Rudyard Kipling Primary School and Nursery Newsletter

Where learning is an adventure!

STAY SOCIAL

@Rudyardkiplingprimary

Monday 16th November 2026

Issue 26-27 10

Headteacher Reports:

It's been an exciting week of learning adventures at RKPS.

I had the pleasure of accompanying Miss Dolan-Parry's class to Farm School: it was a super trip. Lifelong memories were created, including watching 'Fly' the sheepdog herd up 50 sheep-if you haven't ever seen a sheepdog at work, you really should, it's incredible. Our Year 4 children also experienced the thrill of riding along in a long tractor trailer and watching in wonder as sheep jumped majestically out of their pen. Next week it is the turn of Year 4 Mandela class to have Farm School and they are in for a treat.

In Wednesday's assembly, our children marked Remembrance Day impeccably. The children listened to an original historical source: a beautiful letter written by Oscar and Harrison's heroic granddad, who served with such bravery in World War II.

On the same day, we sent a team of athletes to Waterhall to compete in the Brighton Schools Cross Country event. Mr Wynne and Mrs Edmonds were ever so proud of all our runners, they ran their hearts out. A special mention should go to Halle who finished second in the Year 6 girls' race, with a couple of hundred girls in the field. It was an all mighty run! Halle is such an accomplished athlete and we are proud of her.

Next week is national Anti-Bullying Week. In Monday's assembly I will be launching it: this year's slogan is 'Break the Silence' and children will be reminded to tell their adults on their 'Helping Hand if they ever have any concerns. Mrs Goozee has planned some lovely 'anti-bullying activities' for all our children to enjoy.

Euan Hanington

Headteacher



Cross Country Event

Positivity Teamwork Equality Respect Kindness

Special Mentions

Cian

Y1



Cian, we have been so proud of you over the past couple of weeks! It has been lovely to see you making such a big effort to make safe and sensible choices, both in your play and your learning. You are really showing us how much you understand our classroom rules and how brilliantly you can reflect on your choices. We love seeing you make those positive decisions and show everyone what a kind, caring and capable person you are. Keep shining, Cian

Bea



Brilliant Bea! You should be so proud of yourself for embracing your resilience and persevering when you step out of your comfort zone. This is helping your focus and the quality of your writing and maths calculations. You are also so kind and thoughtful – how lucky we are to have you! Keep on shining bright like the super-duper super star you are!

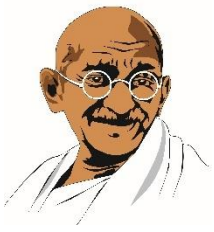
Y2

Saad



Well done, Saad! You are a lovely member of our class and should be so proud of the effort you put into your learning. You always try your best, listen carefully to advice and show a real willingness to keep improving. It is wonderful to see you growing in confidence and never giving up when things feel tricky. You are also a real star footballer on the playground and bring so much enthusiasm to every game! Keep up the fantastic effort, Saad – we are very proud of you!

Mubasher



This special mention goes to the unforgettably fantastic Mubasher! You always represent our 5 R's but today you are getting this award for your unmatched resourcefulness! You are always prepared with a blue pen to edit your work and always look around the classroom for things to enhance your work- you truly are a brilliant role model for all and an absolute pleasure to teach!

Y3

Drazon



Drazon's love of learning is admirable. He is always focused and listening and he takes a real interest in everything that we cover. He is keen to challenge himself and he is confident putting forward his ideas and questions. His mature attitude to his learning is meaning that he is absolutely flying in Year 3.



Harper

Harper is receiving this special mention for being such a kind, caring and helpful member of Pankhurst. She is such a conscientious worker, as soon as she has finished challenging herself, she loves to help others and she is always patient and encouraging. Harper should think about becoming a teacher she she grows up!



