

# Royal Russell Junior School Newsletter



### Autumn Term 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019



Dear Parents,

Last week I was touched to receive a beautiful, hand-made card welcoming me to the school. It appeared on my desk and was waiting for me at the end of a busy day. Opening the card, turning from the striking sun design on the front cover, I read that the card was from the 'Acts of Kindness Club'. The impact that act of kindness had on my day, and the next few days, was considerable indeed. I particularly enjoyed the selfless nature of the act. No name, no thanks sought. A simple but effective act of kindness that made a change.

Making a change was a key focus of our assembly on Monday morning, where four brave members of last year's Pupil Parliament stood up to encourage children from Year One to Year Six to become agents for change within our community. With persuasive words and a powerful video presentation, I hope that many of our girls and boys will be encouraged to put themselves forward. Even the process of being a candidate will be of enormous benefit, promoting speaking and listening skills and building confidence in presentation. I look forward to keeping you informed of the change the council affects for our whole community.

I wish to sign off with a heartfelt thank you to all who will be involved in our Open Day this Saturday. I realise that it is a draw on your time as a family. Where the benefits to the school community may be obvious, the benefits for our pupils might be slightly more obscure. For our younger pupils they have the opportunity to engage with a carousel of exciting activities and work in new groups and areas of the school. Our older pupils, who act as our tour guides, are tasked to engage with our visitors and tell the wonderful story of what exactly makes our school so special. I have seen our previous Year Six in action and I have no doubt that our current Year Six will rise to the challenge and hone their ability to communicate, to adapt to dynamic situations and be outstanding ambassadors for our school. As our supportive parent body, I thank you in advance for your time and for helping to make this a fantastic day.

My very best wishes for a wonderful weekend,

John Evans
Junior School Headmaster

#### Reflections from Reception

Reception Foxes and Squirrels have been enjoying outdoor learning in our fabulous **Forest School**. Despite the variable weather, we have enjoyed ourselves, rain or shine!

With the guidance of our amazing Forest School team, we have learnt how to use tools safely and effectively to start whittling our own pieces of wood.

We have investigated the creatures found in the forest, discussed their habitats and how they have to be cared for.

Taking turns on the rope swing has been a highlight too!









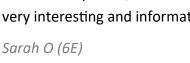
#### Year 6 Pupil Talks

Our Sixth Form students who are studying A-Levels kindly gave us the opportunity to learn more about politics and economics.

We were given the task of deciding how to spend £2 million to fix 7 classrooms, make a new junior school playground, improve the lunch menu, buy some new science equipment and continue construction work in the Senior School.

As a group we used our **Russell Powers** of **communication** and **collaboration** to see which one should be our first priority and which one would need the most money.

I think the whole of Year 6 will be going to next Tuesday's talk, as this weeks one was a very interesting and informative one.





### Year 4 Environmental Explorer Trip to Juniper Hall



This week Year 4 journeyed to Juniper Hall, in Box Hill, on their Environmental Exploration Trip.

Year 4 used their Russell Powers on Monday, they needed Persistence and Resilience whilst climbing up the steep hill into the woods.



They used their **Curiosity** to try to work out why there was a tower in the middle of the forest.







Next came Communication, Collaboration and Initiative as they worked in teams to create a waterproof shelter out of branches and trees.

They then used their **Risk taking** skills as they huddled together in the shelter whilst water was thrown over them - unsurprisingly they did get a little bit wet!!

In the evening they sang songs around the campfire and toasted marshmallows in the rain!

Tuesday morning the children learnt even more about maps and using keys. They participated in a fantastic orienteering course.

Then they drew their own maps and hid geo-caches for another team to find!







It was an amazing experience!

It was great fun at Juniper Hall, I wish I could go again I learnt how to make a map and I wanted to stay!

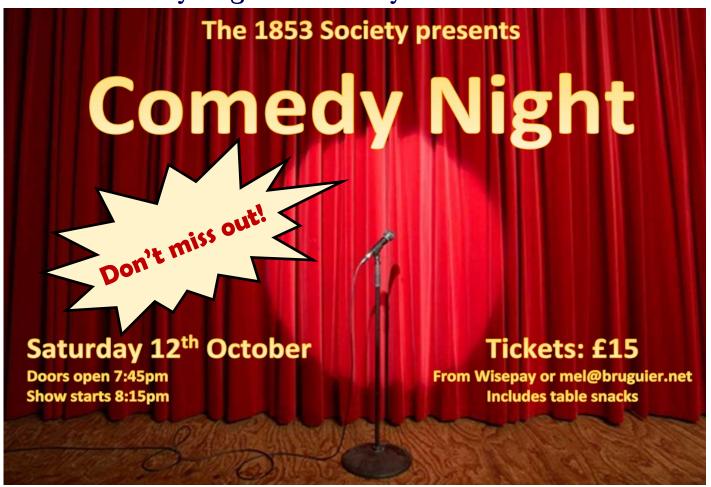


Lara (4T)

#### Jeans for Genes' Charity Mufti Day



#### 1853 Comedy Night - Saturday 12th October



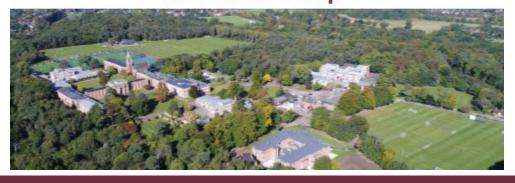




Exceptional Independent
Day and Boarding Education for
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## **OPEN MORNING**

Saturday 28 September 2019 8.30am to 1.00pm



#### For all our latest news......



**Royal Russell School** 

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www.royalrussell.co.uk

**Patron: Her Majesty The Queen**