

Rusthall St Paul's Primary School Newsletter



Edition 36 – 5th July 2024

Growing together, learning forever

This week has been packed with exciting events and activities. On Tuesday we had a visit from the English Hub. This initiative aims to support schools in improving their teaching of early language and reading. Our students have benefitted from expert guidance and resources to enhance their literacy skills. This visit was a fantastic opportunity for both our staff and students to engage with current educational strategies.

On Wednesday, we welcomed all new staff members who are joining our schools from across the Trust. This induction day is designed to ensure that our new colleagues are well-prepared and integrated into our community. It included tours of the school and an overview of our school's values and expectations. We look forward to the fresh ideas and energy that our new staff will bring.

We have been delighted to have a work experience pupil join us for the week. This experience is invaluable for students to gain insights into the working environment and develop their skills. Bella has been into every class, supporting learners and gaining valuable insight into how the education system works.

This week also marks an important milestone for our Year 6 children as they begin their transition to secondary school. Various activities and sessions were planned by the secondary schools to help them acclimate to their new school environments. This transition period is crucial in ensuring that our children feel confident and prepared for the next step in their educational journey. Rusthall pupils will be completing their transition to their new classes and meeting their new teachers next week.

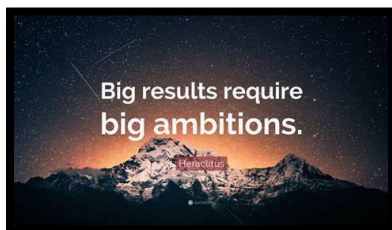
I hope you all have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Mrs Smurthwaite
Head of School

Events and Dates

Tuesday 9th July	EYFS and KS1 school trip Mrs Rees not in
Wednesday 10th July	Year 6 Production
Thursday 11th July	Whole School Transition Morning
Friday 12th July	High Hopes Year 6 Transition Workshop Year 5 to Year 6 additional transition Sports Leaders Training FORs School Disco – see information from FORS
Monday 15th July	End of year reports home to parents
Thursday 18th July	Year 6 leavers service
Thursday 18th July	LAST DAY OF TERM 6 – school closes at 3.10pm for the summer holidays

Collective Worship



This week we started thinking about our value of ambition. Ambition is the driving force that propels us to set goals, overcome obstacles, and achieve our dreams. It is a quality that we nurture in our children from an early age, helping them to believe in their potential and strive for excellence. We thought about how ambition teaches us to set and pursue goals. Whether it's mastering a new math skill, writing a compelling story, or excelling in sports, having ambition helps us to focus our efforts and measure our progress.

Ambitious children learn to see challenges as opportunities to grow. They develop resilience by understanding that setbacks are a part of the journey toward achieving their dreams. With ambition, children are motivated to seek knowledge and experiences beyond the classroom. This intrinsic desire to learn can lead to a fulfilling and successful life. We want our children to be as ambitious as possible, always thinking about what they want to achieve and how they are going to get there, but also knowing that ambitions change and sometimes we have to take a different path to achieve our outcomes.

The children shared some amazing ambitions in worship this week and I know that every single person at Rusthall is able to achieve what they set their mind to!



Sun cream, hats and water bottles



As the summer has now arrived, please remember to put sun cream on your children before they come to school. Children need to have sun hats and water bottles at school with them daily. Water bottles will be taken outside at lunchtime so please make sure they are clearly labelled and re-usable.

FORs End of Year Disco

FORs have organised an end of year disco for the school. You should have received a letter asking for confirmation of attendance. Please ensure this is returned to the office by the end of Thursday so that FORs can confirm numbers.



CELEBRATIONS!

Head Pupils: Hitha and Yasin

Green Rainbow Awards: Emily C, Leo M,

Blue Rainbow Awards: Leo K, Emily P, Stepan

Indigo Award: Ethel

Reading Stars: Rochester Class – Jacob, Durham Class – Agnes, Exeter Class – Teddy, Winchester Class – Joseph, York Class - Savanna

Golden Book: Rochester Class – Alex and Lola, Durham Class – Josh R and Ethan, Exeter Class – Joseph and Charlie W, Winchester Class – Jesse and Taylor, York Class – Ethel and Emily P

Attendance Winners – Exeter



York Class

Reception have been excited this week as they moved their chrysalises into their new homes - they are now waiting for their butterflies to emerge. In English Reception have been writing all about the Bog Babies they made last week - they have written descriptions and sets of instructions. In maths the children have been thinking about the different ways numbers are made up.

In Year 1 the children have continued to look at the features of letters and have worked on using capital letters for proper nouns, such as names and the days of the week and also looked at how you write a question including using a question mark at the end. In maths the children have begun a unit on money they have been learning to recognise coins and notes and to count in 2's, 5's and 10's to find out how much money they have. During their experience learning Year 1 have been looking at the features of vehicles, joining materials together and designing their own ideas.

