

# Rusthall St Paul's Primary

## School Newsletter



Edition 2 – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

### School News

Another fantastic week at Rusthall and the cooler weather has been a real help! We started the week with a visit from Reverend Ronnie who led our collective worship linked to Education Sunday. We also had a special visit from Fiona who runs the Choir at St Paul's church and is hoping that some of our lovely children might like to join – no singing expertise required!

I have been in to every class this week and the children have been working very hard. I have even had the privilege of having children sent up to me to show me their amazing work 😊 I hope the children are sharing their learning with you at home as they are making a great start to the new academic year.

**Mrs Smurthwaite**

**Head of School**

### Events and Dates

<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September</b>	FORS welcome to all new reception parents – please see class dojo for further details
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	Meet the teacher Week – individual class details to be added to class dojo. Talks will be in classrooms at 2.30 while the children are in Worship and pick will remain at the normal time.
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Emergency Fire Procedure practise – teachers will be talking to the children about why we need to practise and what to do so that no-one is worried by this.
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b>	Harvest – details to follow
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Flu Vaccinations
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Lockdown Practise – it is a statutory requirement that schools practise what to do in an emergency e.g. if a dog got onto the school grounds. We will be talking to the children about what we do and making sure that no-one is worried or upset by these practises.
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Individual Photos
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Proposed Open Morning for Reception families 2024
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>End of Term 1</b>

### Parent Voice

Being new to Rusthall, I want to get a really clear picture of the things that we want to work on moving forwards. In school I have been in classes this week looking at learning and I have been getting feedback from the children and staff.

It is really important to me that I hear from the parents and carers of Rusthall pupils so that I can identify the strengths and also any issues that need to be looked at.

Please see below a link to a SurveyMonkey which has 10 questions with options and spaces for additional comments. Please let me know how you view things, both positive and negative. It would be great if as many people as possible could fill it in, it should only take a few minutes.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WHd89HK>

### Inspire MAT support and training

This week we had a joint staff meeting with another school from Inspire where the teachers learned about the values that underpin our curriculum. They are academic excellence – making sure every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential, character – developing the whole child and giving them the skills to be well rounded members of society, learning to learn – understanding the different ways that we learn and creating a toolbox of skills and personalisation – tailoring learning to the individual. We will be working on how these values are embedded in the curriculum and the wider life of the school.

### Scooters and Bikes - Safety

Please can I remind families that scooters and bikes should not be ridden on the playground. There are lots of people to navigate and small children around and so for safety reasons, we ask that they are pushed into and out of school.

Thank you for your support.



### School Dinners

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to Free School Meals under the Government's universal Free School Meal system.

All pupils in Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 will have to pay for school dinners (unless entitled to Free School meals).

If your circumstances have changed and you feel you may be entitled to Free School Meals please [click here](#) to see if you are eligible and apply online. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils may also be entitled to Free School Meals under this scheme – which entitles the school to additional funds and can also result in additional benefits to the family throughout the year.

If you are already in receipt of Free School Meals there is no need to reapply.

### Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

On 29<sup>th</sup> September we will be holding our first Macmillan Coffee Afternoon. Rochester and Durham class will be organising this and will be writing to you soon.

If this charity affects yourself or a member of your family, please do let school know so that we can deal with this sensitively in the classroom.

### Support for families from Children's Centre's

Please click here for the [Tunbridge Wells Children's Centres - SWAY for this week](#), showing you everything we have going on at the Children's Centres and within the District along with lots of useful information for you and your family.

### CELEBRATIONS!

**Reading Stars:** York Class – Esme, Winchester Class – Ivy G, Exeter Class – Grace, Durham Class – Hayley, Rochester Class – John

**Golden Book:** York Class – Bonnie and Teddy, Winchester Class – Isabella and Andrea, Exeter Class – Johnny and Charlie B, Durham Class – Alfie C and Ethan, Rochester Class – Alfie S and Bea

**House point winners:** St Georges

**Weekly Attendance winners:** Rochester Class



### New Email Addresses

Miss Collis – [jcollis@inspiream.org.uk](mailto:jcollis@inspiream.org.uk)

Miss Beasley – [lbeasley@inspiream.org.uk](mailto:lbeasley@inspiream.org.uk)

