



THE RUSSELL SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND SCHOOL CALENDAR



Dear Families,

Thank you to all of the Year 1 – 6 families who joined us this week for our Parent / Carer and teacher meetings. We hope you enjoyed looking through your children's books and talking to their teachers about successes and next steps. Our book fair has been a great success. There is such a love of reading across the school and as you'll see from the photo above, our children will read anywhere!

For those of you who come into school via the front entrance, you will have seen our new orchard; the planting of which was the culmination of our Year 3 and 5 history-led project *Mapping Yddgrasil*. Yddgrasil is an important feature of Norse mythology. It is the Norse tree of life, encompassing all nine worlds that are part of the ancient Norse view of the cosmos. This immersive day of discovery dovetailed into the children's learning about the Viking era and all the trees which have been planted in the orchard link back to Viking times. In planting the trees, the children have become part of the history of The Russell School. Have a look at the photos below.

Please do spread the word to friends and family about the upcoming Camp Beaumont holiday clubs. The more children who attend, the more likely it is that the holiday clubs will continue into the summer and beyond. Remember we have a discount code. Prices are as low as £40 per day when you book for the entire week or £45 for individual days. Please ensure that you quote our host school discount code at checkout (TRS25) and receive a further 10% off these prices. Do not miss this fantastic opportunity and secure your place now on www.campbeaumont.co.uk.

From Monday 24th March to Friday 4th April, we will be taking part in *Walk and Wheel Fortnight*. On each day of the challenge, schools compete to see who can get the highest percentage of their pupils walking, using a wheelchair, scooting or cycling to school. Our school's best five days will determine our final position, with prizes up for grabs. Please do support us with this by leaving cars at home or at some distance from the school.

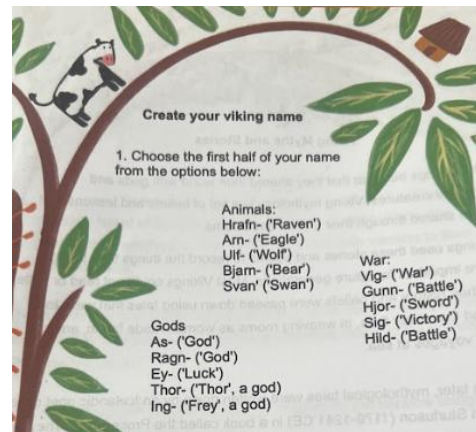
On Friday 4th April we will hold our annual Easter Egg raffle and Spring Hat competition! If your child would like to take part in the hat competition, they will need to decorate or make a spring - themed hat and bring it into school on Friday 4th April.

To take part in the Easter Egg raffle, the children will need to purchase a ticket from their class teacher next week. Tickets will go on sale from Monday 24th at 20p each with a maximum of 10 tickets (£2) per child. Tickets will not be available from the school office. The raffle will take place during school time.

Wishing you all a restful and sunny weekend,

Laura Brooks

Bringing History to Life!



I liked it when we designed our own creatures because we could do absolutely anything and make them do anything. Oliver, Year 3

I liked it when we made the offerings for the birds. I liked the mealworms!

Daisy Year 3



Rooting ourselves into the history of the school!



It was an exhilarating day with lots of new experiences. It's made me think more about the environment and climate change.

Diaz, Year 6

Sporting Updates

This Monday (17th March) there was an exciting football match against Meadlands Primary. The score was 1-0 (goal scorer Olive). Though there were chances for a higher lead, we are still pleased with the result. We did not get to the knockouts; but we still ended with a win! Potentially, friendly matches coming soon, further information will be provided soon.

Written by Sports Captains: Oliver, Olive and Percy

Nursery

The last two weeks we have been reading 'Superworm' by Julia Donaldson and learning all about worms. We have been digging in mud and sand for worms and treasure. We have made many different worms using paint, printing and collage. We also tested our fine motor skills by winding wool around card. We have cooked pastry worms and talked about long and short. We have also loved singing 'Ten Fat Sausages' and practising our counting skills. The children have made the most of the sunny weather we have been having recently and are enjoying being outside exploring our mud kitchen, sand pit and bikes. We are looking out for signs of Spring as we move into late March and April.

