

# Rudyard Kipling Primary School & Nursery Newsletter

"Where learning is an adventure!"

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@RudyardSchool

Headteacher Reports...

It's been a really special week as our school has been made that little bit better with the arrival of our two new classes of Reception children.

They have taken to their new school routines like ducks do to water: it was definitely the parents who were the more nervous when their little 'uns started earlier this week! It's been lovely spending some playtimes with these children, getting to know their unique personalities-they are a super bunch. Later this afternoon, they will enjoy our traditional PTFA Reception Tea Party with their parents and carers also invited-I'm looking forward to it!

This week, I have had the pleasure of teaching in Year 4-they are also a super bunch, just that little bit older. I still so enjoy teaching-there's nothing quite like it-and I still get the same buzz from helping children learn as I did when I started teaching, 27 years ago. Led by Mr Jones, our Year 4 team of Mrs Moule, Miss Farrow and Miss Goode are so dedicated and talented: our Year 4 pupils are guaranteed to enjoy an exciting and successful year of learning.

Miss Vaughan has been meeting some parent volunteers this week, many thanks to them for offering their time to help support in school. You can't underestimate the power of having additional parents in school to help children with their reading and other aspects of learning. A massive thanks to those parents who are helping already and, if you think you could spare a little time to be a parent volunteer, please let your child's class teacher know-thank you!

We are proud of our extensive (and mostly free) clubs menu which we offer to our children at RKPS. Most of these are teacher led and I'm delighted that two more are being added to the list. Mr Nicholson will soon be starting his chess club and this Monday, Mrs Brewer's after school KS2 Choir Club commences. I'm excited about both of these: chess is a great sport: it grows children's brains like few other activities. I also cannot wait to hear beautiful melodies drifting along the corridors of the school, courtesy of Mrs Brewer's school choir. Our singers will be preparing for the traditional Brighton schools carols concert in December, always a highlight of the year. I would like to thank all our teachers who offer these and other clubs in their own time, it is extremely kind of them.

If you haven't visited him already, do go and say hi to 'Roberto the Sheep' down at Woodingdean Library. A large number of our children (and staff!) are serious Brighton and Hove Albion fans-Roberto is a symbol of our home town club's most successful ever season as next week we enter European competition for the first time in our history. Roberto looks fantastic in our local library so why not venture down to see him and borrow a book or two at the same time!

Have a wonderful weekend in the sunshine.

Evan Havington

Euan Hanington Headteacher











Mr Hanington and Roberto the Sheep brushing up on their French geography!



Year 5 have had such a positive start to their new academic year. We have been really focusing on how we can learn well together and when necessary, compromise with others - which we all know is not always easy! We have really thought about the fact that whilst we are all equal, we are also all different and this

means that we learn and feel comfortable in different ways. All the children have shared wonderful ideas and thoughts on how each and every one of us can contribute to making the classroom a fantastic place to learn in, thereby ensuring that we all have a very happy and successful year together.



#### **Year 6 Open Evenings!**



Thursday 21st September 4:30pm-7:30pm





Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 5.45pm – 8.30pm





Thursday 28th September 6pm-8pm



STRINGER Thursday 5th October 5pm-8pm



Thursday 19th October

#### Please check the school websites for more information!

#### **Year 6 – Secondary School Applications**

The closing date for applications to transfer to secondary school in September 2024 is 31st October 2023.

We recommend parents apply online as this means they will receive an automatic confirmation of their application.



#### Year I

We had a stunning start in Obama and Kahlo on Friday for our topic 'Out and About'. When the children came back from assembly, a bag of what looked like explorer gear was found in our classrooms. We unpacked the bag and discussed where this mystery person might have been going. We then went to Forest School, explored and searched for what things we could find 'Out and About', and stood in a circle singing campfire songs and finding all sorts of bugs and objects as part of a scavenger hunt!









#### PTFA AGM - 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

Thank you for all your support with the PTFA events this year. We couldn't run events without you.

If you'd like to get involved, please join us at our AGM on 22nd September at 1.45pm.

Helping a little or a lot, in whatever way you can, really makes all the difference. Look forward to seeing you there!

#### **Head Teacher Awards!**

Lyla in Rashford for writing the names of her sisters all by herself!

Asiyah in Kahlo for being a Writing Wizard!

Jude in Kahlo A super start to her English book.

Ben in Obama for being a maths whizz!

Gracie in Obama for super phonics work!

Zak in Attenborough for being a maths magician!

Freddie in Parks for an amazing African tiger mask!

