



Royal
Russell

Headmaster's Weekly Newsletter

09 October 2020

Dear Parents and Friends,

Yesterday evening we hosted our virtual Sixth Form Open Evening for our own Year 11 pupils who were joined by 40 potential pupils, interested in joining the Royal Russell Sixth Form. Initial introductions were given by myself, Mrs Snelgrove the Deputy Head Learning, Ms Worsfold and Ms Wheeler-Quinnell the Heads of Upper School and Heads of School, Zoya Kirmani and Jack Burton. Pupils and guests were then invited to join online sessions with Heads of Department and their pupil Academic Ambassadors, who gave personal insights into their subject experiences and UCAS aspirations.

Materials supporting this event, including some great videos from our Academic Ambassadors are still available to view on the School Website [here](#).

I was pleased to see that our new season of Russell Talks has started this week in the library with a group of Year 13 pupils discussing different disciplines of engineering to an audience within their Sixth Form 'bubble'. Congratulations to Wendy, Sean and Jason for initiating this exciting programme.

It was great to welcome the Cambridge Year 7 pupils for Breakfast on Tuesday morning in the Conference Room with their tutor, Mrs Barton.

At our Senior Assembly this afternoon, I challenged the Senior Prefect team to take control and lead the presentation from start to finish. After an introduction from Zoya Kirmani and opening prayer from Vlada Medvedeba, Sam Hacker chose to share observations and ideas on Black History Month which included a brilliant recital of 'Vision', a poem written and performed by Humzah Mughal.

Grace Scott introduced the Student Wellbeing Support Group and [World Mental Health Day](#), which is marked on Saturday 10 October. Grace finished with these thoughtful and powerful words: 'Together we are stronger and together we can make a difference all over the world.'

Cameron Mackay gave an update on the Sixth Form Committee meeting and Rebecca Clery reported on the first meeting of the student council, before Lucas Humphries thanked all of our Academic Ambassadors for their contribution to the Sixth Form Open Evening.

Congratulations to Ellie von Gerrard who gave a great performance of 'The Rainbow Connection' which was warmly applauded by our Year 10 audience.

At the end of our assembly Year 13 pupil, Wendy Fong reminded all pupils of the importance of wearing a face covering or mask in the correct way and at the appropriate time.

All members of the community will be aware that, having had our first positive covid test result for a pupil this week, we have had to ask a small number of pupils, identified as close contacts to self-isolate at home.

I am very keen that we do all we can to avoid pupils missing lessons and activities here on site and would ask everyone to continue to be extremely vigilant and do all that we can to protect each other by washing hands, wearing face coverings and maintaining distance in corridors and classrooms.

Please can you also ensure that you are also following the rules on wearing a face covering on Public Transport so that we are minimising the risk to the Royal Russell Community.



A reminder that we finish school for half-term in the Senior School on Friday 16 October at 12.45 pm. Pupils with siblings in the Junior School will be released at 12 noon, so that families are able to be collected and leave at the same time.

With Best Wishes,

Chris Hutchinson

Headmaster

Food Preparation and Nutrition

It has been another busy week in Food Preparation and Nutrition. Year 7 have prepared an array of French Toast combinations. They concentrated on preparing a healthy, balanced dish that could be served for Breakfast or Brunch, taking special care with presentation techniques.

Year 8 have been engineering their own design Meatball Dish, discovering new flavour combinations, choice of meat or substitute and serving with their choice of starchy carbohydrate. There has been a great variety of dishes prepared, including meatball subs, tacos stuffed with meatballs, jerk flavoured meatballs with fried plantain, and spaghetti meatballs stuffed with cheese.

Year 7 Food Club had fun preparing Caribbean banana muffins. The students enjoyed trying out new flavour combinations so that each batch of muffins were unique. Thank you to Kalan, Tom, Luke, Anxo, Shailen, Rohan, Oscar, Isabel, Oneli and Keira for a great baking session.

Next week the Year 8 Food Club will be learning to make Jollof Rice and Chicken.





FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION CLUB

WEDNESDAY 4pm – 5:15pm P12



Next Session WEDNESDAY 14 October 2020

YEAR 8

Jollof Rice and Chicken



Sign Up Sheet ... On the fridge in the Food Technology corridor

£2 CHARGE

ONLY 12 PLACES PER WEEK

Exciting Career Opportunities

We currently have many new vacancies open at Royal Russell. Including roles in Teaching, Marketing, Nursing, Coaching and Administration.

