



THE RUSSELL SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER



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CLASS UPDATES

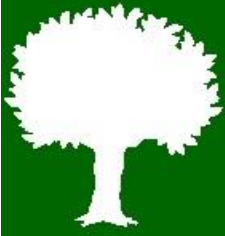
What have the children been learning?

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

IN OTHER NEWS...

Don't forget.....Our PTA are hosting our annual Christmas Fair on Friday 1st December from 3.15. Join us for fun, festivities and frolics! We ho ho hope you can join us!!



Headteacher's Update

I can't believe November is nearly over! The past couple of weeks have flown by, with an interactive Diwali assembly, Year Five making memories at Sayers Croft, Year Three entertaining the shoppers at Fenwicks, a few sporting fixtures and our Early Years opening their doors to share their learning and play with Parents and Carers. Please do keep an eye on the dates below as there are plenty more memorable experiences coming up!

As we head more into winter, I wanted to remind everyone how important attendance at school is. I am sure you are aware that the issue of school attendance has been of increased focus in the media, by politicians and educationalists, due to a sharp drop in post-pandemic school attendance. The link between attendance and attainment is well known. Those who take an occasional day (or a week, or a fortnight) off school miss building blocks of knowledge, which makes further knowledge build-up and retention difficult and disjointed. Quite apart from the academic impact, regular attendance supports a wealth of physical, social and health benefits. Of course we understand that children will need occasional time off when unwell, but colds, minor coughs and aches and pains can be managed in-school. We have a number of first aid-trained staff and if we feel a child is too unwell to be in school, we will always inform families. I appreciate your support with this.

Last Friday, our school hall was used by The Petersham Horticultural Society for their annual cheese and wine evening. This was a really well-attended event, with many Parents and Carers in attendance too. Next Friday, we will be opening our hall to host our Christmas Fair. Thank you so much to all of the PTA members for working so hard to make this happen. We hope to see you all there!

Have a wonderful weekend,

Laura Brooks



GOLDEN SCROLL WINNERS



This week's winners.....

Arpi, Maya, Sky, Kleo and
Thea for:

*Respecting the school
environment - both
indoors and outdoors!*

Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

EYFS....

Last week we listened to the story of Rama and Sita and talked about the celebration of Diwali. We enjoyed making Diwali sweets which were certainly very sweet and tasty! We have been talking about our families and things we enjoy doing together and it was lovely to see so many parents and grandparents visit us on Wednesday for our 'Stay and Play' session. This week we have been reading 'Where's Lenny?' and playing hide-and seek together. We have also enjoyed exploring parts of the story such as blowing bubbles, making toast and blob painting.



In Nakate class, we finished our class story, *The Boy and the Bear*, today. This is a beautiful book that some of the older children may remember. A tale of friendship and the importance of togetherness but also an excellent scientific book covering our beautiful world through the seasons and engaging children with hibernation. We have built, painted, written, guessed, counted and more-all from this excellent book!

Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

Years 1 and 2....

In Year One we have been noticing the landscape around us changing and we have been discussing how the trees change during the autumn season. To celebrate this change we created some autumn-themed art.



In Bolt Class we have been learning about David Attenborough as part of our *Movers and Shakers* project. We have been developing our history skills by creating timelines of his impressive life. Did you know, he was given a knighthood by The Queen back in 1985? We have also been developing our painting skills, inspired by Vincent Van Gogh.



Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

Years 3 and 4....

We were so proud of our Year 3 children on Thursday when they sang carols at Fenwicks with such enthusiasm. After singing, everyone was treated to a hot chocolate in the cafe whilst a special visitor made an appearance! Thank you to all the families who came to support, for our Parent/Carer helpers and a huge thank you to Manon and Parry for their beautiful accompaniment on the harp and flute!



Hello from Jenner Class! This week we completed an exciting experiment in science to help us identify what liquids do to our teeth and the importance of toothpaste. Our experiment included different liquids that all held an egg inside and the class were able to make their own individual prediction as to which liquid would stain our teeth (egg) the most. We have been continuing to read our class book, *Boy Tales of Childhood*, and have enjoyed hearing about Roald Dahl's life but also learning how the imaginative author was inspired from a young age.

