



# THE RUSSELL SCHOOL



## NEWSLETTER



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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



#### Parking Reminder

Please do remember that the school car park cannot accommodate Parent and Carer vehicles. We need to ensure access for both Strathmore vehicles and emergency services at all times.



Dear families,

I can't believe we are at the end of the Spring term and we have so much to look back on and celebrate!

Highlights across the school include: class assemblies, numerous sports fixtures, performing at the O2, exploring the local area, trips to museums and places of historical interest, a hugely successful Bounceathon and last but not least, today's eggciting raffle!

After the Spring break, many of our children (and teachers) will be gearing themselves up towards national benchmarking tests. These tests are completed by all children across England.

Our Year 1s will be completing their phonics screening check in June. Thank you so much to the year 1 team for inviting families in to school to learn about this. Unfortunately, not many families attended this session. We know that it is tricky depending on work / life commitments so please do reach out to the team for further information about the phonics screening check if you couldn't make the session.

Although the Year 2 SATS tests are no longer a mandatory assessment point, all local authority schools will be given SATS-type material to use with the children at some point in May. Teachers will share the material in class as part of their everyday lessons and children won't be placed under any unnecessary stress or strain.

Year 4 will take part in the multiplication check in June. Get on Times Tables Rock Stars to challenge yourselves, beat your previous scores and limber up for the June check!

Our Year 6 children will take their national SATS assessments w/c 13<sup>th</sup> May. Teachers are working hard to prepare the children and ensure they feel calm and confident. Please support your children by ensuring they complete any homework activities and encouraging them to read widely and often!

Just a reminder that we have *Good Gym* coming into school to help prepare The Reading Hut for use! If any of our families would like to be part of this, please click on the links further down the newsletter.

As children will have a well-deserved break over the next couple of weeks, please can I urge you all to be mindful of how much screen time the children will be accessing. Below, I have attached some QR codes which give clear guidance on how to set up restrictions on apps and devices.

And finally, thank you to all of you for the kindness and care you continue to show me. I feel so supported by you all and this is also true of your amazing children. I will be having my third chemo session during the holidays which means that I have the rest of the holiday to recover, ready to start the summer term!

For many of our families there will be cause for celebrations over the break whether that be over the Easter weekend or for Eid celebrations later in the holidays. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable time,

**Laura Brooks**

# Setting parental controls on your child's devices



If you're viewing this on a screen, tap or click the appropriate logo. If you're looking at this on paper, point your phone's camera at the appropriate QR code and tap the link that appears.

Follow the instructions on the website exactly, in particular setting the age of the child. We recommend you set the device not to allow *any* apps or games to be installed without your permission. Protect your settings with a strong password that is not known to the child.



## Get involved with GoodGym!

If any of the staff or parents / carers would like to get involved, please do sign up. It will count as your first GoodGym task (and you will earn a red t-shirt!) The system below will give the option of joining as a paying member but this is just an option and is not intended to be a barrier to joining in for those who would like to get involved.

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> 10am:

<https://www.goodgym.org/v3/sessions/create-a-path-for-the-russell-school-reading-cabin-6a615b7f-2b00-4aad-94fd-3f891614d1de>

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> around 7.15pm:

<https://www.goodgym.org/v3/sessions/create-a-path-for-the-russell-school-reading-cabin>

# An Eggcellent Treat!

Thank you to our staff for providing the chocolate and treats and thank you to our families for buying the raffle tickets. An eggciting time was had by all at this morning's raffle and £271.10 was raised to support curriculum enrichment!



## Science Week Stars

We had a fantastic response to this year's science poster competition and the standard of entries was exceptionally high! Below are the names of the first place winners: Well done to all our entries!

**KS2 – Amber (yr 5) Dylan (yr 3) Woodrow (yr 3)**

**KS1 – Orrin (yr 2) Sadie (yr2)**

## Sporting Updates

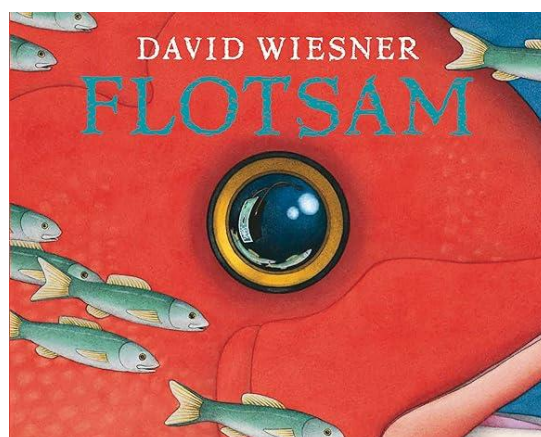
**Girls' Football** - We reached the last 16 schools as we were top of the League. We played a close match against Collis School and in the end the result was 3-2 to Collis. Well played girls!

**Boys' Football** - We finished second in our league and reached the last 16 schools. Unfortunately, we lost our match against Collis 3-1 but played well and have improved our skills throughout the season.

