



Royal Russell Junior School

Newsletter

**Spring Term
17th January 2020**



Dear Parents,

Our first full week back has been an exciting one with fixtures, clubs and activities getting into their stride. I was lucky enough to join the 'Aspiring Vets' group as they took their weekly trip to the ARC animal centre in South Croydon. As well as meeting a cheeky parrot and some brilliantly hairy goats (whose illicit foray into the hen house caused much amusement) the children were there to learn. This week they, and I, learned how to care for the centre's chickens. We had a fantastic visit and we all enjoyed ourselves tremendously. We all left with a better understanding of the responsibilities involved in caring for the animals and the important work of the centre.

The theme of responsibility ran through until the end of the week, into our Friday celebration assembly as we announced our new prefects and, with great excitement, our new Heads of School. Building on the fantastic work of our existing groups, I am delighted to welcome Klara Dworakowska, Luke Pritchard, Kalan Sharma and Harry Spriggs as our newest school prefects. I look forward to seeing them grow into their roles as they carry out the duties and responsibilities that the position entails. I am also delighted to announce that Sarah Ozeki and Harvey Wright-Philips are our new Heads of School for the Spring term. Sarah and Harvey lead by example and I am delighted that they have the opportunity to lead the school forward at this point in the year.

We also have some exciting, but sad news to share as we announce that Mr James Davies will be leaving us in the Summer term. In keeping with our theme of responsibility, Mr Davies has been appointed as Head of Early Years at Falcons Prep School in Richmond. Although we will be sad to see him leave, we are delighted for him and wish him every success in what will be an exciting new chapter in his career.

Please allow me to wish you and your families a wonderful weekend and we look forward to seeing you next week.

Best wishes,

John Evans
Junior School Headmaster

Freshwater Theatre Magical Toy Museum visit Year 1

Year 1 began the Spring term with an exciting visit from the Freshwater Theatre Company to introduce our new topic 'Toys'. Clive the Curator welcomed us to the 'Magical Toy Museum' and took us on a tour of the exhibits.



We had the chance to explore a range of toys from the past and present, such as dolls, bears and moving toys. We learned about where the first teddy bear originated from and even had the opportunity to be toy detectives.



Some of the children were quite perplexed at how to use a spinning top or cone puppet! Finally we used our Russell Power of 'Originality' to think of our own toy designs in the 'inventing room'.



The teachers and Clive were astounded by the children's imaginative ideas.

Speech and Language Parents' Coffee Morning



Reception to Year 6 Parents Tuesday 21st January 8.45-10:15am

We are thrilled to invite you to a Speech and Language Coffee Morning provided by Kids First Therapy Centre in Junior School Hall.

Most suitable for parents of pupils in Reception to Year 6. We will serve coffee & tea from 8.45am and will start the programme at 9.00am.

Please come and join us if you would like to know more about:

- What is Speech and Language?
- How can speech and/or language difficulties impact your child's development, especially literacy.
- Modelling good language
- Games you can play at home to support your child's development

Please secure your place via Firefly – *Junior School Forms > Event Forms*

Please note that there are a limited number of spaces and places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.



Silver Star Awards



Ivy 5C

For being kind and thoughtful in offering to help a child visiting from another school to find their way around.

Sofyan
Harry 3R
Kit

For being kind and going the extra mile for a friend.

Careers Education

A message from Jenny Harris, Head of Careers in the Senior School and Jeremy Lloyd-Jones, Development Manager for Royal Russell.

Our approach to Careers Education in the Senior School focusses on practical ways of learning. We aim to provide all pupils with multiple opportunities to interact with employers, professionals, apprentices and current university students, from a broad range of sectors and disciplines. We do this in a variety of formats so that pupils build on their networking skills and gather useful and up to date information as well as professional contacts. Engagement with career activities enables pupils to grow in confidence when making decisions on their future choices and increasingly, we see pupils having greater self-awareness: recognising what they have to offer universities and employers and crucially, where they need to develop skills.

We hold an annual Careers & Higher Education Fair, offer networking breakfasts, support work experience placements, provide mock employability interviews, engage with social enterprise initiatives, enter Mock Law trials competitions and the Young Reporter scheme and most recently, held a Dragons' Den style event for BTEC students in conjunction with the Business department.

Jeremy's remit is to devise and implement an alumni and development programme to strengthen the school's relations with Old Russellian's, parental communities and external businesses. So far, we have some very good blocks in place. The Careers Department and Development Office work closely when organising many careers events and together we rely heavily on our past and present parent network, our alumni and on the local business contacts we make through the school's membership of the London Chamber of Commerce. We are fortunate to have a parent community that already supports many activities in the wider school and so we hope that you will consider lending your support to the careers programme in the senior school.

We already benefit from keen support from a handful of Junior School parents which has been invaluable. We know too that there is a wealth of experience and expertise amongst you and we would very much appreciate your support, for the benefit of all pupils, not just today but in years to come.

Jenny and Jeremy would be very keen to hear from you if you think you might be able to join the growing list of potential helpers for the careers programme or if you would like to support the school in other ways.

Please email:

Jenny for support with careers activities on jharris@royalrussell.co.uk

Jeremy to discuss other forms of support on jloyd-jones@royalrussell.co.uk .

1853 Quiz Night - Saturday 8th February

On Saturday, 8th February the 1853 Society will be hosting their annual Quiz Night. This is always a fun evening, combining a traditional quiz with a great opportunity to get together with friends.

The quiz will be held in the Great Hall and doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Nibbles will be provided, but please do bring either your own drinks, glasses and corkscrews or alternatively, there will be a licenced bar selling wine, beer and soft drinks on the night.

Tickets are £10 each and teams can be up to a maximum of 10 people. This is an adult only event, so no children please.

If you would like to book please contact either 1853society@royalrussell.co.uk or mel@bruguier.net

We look forward to seeing many of you there.