



Rudyard Kipling Primary School & Nursery Newsletter

"Where learning is an adventure!"

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Don't forget to follow us on Twitter!

@RudyardSchool



Headteacher Reports...

Our Nursery and Reception children are so lucky to have their own amazing outside space within which to enhance their learning.

There are myriad nooks and crannies to explore with challenging wooden apparatus to pass over, jump and swing from! There is a 'Word Wall', a trike track and three wooden planters containing vegetables being grown by the children. It has its own outdoor stage, a 'Story Throne' and hanging outdoor instruments to experiment with which release soothing sounds in their magical garden!

At the bottom of our outdoor space, you will find our youngest learners' very own Forest School: wild and full of nature. It is no wonder that our children choose to spend so much time outside in this wondrous kingdom!

This kingdom was able to be created largely as a result of the fundraising feats of our amazing PTFA. So every time that you support a PTFA school event, you are contributing towards more wonderful additions to our school such as the one described above.

Probably my favourite, paid for by the PTFA, resource can be found in the KS2 Hall. It is the professional stage lights and microphones installed around our theatre stage. These mean that every word is heard when our children perform their plays and productions. Next term, our Year 6 actors will be performing their traditional end of year production on our professional indoor stage. The sound and lighting makes an unbelievable difference, we are so fortunate to have it.

Funds currently being raised will go towards a VERY exciting piece of wooden playground equipment for the KS2 playground. I showed some children the design yesterday and there was considerable excitement! When installed it will be the first of its kind in this part of Brighton and beyond! It is not cheap but fortunately our PTFA raise thousands upon thousands of pounds each year.

Next Friday, the final day of term, sees our next non-uniform day and the ever popular Easter Trail after school (rumour has it that a 6-foot Easter Bunny will be guarding the pond down at the Forest School!). If you are coming along (and you really should!) then every pound you spend on tickets and in our PTFA Tea Hut will of course go towards raising money to benefit our children.

I must thank all of our PTFA members for somehow finding the time to run these events in between their day jobs. It is so very appreciated and is of course totally voluntary. If you are able to afford even a little time to be involved, then please do have a chat with co-chairs Ella or Anik.

Next week is the final week of term before the Easter holiday but until this arrives...

Have a wonderful weekend

Euan Hanington

Euan Hanington
Headteacher





Event 2 – Tennis Trial

Realising we were yet to complete a competition which involved a ball, Mr Wynne and Mr Mack consulted the super Sports Captains on which event they thought would be best next. With tennis seemingly on the mind of many of the Sports Captains, the tennis trial was created. Time to test the perseverance, patience and hand-eye coordination of Rudyard's children – the future sporting stars of the world.

Rackets at the ready, children began practising the best technique for ensuring the ball was bouncing without dropping at the quickest possible pace. Teachers across Rudyard reported a dramatic improvement from the start to the finish of practice. It was time for the children to be observed, their scores counted and all under the pressure of the 30-second timer! Unsurprisingly however, the children were far from fazed and tackled this task with real grit and determination, not to mention the many protruding tongues from fierce concentration!

Bounces of over 50 were recorded in KSI, over 60 in LKS2 and over 70 in UKS2! Not only this, but teachers observed the deafening support from pupils to their peers when undertaking their timed trails. Isn't it wonderful to know that, despite a competitive event, the children of Rudyard still display the school Values of Kindness, Respect, Teamwork, Equality and Positivity throughout?

Have a look at the league tables and take note of those who did exceptionally well. Who knows, maybe one day, you will be seeing them battling it out on the luscious green courts of Wimbledon!

Mr Wynne and Mr Mack.



KSI Shout Outs:

Well done to: Dougie, Jacob, Eli, Hazel, Ella, Amna and Sasha in KSI for placing in the top 3 children in their event!

Lower KS2 Shout Outs:

Well done to: William J, Max, Saumya, Alex, Rebeca and Jessica-Lea in LKS2 for placing in the top 3 children in their event!

Upper KS2 Shout Outs:

Well done to: Huey, Ernie, Finley S, Sara, Layla and Izzy V in UKS2 for placing in the top 3 children in their event!



Rudyard Reading Recommendations

Hello all, every week the English Team and various adults around school share two reading recommendations for you and your lovely children to read.

Reading Research Alert:

"Other benefits to reading for pleasure include: text comprehension and grammar, positive reading attitudes, pleasure in reading in later life and increased general knowledge" Clark and Rumbold, 2006.



