FULLY INSURED

The Jam Coding Holiday Code Camp combines both online and offline fun and educational activities to engage and inspire your children during the school holidays.

- Coding & Computing courses covering a wide range of topics, including: Minecraft challenges, Game Building and Stop Motion Animation
- All equipment and resources are provided by us.
- Split screen time and playground activities.
- Children must bring a packed lunch.

LIMITED PLACES!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK A PLACE!

CALL 0207 183 2935 **EMAIL** london.tw@jamcoding.co.uk

>> BOOK A PLACE: portal.jamcoding.franscape.io/class-overview/2117




RUILS Parent Well-Being Course

Tuesday 31 Oct - 5 December

1 – 2.30pm

A 5 week parent wellbeing course at Ham Children's Centre delivered in partnership with RUILS. This course will focus on parenting strategies and techniques, advice and guidance, how to access support- and understanding your child's development and behaviour. There will also be a strong focus on wellbeing for parents.

This course is for parents of children who may have special educational needs or who require some additional support.

Creche provided.

**Ham Children's Centre
50 Ashburham Road
Ham
TW10 7BG
020 8734 3400**



IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
9.10.23	Phonics workshop for Reception parents and carers. Yr 1 welcome as well. 5pm
12.10.23	Phonics workshop for Reception parents and carers. Yr 1 welcome as well. 9.00am SEND meetings for parents / carers.
15.10.23	Music Fundraising concert, St Andrew's Church 4.00pm
16.10.23	Harvest assembly
17 and 18.10.23	Parents / Carers' evening Yr 3 trip to London Zoo SEND meetings for parents / carers.
20.10.23	Year 6 class assembly

Breakfast Club
<p>Breakfast Club is available from 7.45am – 8.30am. Please book online with ScoPay.</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>



INTENSIVE HOLIDAY COURSES

OCTOBER HALF TERM
MON 23RD - FRI 27TH

SMALL GROUP LESSONS
5 x 30-minute sessions

ST RICHARDS POOL, HAM



5x10m warm pool, perfect for:



- **Children age 3 - 15 years**
- **Beginners**
- **Technique building**
- **Exclusive sessions for older beginners**
- **Breaststroke Clinic**

TEL: 0208 239 0081

EMAIL: admin@springboardswimmers.com

WEBSITE: www.springboardswimmers.co.uk

