

Rusthall St Paul's Primary School Newsletter



Edition 10 – 17th November 2023

School News

It has been lovely to see so many children with their Pudsey ears and spotty clothes and faces in support of Children in Need. There have been some really innovative ways of getting spotty this year which was great to see. Thank you for supporting this fantastic charity. This week we have started our preparations for the Christmas festivities at Rusthall and the performances that we will be doing to families. KS2 have started their carol singing and are practicing the songs that we will be singing on the 2nd December in the village. KS1 have started to learn their words – please help your children by practising with them at home too. Next week the KS2 children will be bringing home reading records. Please listen to your children read daily and use the reading record as a way of sharing successes and difficulties with the class teacher. KS1 will continue to record using Dojo. I will be at the autumn fayre at the church centre on Saturday and it would be lovely to see you all there too! Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Smurthwaite
Head of School

Events and Dates

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| Monday 30th October | Start of Term 2 |
| Saturday 18th November | Rusthall St Paul's Church Autumn Fayre |
| Monday 20th November | Christine McInnes, Kent Director of Education, visiting Rusthall for a tour of the school |
| Thursday 23rd November | Mrs Smurthwaite out – please contact Miss Sheldrake in my absence |
| Wednesday 29th November | High Hopes Collective Worship |
| Friday 1st December | FORS Break the Rules Day |
| Saturday 2nd December | Village Christmas Fete |
| Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th December | KS1 Nativity |
| Monday 11th December | KS2 Carol Concert |
| Tuesday 12th December | Inspire Academy Movement Trust Carol Concert (evening including Rusthall) |
| Friday 15th December | END OF TERM |

Christmas Lunches

Please make sure you use your parent pay account to order the Christmas dinner for this year. We need all orders by **Friday 24th November** at the latest in order for the catering company to be able to facilitate the number of orders.

Christmas Cards

FORS kindly organised for the children to design their own Christmas cards. These will be coming home next week with a web address and QR code for you to be able to order your own copies. Make sure you order quickly to make sure you get them in time for Christmas.

KS1 Nativity

We have **only had 18 responses** to the doodle poll so far. Please mark your availability for the performances. I have provisionally booked 2 performances – Wednesday 6th December at 2pm and Thursday 7th December at 9.30am.

<https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/boOm8zAb>

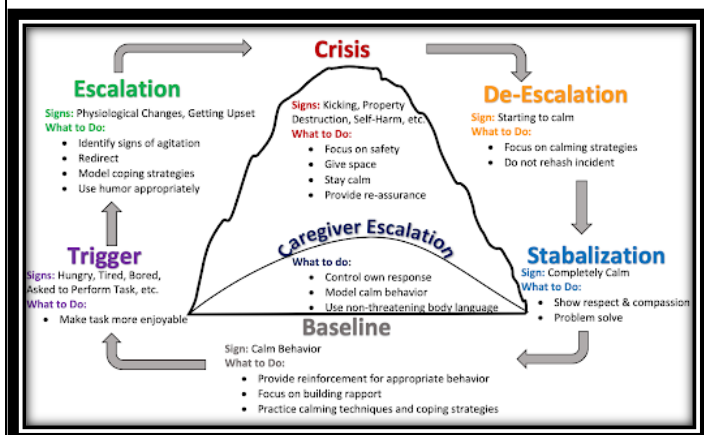
KS2 Carol Concert

We have only had 12 responses to the doodle poll.

This year the carol concert for KS2 will be held on Monday 11th December in the morning. I would appreciate your help by using the poll so that we can get things in place. Thank you!

<https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/egkKgmle>

Staff Development and Training



This week our staff development was based around the principles of de-escalation. Globally there is a far better understanding around the idea that children's behaviour is communication and that when they are at the peak of an emotion, they are not in a position to be able have rational conversations. As adults, we all have ways of processing our emotions and we know what we need to be able to calm. However children need support with this and we have been developing our range of approaches.

We thought carefully about how behaviour can be caused, escalated and stabilised. In the moment it is not about consequence or sanction, but safety and well-being. This does not mean that behaviour is accepted but consequence is discussed at the appropriate time for all so that everyone understands what happened.

#EasyFundraising



Now that we are well into the Christmas shopping season we are asking each and everyone of you, who shops online, to do so via EASYFUNDRAISING. This costs you absolutely nothing! You simply download the app. You can also set up your phone so you get donation reminders.

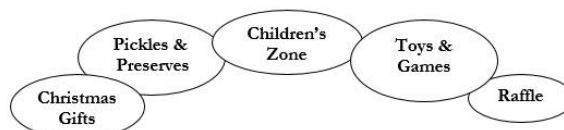
Lots of our supporters have left the school now so we are particularly keen on those who have just joined us or those with younger children. PLEASE get on board with this. We are soon going to be spending a HUGE amount of money on replacing the playground equipment so everyone can help if you shop online.

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/rusthallstpauls/?utm_source=whatsapp&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-wa1

Or simply scan the QR code above

Thank you and happy shopping!

The FORS team ☺



St Paul's Church, Rusthall

Autumn Fayre

Saturday 18th November

CHURCH CENTRE & URC HALL

10am to 2pm

**Admission £1
Children Free Admission**

COFFEE, TEA AND LUNCHES



Village Christmas Fete

On Saturday 2nd December, Rusthall St Pauls CE Primary School have a 15 minute slot where they will be performing Christmas Carols. We would like as many KS2 children to attend as possible. A permission slip for this will be coming out shortly so that we know how many children to expect. I hope that we will see lots of you there to cheer us on!