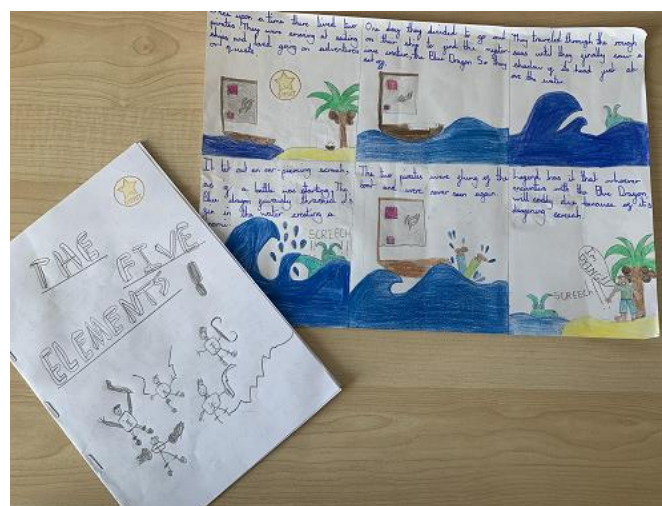
Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

Years 5 and 6....

Year Five have spent the week working collaboratively to piece together our assembly, to showcase the skills and adventures during our wonderful Sayers Croft trip! We hope you were able to make it and enjoyed the entertainment. The Powerpoint is on Google Classroom. Please do not share on any social media platforms. We have finished writing our 'formal' thank you letters to the team at Sayers Croft and have reflected on our journey and the experiences we encountered. We look forward to welcoming the Space Dome next week and continuing our fabulous Space adventure.



Year 6 have been thoroughly enjoying finding out all about different Maya myths and legends. Some have very peculiar plots! We have created our own myths for homework and used our imagination as to how to present these; some via video, some comic strips and some in the form of books. The imagination of the children was just amazing; lots of merits were given! This week we have launched into the world of division and have been using all of our repeated addition and our multiplication facts to help (we know that must practise our timetables at home using TTRS!)



Some school successes to celebrate and share:

Boys' Football match v St Elizabeth's (h) Monday 13th November

The boys played an excellent game and stormed their way to an 8-0 victory!

Scorers: Bobby 2, Mateo 4, Zain, Aris

Boys' Football match v St Richard's (a) Wednesday 15th November

A closely contested game which ended in a 2-2 draw. The boys showed great team spirit and determination

Scorers: Mateo 2

Tag Rugby Match v St Stephen's (h) Thursday 23rd November

Result 2-7 to St Stephen's

Despite the loss the team improved as the match went on and really started to pass and move the ball to try and score on the wings. There was some excellent tackling and team play.

Scorers: Wells, Harris

Community News.....

St Peter's Church, Church Lane, Petersham have a number of special services over the Christmas period. Please see attached document for full details.

Young Writers' Festival

Illustration by Astrite Vula



Please visit our website for more information and to submit your work: [ArtsRichmond.org.uk](https://www.ArtsRichmond.org.uk)

Submissions close Friday, 1st December

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 next 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!



17 DEC
HAM, RICHMOND

21 DEC
ESHER

23 DEC
COVENT GARDEN

Christmas Enchantment

A MAGICAL FAMILY CONCERT

A Christmas feast of favourite songs
and carols as we journey through the
Nativity Story.



TICKETS HERE 

WWW.HARMONYSMUSICCLUB.COM/CHRISTMASENCHANTMENT





NOTICEBOARD

1.12.23	PTA Christmas Fair
6.12.23	Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch day
11.12.23	KS2 production 5pm
12.12.23	KS2 production 1.45pm
13.12.23	Yr 1 – 6 Panto trip
14.12.23	Yr 1 – 3 production 2.00pm
15.12.23	Yr 1 – 3 production 9.15am
18.12.23	Carol Concert Rehearsal St Peter's
19.12.23	Carol Concert St Peter's
20.12.23	Christmas Class Parties
9.1.24	Children return to school

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!