



Rudyard Kipling Primary School & Nursery Newsletter

"Where learning is an adventure!"

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Headteacher Reports...

This has been a week of school Christmas productions like no other! Our talented KS1 performers put on three performances of 'Hey Ewe' whilst our KS2 actors, singers and dancers brought the house down during their three first class 'Straw and Order' shows!

It was brilliant that - despite Covid enforced restrictions - that our children were able to perform in front of an audience, albeit a much smaller one than would usually be the case. Thank you to all the parents and carers who adhered to the 'one ticket per child' rule. During these challenging Covid times, it is important that we all 'do our bit' in order to keep our whole school community safe, inside and out of school.

For those not lucky enough to secure a golden ticket, all performances will be available to enjoy on our Google Classroom platform.

Our very youngest learners in Nursery and Reception will next week be enjoying their Sing along and Create Christmas sessions: we look forward to those!

I was delighted that our local counsellors Dee Simson and Steve Bell were able to join us for one of the KS1 performances: they absolutely loved it! Both then joined me for a tour of our school: they were most impressed with the busy and creative learning going on in the classrooms and thought that our school was lovely.

Both Dee and Steve will be returning to school this coming Monday morning to unveil our five new splendid school Value shields which are being fixed to our school fence today! Kindness, Equality, Respect, Teamwork and Positivity will soon be sparkling in the Woodingdean sunshine and reminding anyone passing the school of the Values that RKPS children, parents, carers and staff espouse. I think that our new Values shields are going to look great.

Although it is the final week of term next week, the learning does not stop! We are a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) school and next week our whole school STEM project links to the Christmas film 'The Polar Express'. Our children will be carrying out exciting investigations: please ask your child what they find out! Thank you to Miss Guthrie for planning these exciting projects for our learners - here at RKPS, learning really is an adventure!

Finally, I must thank all of our dedicated RKPS teaching staff, most of whom were in school late last night for the Christmas production and also last Friday for the PTFA discos. Our children are incredibly fortunate to have such a nurturing and passionate team of adults to support them: thank you to all of the RKPS teaching team.

It is the traditional RKPS Christmas Trail tomorrow - if it's on a par with the Spooky Trail then we're in for a treat! I will see you outside in the fresh winter air for some festive fun!

Have a wonderful weekend

Euan Hanington

Euan Hanington
Headteacher



Our therapy dogs also enjoyed a Christmas lunch!





Rhyme and Shine is a half termly group run for the youngest members of our school community. Each session, our lovely 0-3 year olds (and their grown-ups!) have lots of fun exploring a new story, with lots of creative activities related to it. Children will be given a book to take home at the end of the session. We ask for a voluntary donation of £3 per child. Our first session for this year is on **Tuesday 14th December from 9am-10am**. This will be a special Christmas themed session. If you have a little one, please come along and join the fun!



PTFA - Magical Mission to find Santa's lost gifts

This Saturday 11th December from 2pm – 5pm.

For all those who are coming to this year's Christmas trail, you can collect your trail map from 2pm but will need to finish the trail by 5pm.

Everyone is welcome to come to the Craft Fair, which is also happening in the KS2 hall. Entry is FREE! So please come along and pick up a Christmas present or two.

The school will be very well ventilated, stalls will be spaced out and we ask that all visitors wear a face covering unless exempt.

All visitors should have received a negative lateral flow test that morning.



KS1 & KS2 Christmas show videos

Videos of the children's wonderful Christmas performances of 'Hey Ewe' and 'Straw & Order' are now available to watch on Google Classroom. Use your child's usual Google Classroom username and password to login. We hope you enjoy them!

If you're unable to login for any reason, please let your child's teacher know.

Climb onto Santa's Sleigh to be on time!

Every child who arrives at school, on time between Tuesday 2nd November and Wednesday 15th December will be entered into a draw to win a Christmas Goodies Hamper. There will be one for each Key Stage! The hampers will be presented in next week's Special Mentions assembly to the lucky winners!



Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 17th December

Let's get into the Christmas spirit and wear our Christmas jumpers again for the last day of school. We are raising money for 'Save the Children' so we are asking a donation of £1 on the day, we would really appreciate it. Thank you!



Save the Children

Forest School

This week, Miss Guthrie's Forest School group really embodied our school Values of positivity and teamwork. We spent the afternoon outside in the pouring rain making Christmas icicles to decorate the Forest School. To make the paint, we crushed up chalk and mixed it with rain water. It worked a treat! As well as this, we played a super fun game of duck, duck, goose!



Year One have been exploring our vast school grounds looking for signs of seasonal change. We wonder if you know what to look out for to see Autumn turning into Winter? The lovely children in Year One collected different items to show the seasons were changing, such as crunchy leaves, and made journey sticks with their seasonal treasures!



Thank you to The Lions!

For the Wednesday matinee KS1 performance of Hey Ewe, we welcomed Andy and Geoff from the Lions who thoroughly enjoyed the show. We very much value the relationship we hold with the Lions and for the work they do in supporting our school. The Lions will soon be kindly be providing every child in the school with a reading book which is extremely kind: thank you!

Head Teacher Awards!

Attenborough - Dempsey for such wonderful reading and writing! Dempsey, it is clear you have been working really hard on this and you should be very proud of yourself!



Jasper for writing a fantastic description of a food chain using scientific vocabulary and brilliant sentence openers. Well done for having such beautiful handwriting too!

Seacole – Blake for his bravery and confidence in standing on stage to perform in the Christmas show. You should be very proud of yourself for taking on someone else's lines so that the show could continue! Keep up the effort to continue growing yourself as a fantastic member of Seacole class.

Play Champion of the week

KS2 - Courtney in Seacole for playing lovely basketball with a group of friends.



