



# THE RUSSELL SCHOOL



## NEWSLETTER



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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND SCHOOL CALENDAR



Dear families,

We are starting the week with sunshine and blue skies. Long may it continue!

As this is the first newsletter of the new term, I would like to wish a warm welcome to all our new families who have joined us recently. 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 26<sup>th</sup> June 5pm – 8pm. Please save the date in your calendars. It will be a fantastic evening of music and merriment!

Lots of our children took part in Saturday's mini-marathon, with smiles, pride and medals for all. We are so proud of all our little runners – and the staff, parents and carers who took part too! Following on the sporty theme, we are very proud of our girls' football team who made it all the way to the quarter finals of their league! Well done to all the girls for progressing this far with our small squad.

Our PTA-run gardening club got off to a great start last 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.

Our value for the summer term is *resilience* and we have been talking about it in our assemblies and in our classes. With resilience in mind, statutory tests are fast-approaching, with Year 6 SATS taking place week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> May and then Year 4 multiplication check and Year 1 phonics screening check in June. We do lots 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.

As the weather seems to be hotting up, please do make sure that your children come to school with a water bottle and with suncream applied. Please also consider footwear; open-toe sandals are not appropriate – even with socks!

Wishing you all a sun-filled week,

Headteacher

# Mighty Mini Marathoners!



# An evening of music and song!

Come and support Ms Brooks' choir in their tenth anniversary concert, featuring guest West End

performances and our very own brilliant violinist, Hannah Saucedo!



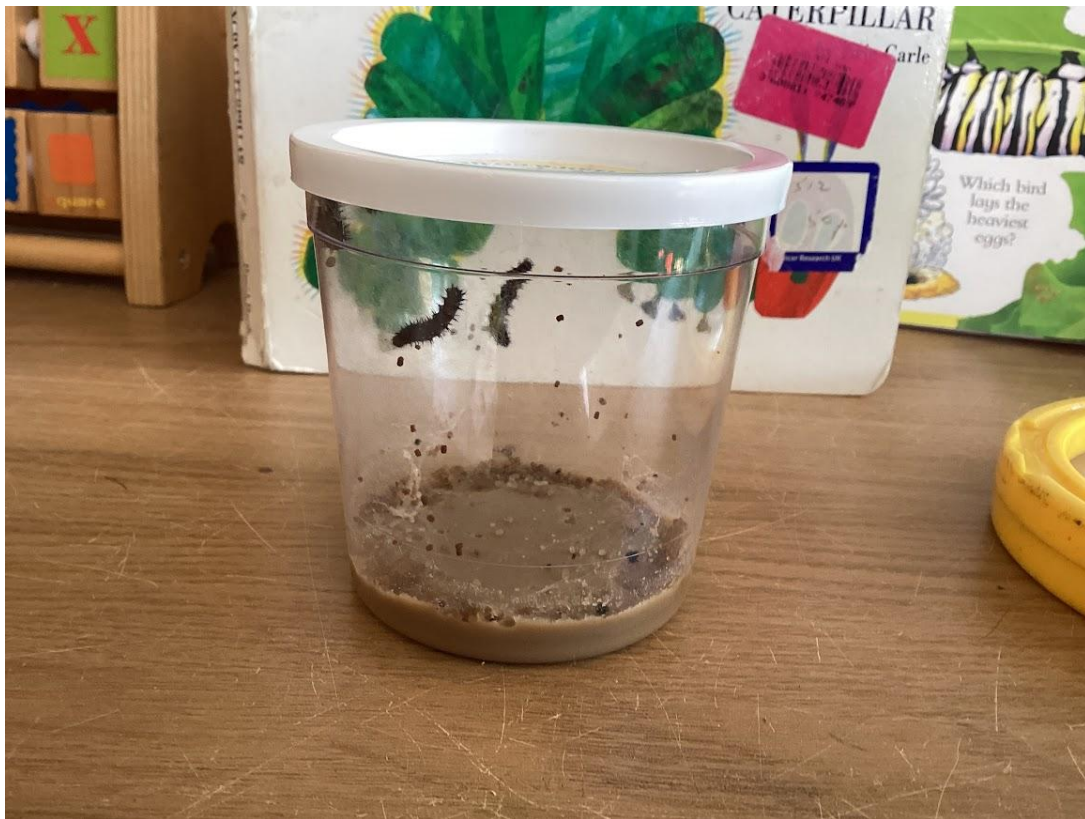
<https://www.ticketsource.com/nullsummer-serenade2019-07-071800t-aoxdvx/t-vxxmole>

