

Rusthall St Paul's Primary School Newsletter



Edition 6 – 11th October 2024

Growing together, learning forever

This week has been filled with excitement, learning, and celebration across the school. We are thrilled to share some of the highlights from the last few days, showcasing the hard work and dedication of both pupils and staff. A huge shout out to all our pupils who have shown up every day this week looking incredibly smart and ready to learn. We had individual photos of the children at the beginning of the week and I know they all look amazing.

Please remember to use the web link or QR code with the shoot id to buy your photos.

This week, our hardworking staff have focused on embedding the school's vision and values throughout the learning environment. You may notice that these values are becoming more visible around the school, from inspiring posters on the walls to discussions in classrooms. The goal is to ensure that our vision is not just something we talk about but something the children experience daily. We are proud to see how the children are embracing these values in their behaviour, friendships, and learning.

On Wednesday, Miss Sheldrake and I had the pleasure of visiting Manor Road Pre-school. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet some of the youngest members of our community and begin building those early relationships. The visit was a fantastic reminder of how education starts early, and we are excited to welcome these little ones into our school in the future.

We ended the week on a high note with a fantastic KS2 Harvest Festival performance. Despite a few technical hitches along the way, the pupils did an amazing job, showing resilience and teamwork. The children sang beautifully and recited poems they had prepared with so much heart, reminding us all of the importance of community and gratitude. A huge thank you to all the staff involved in organising this wonderful event. However, without the support of our amazing parents these things cannot happen so I would like to say an extra big thank you to everyone who helped walk the children there and back, and supported the children by meeting us at the church. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did.

We are looking forward to more exciting learning and fun next week! Thank you, as always, for your continued support and encouragement.

Best wishes
Mrs Smurthwaite

Events and Dates

Monday 14th October	New Reception starters 2025 open morning
Tuesday 15th October	Year 6 trip to Thorpe Park Mrs Smurthwaite out – please see Miss Sheldrake for any issues
Wednesday 16th October	Parents evening
Thursday 17th October	Parents Evening
Friday 18th October	Mrs Smurthwaite out – please see Miss Joslin for any issues Come and see afternoon
Friday 25th October	Mrs Smurthwaite out – please see Miss Joslin for any issues Last day of term 1

Harvest Parade

I want to say a big thank you to Maisie Moon who took part in the Harvest Parade in church on Sunday representing the school. She carried the banner for the school and was a beacon of we aspire for Rusthall children to be. She looked so smart in her Rusthall St Paul's uniform and carried the banner with pride. Well done Maisie!



Parents Evening Bookings

Parents evening is on 16/10 and 17/10. **The booking will be done via the Arbor parent app.** These went live on

Monday 7th October. Staff available:

York – Wednesday with Mrs Thomas and Miss Sheldrake
Cambridge – Wednesday and Thursday with Mrs Everest
Winchester – Wednesday with Mrs Brown, Thursday with Miss Meakins

Exeter - Wednesday and Thursday with Mr Kitchener
Durham - Wednesday and Thursday with Miss Beasley
Rochester - Wednesday and Thursday with Miss Collis
SENCo - Wednesday and Thursday with Mrs Rees
If you would like to book to see the Family Liaison Officer, please contact directly via ejoslin@inspiream.org.uk

Come and See Afternoon

I would like to open the school on an afternoon per term where we open our classroom doors, welcoming you in to see what your children have been learning. Usually this will happen in the penultimate week of the term and the children can celebrate their successes with you. If you have more than 1 child there will be enough time to visit multiple classrooms.

The gate will be opened at 2.30pm and you can go straight to your child's classroom where you will be shown, by your child, their books and environments.

Our first "come and see!" of the year will be Friday 18th October at 2.30pm.

It would be lovely to see as many families as possible sharing their children's learning.

FORS Home Clothes Day







Family Liaison Officer News

What is a FLO? FLO stands for Family Liaison Officer. Each FLO is based within a school and is part of the multi-agency team that provides support to the parents and carers of the children from that school. They cover a range of topics that include:

- Transition between schools
- Challenging behaviour and additional needs
- Understanding the curriculum and how parents can get involved at home
 - Attendance: tips on getting your child to school and on time
 - Information on after school clubs
 - Building family relationships
 - Information on other services and how to make use of them
 - Identifying and addressing other needs and much, much more...

One of our current priorities is attendance. As your children will tell you, we speak to them about how they need to be in school as much as possible so that they don't miss learning. One of our current areas for development is lateness. Most of our children are attending school every day they can be arriving late. Just 10-15 minutes a day adds up to over an hour a week of lost learning time. Please let us know if you would like support from the FLO for attendance.

Attendance Reminder

100%	0 days missed.	Fantastic attendance	
99% to 97%	2 to 6 days missed.	Well done you are at or above school attendance target	
96% to 94%	8 to 12 days missed.	At 96% and below you are just below target. Make sure you do not miss any more days.	
93% to 91%	14 to 18 days missed.	At 93% and below your attendance is becoming worrying low.	
90% to 85%	14 to 29 days Missed.	At 90% and below you are considered persistently absent. School will support you and your child to improve school attendance.	

CELEBRATIONS!

Head Pupils: Ethan and Aerin

Red Rainbow Awards: Amelie P, Amelia W, Maisie, Billy, Parker

Reading Stars: York Class – Sadia, Cambridge Class - Lacey, Winchester Class – Gracious, Exeter Class – Asher, Durham Class – Tabassum, Rochester Class – Isabella

Values Award: York Class – Shallom, Cambridge Class - Stephen, Winchester Class – Tyler, Exeter Class – Amelia, Durham Class – Teddy, Rochester Class – Ethan

Golden Book: York Class – Alice and Perry, Cambridge Class – Stanley and Aldora, Winchester Class – Parker and Emily, Exeter Class – Stepan and Taylor, Durham – Ettie and Katie, Rochester- Aidan and Bella

House point winners: St Andrews

Weekly Attendance winners: Durham



York Class

This week we have continued using the Little Red Hen as the basis of our work in English. The children received a letter from the Little Red Hen asking for help to make bread. We have been busy learning a recipe on how to make bread and look forward to eating our tasty creation. In our maths we have been learning about recognising amounts without counting – this is called subitising. We are seeing amounts in lots of different places. This week during our experience learning we have created our class charter we have thought about the rights and rules we have in York Class. We have learnt 4 more sound in our phonics and are beginning to blend some words independently. This video shows you how each sound is pronounced – you may find this is different to when you were taught at school. Please have a look so you know how we produce each sound.

[For parents | Letters and Sounds \(littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk\)](https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk) please watch the video for **Phase 2 sounds taught in Reception Autumn 1**

ATTENDANCE

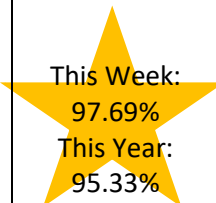
This Week:
96.05%
This Year:
92.09%

Cambridge Class

This week in Cambridge Class we have been getting to know each other and settling into our classroom. In English, we have been looking at using the conjunctions and, but to join two sentences together. We have also looked at the past tense ready for when we write our own version of the Incredible Book Eating Boy throughout next week. In Maths we have been looking at number, counting forward and backwards from a given number, finding one more and one less from different numbers.

In Experience, we have been using the different musical instruments to explore rhythm, beat, pitch and tone. We also created our own rhythms to show to the rest of the class. We have also been learning a song about Harvest and using the instruments to accompany our singing.

This Week:
90%
This Year:
94.62%

<p>In RE, we have been thinking about how Christians show thanks for the Harvest by writing our own Harvest prayers.</p>	
<p><u>Winchester Class</u></p> <p>This week in Winchester class, we have been continuing our learning about ‘The Incredible Book Eating Boy’ in English. We have learnt about coordinating and subordinating conjunctions and we have used them within sentences. We have also written a shared piece of writing together where we have adapted the story and written about a boy who eats sports equipment! In maths, we have practised counting in groups of 2, 5 and 10 and we have consolidated our understanding of place value. In RE, we have thought about how Christians say thank you for the Harvest and we have reflected on what we feel thankful for. On Friday we started making birds for our school values tree and the children have really enjoyed being creative and trying a new craft activity.</p>	<p>This Week: 94.55% This Year: 94.77%</p>
<p><u>Exeter Class</u></p> <p>This week we have begun our final experience topic of the term, returning to geography and looking at topography. The children have begun to understand what topography is and how it is an effect on the climate of an area.</p> <p>In English, we have been looking at the different features of a narrative such as: adverbs, similes, metaphors and present perfect tense. This will help to support how we can enhance our narratives at the end of the topography topic.</p> <p>Maths has been intense for the children this week; they have been learning about adding and subtracting across a ten an a 100 and the pupils have concentrated and worked very hard to cement that understanding.</p> <p>In RE, we have finished looking at the story of Abraham and next week the pupils will be reflecting on why this story is so important to Christians.</p>	<p>This Week: 97.5% This Year: 96.81%</p>
<p><u>Durham</u></p> <p>This week in Durham class, the children have been writing their own non-chronological reports comparing the democratic systems in the UK and Ancient Greece. They have done an incredible job of using the correct organisational features, subject specific vocabulary and third person. The children should be very proud of themselves for their achievements in their writing.</p> <p>In R.E, the children discussed and thought about how songs of worship can help Christians understand God better. They unpicked messages and meanings behind some key songs of worship, before creating their own Christian rock/pop bands and creating posters to advertise the benefits to listening to songs of worship.</p> <p>In Maths, Year 4 have been focusing on comparing and ordering numbers to 10,000 and rounding to the nearest multiple of 10. Year 5 have been learning about how to compare and order numbers to 100,000 and 1,000,000.</p> <p>This week we have also been working hard doing rehearsals for the Harvest Festival and I want to say a big well done to the children for their hard work in learning their lines off by heart and for the efforts they put into singing our songs at church!</p>	<p> This Week: 97.69% This Year: 95.33%</p>
<p><u>Rochester</u></p> <p>In English this week we have got stuck into drafting and editing our non-chronological report applying our knowledge of formal and third person writing. In PE we applied our rugby skills in golden egg. We have made great improvement with our communication skills but still find it hard to stay on the pitch. In RE we explored how an all-loving God can allow disasters to occur. We had a brilliant discussion looking at ideas form different points of view. In Reading we have finished Odysseus and were hooked all the way to the end. It was a happy ending for our main character but not for the suitors who had been feasting in his halls for 19 years. In Maths on Thursday, we explored the idea of prime numbers and applied this knowledge to finishing prime factors. On Friday we had a fantastic day starting with a trip to church to celebrate Harvest before getting creative making our unique birds for our values tree. They represent us as individuals belonging in our school community.</p>	<p>This Week: 95.29% This Year: 90.97%</p>