Asiyah

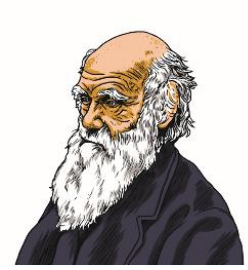
Awesome Asiyah! You show reslience on a daily bassis, not to mention a broad range of problem-solving strategies, curiosity and enthusiasm for learning. It is a delight to watch you puzzle over new ideas and I am always thrilled to hear more about how your brilliant brain works. Keep up the hard work and investigative approach, you are a star!

Y4



Ben

Brilliant Ben! You are a fantastic example of resilience in the classroom! Especially in English, you consistently produce wonderful pieces of writing and always show a determination to make them even better. Whether it's taking advice, listening to feedback or carefully editing your work, you never shy away from a challenge and always strive to improve. Keep up the fantastic effort, Ben – your hard work and determination are something to be incredibly proud of!



Talia

Talia is fantastic at reflecting on her learning and finding ways of improving. From planning on whiteboards, to dual coding key words, to breaking down words into their syllable breaks, Talia will do it all! She has developed this repertoire of strategies through careful reflection and engagement with peer and teacher feedback. The result of this is a fantastic learner who is becoming more independent every day. Keep up the hard work Talia!

Y5



Riley

Riley is becoming so much more resilient with his work. It has been wonderful to watch him carefully set out his maths work in his new book, ensuring it is his absolute best presentation. He is contributing to our lessons more and showcasing his growing confidence. Keep it up Riley!



Aoife

Aoife is an absolute joy to teach and a wonderful example of readiness in Year 6! She approaches every lesson with a calm, positive attitude, listens attentively and always takes on board advice to help her improve. Her love of reading shines through in her learning, and the hard work she has been putting into her spellings is really starting to pay off too! What has been particularly wonderful to see recently is Aoife's growing confidence, especially in maths, where she is beginning to share her ideas and contribute more to class discussions. Aoife is a thoughtful, talented and incredibly capable learner who always strives to do her best. Aoife, keep shining - you are a star!

Y6

Teddy



You can be sure that whenever Teddy is given some feedback, he will take it onboard and act upon it instantly. His remembering skills ensure that he never forgets and strives to improve, using the skills he learned in future learning. Additionally, Teddy is a shining example of someone who always remembers their please and thank yous - politeness in abundance. Teddy, you really are a delight! Thank you for making Yousafzai class that little bit better!



YR Thunberg	Maia and Hattie	Fantastic writing about the Naughty Bus.
Y2 Parks	Saad Ilya, Emilia, Bodhi, Emma, Hattie, Beau Hannah T	Super writing! Amazing maths! Superb running at the cross country event
Y5 Darwin	Tiffany and Talia	Excellent English learning.
Y6 Yousafzai	Whole class	Amazing Kensuke's Kingdom writing



Anti-Bullying Week 2026 – Break the Silence

We are looking forward to taking part in Anti-Bullying Week from Monday 16th – Friday 20th November. This year's theme is 'Break the Silence', encouraging children and adults to start conversations about bullying, speak up, listen and support one another.

We will be spending time talking with the children about what bullying behaviour is, how it can make people feel, and what we can do if we see something that isn't kind or fair.

Odd Socks Day is on Monday (16th). Children can come to school wearing their favourite odd socks as we celebrate what makes us all unique. There is no need to buy anything special, just find two different socks at home.

Throughout the week, we will be taking part in age-appropriate activities, stories and discussions to help children understand the importance of kindness, speaking up and knowing when to ask a trusted grown-up for help.

Reading Recommendations

Dr Seuss: "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go!"