ATTENDANCE

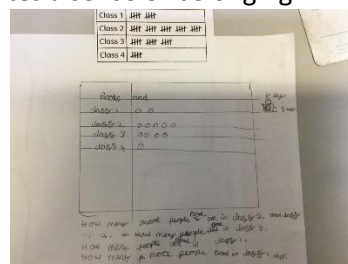
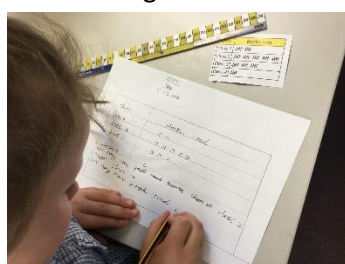
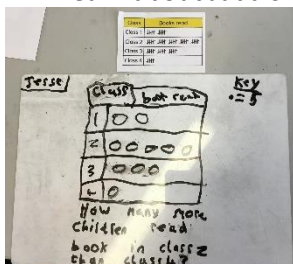
This Week: 82.86%
This Year: 90.9%

Winchester Class

It has been another busy week of learning in Winchester. In math's we have continued to look at pictograms where the symbol has a value of 2, 5 and 10. We have been creating pictograms using cubes as well as drawing them into our books. We are also getting really good at creating and answering questions using the information.

English has seen us creating our own versions of the story, Lila and the secret of rain. We have worked hard to use expanded noun phrases and conjunctions to make our writing more interesting. We are looking forward to publishing these stories next week. During geography we have revisited urban and rural landscapes and thought about the different land uses in these places. We also looked at a map of the population of England to think about why cities would have more people than rural areas. In RE we are continuing to learn about Judaism and thinking about what creates a sense of belonging.

This Week: 91.58%
This Year: 95.3%



Exeter Class

This week Exeter have got the clay and clay tools out. After designing our diva lamp, we explored the clay and tools and made a small practice piece. We were focusing mainly on pattern and decoration. We will experiment with colour when the pieces are dry. We have learnt about the Hindu festival of Diwali and have created a story map of the story of Rama and Sita. We also designed our own rangoli patterns to welcome the gods.

In writing we have continued gathering ideas for our persuasive writing: Why all children should own a dragon. We thought of all the pros and cons of this and have a secure argument with reasons to back up our point of view.

In maths, we have continued our coordinates topic and are now able to plot the points of a number of 2D shapes and can also find the missing coordinate of a square or rectangle.

We are excited to be taking part in our 'Taste for Sport' session tomorrow.



This Week: 91.67%
This Year: 93.5%

Durham/Rochester

On Monday we started exploring how fossils are formed and used: one pupil, blankets and our imaginations to really understand the process. The class were very engaged and enthusiastic, we seem to have some budding palaeontologists who are already very knowledgeable about dinosaurs.

This week was the final swimming week for Year 5. It was fantastic to see how far they have come and how they have developed as swimmers. They were then able to have some free time enjoying being in the water and unknowingly applying some of the skills they have learned.

On Tuesday Year 6 had a transition visit from Kent Police helping them to prepare for the increased independence and new challenges they will face at secondary school. They were all very engaged and some great questions were asked. In the afternoon we worked with Durham class to get really secure with act 2 of Grease ready for Wednesday when we did a full run through. It is really coming together! We have also tried on the costumes that we have already bought in to make sure we have everything we need. The Year 6 boys had a session on puberty- they were incredibly mature: they asked great questions and showed respect to each other. Well done!

Whilst Year 6 were on their transition day on Thursday, the Year 5 boys got stuck into an electrical challenge whilst the Year 5 girls had their puberty chat. Both groups asked great questions. On Friday we applied our fielding skills to bench ball. We required accurate catching because if the ball hits the floor you lose possession.

We have had some very exciting worships this week. Our focus this week is ambition which was introduced on Monday. On Tuesday we had in class worship with Durham where we explored the limited and limitless thinking. The children shared some great ideas, they really unpicked the story of the paralysed man and considered how frame of mind can have an impact on what can be achieved. We unpicked what a positive mental attitude (PMA) could look like and how this could apply to our day, week, year going forward. It was a lovely way to head into our afternoon rehearsal. On Wednesday Miss Plimmer a local librarian, came into launch the summer reading challenge. Many children said they had taken part before and already had their library card. It starts on Saturday 6th June and if your child doesn't have a library card its quick and free to set up. I look forward to hearing how they are all getting on over these last two weeks and to see how many of our current year 5s complete it over the summer.

Durham

This Week: 88%
This Year: 90.5%

Rochester

This Week: 90.53%
This Year: 94.1%