Trust Carol Concert

On Tuesday 12th December, the Trust will be holding a carol concert at Sevenoaks school in the evening. Everyone who attends choir will be able to perform. Permission letters will be sent out next week.

Reception Admissions 2024 Information

If you have a child who is due to start school in September 2024 you will need to apply for a place (even if they already have a sibling at school). Applications will need to be submitted to the borough in which you pay your council tax.

If you are a resident in KCC you will need to complete an online form. Applications are open from Friday 3rd November to Monday 15th January 2024. Further information and key dates can be found by [clicking here](#).

CELEBRATIONS!

Head Pupils: Flora and Jacob

Reading Stars: York Class – , Winchester Class – Lyla, Exeter Class – Tabassum, Durham Class – Flora, Rochester Class – Lola

Golden Book: York Class –and, Winchester Class –Darcie and Ivy G, Exeter Class – Joe D and Tielle, Rochester – Alexavier and Iyla, Durham –Hayley and Tyron

House point winners: with 297 points this week – St Andrews

Weekly Attendance winners: York class are the first class in 3 weeks to get over 90% and achieved 94.48%! Well done York Class.



Forest School

We had a lovely, rainy session in the woods today. The children remembered the rules from last time and remembered how to stay safe at forest school. The children lit mini fires to warm their fingers. They learnt about willow and it's uses and then made bows and arrows, which then led into a wonderful game. Some of the children had a go at using a clove hitch knot to tie their string to their bows. We finished with a warm drink and gave thanks to the woodland during our sit spot.

York Class



In York Class we have had a very busy week. In English we have become budding authors writing a new book "We're going on a Mr Day Hunt". Year 1 have written the story and published their writing to make each page and Reception have been drawing illustrations. Today we started our new English unit - instructions. We began with our hook lesson - we followed a set of pictorial instructions to make our very own jam sandwiches. In RE we have begun to look at the nativity story. We have heard different versions and have identified key events in the story. Year 1 have been acting out the story and creating freeze frames to show the main parts. We have also begun to learn some new songs which we can't wait to share with you at our Nativity performance.



ATTENDANCE

This Week: 94.48 %
This Year: 93.02%

Winchester Class



This week has been very busy. In cricket, we worked on our catching skills and being able to keep our hands together. We had to follow the ball with our eyes to allow for accurate catching. The children have been working hard in maths as we are working on subtracting and being able to exchange one ten for ten ones. They have persevered with this and are really making progress. We

have started to learn the songs for our nativity and the class have all been given a script to go and learn their lines. The children are already excited!



This Week: 86.36 %
This Year: 92.79%

Exeter Class

This week we have been discussing going the extra mile to be kind. All week Exeter class have been looking out for acts of kindness by other children in Exeter class, and wrote each act we noticed onto a 'kindness strip'. We then attached them all together to make a paper chain. By Wednesday we had over 50 kindness strips in our paper chain, and by the end of the week we had 128! We can't list them all but would love to share just a few:

This Week: 82.86%
This Year: 91.11%



Leo saw Olly M check on Oliver T when Oliver was hurt. Kaiden helped Charlie W solve a problem in Maths. Teo offered to share his colours with Joe. At Forest School Martha noticed Olly ask if he could play, and Leo said yes. Grace saw Daniel and Henry playing nicely together at break. Charlie B helped Tabassum log onto Times Tables Rockstars. Esme noticed Daisy P offer to help Martha move Martha's name up on the reading chart. Hattie helped Lacey with her work. Kaiden wrote that Joe was being kind to him. Bella noticed Tabassum pick up Charlie W's pencil and give it to him when he dropped it.



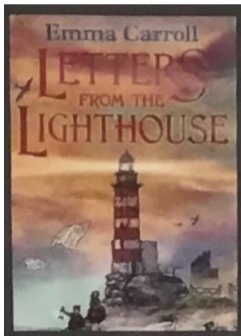
In English we have published our news articles with professional headlines, subheadings, photo captions, interviews, and concluding statements; and in Maths we have continued working on our times tables and have been practicing multiplication and division facts.

Durham

Another excellent week in Durham this week! In History, we built on our knowledge of the Prime Ministers during World War 2 and the impact they had on Britain succeeding in the war. The children wrote some fantastic speeches in role as Neville Chamberlain declaring the beginning of the war. They then explored the change in leadership from Chamberlain to Churchill and how this affected the attitudes and approach to the war. The children compared the ways in which both of these leaders were portrayed and even thought about what they would have done in their position. In English, we have been building on our knowledge of semi colons and colons and how these can be used within writing. I was absolutely astounded by the children's writing and how effectively they implemented this writing skill.

This Week: 87.37%
This Year: 93.37%

Rochester



We have fully immersed ourselves in the story of two children who were evacuated to Budmouth point. Their mother has signed them up for voluntary evacuation and sent them to live in the safety of a quiet, rural village with their sister's pen friend. Or so she thinks. Sukie's pen friend was not Queenie; the quick sand and stray bombs are not safe; and the impending demolitions of the lighthouse means the village is not quiet. Plus, there is the added extra of secret codes, missing logbook entries and socks- lots of socks! In English we are writing a formal persuasive letter to prevent the coastguard demolishing the lighthouse. He thinks it is leading the Germans to

London but little does he know it is getting others to much needed safety. Although a fictional story, we have been able to draw parallels between the experiences of real evacuees and make links to other key events in WW11. In history, our journey has taken us from the causes of WW11, to the change of Prime Minister and on to the impact this had on the home front. We are thoroughly enjoying our book, Letters from the lighthouse, and asking and answering questions about WW11.

This Week: 84.01%
This Year: 94.40%