Anti-Bullying Week

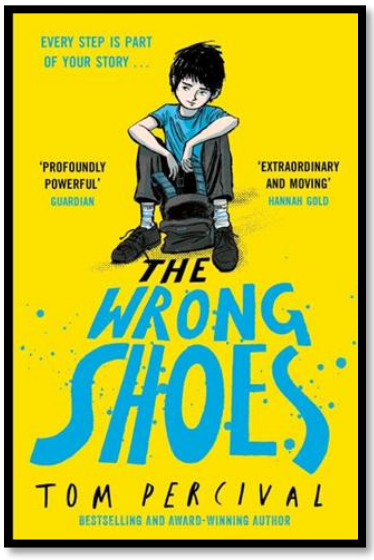
I'm Sticking with You By Smriti Halls (author), Steve Small (illustrator)



Bear and Squirrel are best friends and do everything together. Bear describes it beautifully: *'Like peas in a pod, you and I fit/ Like strawberries and cream, we are a hit'*. The pictures however are telling a different story and we can all see that sometimes – quite often in fact – Squirrel is more than a little irritated by Bear, not to mention squashed, bashed and accidentally knocked about!

When it all gets too much, Squirrel tells Bear he needs space and Bear, being a really good friend, understands. Check the illustrations again though, and we can see that life without Bear just isn't the same. Steve Small's illustrations are full of humour but poignant too and Smiriti Hall's rhyming text a delight to read aloud; this is a virtuoso portrayal of what friendship means.

The Wrong ShoesBy Tom Percival



Tom Percival's award winning picturebooks have demonstrated his powerful capacity for empathy building and in this, his first full length novel, that skill is even more evident as he gives a painfully authentic insight into the shamefully growing problem of child poverty.

It is unlikely that you will read a more powerful and important book all year. It should be required reading for all politicians and for those eligible to vote. But young readers will just be entirely gripped by Will's story, at the same time as gaining insight into what it is like to face this struggle every day.

There is not enough money for food let alone the trendy haircut or the new pair of shoes that might make him look more normal and make the school bullies leave him alone. Will hides the true extent of his worsening situation from teachers, friends and even his mother and her new partner. He certainly does not want his best friend's charity, however well meaning. Their rift seems to push Will towards some bad life choices just as his father disastrously turned to loan sharks.

Yet Will does not give up and his artistic talents give him small moments of joy and hope for the future.

Will is a wonderful character and seeing the way he triumphs over temptations to find the strength to be true to himself and recognise that there is no shame in asking for and accepting help, gives an empowering message to those children who will see themselves in his predicament.

School Notices

Wescott Thursdays

The next Wescott Thursday will be **Y5 Seacole and Y4 Franklin and Y5 Seacole (19th November).**

Forest School with Mr Wescott

Tuesday 17th November – Year 6 Turing AM

Tuesday 17th November – Year 4 Franklin PM

Wednesday 18th November – Year 4 Seacole AM

Wednesday 18th November – Year 1 Attenborough PM

Thursday 19th November – Year 5 Obama AM

Unnamed Lost Property

Any lost items that do not have any names on will now be put in a lost and found basket in the main Reception.

This basket will be emptied on the last Friday of every month, so if you have lost any items please check. Always name items such as water bottles, lunch boxes, coats and uniform.

Update: Christmas Lunch

We will be holding our Christmas lunch on Friday 11th December. This is also Christmas jumper day.

A Christmas menu will be sent out on Arbor this week alongside a form for you to respond to your child's preferred option. If your child is in KS2, is not entitled to free meals and wants a lunch then £2.95 must be paid via ParentPay once notified. If an option is not selected by 25th November, you'll be expected to provide your child with a home packed lunch on this day.



Update: Flu Vaccine

The Flu vaccine was cancelled on Friday due to the outage. Only the Reception children had their vaccine. The team will come back to school on 8th December in the afternoon. If you did not sign up for the vaccine and you would like your child to have it please sign them up using the following; https://www.susseximmunisations.co.uk//Forms/Flu?schoolcode=SX114486

Winter Performances



With winter performances fast approaching, information about booking tickets (KS1 & KS2) will be sent via Arbor using a Google Form in the coming weeks.

To ensure all families have the opportunity to attend, the first round of bookings will be limited to two tickets per child, per key stage performance. Once all families have had the chance to book, any remaining tickets will be released on a first-come, first-served basis.

Due to fire regulations and health and safety requirements, we are limited in the number of adults who can be accommodated in the hall. **For this reason, attendees' names will be checked against our booking list on arrival.**

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Please see all the dates below.

