



THE RUSSELL SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



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Headteacher's Update:

Dear Families,

I start this week's newsletter with a huge congratulations to all of our Year 6 children. Their attitude, work ethic and determination through this week's SATS exams has been commendable. A big thank you also to all the staff, governors and volunteers who assisted with the logistics of the week.

Apart from the SATS, we have had a busy couple of weeks across the school, with Year 1 visiting the farm, Year 2 visiting the London Aquarium, Year 5 visiting Hampton Court and Year 3 visiting the Richmond Synagogue and Gunnersbury Park. Again, thank you to all the volunteers who have supported with these trips.

As part of this weekend's *Petersham Open Gardens* event, the PTA will be selling ice creams and hot dogs at the front of the school on Sunday. Please do pop down and support. It's bound to be a fantastic, sunny day.

With the sun in mind, please can I remind everyone to ensure their children apply sunscreen before coming into school? In addition, please make sure your children have a sun hat and a water bottle so that they can enjoy their playtimes and lunchtimes safely and comfortably.

As we move towards the end of another half term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Mrs Chadwick and Mrs Bridges who will be leaving us at the end of the academic year. Mrs Chadwick is going to enjoy some well-earned time with her family and Mrs Bridges is going to university to study for a degree in social work. We are also saying goodbye to Natalie who is a much-loved member of the catering team. Thank you all for being part of the team!

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend and I hope to see you on Sunday for an ice cream!

Laura Brooks

Nursery

The Nursery have been reading books about growing. We have been thinking about what plants need to help them grow and talking about the parts of a plant- roots, stem and leaves. We have read 'The Tiny Seed' and we planted cress which is starting to grow! This week we have been reading 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and have planted our own 'magic beans'. I wonder if they will grow into beanstalks? We have made a beanstalk in our classroom and Jack has climbed to the top!



Reception

Reception have enjoyed learning about things that move! In previous weeks, we have focussed on boats and aeroplanes, and this week it is buses. We all talked about the bus journeys we take and where we have been on buses. We absolutely loved our book of the week, **The Hundred Decker Bus by Mike Smith**, and have used our imagination to draw our own buses with multiple decks. We then applied our phonics to write sentences about them. We have also been busy designing our own vehicles. We first decided if we wanted our vehicle to go in the air, water or on a road. We then drew our design, labelling key parts and then made vehicles, following our plans carefully. Next week we will present our work to our friends and think about if we want to make any changes.



Year 1

It has been an exciting couple of weeks in Year 1 with a trip to the farm! We went on a tractor ride, fed the animals, saw newborn animals and even watched a pig race! In class, we have also been busy writing an advert for our 'perfect pet,' inspired by the book 'WANTED: The Perfect Pet'. We had lots of fun exploring what might make a perfect pet. In maths we have been busy exploring numbers to 100 and have been using practical methods to support place value number knowledge. In geography, we have been exploring world maps, continents and oceans.



Year 2

It's been another busy and exciting two weeks in Year 2!

We had a wonderful trip to the Sea Life Centre. The children were full of curiosity and loved seeing sea creatures up close. Back in the classroom, the children have been busy publishing their own stories, and we're so proud of their fantastic writing! Look out for these coming home.

In science, we have explored local habitats by heading outside for an invertebrate investigation and the children also created amazing habitat shoeboxes – such imagination and effort on display! In maths, we've been learning more about fractions, including three quarters and recognising that two quarters is the same as one half, great progress all round. In history, we've been comparing seaside holidays from the past and present. What do you think would have been more fun: donkey rides and deckchairs or arcades and ice cream? Finally, there's a real buzz in the air as we start getting ready for our upcoming **"Seaside /Beach Afternoon"**, details to come soon!



Year 3

What a lovely fortnight it has been. We have enjoyed a fantastic trip to Gunnersbury Park Museum to take part in a fantastic workshop, learning all about the Romans. We have continued our book in English - *Escape from Pompeii*, and have been thinking about how the people of Pompeii felt when Mount Vesuvius erupted. In art we have been sketching some of the cast bodies discovered so many years after the eruption. Well done for another fantastic week Year 3.



Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic couple of weeks since the bank holiday! The children have continued to work very hard in preparation for our upcoming multiplication tables check, on top of learning all about mixed numbers and improper fractions in maths. In English, we have begun to look at a variety of fairy tales and their features, and the children are very excited to write their own! This will tie in nicely with our DT project, where we will use paper mechanisms to create an interactive story book. Well done for all your hard work this week Year 4!

Year 5

After the bank holiday, we've squeezed in another busy couple of weeks in Year 5! We have been learning all about the infamous Henry VIII, his six wives and how the Tudors came about following the Battle of Bosworth. We have put ourselves in the role of a journalist writing a newspaper article as if we were there witnessing the historic event. In science, we have been learning about the life cycle of plants and how they reproduce. We have been taking our own geranium cuttings and observing how they develop and flourish over time. Thank you to Gabi's mum for sourcing our new planter...perfect timing for our cuttings!



Year 6

We did it! SATS are in the bag! The children's positivity, enthusiasm and resilience has been incredible this past fortnight. They all showed great independence through their revision and organisation skills. Now, the class will continue to develop their maturity and resilience as we prepare for Isle of Wight!





Art work by Ben, Year 6

We are delighted to announce that Gibson Lane will be sponsoring our Russell Rocks Summer Festival on Friday, 27th June 2025! 🎸 Their generous support includes estate agent advertising boards, with each board sponsored for £15, contributing to an impressive total of £750 for up to 50 boards.

To participate, please fill in your address in the form below:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf0YxDxzRtyhBS03PhpRcLMkWkzggw6wXfz6OaAf1EfxV6IQQ/viewform?usp=dialog>

Gibson Lane will ensure the boards are installed approximately two to three weeks prior to the festival and will take them down about one week afterward.

Lastly, please double-check that your properties are permitted to have an estate agent board put up before signing up!

Thank you for your continued support!



Seminar date: 06.06.25

**Start and finish times:
9.30am to 2.15pm**

**Venue name: Grand
Avenue Primary School**

**Venue address: Grand
Avenue, Surbiton**

Venue postcode: KT5 9HU

About the Seminar

'Managing Anger' is one of the Autism Seminars for Families which provides information and advice to parents and carers of children and young people with autism. This is a face to face seminar.

The Seminar will help families to:

- > discuss why children with autism often have challenges with distressed behaviour and anger
- > identify a low arousal approach for support through stressful situations
- > explore the cycle of anger and possible support strategies
- > examine strategies for managing feelings.

Seminar cost?

Families can book a 'Managing Anger' seminar place for £5 (cash please) each, which includes a full resource pack of useful information, advice and support guidelines. This seminar is delivered by a seminar facilitator using materials they have bought from The National Autistic Society.

Light refreshments will be provided, but please bring your own lunch.

How to book a place

Please complete the registration form by following this link –

<https://forms.gle/ziakGPN2AmMDz2Au8>

or contact the seminar facilitator below for more information.

Name: Jane Pidduck

Email: jpiddu2@grandavenue.kingston.sch.uk

Telephone: 020 8399 5344

As places are limited please only book a place if you are able to attend and let me know ASAP if you know that you can no longer attend, so that I can give that place to someone else.



Wednesday 16th July 2025

9.30am to 2.15pm

**Grand Avenue Primary and
Nursery School, Grand
Avenue, Surbiton, KT5 9HU**

About the Seminar

'Understanding Autism' is one of the Autism Seminars for Families which provides information and advice to parents and carers of children who have received a diagnosis of autism or are on the pathway for an assessment of autism.

The seminar will help families to:

- > develop an understanding of autism
- > discuss experiences of getting a diagnosis
- > identify how autism can affect families
- > explore practical ideas for developing communication strategies

Seminar cost?

Families can book a place on the 'Understanding Autism' seminar for £5 (cash please) each, which includes a full resource pack of useful information, advice and support guidelines.

Light refreshments will be provided, but please bring your own lunch.

How to book a place

Please complete the registration form by following this link –

<https://forms.gle/mqQZWDoKpww4WuDVZ>

or contact the seminar facilitator below for more information.