# World Book Day Highlights

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, children worked in house-groups, completing a range of creative activities inspired by the book *Flotsam*, by David Wiesner.

It was really lovely to see older children supporting the younger and it was an engaging and inspiring session, promoting a love of reading across the school.



# Look What We Have Been Learning

## Nursery and Reception..

We have had a fun packed second half of the spring Term. Some sunny days have meant more times outside in the sunshine and we have been loving our bike repair shop and riding the bikes. The children have been good at learning to share and waiting their turn for the bikes and they enjoyed labelling a real bike. The children have enjoyed listening to 'Mrs Armitage on Wheels' and showing off how good they are at riding bikes and scooters and exploring inventions for bikes. We have also focused on using circles in our art work and maths.

The children have loved looking for signs of spring and making spring art pictures.

We have rounded off the term with a visit from the Easter Bunny who left some chocolate treats!



What a wonderful term it has been! The children have impressed us endlessly as they continue in their journey to become fluent readers, expert writers and mathematicians. We have spent the term exploring animals, especially those who live with us and enjoyed acting our scenes from the vets with each other in a role play area. We have shared lots of books like *My Cat Likes to Hide in Boxes*, which inspired us to make pop up cats and *The Great Pet Sale*, which was perfect to help us learn about money and addition. We even built our own pet shop!

Later in the term we began to explore Spring. It's such an exciting time of year when everything starts growing but also a good time to stop and reflect and see how much we have already grown before we start our final term in Reception. We are looking forward to the summer term and the good weather it brings. It is our favourite time to spend in the garden (especially after its recent rejuvenation) but we also like to go out on trips and visit The Copse for forest school.

And finally, thank you to all the families who came to our *Stay and Play* session yesterday. We loved sharing our learning with you all!

# Look What We Have Been Learning

## Year 1 and Year 2...

Year 1 have thoroughly enjoyed the topic *Enchanted Woodlands* this half term. The book we have focused on this half term has been the 'Bog Baby'. During our visit to Richmond Park at the beginning of the term we tuned into our senses to see what we could hear, touch, see and smell. This has helped us to write a setting description of where the Bog Baby lives. We have also been busy looking at instruction writing. We made our very own Bog Baby and have written instructions to help us explain to the Reception children or to younger family members how to make one. In Science, we have been looking at plants and followed instructions to plant our own cress seeds. Have a wonderful holiday!



Bolt Class enjoyed a great science week, getting outside as often as possible to use the garden areas. We spent time making bird feeders and thinking about looking after animals in our environment and then digging over the allotment ready for planting next term. We have really enjoyed our project on Brazil with some amazing art and written work from it. Well done everyone and have an *eggcellent* Easter!





# Look What We Have Been Learning

## Year 3 and 4...

What a fantastic Spring Term it has been here in Year 3. We have learnt so much and completed some fantastic pieces of work. In English we have written some fantastic stories, newspaper reports and letters. In maths we have been looking at our 4 and 8 times tables, as well as column subtraction and beginning to learn more about fractions. Our history has been wonderful as we have gone back in time to the Stone Age and this topic included a fantastic trip to Butser Farm where we made chalk carvings, learnt how they used to start fires and learnt all about what it was like living in the Stone Age. Our science has included looking at plants and learning all about the life-cycle of flowering plants. We have been conducting experiments to see how different things affect how plants grow. Year 3 have also had the excitement of going to Pools on the Park each week for swimming lessons where they are showing fantastic improvements. Well done Year 3 and I hope you all have a lovely break. I look forwards to seeing everyone in the Summer term!



Jenner class have worked very hard this term on their non-chronological reports in English as well as their times tables in preparation for their test in Summer 1. They will continue to practise their times tables next term as well as continuing their new topic on fractions. Jenner class have had a busy and fun term as they discovered what mischief Marvellous George was up to in our Guided Reading lessons. They have been enjoying their swimming lessons and have shown brilliant progress and confidence. We have discussed our trip next term and all the exciting things we will do.

Have a lovely and well rested Easter ready for our trip in Summer 1.



# Look What We Have Been Learning

## Year 5 and 6....

It is incredible to think that we are already at the end of the Spring Term! A tinge of sadness to know that when we return, we will be embarking on our last term together in Year 5! Having said that, what a delight this term has been. We have enjoyed learning all about the Ancient Egyptians, including our fabulous trip to the British Museum. We have learnt lots about different types of numbers: prime, composite, cubed, square, largest and common multiples and we have begun our work on fractions. We have written non-chronological reports, stories and a diary in the character of Howard Carter. We had lots of fun reading our suspenseful stories to the children in Year 3 too! We hope you all have a lovely break and look forward to welcoming everyone back in the Summer term!



### Year 6 updates:

For Yr 6, we only have 6 weeks until SATS (not including the Easter holidays.)

However, don't worry, we have lots of practice time at school but please do practise at home.

