

Rusthall St Paul's Primary School Newsletter



Edition 13 – 8th December 2023

School News

It has been a very busy week at Rusthall St Pauls CE Primary School with all of the Christmas festivities getting into full swing. I was so impressed with reception and KS1 and their production of 'It's a Miracle'. They worked exceptionally hard to remember all their lines and deliver their lines with volume and intonation. They should be very proud of their achievements. Thank you to all the families who came to support the children and I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. I am really looking forward to watching the Key Stage 2 Carol concert on Monday with as many of our families who can make it.

A group of Key Stage 2 children also went up to the local pre-school to sing Christmas songs to them. After that they went on to lunch club at the church centre and blew away members of the local community with their beautiful singing. Thank you to Miss Collis for organising this and escorting the children.

It is a busy final week with lots of events so please do get in touch if you have any questions at all.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Smurthwaite
Head of School

Events and Dates

Monday 30th October	Start of Term 2
Monday 11th December	KS2 Carol Concert @ School
Tuesday 12th December	Elfridges Inspire Academy Movement Trust Carol Concert (evening including Rusthall)
Wednesday 13th December	Whole school trip to the Panto!
Thursday 14th December	Christmas Lunch and Christmas jumper day
Friday 15th December	END OF TERM



ELFRIDGES!

Next week on Tuesday, the children will come in their classes to 'Elfridges' to choose gifts to wrap and take home for their loved ones.

The link to book for this is below. If you have already booked online, there is no need to print tickets - we can see who has booked and what you have ordered.

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fors-fundraising/index.cfm>

The booking system will close at midday on Saturday 9th. If you haven't booked then please book before then.

We thank all of you for your generous donations and purchases towards this event. Please be assured that EVERY child will get the opportunity to choose a present for someone. Thank you.

Advent at Rusthall St Pauls CE Primary School



Reverend Ronnie came in to light the advent wreath which we had made last week. He explained that as well as being linked to feelings such as love, joy, peace and hope, the candles each represent a person or a group of people. The first candle is lit on the first Sunday of Advent is to represent the Patriarchs. Reverend Ronnie will be joining us next Monday as we light the next candle for the Prophets. We also opened a virtual advent calendar which provided us with a picture and Bible reading (Isaiah 11:6-10) to help us reflect on the idea of peace. We will continue to open these each day in class.

Christmas at the Parish Church

Sunday 17th Nine Lessons & Carols 6.30

Sunday 24th Midnight Mass 11.30

Monday 25th Family Carol Service 10.00



FORS Cake sale

FORS would like to thank everyone who donated cakes for the sale and also those who helped to sell them. They made a grand total of £132!



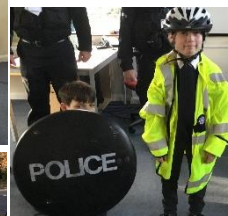
Choir visits



On Thursday, a selection of enthusiastic KS2 singers were invited to perform in the village. Our first stop was to Manor Road pre-school where after singing our songs we had a performance from the nursery children and then joined in all together. Our next stop was to the Lunch Club at the church centre. They were grateful for us coming and spreading the festive cheer. They were very impressed that we didn't need the words and even sang one song acapella. We were invited to stay for lunch and joined them in saying Grace which was lead by Rev. Tony Rutherford. We reflected on what it meant to be a consumer and praying for no one to be left hungry.

Police Cadets

Our Mini Police Cadets have been busy this term exploring everything from the role of the police to what anti-social behaviour is, key first aid and even getting to see how speed traps and cameras work. For their final session they were visited by the police van and got a full tour of all the equipment and its purpose. They have thoroughly enjoyed their time as police cadets and have been excited to share what they have learned- especially the first aid.



PE Kit

I have written previously about school uniform expectations. PE kit continues to be a problem, especially in KS2. PE days are not home clothes days and children need to be in school clothes. Due to the number of children not in school PE kit, the school are looking to invest in some kit so that children can borrow this on the day. If you are having trouble buying uniform, please let the school know and we are happy to support families with this.

Lost Property

We have a large number of items in the lost property room. We will sort through and return any items that are named. If your child is missing any items please do check there. If there are still unclaimed items in the lost property room by **Friday 15th December** then we will donate them to the PTA for a future pre-loved sale.

#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 😊

Kent Early Help Support Services Reducing Parental Conflict Training and Resources

Frequent, intense, and poorly resolved conflict between parents, whether intact or co-parenting, can significantly affect the long-term mental health, educational attainment and long term outcomes of children.

If you would like to be able to access this support or resources, parents need to visit <https://www.oneplusone.org.uk/parents> to create an account to access the courses.

FORS Raffle

The raffle was drawn and prizes have been awarded. You will be contacted if you are a lucky winner and asked to collect your prize from the office.