We loved planting our apple tree last week and will be excited to watch it grow and change.



Reception

This week Reception has been focusing on the life cycle of the frog. We have been reading the book, **Tadpole's Promise** by **Jeanne Willis** and have been discussing how one of the main characters, the shiny black pearl, has been changing with the seasons. We talked about all the physical changes we have observed whilst watching time-lapse videos of frogspawn turning into tadpoles and have been impressed with how the gills help tadpoles to breathe underwater. We have also been fascinated with how well formed the limbs of a froglet are and how the cycle starts again as the frog matures. We made our own frogspawn using chia seeds and made our own frog lifecycles, labelling them using our phonic knowledge. We can't wait to visit our very own Russell School pond next week to see if we have any tadpole friends!



Year 1

We have had a very exciting couple of weeks and the children have worked extremely hard. To help us learn about London, we have been reading the book 'The Queen's Hat'. We then re-wrote the story to make it our own and to help us learn about our local area, the hat travelled all the way around Ham. The children were extremely proud of their writing and I hope you enjoyed reading their stories at home. To finish off the week, we have had a tea party today where we created a map of London and learnt all about the Union Jack flag.

Year 2

We have had a busy week in Year 2 recognising and counting money in maths. The children have really enjoyed writing stories about giants in English and coming up with some creative problems and solutions for their characters along the way! We had a lovely PSHE lesson where the children made friendship flowers to display in our book corner. Well done Year 2!



Year 3

Wow, what a fantastic fortnight we have had! We had a wonderful day filled with creative activities based all around the Viking tree of life, Yggdrasil. This prepared us well for planting our very own tree in the school's new orchard. We then enjoyed a trip to the Royal Festival Hall too see the London Philharmonic Orchestra perform the music to the film of The Snail and the Whale. This week we have been practising for our class assembly on the Ancient Egyptians and I have been so impressed with the teamwork. Well done Year 3 and have a great weekend!

Year 4

What a lovely couple of weeks Year 4 have had! We finished last week with our class assembly all about Ham House, which was fabulous! We are so proud of their hard work and dedication, both in class and on stage! This week in English, we have been preparing to publish instructions in our orange books. In maths, we have been learning all about coordinates and translations. We took advantage of the good weather by creating a grid on the playground, and the children had a go at plotting themselves at different coordinates. It was lovely to see so many parents over the last few evenings, thank you all for your time!

Year 5

Once again, another fun filled fortnight in Year 5! Firstly thank you so much to our guests for the amazing Yggdrasil and tree planting experience - so enriching and enjoyable. In our own history topic, we have been learning all about the historical events of the sinking of the 'unsinkable' ship, the Titanic. We have been considering some of the reasons why – on that fateful night – the ship sank. We have been debating the procedures for evacuation and learning about the changes in maritime safety since then. In our geography, we have been thinking about the passage to New York and comparing the human and physical features to our own great cities. We have been working hard practising for our Singing Festival at the Rose Theatre too!



Year 6

The past fortnight has been very busy for Year 6, as we have just completed our mock SATs and what a brilliant job they all did. The children were very relaxed and focused with smiles all around. Alongside the exams, we have been busy drafting informal letters, in character, to our parents – telling them all about the true realities of life at Camp Green Lake. We have been focusing on informal language and using appropriate punctuation in our writing. During our art lessons, we have been exploring various artists' techniques and have been busy applying those artistic skills in our work.

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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 Shows
 - 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

21.3.25	Walk and wheel fortnight
28.3.25	Nursery bake sale
2.4.25	Year 5 Rose Theatre for Singing Festival
04.4.25	Year 5 Class Assembly (9:00am) Last Day (finish at 1:45pm)
22.4.25	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!