Leo and the Octopus by Isabelle Marinov and Chris Nixon



The world was too bright for Leo.

And too loud.

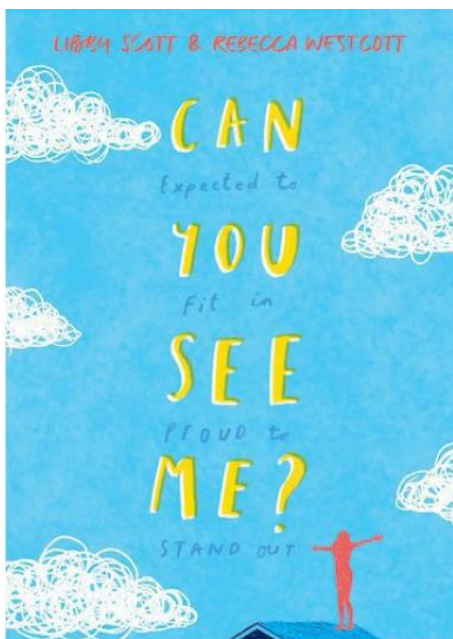
"I must be living on the wrong planet," Leo thought.

Leo struggles to make sense of the world. He doesn't understand the other children in his class, and they don't seem to understand him. But then one day, Leo meets Maya.

Maya is an octopus, and the more Leo learns about her, the more he thinks that perhaps he isn't alone in this world, after all.

"The sensitive descriptions throughout the book of what it is like to have autism are accurate and perceptive on so many levels."

Can You See Me? by Libby Scott and Rebecca Westcott



With diary entries written by eleven-year-old Libby Scott, based on her own experiences of autism, this pioneering book, written in collaboration with esteemed author Rebecca Westcott, has been widely praised for its realistic portrayal of autism.


Tally is eleven years old and she's just like her friends. Well, sometimes she is. If she tries really hard to be. Because there's something that makes Tally not the same as her friends. Something she can't cover up, no matter how hard she tries: Tally is autistic.

Tally's autism means there are things that bother her even though she wishes they didn't. It means that some people misunderstand, her and feel frustrated by her.

Autism Acceptance Week

All children have been celebrating difference this week as part of our Autism Acceptance Week. Please see the poster and the link below to support discussion at home about the learning covered this week in school. As you will see on the poster, a quote from the Autistic Young Experts, “Autism is a difference not a deficit. Differences are to be valued not ‘fixed’. My normal is different from your normal and the aim shouldn’t be conformity but wellbeing.”

If you have any comments or questions please do get in touch with our SENCo, Helen Nazarko. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RbwRrVw-CRo>




Autism Education Trust


Message from the Autistic Young Experts:
 “Autism is a difference not a deficit. Differences are to be valued not ‘fixed’. My normal is different from your normal and the aim shouldn’t be conformity but wellbeing.”

What is autism?


Autistic pupils have differences in three areas of development. These are:



Social understanding and communication



Flexibility, information processing and understanding




Sensory processing and integration

We need to look at these differences in terms of both the strengths and challenges that might arise.

The impact of differences in these three areas

Differences in these three areas mean that autistic pupils can find it difficult:

- to engage appropriately in social interactions with others.
- to understand what is happening now and next.
- to process all the sensory information in their environment, resulting in discomfort and even distress.



Anger

Frustration

Anxiety

Autistic pupils often experience the school environment and other people as unpredictable and this can result in feelings of **anxiety, frustration and anger.**

How you can help: Stop, Observe, Listen, Act

Monitor the physical and emotional well-being of autistic pupils and recognise signals that the pupil might be distressed, unwell, or in pain.

S

Stop

Put your assumptions to one side.

O

Observe

What is actually happening in the environment around the pupil; use all your senses.

L

Listen

What is the pupil trying to tell you? What are they anxious or distressed about?


A

Act






In a way that makes the pupil feel safe.




We are here to support and empower you

Do you work with autistic pupils? We have a lot of **FREE resources and an award-winning professional development programme** for you. Whether you have 5 minutes or a few hours to learn, visit: www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk and follow the **Autism Education Trust** on social media.



Supported by

Hazel Hemmings

Hazel Hemmings taught at RKPS between 1969 and 1995, an impressive 26 years of service! She even returned to be a volunteer, listening to readers, after she retired.

Sadly, Hazel passed away recently aged 90 years old. Her funeral is next Tuesday at Downs Crematorium. RKPS was a large part of her life and Hazel's family are kindly making a donation to the school in memory of her time with us.