# What we have been learning:

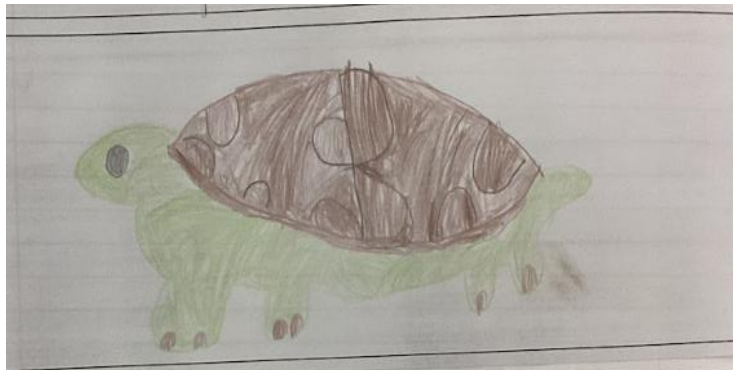
## Nursery

We have been enjoying the sunshine and warmer weather, spending more time exploring our lovely new outdoor area. We welcomed two new children to the Nursery and they have settled well. Over the next few weeks we will be thinking about how animals and plants grow.

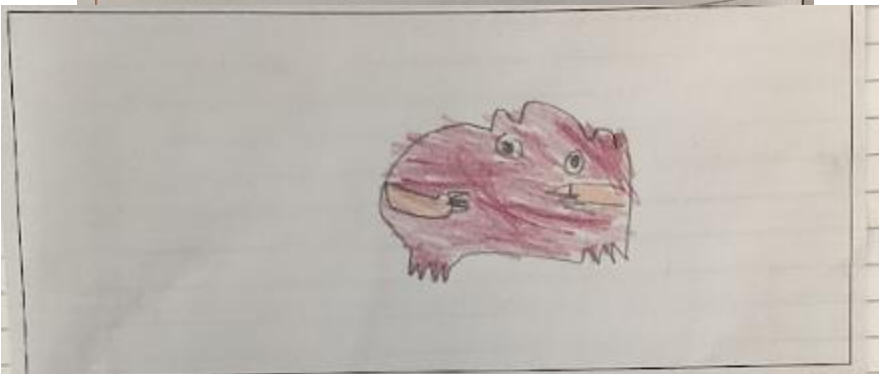
We have caterpillars that we are observing and we are excited to see when they will change into a cocoon! We also went to see the rabbit, called Snowball that visited Reception.







Would you be my perfect pet? ✓  
 I am looking for a loyal tortoise  
 to go on adventures in the forest ✓  
 It must be friendly to me because  
 I ~~can~~ <sup>am</sup> be friend. I would like  
 it to have a green shell because it  
 can camouflage so other predators can  
 not get it. I want it to be brainy  
 so we can go on adventures. ✓  
 I want to chain it so it  
 can be good at football. ✓  
 Please can Ledri if you think  
 you can do it.



Can you be my  
 best friend? ✓ I <sup>am</sup> ~~am~~ searching for a  
 kind guinea pig that I can  
 play with. It must have two  
 floppy soft ears and two small  
 feet. I want very like  
 it is it was so so happy ✓  
 I want it to be really really  
 soft and cute. I want

## Year 2

It has been a wonderful couple of weeks in Year 2, filled with fantastic learning and plenty of smiles. In maths, the children have been mastering the practical skills of measurement, focusing specifically on mass and money.

Our English lessons have taken us to the seaside with our new book, 'Clean Up!' We are currently preparing to write our own narratives while reflecting on the vital importance of keeping our beaches clean. Beyond the classroom, we had an amazing time participating in Mental Health Week. Highlights included meeting our special visitors, Dave and Faldo and being mesmerised by a truly brilliant magician!

