



Royal Russell Junior School

Newsletter

Autumn Term

13th September 2019



Dear Parents,

This letter marks the end of our first full week back and, in the most positive way, it feels as though we have been back for longer. As regular routines have been established, this week has seen some of our most exciting learning take place out of the classroom. On Monday we had a visit from Zoolab for our Year One pupils. You can read more about it in the newsletter, however, my highlight was the impressive engagement and quality of questioning from some of our youngest pupils. I was also impressed with their bravery as they held and stroked all manner of curious creatures that yours truly had given a wide berth.

We also waved goodbye and welcomed back two of our adventurous residential trips as the Year Five team spent three days in Bowles and the Year Six team ventured to the Isle of Wight. What was so exciting to see was the pace of development in the friendships and collaborative relationships that the pupils and teachers had built with each other. Problem solving, risk taking and taking responsibility for themselves and others. The perfect foundation on which to build for the year ahead. I hope that all of the exciting news filters back to you and would like to thank the staff whose time and care of the children make these trips such a success.

We have rounded off the week with our celebrations assemblies that promote the fantastic success that our community has shared over the course of our first full week back. As well as celebrating our 'Russell Powers' we also celebrated the other contributions made by pupils around the school. The spirit of community and togetherness was evident as everyone took pleasure in celebrating the achievements of others.

We also look forward to welcoming a number of schools to our U11 football tournament this Saturday and I would like to thank pupils, parents and staff for their participation in what promises to be an exciting event.

Warm regards,

John Evans

Junior School Headmaster

Year One Zoolab Visit

On Monday Year One had a very exciting visit from 'Zoolab'

We were introduced to a variety of invertebrates & vertebrates and learned a great deal about them.

We met a millipede, a cockroach, a giant African snail, a tarantula, a corn snake and even a scorpion.

We were very excited to see and handle some of the animals.

More pictures of our visit can be found on Firefly.

What a fantastic way to begin our topic about Minibeasts!



Year Five Residential Trip to Bowles

This week saw Year Five travel to Bowles activity centre in Tunbridge Wells. The children take part in a range of activities that build up their confidence levels. Furthermore they learn independence skills through making their own beds and serving food at the dining hall.

It is also a great opportunity for the whole year group to bond and get to know one another.

An excellent time was had by all as we skied, built rafts, completed high rope challenges and ventured out on night walks to name but a few activities.



Music Exam Successes

Congratulations to the following children who passed their Music Exams at the end of last term.

We are so proud of them all for achieving these next steps on their musical journey.

Maria - Grade 2 descant recorder

Maisey - Grade 2 descant recorder with Merit

Annalise- Grade 2 descant recorder with Merit

Yasmin - Grade 1 piano

Gio - Grade 1 piano

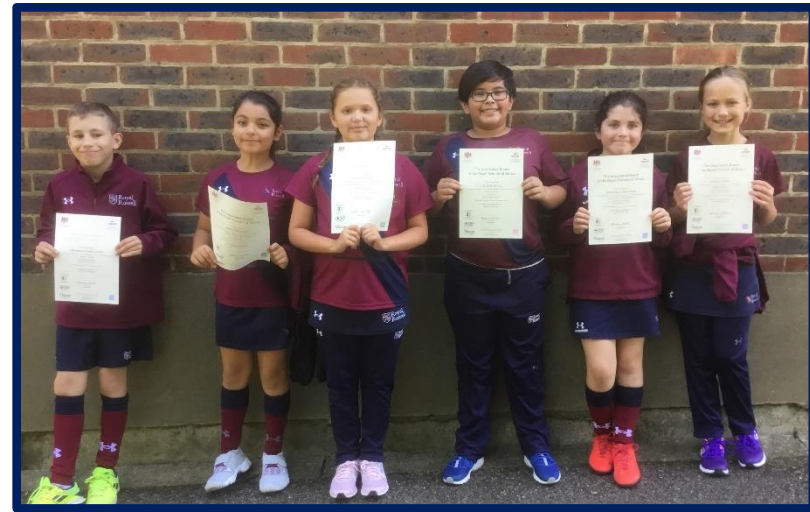
Akein- Grade 1 piano

Isabella- Grade 1 violin with Merit

Frederick - Grade 1 violin with Merit

Maddi - Grade 2 piano

Maddi - Grade 1 violin with Distinction





HARVEST FESTIVAL

455 x 270

Items currently needed:

- Long life whole milk
- Small jars of coffee or small boxes of tea bags
- Small bags of sugar
- Meat and fish paste
- Tinned meat meals
- Tinned tomatoes
- Packets of dried potato
- Tins of rice pudding
- Jellies and puddings
- Non-bio washing powder tablets/sachets
- Shower gel/shampoo
- Tin openers

On Friday 20th September, we will be celebrating **Harvest Festival** in our Chapel.

From Lower Juniors, we would welcome a decorated shoebox, or similar, filled with non-perishable food. Upper Juniors should bring their non-perishable donations in a carrier bag or box.

These will be offered by the children during the Chapel Service and then donated to the **Purley Food Hub** and the **Salvation Army**. All donations for our Harvest Festival should be brought into school by Thursday 19th September please.

Thank you in anticipation.

Friday 20th September



Reporting an absence

If your child is unwell, please let the Junior School Office know before 8.30am

Email: juniorabsence@royalrussell.co.uk

Telephone: 020 8651 5884

If you call before 8am, you can leave a voice message, letting us know the nature of the illness.

Please update us daily, unless we already know the illness requires a longer period of time of recovery, for example chicken pox. Please remember to keep your child off school for 48 hours after a bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

If your child has a future appointment of any kind, please give as much notice as possible using our 'juniorabsence' email.

If you wish to ask permission for an absence in one-off circumstances, such as a family wedding etc. please address your request to: juniorheadmaster@royalrussell.co.uk

Thank you



We will be celebrating birthdays
on the following Fridays:



20th September: Birthdays between 16th September-22nd September

27th September: Birthdays between 23rd September-29th September

4th October: Birthdays between 30th September-6th October

11th October: Birthdays between 7th October-18th October

18th October: No Celebration Assembly - Half Term begins 12.00 noon