Please click [here](#) for the full list of available positions. We would be grateful if you could share this with your wider community.



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Russell Talks

On Thursday, the Library hosted the first Russell Talk of the new school year. At lunchtime, Sean, Wendy and Jason spoke to a full house about the differences between various disciplines of Engineering.

Jason began by summarising the speciality of Aerospace Engineering, talking about some famous Aerospace engineers including Elon Musk who is pioneering the future of space flight. The study of Aerospace engineering also encompasses subjects such as supersonic and stealth aircraft as well as reusable launch systems which are a more economical form of launch craft.

Sean then spoke about Mechanical Engineering which, perhaps, covers the broadest range of industries including marine, automotive and nuclear engineering. Sean told us about some of the early pioneers of Mechanical Engineering including George Stephenson whose inventions have led to some relatively recent innovations particularly in the rail industry.

Wendy finished off the talk with a detailed explanation of Chemical Engineering and the opportunities offered to graduates in a variety of industries including oil and gas, cosmetics and environmental control. In a nutshell, the role of Chemical Engineering is to take the smallest discoveries in the laboratory from all fields of science and provide economical and effective solutions to the world.

Wendy introduced us to some ground-breaking Chemical Engineers, including Dermot Manning who played a large part in the mass production of Polyethylene and Margaret Hutchinson Rousseau who designed the first commercial penicillin production plant.

All in all the team made a great start to the Talks series, explaining some of the complexities behind the science of Engineering and giving us plenty of food for thought.



Photographers of the month

Well done to Kaya Kantner and Louis Kennedy who have captured these beautiful portrait and landscape images.



Year 7 Headmaster's Breakfast

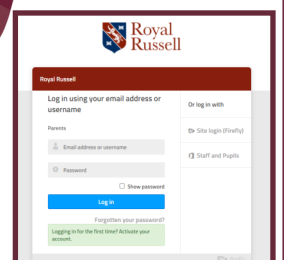
On Tuesday morning, Year 7s from Cambridge House were welcomed to the Conference Room to start their day with a delicious breakfast and they also enjoyed getting to know each other.



Autumn Term's Updated Clubs and Activities List on Firefly

The co-curricular activities will be published weekly on Firefly.

Please click [here](#) to see all the activities available.



Lamda Lesson Time table

Years 9 and 11 will meet on the same Thursday, working at different ends of Great Hall.

Years 8 and 10 will meet on the same Thursday, working at different ends of Great Hall.



Please see timetable for this Term and after Half Term below

All classes will run from 4-5pm in Great Hall

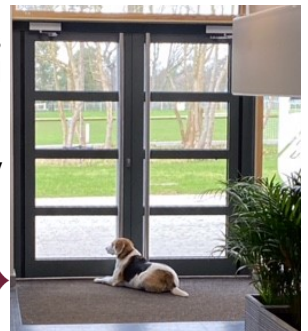


Thursday 5 October	Year 9 + 11
Thursday 5 November	Year 8 + 10
Thursday 12 November	Year 9 + 11
Thursday 19 November	Year 8 + 10
Thursday 26 November	Year 9 + 11
Thursday 3 December	Year 8 + 10
Thursday 10 December	Year 9 + 11

Remembering Buddy

Mr and Mrs Jeffree's beautiful old Beagle, Buddy passed away last Friday. He was well loved by all and will be sorely missed as a part of the Royal Russell community, as people were so accustomed to seeing him going on his daily walks.

During lockdown he lay at the front door of the boys' house wondering where they all were patiently waiting for their return.



Cambridge House Bear's

Cambridge's Housemistress has been busy knitting bespoke bears.

Each Bear represents one of our Cambridge Boarders and their nationality. We're so proud of our richly diverse boarding community.

When asked about her experience at Royal Russell Bibienne said "I've definitely made some lifelong friends from different walks of life, different cultures and backgrounds and I've been blessed to have had the teachers that I've had"



From the Sport Department

Football

U14s

Royal Russell U14A's got off to a great start to their league campaign with a good 3-1 win against Hampton School.

The game got under way with both teams really battling in wet conditions. The first effort of the game was a speculative effort from Midfielder Stefano Hadjisavvas with a great 30 yard half volley which the Hampton keeper saved.

The keeper was tested once again when full back Rhys Read-Beche had a great effort saved. Against the run of play Hampton took the lead when George Burrows gave away a penalty. The Hampton player stepped up and calmly slotted it past Laurence Friel into the bottom right corner.