## Year 3

Following the amazing events during our Children's Mental Health and Wellness week, we have started our wonderful history topic...The Romans. We have discovered the stretch of the Roman Empire and we are beginning to understand how powerful and organised their soldiers were. In our class novel, The Lost City of Pompeii, we have been learning about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and the devastating impact on the city. We have been using this as inspiration for some drama work and to write our own descriptive sentences. As the weather is improving, we have been able to take our PE lessons outside and we have begun to work on our attacking, defending skills and passing skills. Before the end of term, we harvested our own strawberry seeds and have now planted them in soil. We hope they will grow into some tasty strawberries.



## Year 4

What a lovely first couple of weeks back year 4 have had! The children loved starting the summer term with Wellbeing Week, and we are continuing to encourage activities that promote mindfulness. They have been working really hard at their persuasive skills, ready to write and present persuasive speeches. In maths, we have begun to look at translations and coordinate, and in science we have continued investigating living things and their habitats, with a focus on classification. The children have built on their knowledge of chronology as we began our Ancient Greeks topic, considering where this civilization occurred in relation to others they have studied.

## Year 5

We hope you all enjoyed our class assembly on Friday. We loved sharing everything we have learned about the Tudor times and the monarchy of that period. Thank you so much for supporting your children with this at home and for coming along to watch!

In science, we have been exploring life processes, focusing on the huge array of plants in our school outdoor environment.

## Year 6

Year Six have returned this term with a hardworking attitude and a strong focus on their revision. It has been wonderful to see such positivity and determination as they prepare for their exams.

The children really enjoyed Well-being Week, which has supported them in maintaining a positive mind-set and a balanced approach to their learning.

They have also been thoroughly engaged in our new history topic, *Crime and Punishment*. The class is showing great curiosity and enthusiasm as they explore how crimes and punishments have changed across different centuries and they are eager to learn even more. Well done, Year Six—keep up the brilliant effort!

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THE MUSICAL JR.

BOOK  
Dennis Kelly

MUSIC & LYRICS  
Tim Minchin

**JOIN OUR CASTS**  
**8-12 & 13-18 YEAR OLDS**

PERFORM AT HAMPTON HILL THEATRE THIS JULY

SUMMER TERM STARTS W/C 20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

HAMPTON HILL, TEDDINGTON, TWICKENHAM & WALTON-ON-THAMES

[www.dramacube.co.uk](http://www.dramacube.co.uk)



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This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI [www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)

# RICHMOND MAY FAIR

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**SAT 9TH MAY**  
**10AM-5PM**  
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National  
Online  
Safety

# 7 questions to help you start a conversation with your child about online safety

#WakeUpWednesday



1



Which apps/games are you using at the moment?

THIS WILL GIVE YOU A GOOD OVERVIEW OF THE TYPES OF THINGS YOUR CHILDREN ARE DOING ON THEIR DEVICES, ALONG WITH THEIR INTERESTS. REMEMBER THAT THEY MIGHT NOT TELL YOU EVERYTHING THEY ARE USING, SO IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO ASK THEM TO SHOW YOU THEIR DEVICE, BECAUSE NEW APPS AND GAMES ARE RELEASED REGULARLY. IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE THIS CONVERSATION OFTEN TO ENSURE YOU ARE UP TO DATE WITH WHAT THEY ARE DOING.

Which websites do you enjoy using and why?



2

AS IN THE TIP ABOVE, ASKING THIS QUESTION WILL ALLOW YOU TO FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD IS DOING ONLINE, AND ENCOURAGE POSITIVE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THEIR ONLINE ACTIVITY. ASK THEM HOW THEY USE THE WEBSITES, AND TAKE AN INTEREST IN HOW THEY CAN USE THEM IN A POSITIVE WAY, ALSO ASKING THEM TO SHOW YOU IF POSSIBLE.

3



How does this game/app work? Can I play?

SHOW A GENUINE INTEREST IN WHAT THEY ARE DOING. WHILST YOU ARE PLAYING A GAME OR USING AN APP WITH THEM, IT MIGHT HIGHLIGHT SOMETHING THAT THEY DON'T NECESSARILY THINK IS A DANGER TO THEM. IF THEY ACT LIKE THEY DON'T WANT TO SHARE THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH YOU, QUESTION WHY.

Do you have any online friends?



