

Rusthall St Paul's Primary School Newsletter



Edition 23 – 8th March 2024

School News

This week we have been celebrating World Book Day with a whole week of reading and literacy related activities. The children have attended workshops, shared reading books with peers, participated in a character parade and much more. During Celebration Worship, the children were sharing with me their favourite experience from this week. It was fantastic to hear about so many amazing things happening in the classrooms that really captured the children's interest and imagination. Later on in the term we will, once again, open our doors and welcome you in to see the amazing art and English work the children have produced.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Mrs Smurthwaite
Head of School

Events and Dates

Tuesday 12th March	Winchester Library Visit
Wednesday 13th March	High Hopes Assembly Yoto Carnige Book Club
Tuesday 19th March	York Library Visit
Wednesday 20th March	Gymnastics Competition Mrs Smurthwaite out at training – see Miss Sheldrake for any issues
Tuesday 26th March	Durham Library Visit
Wednesday 27th March	Yoto Carnige Book Club
Thursday 28th March	LAST DAY OF TERM

Shakespeare Workshop

On Friday, we attended a fantastic hook for our book week. Westend in Schools came in and did a different workshop with every class that looked at the story of A Midsummer Night's Dream.



Book Parade

Silly Billy came in to lead our character parade. Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 each got to show the costumes they were wearing. There were some absolutely amazing creations. Have a look at some of the characters and words that people chose to be.



Year 6 Manor Road

The year 6 children went to Manor Road Preschool to share stories with them. It is safe to say that a fantastic time was had by all. We are hoping that Manor Road Preschool will come and visit us soon.



Class Book Buddies

Every year group in the school buddied up with another class to share their favourite books and stories. Exeter went to York class and Year 5 went and read with year 2. It was great to see everyone enjoying stories.



North Kent College Performances

We were lucky enough to have students from North Kent College come in and perform to some of the classes. As well as performing, they were happy to share knowledge about how they created their production. We will definitely be inviting them back!



In class Book Week

All the children have been participating in lots of different activities in class including sharing books with partners, drawing illustrations, crating book covers and lots more.



CELEBRATIONS!

Head Pupils: Iyla and Xena

Red Rainbow Awards: Charlie W, Daisy L, Olly M, Leo T, Charlie B, Ettie, Martha

Orange Rainbow Awards: Leo M, Sam, Haron, Dottie

Yellow Rainbow Awards: Haron, Stephen, Lacey



Reading Stars: York Class – Parker, Winchester Class – Jesse, Exeter Class – Olly M, Durham Class – Toby W, Rochester Class – Isabella

Golden Book: York Class – Max and Sonny, Winchester Class – Joseph and Emma, Exeter Class – Esme and Charlie B, Rochester – Amelie and Bea, Durham – Victoria and Noah

House point winners:

Attendance Winners – Durham Class with 96%

Forest School

It definitely felt like spring was in the air this week. The warm sun was very welcome!

We started the session by sharing some gratitude in a circle. We then played a game of Giants, Wizard's, Gnomes which the children are very good at now.

We then looked at a real birds nest and tried to identify which bird made it. We used a lovely book Nests by Susan Ogilvy and some field guides to help us.

The children then had a go and making their own nests using straw, sticks and other things they could find in nature. They then made some tiny clay eggs to go inside. I think we all can appreciate how clever the birds are making incredible nests with just a tiny beak, we were struggling with our hands!

Fire lighting was also on offer again this week which the children loved.

York Class

York Class have enjoyed book week. Through our workshop we began to learn the story of A Midsummer Nights Dream. During the workshop we thought about the forest and what it might be like. This week in English we have been creating magical forests and completing instructions. Reception have been orally saying instructions steps and acting them out and in Year 1 we have been using time language and adverbs to write instructions steps. We had a visit from "Silly Billy" on Thursday and we enjoyed sharing our costumes and listening to a new version of the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bear. WE have also been creating art work based on the theme of trees. Reception have looked at the piece of work Tree by Kandinsky and Year 1 have looked at The Tree of Life by Klimt.

ATTENDANCE

This Week: 85.33 %
This Year: 91.31 %

Winchester Class

Winchester Class have worked exceptionally hard this week. After the workshop about Shakespear's A Midsummer Night's Dream, they have been using descriptive vocabulary to create truly vivid setting descriptions. The images they have manage to create with the language they have used are amazing.

They have also been applying their art skills to create drawings of the magical forest. They have used chalks and pastels to create scenes from the text. We cannot wait to show you some of the fabulous work we have created.

For book week we have also shared some of our favourite stories with each other. Today, year 5 came to our class and shared a variety of texts with us. We got to find a comfortable seat and read together – hopefully we can do it again soon.

This Week: 86.82 %
This Year: 94.16%

Exeter Class

Exeter began Book Week with a fantastic workshop introducing us to William Shakespear's A Midsummer Night's Dream. We really enjoyed imagining the forest and the characters, creating freeze frames and acting out parts of the play. Our favourite part of Book Week was dressing up as our book character- we were really creative and looked amazing. It was so much fun walking down the catwalk and introducing ourselves to Silly Billy- who was very silly!! In writing we have worked hard on our Midsummer Night's forest settings for our characters to enter. We worked on our five senses as a way of creating detail. In art we drew leaves, twigs and plants that we might find on the forest floor. We worked using torches to create shadows and charcoal to create contrast. We can't wait for Book Week next year!

This Week: 91.98 %
This Year: 91.70 %

Durham

What a jam packed week! Durham have thoroughly enjoyed celebrating World Book Week in style and have participated in a range of activities from drama workshops to illustrator workshops to creating and designing their own book covers. It was amazing to see the children getting so enthused by books and I absolutely loved their World Book Day costumes! In English, we have unpicked the story of A Midsummer Night's Dream and created a detailed text map. We have then begun to build on our knowledge of the grammatical features of a play script, where we learnt all about parenthesis and the punctuation that is used to create this. As part of Book Week, some of the children created their own mischief potions for Puck to use on the Athenians in the forest and we also looked at developing our illustration skills through a workshop by Liz Pichon, the author of the Tom Gates novels.

This Week: 96.35 %
This Year: 93.27 %

Rochester

Wow what a wonderful week. Well a week and a bit.

Last Friday we kick started our Book week with a drama workshop from Westend in Schools. It was a lively session which involved lots of creativity (and a bit of silliness). In Rochester and Durham we explored the plot of the story then used freeze frames and monologues to unpick some key scenes. They were particularly good at the dialogue argument between the fairy King and Queen.

We were blown away by the creative costumes that filled the school on Thursday. We had a visit from Silly Billy who arranged our cat walk. The perfect opportunity for us to admire each others costumes and step into our own characters.

In year 5 and 6 we have submerged ourselves in the magical theme. Year 5 have designed their own magic spells whilst Year 6 attempted to design a book cover which you can judge a book by. We have all been exploring play scripts, from acting them out to writing our own. We have then designed our own play script covers but with a modern twist. We were inspired by a virtual workshop by Liz Pichon the author and illustrator of the Tom Gates series. We look forward to you seeing them when you are next in to look at work.

On Friday we got to share books with others. Year 5 visited Winchester and Year 6 visited Manor Road Preschool. It was a wonderful experience for all.

This Week: 82.38 %
This Year: 92.12 %