Mr Harris – [sharris@inspiream.org.uk](mailto:sharris@inspiream.org.uk)

Miss Meakins – [gmeakins@inspiream.org.uk](mailto:gmeakins@inspiream.org.uk)

Mrs Brown – [jbrown1@inspiream.org.uk](mailto:jbrown1@inspiream.org.uk)

Miss Williamson – [bwilliamson@inspiream.org.uk](mailto:bwilliamson@inspiream.org.uk)

Miss Sheldrake – [ssheldrake@inspiream.org.uk](mailto:ssheldrake@inspiream.org.uk)

Mrs Mackintosh – [hmackintosh@inspiream.org.uk](mailto:hmackintosh@inspiream.org.uk)

Mrs Smurthwaite –

[rusthallheadofschool@inspiream.org.uk](mailto:rusthallheadofschool@inspiream.org.uk)

School office – [Rusthalloffice@inspiream.org.uk](mailto:Rusthalloffice@inspiream.org.uk)

(Please continue to use dojo as the primary point of contact but emails are here if needed.)

### School Uniform

For our new families and a general reminder: WINTER (from the Rusthall School Policy)

Grey school skirt or tunic, grey school-type trousers  
White cotton shirt – long or short sleeve but should be buttoned up to the top and not open neck.

St Paul's School Tie (available from the school office)

St Paul's School jumper or St Paul's School cardigan (available to buy on line). No other navy cardigans or tops are permitted.

Grey, Navy or Black tights or plain socks

Plain black shoes or school type sandals with full toe (please note that trainers are not allowed for school)

### York Class

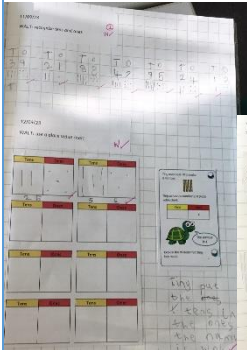
This week York have been continuing to learn about materials. We have thought about how they look and feel. Our text this week has been The Three Little Pigs. We have been learning to retell the story and thinking about what the characters say. Year 1 have been developing their vocabulary using language such as rigid, transparent, opaque and absorbent.

#### ATTENDANCE

This Week: 96.88%

This Year:  
98.47%

### Winchester Class



We have had another super week in Winchester class. In maths, we have continued to learn about the number of tens and ones in 2 digit numbers and we have continued our learning about 2D shape.



In science, we are learning about food chains and we have started to create our own examples of food chains. We look forward to next week!

This Week: 95.31%  
This Year: 92.79%

### Exeter Class

Exeter class have been getting to grips with apostrophes, which can be tricky. For some of the children their literacy skills and presentation of work has improved almost on a daily basis! We have also been going back in time and comparing the stone age with the iron age; pretty soon we will travel a bit more forwards and hit the Roman and Viking periods.

This Week: 91.81%  
This Year: 92.19%

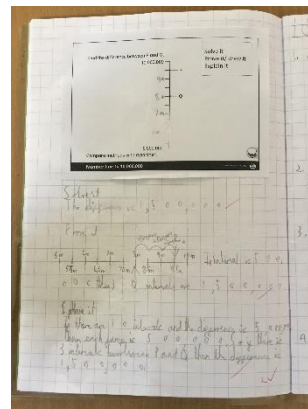
### Durham Class

Another excellent week in Durham this week. The Year 6 children got to participate in their first Forest School session, which they thoroughly enjoyed. They experimented with natural resources to create pieces of art and also learnt how to thread string to create a God's Eye. Whilst this was happening, the Year 5 children had their first hockey lesson and demonstrated some excellent control using their hockey sticks. They tackled dribbling around different obstacles and challenged themselves to increase their speed whilst dribbling the ball accurately. In English, the children blew me away with their retells of the first chapter of our text 'Floodland.' They focused on using adverbials of time and conjunctions to join clauses. They also demonstrated skills in writing in role using the four sentence types.

This Week: 96.05%  
This Year: 96.49%

### Rochester Class

We have dived straight into maths this term and are currently exploring the effects of place value on the value of a digit. We have also thought carefully about how to use our reasoning skills to problem solve and prove our answers. Take a look at our fabulous maths.



It was also our first forest school session this week and as you can see we really enjoyed the mud kitchen!

This Week:  
97.5%

This Year: 95%