Name: **Jane Pidduck**

Email: **jpiddu2@grandavenue.kingston.sch.uk**

Telephone: **020 8399 5344**

As places are limited please only book a place if you are able to attend and let me know ASAP if you know that you can no longer attend, so that I can give that place to someone else.

Pre and Post Diagnosis SEND Support Team

Supporting Families with children 0-19 years with SEND



Coffee morning!

Grab a hot drink, have a chat and meet the team.



"very good service"
Parent A



"gave informative and practical advice and support"
Parent B

Where?	When?	What time?
Grow Baby, 38 Surbiton Rd, Kingston Upon Thames, KT1 2JR	Monday 9th June 2025	10:00 am till 12:00 am

To access this service your child must be on the pathway for an assessment/diagnosis or have received a diagnosis. Also, they must live within the Kingston or Richmond Borough or have a GP in either borough.

*your*healthcare

sendsupport@yourhealthcare.org

Richmond **Dyslexia** Association

Do you have a child with **dyslexia**?

Do you think your child might be **dyslexic**?

Come and join local parents for support and advice
at our coffee morning
on
4th July from 9 to 11am.



We meet informally, no need to book.

Upstairs at Pret A Manger.

37 Lower George St, Richmond TW9 1HU

www.richmond dyslexia.org.uk



Ham Lego Club

Explore your creativity with Lego and become a master builder

Everyone loves making things with Lego! Design and build amazing creations and take part in fun Lego challenges. Lego Club is great way to meet new friends, share tips and show off building skills. Lego will be provided, so just bring your ideas and enthusiasm.

Children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Open to children of all ages. Free drop-in event.

Starts January 2024.

Second Saturday of the month

2.00pm – 3.30pm

Ham Library

Ham Street, Ham

TW10 7HR



For more information please visit
www.richmond.gov.uk/libraries



FILM & CRAFT

SATURDAY EVENT

31st May 2025

1.30 - 3.30PM

Ham Library

Ham Street

TW10 7HR

020 8734 3354

Join us for an afternoon of Film & Craft fun at Ham Library. With a family film, paired with a matching themed craft event.



Please Register An Interest

Suitable for children: 3 years+

Adults to stay with children at all times



The Friends of Ham Library

B SHARP STUDIOS
PRESENTS

ROCKBAND PROJECT

A FUN-FILLED PROGRAM DESIGNED TO
INTRODUCE CHILDREN TO THE EXCITING
WORLD OF ROCK MUSIC



SAVE THE DATE

HAM FAIR SATURDAY 14TH JUNE 2025 HAM COMMON,

11:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

- Free to attend popular and busy community event
- Held annually in June; has been running for over 40 years
 - Dog Show
 - Live Bands
- Local school performances
 - Childrens rides
 - Vintage vehicles
 - Over 140 stalls
- Antiques; books; bric-a-brac; clothes; gifts; toys; vintage & much much more!
 - Hot and cold food stalls
- Many other attractions – something for everyone.



NOTICEBOARD

Upcoming dates

18.5.25	Petersham Open Gardens ice cream sale at The Russell
19.5.25	Year 1 Barnes Childrens' Literary Festival visit
20.5.25	Year 3 Barnes Childrens' Literary Festival visit
23.5.25	Whole School Class Photos
23.5.25	Year 1 Class Assembly Last day of half term
2.6.25	Children return to school Year 6 to Isle of Wight Year 4 Multiplication Check week
9.6.25	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check week Year 5 Rose Theatre Childrens' Literary Festival visit
12.6.25	Bounceathon
13.6.25	Year 6 Isle of Wight assembly 9.00am
14.6.25	Ham Fair
17.6.25	International Day
27.6.25	Russell Rocks and Summer Fair
3.7.25	Year 4 to Thames Young Mariners
8.7.25	Year 3 create day
9.7.25	Year 4 – 6 production (afternoon performance 1.45pm)
10.7.25	Whole school transition morning Yr 4 – 6 Evening production
11.7.25	Sports Day morning
17.7.25	Leavers' evening
18.7.25	Last day of term

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!