However, this didn't disrupt Royal Russell as they continued to go forward and Liam Moore made a good effort after some good work from Emeka Peters. The last chance of the half fell to Emeka who had a one on one saved by their Goalkeeper. Score line was 1-0 to Hampton at half time.

Five minutes into the 2nd half and Royal Russell equalised. A great ball over the top from Lorcan Oliver who found Emeka who scored with a great finish just outside the box.

However, 2 minutes later Royal Russell took the lead. This time, Emeka was there to assist Liam Moore who smashed the ball home from the edge of the box after a slight deflection. The game was then put to bed after a great corner from Isheanopa Hunidzarira to Emeka who timed his header perfectly to make it 3-1.

Royal Russell ended the game playing some excellent football. Ethan Brown played very well at the back looking very composed and assured and the three midfielders, Liam, Rhys and Isheanopa passing the ball well. The front 3 of Emeka, Adeniyi and Lorcan looked a threat all morning.

A great start for the U14's in what was their first game together.

Player of the match was awarded to Emeka Peters after his 2 great finishes and an assist.



Strength and Conditioning

It's been a busy week at the Sports and Conditioning, 1st Team Footballers have been getting expert physio treatment.

Mr Brennan said "We are very pleased to launch a new collaboration between Royal Russell School and MyPhysioCroydon.com to provide expert prehab/rehab services to our 1st Team".



Year 10 Academy Netballers have been getting expert assistance from Miss Alice Nicholls and Miss Georgia Blake, 2 of our new Sport & PE Department Interns.

U15s

The first game for the U15's was a wet and windy occasion as we travelled away to play against Hampton School.

The players were excited for their first game, with a slick pitch Royal Russell were able to move the ball well and showed some good periods of possession in the first 20 minutes. Defensively, the team had a good shape and did not give away many chances, it was a very even game.

Unfortunately, Royal Russell conceded the first goal with a back pass skidding off the grass catching Matt off guard, 1-0. This was a bad stroke of luck after a good start and Hampton were then on the ascendency with Royal Russell struggling to get their heads up conceding two quick goals before half time, 3-0.

After half time Royal Russell came out with renewed motivation and started very strongly. We created two good chances in the early parts of the second half however were unable to convert. A lack of concentration resulted in Hampton scoring a good fourth goal which then made the game extremely difficult. However, credit to Hampton who played some good football and were very clinical, resulting in a loss for the U15's.

U18B

This week on a beautiful Wednesday afternoon we travelled to Hampton for a friendly game of football. Their pitch looked immaculate. Both teams started the game passing the ball on a slick pitch without creating too much but wide players French and Kawa looking a threat.

After 20 minutes of the game starting Patrick Low had a long range effort but it was saved by their Goalkeeper.

After 35 minutes in Royal Russell took the lead with great work from David Kawa who beat his player down the byline and slid it across the 6-yard box for Joe French to finish from 3 yards. 1-0 to Royal Russell at half time.

After just a few minutes into the 2nd half, Royal Russell got caught playing from the back. This led to a Hampton corner which they capitalised from. The Hampton player headed the ball in from close range.

10 minutes into the 2nd half and Royal Russell regained their lead, when the ever impressive Patrick Low switched the play to David Kawa who again beat his full back and cut it back to Kilae who finished on his left foot into the roof of the net from 8 yards, 2-1 to Royal Russell.

5 mins left of the game and Hampton won a penalty when Calum Frith slid in as the ball was played behind him to take down their oncoming winger. The Hampton player stepped up and slotted it into Ethan Endacott's left corner, although he got a hand to it but could not stop it, 2-2.

There was still time for one more goal and it was the last kick of the game and Patrick Lowe whipped an unbelievable corner and Ben Olowu towered above his defender to head home the winner and send the Royal Russell players into celebrations.

Final result was 3-2 to Royal Russell.

A very competitive friendly on a beautiful surface with both teams playing some excellent football.



Key Diary Dates

Sunday 11 October

Chapel (Oxford)

Tuesday 13 October

London Mozart

Tuesday 13 October

Year 7 Hollenden Breakfast with Headmaster

Friday 16 October

Half Term begins

Upcoming Parents' Evenings

Year 7

Wednesday 18 November 2020

Year 8

Wednesday 10 March 2021

Year 9

Tuesday 2 February 2021

Year 10

Thursday 10 December 2020

Year 11

Thursday 21 January 2021

Year 12

Thursday 25 February 2021

Year 13

Thursday 5 November 2020



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Royal Russell School

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Patron: Her Majesty The Queen