Then we have 8 weeks until The Isle of Wight, but more information will come out nearer the time.

Last week, Yr 6 were making Anderson shelters or Air Raid shelters for the war, as our topic so far has been about a child's war.

Year six have also been on a lovely trip to Holly Lodge in Richmond Park. We learnt a variety of skills including: Life saving, Ambulance service, Fire service and lots more!

Written by Aneya and Maya



# Community News...



**HAM SCOUT GROUP**  
**VOLUNTEERS WANTED**

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[INFO@HAMSCOUTS.ORG.UK](mailto:INFO@HAMSCOUTS.ORG.UK)

**FREE TRIALS FOR NEXT SEASON'S u7 TEAMS**

IF YOUR CHILD IS IN YEAR 1, PLEASE SIGN UP TO THE  
LINK BELOW AND REGISTER FOR A TRIAL:  
[besports.classforkids.io/term/111](https://besports.classforkids.io/term/111)

**Join  
RKFC**



**THE TEAMS WILL PLAY IN THE SURREY YOUTH LEAGUE ON SUNDAYS**  
TRIAL DATES: Saturday 6<sup>TH</sup> April + Saturday 20<sup>TH</sup> April  
10am – 11am

**ACCREDITED CLUB ★★**  
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

**Richmond & Kew FC**  
Riverside Drive  
TW10 7QA  
Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April:  
Tiffin School Sports Centre  
Queen Elizabeth Road  
KT2 6RL





## Easter Adventures Trail at Ham House and Garden, 23<sup>rd</sup> March – 14<sup>th</sup> April

Follow in the footsteps of dynamic mother-daughter duo Catherine and Elizabeth Murray on an espionage-themed activity trail around the stunning gardens at Ham House in Richmond this Easter.

Travel back in time to the Civil War and collect clues at ten outdoor game stations to spell out a codeword which will help to save Ham House (and then claim your chocolate reward!).

The trail prize is a chocolate egg, or a vegan 'Free-From' chocolate egg, made here in the UK using cocoa from Rainforest Alliance Certified farms.

Refuel on delicious snacks, lunches, and drinks at the Orangery Café in the beautiful walled Kitchen Garden.

How to visit us for the trail: Running daily 10-5 (last entry 4.30), normal admission plus £3 per trail, includes a chocolate Rainforest Alliance Easter egg. No booking required.

House open 12-4. Orangery Café open 10.30-4.30; last orders at 4.15.



Take a look at **BRITE Box** Youtube channel to find affordable family recipes. BriteBox is a charity that aims to bring families together around food, building skills and confidence to enjoy cooking and eating well.

<https://www.youtube.com/@BRITEBox-VoH>



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**NHS**  
**Kingston Hospital**  
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# Open Day

Saturday 23 March - 10am to 3pm

Come and try a range of inclusive and disability specific sports and exercise, including football, dance, rugby, cycling and multi-sports...

**FREE  
EVENT**



The RISE event is open to individuals of all ages and ability levels. If individuals have specific support needs we ask that they attend with a carer or PA. If a participant is under 16 then a parent or carer needs to remain onsite.

Please check the website or contact us for a full programme.

**Hampton Sports & Fitness Centre**  
Hampton High, Hanworth Road,  
Hampton, TW12 3HB

**Getting there:**

Train: Hampton Station  
Bus: 111 and R70 stop outside the centre  
Parking: Car and cycle parking onsite

[www.richmond.gov.uk/rise](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/rise)  
Phone: 020 8831 6134  
Text: 07773 040219  
Email: [rise@richmond.gov.uk](mailto:rise@richmond.gov.uk)



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*Petersham Horticultural Society*

# Family Seed Planting

**1.30pm to 3.30pm  
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

The Ham Market Garden  
St Richard's CE Primary School,  
Woodville Road TW10 7QW

*Want to plant a magic Bean?  
Make a seedy strip?*

We are bringing our compost, pots and  
trowels along for an afternoon of fun  
planting and potting

Come and plant seeds in time for our PHS Show in June

**All Welcome - Free Event**

*There will be delicious cake and tea available*







# NOTICEBOARD

14.5.24	Good Gym laying path for reading hut 9.30am
15.4.24	INSET day – school closed to children Good Gym laying path for reading hut 6pm
16.4.24	Children return to school Year 4 to TYM
18.4.24	Year 5 Singing festival rehearsal, St Richard's School
30.4.24	Year 5 Singing festival rehearsal, St Richard's School
6.5.24	May Bank Holiday school closed
13.5.24	KS2 SATS assessment week
20.5.24	Year 6 attending Barnes Literature Festival at The Rose Theatre
21.5.24	Year 5 Singing Festival at The Rose Theatre
22.5.24	Year 2 trip to Holly Lodge
23.5.24	Class photos
24.5.24	Year 1 class assembly Last day of Spring 1 term. School closes at normal time
3.6.24	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!**