7th December	**KS1 Winter show (dress rehearsal) 9:15am**
8th December	**KS1 Winter show 9:15am**
9th December	**KS1 Winter show 9:15am, KS2 Winter Show (Dress rehearsal) 13:45PM**
10th December	**KS2 Winter Shows, 14:00 and 17:30pm**
16th December	**Armstrong 'Sing-a-long and Create' 9:15am**
17th December	**Reception Winter Sing-a-long and Create' 9:00am**

PTFA News

Christmas Market



Panto



Light Trail



Attendance at RKPS – Every Day Matters

Attendance at RKPS

While it is expected that children will pick up illnesses from time to time, we have noticed that some children are missing school for low-level symptoms such as headaches, colds, tiredness, and mild tummy aches. Our expectation is that children should still attend school when experiencing these minor illnesses.

Reporting absences. we have to record a reason for every absence from school so it is important that we have contact from an adult on each day of absence. If your child is too unwell to come to school please telephone the school office on 01273 303328 before 9.00am to let us know the reason,

Medical/ Dental Appointments Please try to avoid making appointments during school time where possible. Parents/carers must let the school office know in advance of any planned appointments during school time and must provide a copy of a letter / card or a text message confirming the appointment. If this is not provided school will be unable to authorise these appointments.

Lateness: the school day starts promptly at 8.45am, so you need to ensure that your child is on the school premises before that time. Late arrivals are disruptive to the whole class and often embarrassing for your child. We take the view that there are no late children, only late parents. Arrival after the close of registration will be marked as unauthorised absence in line with the Department of Education guidance. Persistent lateness can also incur a fixed penalty fine from the Local Authority. Any children arriving after 8.45am must be accompanied to the school office by the parent /carer, where they will be asked to sign them in. Lateness is monitored regularly. Where children have persistent lateness problems, we will inform parents/carers of school concerns by letter, or invite the parents into the school for a meeting.





And finally…

Class Teacher

1. Any parent/carer communication should be with the Class Teacher in the first instance.

Head of Key Stage

2. If the Class Teacher is unable to advise or rectify the issue this can then be escalated to the Head of Key Stage.

Deputy Head/SENCO

3. If the Head of Key Stage is unable to advise to rectify the issue, this can then be escalated to the Deputy Headteacher or SENCO if your child has additional needs.

Headteacher

4. If the Deputy Headteacher/SENCO is unable to advise or rectify the issue, this can then be escalated to the Headteacher.

Chair of Governors

5. If the Headteacher is unable to advise or rectify the issue, the matter can then be escalated to the Chair of Governors.

Senior Leadership Team

Headteacher – Mr Hanington

Deputy Headteacher – Miss Vaughan

SENCO – Ms Nazarko

Business Manager: Mr Stanley

Senior Leadership and Heads of Key Stage

EYFS – Mrs Goss

Key Stage One – Mrs V Brewer

Lower Key Stage Two – Mrs Steele

Upper Key Stage Two – Mr N Wynne

Dates for the Diary

November 26	
17th November	**Farm School – Year 4 Mandela**
19th November	**Chef John visiting Y6**
26th November	**Individual Photos – Retakes and Absenses**
December 26	
2nd December	**KS2 Choir at Brighton Dome**
5th December	**PTFA Christmas Light Trail**
7th December	**KS1 Christmas show (dress rehearsal) 9:15am**
8th December	**KS1 Christmas show 9:15am**
9th December	**KS1 Christmas show 9:15am, KS2 Christmas Show (Dress rehearsal) 13:45PM**
10th December	**KS2 Christmas Shows, 14:00 and 17:30pm**
11th December	**Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day**
15th December	**PTFA Christmas Panto**
16th December	**Armstrong 'Sing-a-long and Create' 9:15am**
17th December	**Reception Christmas Sing-a-long and Create' 9:00am**
17th December	**KS2 Choir Recital**
18th December	**LAST DAY OF TERM**
January 27	
4th January	**CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL**

Notice Board