Freddie in Parks for being a maths magician!

Jaxon in Gandhi Exceptional history learning about the Stone Age

**Lily-Rose in Mandela –** An exceptional attitude to learning and being at the heart of classroom discussion.

**Lexi in Mandela –** Being so very helpful to Mr Hanington and the rest of the class.

**Maxim** – Superb reading about Nelson Mandela.

Athus, Mustafa and Thea in Seacole – Super artwork.

Charlie in Seacole for demonstrating impressive learning behaviours at playtime.

Jaiden in Yousafzai First class piece of project learning based on William Morris.











### Special Mentions

Kaho – Joshua has made an incredible start to Year I! He is always kind and respectful towards others and puts his all into his learning. What has particularly impressed me is Joshua's resourcefulness. He has shown again and again this week that he can overcome challenges using his super thinking. He is showing all the skills needed to excel in Year I. Fantastic job Joshua!

Obama – Reegan Wow, what a start to Year I Reegan has had! Reegan, your kind, friendly and respectful nature has shone in our class, making you not only a wonderful learning partner, but also a wonderful friend to your classmates. Reegan has really impressed Miss Stokes with her resilience in English this week, she has listened carefully to her targets and ensured that she is producing her best work! Keep it up superstar!

Attenborough – Wow, Daenerys! What a fantastic start you are making in Attenborough Class. You are all the 5Rs, but your readiness shows how you use all your skills at being resilient, reflective, resourceful, and good at remembering. Thank you, also, for being so kind and thoughtful towards others. We are so lucky to have you!

Gandhi – Alaa - When you look back on you learning books in many years to come, you will want to be proud of an immaculately presented book, right? I know for sure that amazing Alaa will be immensely proud of the effort she has gone to remember all the tips and strategies Mr Wynne has taught the class to keep their books as neatly as possible. Take a look! Well done, Alaa.

Mandela – Mason - What an absolute delight it has been getting to know: the wonderful, the spectacular, the one and only Mason!! Time and time again, Mason delivers the goods showing what it means to be Year 4 ready! His precision and care to detail are second to none and he continues to go from strength to strength at such an early stage of Year 4! Keep it up buddy – you're smashing it!

Darwin – Fonzie has been the role model of readiness this week. Since starting in Year 5, he has made sure to fully embrace the classroom expectations and ensures to embody these every day. Miss Smith recognises all his hard work already and is sure this will continue. During lessons, Fonzie is keen to make notes and answer questions to support his independent work. Also, once set on a task, Fonzie makes sure that he is focused on presentation and content whilst still ensuring to challenge himself. A true shining star!

**Seacole - Jack** is showing readiness in all aspects of his school life. He is consistently focused and enthusiastic, showing that he is ready of learn. He is always polite and sensible and when it comes to playtimes he is ready to have fun and play nicely with his friends. This fantastic attitude has ensured that Jack has had a brilliant start to Year 5.

Yousafzai – Jaiden has had a brilliant start to Year 6 and how shown incredible enthusiasm towards his work even wanting to complete it at lunch time! His William Morris poster was exception – bravo Jaiden.

**Lovely Lottie** is thriving in Year 6 and thanks to her Miss Vaughan is suriving. Her organisational skills help keep the classroom in order. Her work is wonderfully presented that it sings on the page - a role model to all. Bravo Lottie.



#### **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:**

Children who read (or who are read to) at least 20 minutes a day are exposed to almost 2 million words per year.



#### Oof Makes and Ouch by Duncan Beedie



Oof and Pib know hardly any words - in fact they only know how to say their own names - but it doesn't stop them from being the best of friends and doing everything together . . . Until Oof starts inventing all sorts of NEW words, and Pib feels so jealous that he does something to threaten their friendship forever.

Can Pib come up with a word of his own to make things right again?

A funny tale about friendship, forgiveness and the discovery of new words . . . including one that can be the hardest of all to say . . .

#### Time Travelling with a Hamster by Ross Welford Resist



For readers who loved Wonder and The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time this extraordinary debut will make you laugh and cry.

A story that crosses time and generations, for adventure-loving readers young and old.

"My dad died twice. Once when he was thirty nine and again four years later when he was twelve."

On Al Chaudhury's twelfth birthday, his beloved Grandpa Byron gives him a letter from Al's late father. In it, Al receives a mission: travel back to 1984 in a secret time machine and save his father's life.

Al soon discovers that time travel requires daring and imagination. It also requires lies, theft, setting his school on fire and ignoring philosophical advice from Grandpa Byron. All without losing his pet hamster, Alan Shearer...