4

CHILDREN CAN FORM POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE ONLINE, AND THIS HAS BECOME MORE COMMON THANKS TO ONLINE MULTI-PLAYER OPTIONS, BUT THEY MAY NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FRIEND AND A STRANGER. YOU COULD MAKE THE QUESTION MORE SPECIFIC TO YOUR CHILD, FOR EXAMPLE, "HAVE YOU MET ANYONE ONLINE THAT YOU LIKE TO PLAY GAMES WITH?" THEY MAY NOT WANT TO SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOU, SO ENSURE YOU TEACH THEM ABOUT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.

5



Do you know where to go for help?

ALTHOUGH YOU MAY BE THE ADULT THEY TRUST THE MOST, SOME CHILDREN STRUGGLE TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS ONLINE DUE TO CONFUSION OR EMBARRASSMENT. BECAUSE OF THIS THEY MAY STRUGGLE TO APPROACH THE NORMAL PEOPLE WHO WOULD HELP, SUCH AS YOURSELF OR A TEACHER. HAVE A CHAT TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT EXACTLY WHERE THEY CAN GO FOR HELP, AND HOW THEY CAN REPORT ANY ACTIVITY THAT THEY BELIEVE IS INAPPROPRIATE ONLINE.

Do you know what your personal information is?



6

YOUR CHILD MAY ALREADY KNOW WHAT THEIR PERSONAL INFORMATION IS BUT THEY MIGHT NOT THINK ABOUT HOW IT CAN BE SHARED. HAVE A CONVERSATION ABOUT WHAT PERSONAL INFORMATION IS AND HOW THIS CAN AFFECT THEM IF IT IS SHARED BEYOND THE INTENDED RECIPIENT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR CHILD UNDERSTANDS THE DANGERS OF SHARING CONTACT DETAILS OR PHOTOS, AS INFORMATION SUCH AS THIS CAN SPREAD QUICKLY ONLINE.

7



Do you know your limits?

CHILDREN MAY NOT UNDERSTAND THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF DEVICE OR GAME ADDICTION. TALK TO THEM OPENLY ABOUT HEALTHY HABITS AND ASK WHETHER OR NOT THEM SPENDING TIME ONLINE OR PLAYING A GAME IS AFFECTING THEIR SLEEP, PERFORMANCE AT SCHOOL OR IF THEY ARE GENERALLY LOSING INTEREST IN OTHER ACTIVITIES. YOU MAY LEAD ON TO ENCOURAGING ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSING THE INTRODUCTION OF TIME LIMITS WHEN AT HOME.

## Setting parental safeguards on your child's devices

If you're viewing this on a screen, tap (or click) the appropriate icon below.

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.





**FOOTY FUN**  
4 KIDS

## **BREAKFAST CLUB**

**7:45 AM - 8:45 AM**

- Early drop-off from 7:15 AM
- Porridge
- Fruit and cereals
- Toast and spreads
- Fruit smoothies
- Fun activities

## **AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

**3:15 PM - 6:15 PM**

- Late pick-up till 6:45 PM
- Sports
- Creative arts and crafts
- Dance
- Outdoor activities
- Themed rewards
- Cooking and baking
- Healthy meals
- Gardening
- Snacks and drinks

☎ 0330 229 0566    ✉ [gary@footyfun4kids.com](mailto:gary@footyfun4kids.com)    🌐 [www.footyfun4kids.com](http://www.footyfun4kids.com)



## Upcoming dates for summer term

28.4.26	Y5 St Richards Choir Rehearsal
30.4.26	Y1 Farm Trip
1.5.26	Y2 Scooter Training
4.5.26	May Bank Holiday
8.5.26	David Attenborough's 100 <sup>th</sup> Birthday / Earth Day
11.5.26	SATS week commences
15.5.26	Reception Class Assembly
20.5.26	Y5 Rose Theatre Singing Festival
22.5.26	Y1 Class Assembly Break up for half-term holiday
03.06.26	Borough Sports
05.06.26	Y3 Class Assembly
08.06.26	Y6 – IoW Trip
16.06.26	International Day
19.06.26	Y6 IoW assembly / Great Science Share
26.06.26	Russell Rocks and Summer Fair
29.06.26	Y4 TYM
03.07.26	Sports Day
06.07.26	Y6 Transition Day
08.07.26 & 09.07.26 -	Y4 – 6 Production – times tbc
13.07.26	Y6 Bikeability
15.7.26	Y6 Leavers' evening
17.7.26	Final day of term