Stars of the Week

Breakfast Club

KS1 – Freddie in Rashford being more confident and mixing really well with the other children.

KS2 – Woodrow in Gandhi for being so helpful and taking care of breakfast club toys.

After School Club

KS1 – Evan in Obama for being so creative.

KS2 – Lianna in Mandela for always following the golden rules.



This week at Lego Club, the children found out that Lego Man was trapped on a desert island and a shark was circling the island. The children had to build a boat that would float to rescue Lego man. We have some very good builds.

BUILDS OF THE WEEK



**JAMIE
& RILEY**

**ALFONSO
& HENRY**

BARNEY SAM





Special Mentions

Kahlo – Halle is a great 'Positive Polly' in Kahlo class. She always has the confidence to try her very best. She approaches her learning with great tenacity and a smile on her face. We love having Halle in our class. Mrs Forsyth is very proud of her. Keep it up Halle!



Obama – Charlie has been a fantastic 'Perseverance Pete' this week with every task he has been set. He has shown fantastic resilience and never gives up! I am so proud of you Charlie, well done.

Attenborough – Ariaiah – 'Co-operating Clara' who? Ariaiah is THE best team-mate you could ask for. During our rehearsals for the Christmas play, Ariaiah listened carefully to her instructions, remembered all of her stage directions as well as helping those she was on stage with remember too! She has made Miss Guthrie and all of Attenborough smile and she should be very proud of herself. You superstar!



Parks – Rowan has been really flexing his 'Co-operating Clara' learning muscle and has consistently made Miss Ghattas proud this week. He's used his excellent listening ears on the carpet and been a very kind talk partner. Well done, Rowan!



Mandela – Jessica-Lea is a maths magician! Methodically, she tackles her learning and produces such wonderfully presented pieces, each and every time. Not only this, but she is also determined and focused and as a result, she's a master of answering her reasoning and problem-solving challenges. Well done, Jessica-Lea!

Seacole - Layla has been an absolute superstar over the last few weeks and has been a credit to herself. The work she has produced in English has blown Miss Morgan away. She always works well with others and is a brilliant role model to have in the class. Keep striving to be your best self!

Turing – Codey is at the peak of his game in Year 6 and it has been a pleasure to watch him grow into a very mature and caring individual who always puts others before himself. In class, his efforts are truly faultless and I know he will continue to shine as the year continues. Well done Codey!



Reminder: Taking holidays during term-time

Now the Government have eased travelling restrictions, you **cannot** take your child out of school during term time to go on a family holiday unless:

- You, the parent the child normally lives with, get permission from the school before you go on holiday
- There are exceptional circumstances, such as an illness or a funeral of a person close to the family, which you will need to prove to the school

**We will be fining all unauthorised holidays.
You will be fined £60 per parent, per child.**



Thank you to the vast majority of parents and carers who would never consider taking their children on holiday during term time.

Attendance and Time Keeping



R.K.P.S. Championship Punctuality League KS1 Week ending 03.12.2021		
1st	100%	Thunberg
2nd	Year 1	Obama
3rd	Year R	Rashford
R.K.P.S. Championship Punctuality League KS2 Week ending 03.12.2021		
1st	Year 5	Seacole
2nd	Year 3	Pankhurst
3rd	Year 4	Mandela
R.K.P.S. Premier Attendance League KS1 Week ending 03.12.2021		
1st	Year 1	Kalo & Obama 97.7%
2nd	Year R	Thunberg 96.2%
3rd	Year 2	Parks 95.8%
R.K.P.S. Premier Attendance League KS2 Week ending 03.12.2021		
1st	Year 6	Turing 97.3%
2nd	Year 3	Pankhurst 96.3%
3rd	Year 5	Seacole 95.8%

December	
Saturday 11 th	PTFA Christmas Trail 2pm – 5pm
Tuesday 14 th	2:15pm - Rocksteady Performance
Wednesday 15 th	9am – 10am Reception Christmas Sing-a-long and create
Friday 17 th	Christmas Jumper Day & LAST DAY OF TERM!
January 2022	
Tuesday 4 th	INSET DAY
Wednesday 5 th	BACK TO SCHOOL





Rally at Full Council

Thursday 16th December 2021

4pm @ Hove Town Hall

Sign our petition

https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/stop-the-proposed-school-admission-cuts-to-our-schools?source=direct_link

School places for four year olds!



Apply now online for a school place at
www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/schooladmissions

If your child was born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018,
you need to apply for a school place by
15 January 2022

For a hard copy of the application pack please email the School Admissions Team at schooladmissions@brighton-hove.gov.uk or phone 01273 293653.



What an excellent time for a COUNCIL CONSULTATION! For the minimum time and right over the 2 week Christmas holidays! It's almost as if they don't want to hear our views!

PARENT? Want to see your child's education ruined?

If these PAN (Published Admission Number) proposals go ahead we will see

- 1) Larger class sizes and less attention for your child
- 2) More and more mixed-age classes
- 3) Staff redundancies and stressed-out teachers
- 4) Less support for children with special educational needs (SEN)
- 5) Declining schools and school closures

7 schools within Brighton are affected. Our families, our staff and our communities are all standing side-by-side and opposing these cuts. We are stronger together. We are the School Places Campaign.

Join our **School Places Campaign** on Facebook to get involved.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/635438284294166/?ref=share>



helping you to keep
your children safer

★ **The Home Safety Scheme**
aims to prevent accidents at home, which are the main cause of preventable injuries and death in children under the age of five years.

The scheme works with local families to reduce and prevent these risks by **providing equipment, information and advice.**

★ **What can be provided?**

Equipment such as safety gates, fireguards, cupboard locks, door chains and other small items can be provided **at low or no cost (depending on income and circumstances)** - see overleaf for eligibility.