The smiles on the children's faces leave you in no doubt that Hazel was a wonderful teacher!



Operation Roadshow

Saturday 9th April, our officers and staff will be at Hove Park as part of Operation Roadshow.

The police have their police cars and equipment for the kids (and adults!) to look at and we will be on hand to answer any questions they might have.

Whether you are interested in learning more about the police generally, or you have a specific concern or question about local policing, then this event will be beneficial!

Our officers will be in Hove Park from 10am – 3pm and we very much look forward to seeing you.



PTFA Woodingdean Easter Trail Next Friday 8th!

The popular Easter Trail is back for 2022. It will take place here at Rudyard on **Next Friday 8th April from 3pm**, everyone is welcome to join in and tickets are £3 per child who is taking part. For full details of the event and to buy your tickets please click on the link below

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/rudyardkiplingprimaryschoolptfa/664573>



If you would like your child to take part, we kindly ask for a £1 donation to the PTFA.

Cash donations to be collected on the day.



Arriving at school

The school gates open at 8:35am. Please arrive as close to this time as possible to reduce congestion in the car park and on the road. It would be much appreciated if you did not arrive early.

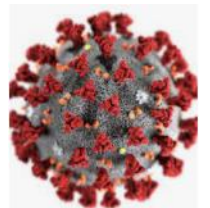
It is not safe when children are in the car park unaccompanied so please also ensure that your child stays with you.

Covid

Unfortunately, Covid rates of transmission across Brighton and Hove have increased recently. If your child is unwell, please do not send them to school. If they are showing any Covid symptoms, please keep them at home and book a PCR test.

Please continue to inform the school if your child has Covid.

Thank you for your support in helping keep our whole school community safe.



School Uniform

Please can we remind you to make sure **ALL ITEMS OF UNIFORM** are labelled. We have an increasing pile of unnamed uniform that we cannot return to its owner.

Head Teacher Awards!

Kahlo – Jacob has created an amazingly spectacular castle, complete with towers and turrets! I loved his idea of making it fold up to look like a book and then pop out to be a 3D model. Very clever!

Gandhi – Jacob for such a fantastic start in Gandhi class.



Play Champion of the week.

KS1 – Nate in Obama for lovely building of models with the construction kit.

KS2 – Muminah in Yousafzai for playing and supporting friends playing netball.



Stars of the Week

Breakfast Club

KS1 – Harrison in Thunberg for being super helpful and looking after Breakfast Club resources.

KS2 – Joe in Darwin for always being kind, helpful and a great role model.

After School Club

KS1 – Theo in Thunberg for settling in so well at After School Club.

KS2 – William in Darwin for interacting so well with others.



BUILDS OF THE WEEK



Lenny, Rebecca, Lottie, Eli, Woody, Luca

This week at Lego club, builders were informed that Lego person, who lives on Lego Island, wanted to visit a Lego friend on Legosville. However, Lego Island and Legosville are separated by a treacherous ocean. A storm is brewing and no planes or boats were running. Builders had to design a sturdy bridge so Lego person could travel by car. We saw some great engineering and successful bridges from our builders. Well done!



Special Mentions

Thunberg – Harli is a superstar and a true Positive Polly! She always looks out for other people and is confident that she can do her best. Harli is always ready to have a go at any activities on offer. What an awesome role model you are!

Rashford – Zak has had an amazing first half term at our school, he is always positive and joins in with a big smile on his face!

Kahlo – Daniel has been such a Have a Go Harold, especially in his writing where he has been thinking carefully before he writes just to check that it is correct. He likes to challenge himself and is developing a healthy competitive attitude towards his learning. Keep it up Daniel!

Wow Keira! This week you have shown what having a go really means. You have been showing a great positivity in your phonics and this is now really helping you with your reading and writing. Keep up the good work, Keira!

Attenborough - Aria is a true Positive Polly day in, day out! She always has a huge grin on her face and gives everything a go with her infectious positive attitude. She knows that when she's grinning, she's winning and a winner is what she most certainly is! Keep it up, Aria – you are a superstar!

Betsy has blown us away with her kindness this week. From consoling her friend who was hurt, to helping out Miss Guthrie in the classroom, Co-operating Clara would be very proud. We love seeing your kindness, Betsy. Keep it up!