CELEBRATIONS!

Head Pupils: Flora and Jacob

Rainbow Awards RED: Lacey, Jack, Bea, Alexavier, Haron, Flora, Sonnie, Joshua F, Agnes, Joshua R

Reading Stars: York Class – Sam, Winchester Class – Ivy W, Exeter Class – Esme, Durham Class – Joshua F, Rochester Class – Isabella

Golden Book: York Class – Max and Eliza, Winchester Class – Holly and Asher, Exeter Class – Charlie W and Joseph, Rochester – John and Haron, Durham – Joshua R and Toby P

House point winners: St Davids

Weekly Attendance winners: Winchester with 97%



Forest School

It was another chilly day at Forest school this week. The children have been doing great in this cold weather. Building up lots of resilience and overcoming the challenges. The fire was already lit when the children arrived. We sat by the fire and listened to the story of The Wonky Gons. This story has a powerful message about taking care of our planet. We then went on to make our own Wonky Gons. The children's crafts skills are really starting to develop.

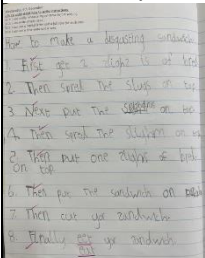
When the children were having their free play, a couple of children at a time came and cooked cinnamon pancakes over the fire. We finished the session with a delicious mulled apple juice warmed with cinnamon and cloves.

I think everyone left feeling very warm and festive!

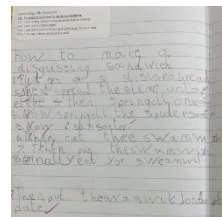


York Class

This week has been very busy in York Class. Year 1 have been working on applying their knowledge of instruction writing to write their own instructions to make a disgusting sandwich. The children were able to write independently and for a sustained period which has been great



to see. Reception have been writing lists for Santa using their phonics knowledge to write the sounds they can hear in words. We also visited the music room where we learnt about tuned and untuned instruments we explored a variety of instruments looking at how they were played. We then learnt all about pulse and keeping the beat. A noisy but very enjoyable session. It was great to see all our hard work pay off with 2 great performances of our Nativity - "It's a miracle."



ATTENDANCE

This Week: 86.55%
This Year: 91.81%

Winchester Class

We are incredibly proud of all the children in Winchester class this week. They learnt all their lines and performed brilliantly in our nativity performances. They worked really hard on projecting their voices and learning when to come on and off the stage.

We hope you all enjoyed our performances. It was lovely to see you there supporting the children.



This Week: 97.27%
This Year: 93.98%



Exeter Class

Exeter have had yet another busy week as we get closer to the end of term. Our dress rehearsal to Key Stage One on Friday morning was a success and we can't wait for everyone to see the carol concert on Monday. We have been having a lot of fun practicing our reading and speaking skills with some very challenging tongue-twisters this week, and have just finished reading the Iron Man by Ted Hughes in guided reading. We had our final cricket session of the term on Tuesday and were amazed at how far we had come with our cricket skills in only six sessions. In Maths we completed arithmetic challenges and learned the rules for dividing and multiplying numbers by 1, 0, and itself. We are now on Chapter 3 of our biographies and are looking forward to editing, improving, and publishing them next week.

This Week: 88.21%
This Year: 92.00%

Durham

This week in Durham, we have been exploring formal letter writing and the children did an excellent job of identifying the features of a formal letter, before using their knowledge to write their own letters in role as Alfie (the main character from our text 'Stay Where You Are Then Leave'). In History, we have been developing our knowledge of what evacuation was like during WW2. The children identified who would have been evacuated, what they would have been allowed to take with them and they then compared different primary and secondary sources with a focus on their reliability. In P.E, the children continued to build on their knowledge of how to play cricket and the skills which are needed. They focused this week on using clear and strong communication, when working as part of a team.

This Week: 96.32%
This Year: 94.09%

Rochester

Wow, what another whirlwind of a week. We have got stuck into biographies and have impressed Miss Collis with our research skills. We have been thinking carefully how to structure our work in chronological order and creating something that will hook someone into reading it.

This term year 6 have been brushing up on their first aid skills. This week we practised putting someone in the recovery position if they were unconscious but breathing.

This week we have had our final gymnastic lesson where we combined all of the skills



we have learned over the past few weeks into a final performance. We considered: how to work as a team and stay in time; how to move between our balances; how to incorporate counter balances and include our whole team; and how to create a polished



performance. We were so impressed with each others routines we were desperate to give each other positive feedback. We have really enjoyed gymnastics this term, nearly as much as cricket!

We managed all of this whilst rehearsing for our carol concert, we look forward to seeing you there on Monday.



This Week: 81.00%
This Year: 93.96%