Time Travelling with a Hamster is a funny, heart-warming race-against-time – and across generations – adventure that you will won't be able to put down.

#### **Reading Volunteers Needed!**

#### Enjoy making a difference





Do you have a spare hour during the week? Do you want to make a difference to the lives of our lovely Rudyard children? If, yes then please read on...

#### Did you know?

Children who read for pleasure, make significantly more progress in vocabulary, spelling and maths than children who read very little (Sullivan and Brown 2013).

We have been really lucky over the years to have a team of wonderful reading volunteers who have made up our Reading Support Network. We are thoroughly excited to be able to restart this term. If you can spare an hour (or more!) per week to work with children across the school, supporting them in their reading, we would LOVE to hear from you! If you have been a member of the Reading Support Network before and would like to re-join then please do!

This important voluntary role will not only develop your understanding of how children learn to read, but will make a massive difference to their reading progress.

#### How can I do this?

- Please contact the office with the day(s) and times (am or pm)
- We will need to complete a DBS form on your behalf, which is completely free.

We would love to have your support helping our children become lifelong readers.

We look forward to hearing from you.



#### **KS2 Children – Snack**

Unfortunately, we can no longer supply KS2 children with a snack at break time. If your child wants/needs a snack at break time, please send them in with one from home. We recommend a piece of fruit or a healthy snack to give them energy.

Thank you for your support in this.







#### Stars of the Week

#### **After School Club**

**KSI – Fox in Thunberg** for settling in so well.

**KS2 – Arthur in Seacole** for being a good role model.







# **Free Swimming**

Now available for 18 year olds and under

King Alfred Leisure Centre Prince Regent Swimming Complex St Luke's Swimming Pool

Call 0845 803 5519

Visit www.freedom-leisure.co.uk/freeswimmingBH







#### Who can access Free Swimming?

Free swimming is available to those aged 18 years and under, and are living in, or attending a fulltime education setting in Brighton & Hove. You may be asked to provide proof of age to prove eligibility when registering.

#### Where can you swim for free?

You can swim for free at King Alfred Leisure Centre, Prince Regent Swimming Complex and St Luke's Swimming Pool.

#### When can you swim for free?

Once registered for the scheme you can swim for free at all public and general swimming sessions at the following times:

- Monday to Friday from 3.30pm during state school term time
- Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays
- All day during Brighton & Hove state school holidays including inset days

There may be further restrictions to specific sessions. For any queries or for the latest swimming timetables please contact your swimming pool reception or look online.

# How many times can I swim for free per week?

You are able to swim as often as you would like in the designated session times.

## Can children swim unaccompanied?

Children under 8 years old must be supervised by a parent or adult (18 years or over) throughout their use of the pool facilities. Maximum ratio of 2 children to 1 adult. Those supervising must accompany the children in the water.

#### How do I sign up?

Complete a Free Swimming registration form and hand into reception at one of the participating pools. Forms are available from the pool reception, or online. You will then be issued a Free Swimming card. For those aged 16 years and under the Parent/Guardian must come into the centre to collect their Free Swimming card. The child must also be present as their photograph will be taken for the Free Swimming card.

# What happens if I lose my free swimming card?

Replacement cards can be obtained through the pool reception. There will be a nominal charge to replace lost or stolen cards.



Is your child starting Reception in 2024?

Join us to start your child's learning adventure!

Open events will be held on: Saturday 30th September, 10am Wednesday II<sup>n</sup> October, 9:30am Wednesday 15<sup>n</sup> November, 5:30pm Wednesday 22<sup>n</sup> November, 9:30am Wednesday 3<sup>th</sup> January, 9:30am

To reserve your place at one of our open events, please call the school office on (OI273) 303328.

	We are a high achieving Woodingdean school.			
	2023 Year 6 SATs results			Thes
		RKPS	National	ar
	Reading	86%	73%	perf
	Writing	78%	71%	the v
	Maths	80%	73%	
Reading, Writing, Maths Combined		70%	59%	

These results place us amongst the top performing schools in the whole of Brighton & Hove.

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September 2023		
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	PTFA AGM 1:45pm	
October 2023		
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	HALF TERM	
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	INSET DAY	
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Children Return to School	
November 2023		
Wednesday I <sup>st</sup>	Photographer – Individual Photos – more info to follow	
December 2023		
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of Term	
January 2024		
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	INSET DAY	
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Children Return to School	





