Parks – Sanvi's growth mindset has led to her achieving such great things, especially in maths! Have a Go Harold would be so proud of Sanvi and how hard she is working on giving the trickier problem solving and reasoning questions a go! Sanvi knows the road to success can be a bumpy one that involves always having a go! Such a great attitude towards your learning, well done!

Gandhi – Leighton is receiving this Special Mention award for his wonderful Positive Polly attitude. He is always cheerful and smiley, he ALWAYS wants to learn and best of all he really thinks about what he has learnt and uses it in his independent learning. This was particularly apparent with all the fantastic vocabulary and interesting sentence starts that he used in his English this week.

Mandela – Jessica - Lea It is every teacher's dream marking a well-presented book and books don't come better than Jessica-Lea's. Methodical, neat and focused, she gives it her all in each and every lesson - none more so than in our writing on Tuesday and Wednesday. Take a look at her wonderful example of how to use inverted commas! Wow, a real Have-A-Go Harold!

Turing – Ahmed In Mr Jones' absence, Mr Mack has awarded Ahmed the special mentions this week for always engaging with our discussions, and being a fantastic talk partner (as he explained to his partner how he worked out some particularly challenging maths problems). He's also such a positive influence on the class, and without fail greeted me with a smile and a cheerful 'good morning'!

Yousafzai – Ode to Ava, how truly marvellous you are. It is a sheer joy to teach Ava, she takes learning seriously with a great grin on her face. She works really hard in all subjects. Her recent Ode was a very proud moment for Ava as she published it stunningly and can perform it to boot! Bravo Ava!



Please note you now need to report absences through our school admin email admin@kipling.brighton-hove.sch.uk or call the absence message line on 01273 303328 option 1.

Please DO NOT use Parentmail for absence messages. Thank you!

Attendance and Time Keeping



R.K.P.S. Championship Punctuality League KS1 Week ending 25.03.2022		
1st	100%	Thunberg & Obama
2nd	Year 2	Attenborough
3rd	Year 2	Parks
R.K.P.S. Championship Punctuality League KS2 Week ending 25.03.2022		
1st	100%	Pankhurst, Darwin & Yousafzai
2nd	Year 5	Seacole
3rd	Year 3	Gandhi
R.K.P.S. Premier Attendance League KS1 Week ending 25.03.2022		
1st	Year 2	Attenborough 98.3%
2nd	Year R	Thunberg 93.6%
3rd	Year 2	Parks 93.5%
R.K.P.S. Premier Attendance League KS2 Week ending 25.03.2022		
1st	Year 3	Darwin 99.6%
2nd	Year 5	Seacole 98.3%
3rd	Year 3	Pankhurst 95%





Resources on the war in Ukraine

The upsetting news from Ukraine is difficult for us all to digest, which of course includes our children. Please see below some helpful links which you might consider using.

Newsround, from the BBC's CBBC channel, has lots of videos and reports about the war in Ukraine that have been produced for children. There is also a section containing tips for children who are feeling sad or upset about something they have seen, heard or read.

[Newsround videos and reports – scroll down for a section on the war in Ukraine](#)
[Advice for children feeling upset by the news](#)

Place2Be’s educational psychologists have also shared advice about how to discuss war and conflict with children and young people – and how you can best support them at this difficult and worrying time. [Read their advice here](#)

Our thoughts are with the brave people of Ukraine.

ALDRIDGE FOUNDATION

ALDRIDGE FOUNDATION GIRLS CRICKET EASTER CAMPS

TUESDAY 19TH APRIL & WEDNESDAY 20TH APRIL
 9AM - 12PM

AT THE SIR ROD ALDRIDGE CRICKET CENTRE
 AT BRIGHTON ALDRIDGE COMMUNITY ACADEMY

BOOK FOR ONE DAY OR BOTH
 ALL SESSIONS ARE FREE
 FOR GIRLS AGED 8 - 11 YEARS OLD
 SOFT BALL CRICKET, LOTS OF GAMES, SKILLS AND FUN!

PLACES ARE LIMITED & SIGN UP REQUIRED, E-MAIL:
charlotte.burton@sussexcricket.co.uk

Explorers

Fun for 8-13 year olds
 (or thereabouts)

Friday 1st April
 3.30-5.30pm

Table tennis, games,
 craft, tuck-shop
 and Bible stories

FREE ENTRY ALL TUCK 50P AN ITEM

Parish Hall
 Holy Cross Church
 Downsway

April 2022	
Tuesday 5 th	Year 4 Trip to La Choza
Friday 8 th April	LAST DAY OF TERM
Monday 25 th	CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL

