



THE RUSSELL SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

IN OTHER NEWS...

Don't forget.....our final day of the autumn term is Thursday 21st December. School finishes at the earlier time of 1.30pm on this day.



Headteacher's Update

We are heading into our final weeks of the autumn term and what a packed few weeks it has been / continues to be! A huge thanks to our fantastic parents and carers, friends and families who worked so hard last Friday at our Christmas Fair. It was a joyous, exciting and action-packed event which raised in the region of £3000! Thank you so much to everyone. Whether you were part of the strategic planning, helped to staff the event or supported by coming along, you all had a part to play and yet again, you all showed what a unique community we have here at The Russell. Do keep an eye on all the upcoming dates over the next two weeks as well.

The weather continues to switch between crisp and cold and wet and windy so please do ensure your children are dressed for it. I know that the children often take their coats off when they're running around, but if they have a coat in school, we can ensure it goes on initially!

I emailed you all last week regarding our recent Ofsted inspection but I just wanted to reiterate my thanks to you all and to all of the children for being part of the process. As soon as the report is received, I will share it with you, but please note this won't be before the end of the term.

You will notice that we have a skeleton selection of year group updates in this newsletter edition. This is because the children are all very hard at work rehearsing lines, songs and choreography for their various performances. Some of the performances are accompanied by a live band and yesterday I sat through the *sitzprobe* (which for the non-thespians is a first run through with band, props and cast.) We are very lucky here to have such a rich musical offer and I know all the children benefit hugely from this experience.

I hope to see lots of you at the various events and celebrations which are coming up before the end of term

Have a wonderful weekend,

Laura Brooks

Some school successes to celebrate and share...

We Are Listening Art project

Well done to the whole school community. You have produced wonderful and thoughtful responses to what we learnt from the school in Bihar, Northern India both in your classes, and as individual entries at home. Mrs Nolan has taken our art, and that of St Richard's school, to be exhibited at a Community Assembly on improving biodiversity in the Richmond Borough at York House, the home of Richmond Council, on Sunday 10th December. If any parents would like to attend the assembly and have their voice heard, they would be most welcome - sign up for a free place using this Eventbrite QR code. All of your wonderful art will also be exhibited at school in early January, to brighten our days once we return after the winter break. Watch this space!

1 in 4 species of animals, plants and fungi are at risk of extinction*, threatening the biological diversity of our planet.

WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT NATURE HAS NEVER BEEN MORE URGENT

That's why we're inviting Richmond residents to a Community Assembly to discuss:

"What more could be done in the borough to improve biodiversity - by the Council, by organisations, and by individuals?"

JOIN US

Sunday 10th December
2-5pm
York House, Twickenham

THIS IS A CHANCE TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD AND CONTRIBUTE TO LOCAL DEMOCRACY

For more information about community assemblies, see: <http://www.goodcoptothrive.org/community-assemblies>

* 28% of all assessed species are threatened with extinction, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

Scan here to register for your free place and find out more, or go to the eventbrite website:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk>
Search: richmond-community-assembly-tickets

We look forward to seeing you!

Good COP LET'S THRIVE
Organised by local branches of Extinction Rebellion, Friends of the Earth, and the Green Party.

RICHMOND

Friends of the Earth Richmond & Twickenham

Green Party

Sporting Celebrations

Girls' Football match v Deer Park (h) Monday 4th December

The girls played their first league match this season and despite illness and a depleted squad, we won 4-2
Scorers: Emily (2), Nelly and Isla

Boys' Football match v Deer Park (h) Thursday 7th December

The boys played well and won 3-1.
Scorers: Harrison, Zain and Spencer

Choir performance at Ham House

Thank you to our children and families for their wonderful singing of Christmas carols at Ham House last Sunday morning. It was a great start to the festive season for us all!



Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

Nursery....

Last week in Nursery we read the story 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea'. It's a classic which has been told for many years. The children have focused on friendships in the story and have been discussing whether the tiger would make a good friend. We also thought about the food in the story and we made our own cakes for a 'Tiger Tea Party'. We focused on the 't' sound and found objects starting with that sound. We have also learned the sound 'i' for iguana and 'n' for net.

This week Christmas has arrived in the Nursery as we decorated our tree and there is a naughty elf who keeps hiding around the classroom! We are busy learning our songs and actions for our Christmas concert!

Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

Year 2....

Bolt Class have really enjoyed the last few significant people in our project *Movers and Shakers*, learning all about the history of flight through Amelia Earhart and understanding what voting means through Emmeline Pankhurst.

We have been busy writing our own Christmas Eve story books, telling the story of the countdown to Christmas and exploring what the characters might be getting up to before the big day. Some excellent story telling!

Now we are practising our play which we are so looking forward to showing you- with singing, dancing and creating our costumes - it's going to be fantastic!

We have also enjoyed The Santa Dash today – a rather festive daily mile!



Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

Year 4....

Hello from Jenner Class! This week year four have been practising very hard their performance for this year's play. Their enthusiasm has been brilliant and has reflected in their creative writing. This week the children finished their persuasive writing topic that involved them persuading Alfie to go to the dentist. Their strong knowledge on teeth through our topic (Burps, Bottoms and Bile) made their letters very persuasive. The children are excited for their performance next week, as well as for the next stage of their Art 3D schedules project, which involves building.

Look What We Have Been Learning This Week...

Year 6....

Year 6 have been fully immersed in Christmas play practice this week. They have done so well to learn their lines and all of the songs and dances! They look forward (a little nervously) to showing you all their achievements next week! We are really proud of them. In between practices the children have been working out long division problems, which has been little challenging, and finishing off our *Hola Mexico* project. Today we took part in the daily mile Santa dash. We were full of festive cheer with our Santa hats and headgear!



Community News.....

New Beyond Fussy Eating programme available on SEND Local Offer

Refusing known and new foods is a normal stage of a child's development, often starting between 18 and 30 months of age and with most children growing out of it by 5 years-old.

But for some children, feeding becomes a persistent and serious problem which, if ignored, can lead to serious weight loss and nutritional deficiencies. These problems can include eating a very restrictive diet made up of a small number of foods, only eating foods which are a certain colour – for example 'beige foods' like cheese and pasta, chicken nuggets, chips and white bread – or food with a certain texture, or eating very small volumes of foods. It can also involve becoming highly anxious when asked to try new foods, and showing disgust or fear when presented with new foods.

Research shows that children on the autistic spectrum and those with developmental disabilities are much more likely to experience these problems. But help is at hand! There are tried and tested methods which can help children start to make steps in the right direction and these are presented in a new Beyond Fussy Eating programme, designed for parents and carers dealing with children who are extremely selective eaters and/or who may have little interest in food and eating. The programme will also help health, education and care staff who work with these children.

Beyond Fussy Eating consists of five modules covering: exploring feeding difficulties; mealtime strategies; learning about new foods; planning for changes; and a parent's perspective (video). It was developed by children's speech and language therapists at Your Healthcare CIC, whose expertise covers speech, language, communication and swallowing problems.

Take a look at the new programme using these links:

<https://kr.afcinfo.org.uk/pages/local-offer/information-and-advice/parenting-courses/beyond-fussy-eating>



NOW WITH ADDITIONAL DATES!

Meet Father Christmas!

An immersive magical adventure comes to life at the Landmark Arts Centre!

- Craft a special card for Father Christmas.
- Discover the Secret of the Reindeer.
- Meet Father Christmas and make it onto the Nice List.
- Receive a quality wooden toy to take home.
- Keep the magic alive with a secret surprise!



BOOK NOW

8,9,17,18

& 22 of DEC

TICKETS:

CHILDREN: £14.95

ADULTS £3.95

*children must be accompanied by an adult

All proceeds go to charity.



**LANDMARK
ARTS CENTRE**

Registered Charity No. 1047080

The Friends of Ham Library would like to invite you to a special Christmas Event

Ho! Ham! Ho!

**On Wednesday, 13 December 2023
At Ham Library - From: 3.15pm**



Programme is as follows:

- 3.15pm: Help decorate the tree and make a 'Festive Angel'
- 4.00: Visit from Santa and festive story time!
- 4.30: Christmas tree lights switched on

Followed by Christmas Carols with MAD STICK DOG
Refreshments and mince pies will be served

All are welcome to this free event!

No booking required.

For further information, please contact:

Ham Library on 020 8734 3354

or email friendsofhamlibrary@gmail.com

Ham Library, Ham Street, TW10 7HR



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

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
21.12.23	Final day of term. School finishes at 1.30pm
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!