

Dear Parents and Friends,

Following the first celebrations of Black History Month last week, looking deeper and thinking about inclusion have continued to be important themes for our community this week.

Mrs Bannon started our week in Monday's assembly by challenging us to consider what strength means to us. The children were wise beyond their years in the responses that they gave, showing that we, as adults, have much that we can learn from them. The emotionally intelligent ideas offered by our audience about inner strength and resilience were exciting to listen to.

All week, the whole Junior School have been putting themselves through a number of different challenges to better understand what it feels like to have dyslexia. Dyslexia Awareness Week has had a real impact on us all and I was so proud of the children who supported Ms Parry in her assembly on Thursday. I hope that you enjoy reading about how we have promoted Dyslexia Awareness Week further on in this Newsletter.

I would also like to pass on my thanks on behalf of the Salvation Army for your generosity in donating so many food items and cleaning products for our Harvest collection. The theme for our Harvest Festival this year was saying 'thank you' and it was the perfect way for our school to reflect on how fortunate we are to have plenty. My thanks to Mrs Netherway for organising the celebration and Mr Millward for leading us through our Service.

I am delighted to share the news of the birth of Mrs Bailey's (and Mr Bailey's) son, Sacha Bailey, who was born on 24th September. The whole family are doing very well and adjusting to life as a three. We look forward to meeting Sacha in due course.

It is hard to believe that next week will be the last before the half term holiday. We have achieved so much this half term, although, at times, it feels as if it has flown by.

There are details in the class emails regarding collection as the half term ends on a half day next Friday. To avoid overcrowding on site, please can I ask you to stick as closely as possible to these timings and, once you have collected your children, please make your way from the site promptly. Senior School siblings will be able to leave with Junior School pupils at 12 noon on that day.

With my very best wishes for a wonderful weekend,

John Evans Headmaster, Junior School



Harvest Festival Celebration



The children have been preparing for our Harvest Festival service, giving them the opportunity to think about and give thanks for the food they receive and provide them with a greater awareness of where it all comes from. They have been reflecting upon those who are less fortunate and have very generously brought in grocery donations for those people.



Although the service was terrific fun and was led in the Chapel with Mr Evans, Mr Millward and Year 6, it was also live throughout the Junior School, in the Hall and through Teams in all the other classes. We listened and danced along to the 'Harvest Samba' whilst watching a super video with singing fruit and men in banana suits, presentations, poems and prayers. Each year group took turns to present their offering.



We would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to all the parents who have sent their children in with these generous donations. They will be collected by the Salvation Army and distributed to those in need.

















Dyslexia Awareness Week

Dyslexia Awareness Week is an annual event aimed at further understanding and raising awareness about dyslexia. Dyslexia is a learning difficulty that affects millions of people every day. However, not everyone understands the nature of Dyslexia. This week, our pupils in the Junior School have been taking part in Dyslexia Awareness Week. This has helped us all as a community to better understand it and raise awareness of how commonplace it is.

At Royal Russell, we know that this starts with our education and we have used our daily form times to start thinking about how we can start to contribute to changing the public perception of people with dyslexia. Our ultimate mission being to become better supporters of those who have dyslexia.

Every day, teachers and their classes were sent information about dyslexia and had activities to complete. Our pupils experienced how it might feel to be dyslexic and have looked at how we all have multiple strengths across the curriculum.

The end of our Dyslexia Awareness Week was rounded off by an assembly. We celebrated our differences and thought about how we are all unique individuals. We looked at well-known celebrities who are dyslexic and thoroughly enjoyed hearing from our pupils who challenged our misconceptions about it.

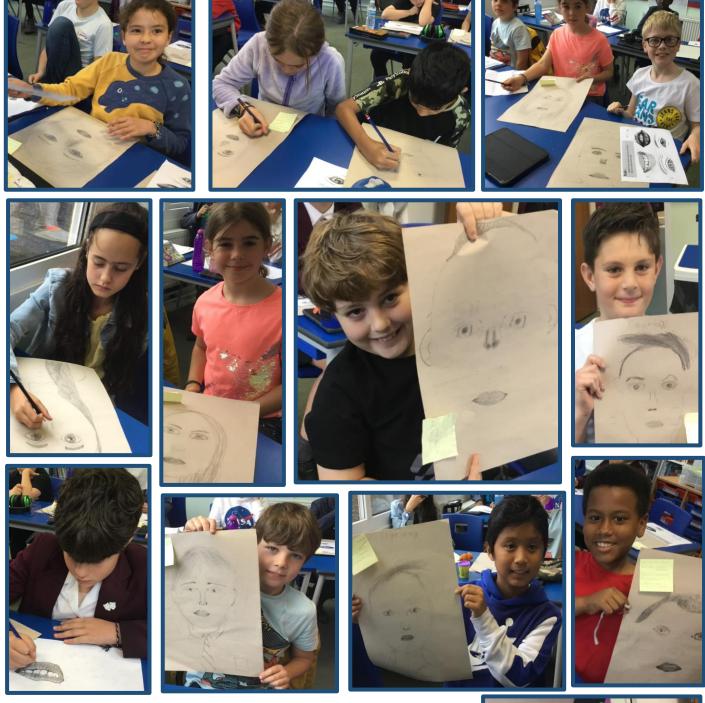
We think it is safe to say that this week has been motivating and inspiring for us all at Royal Russell. We recognise that dyslexia can bring challenges but know wholeheartedly that in our school we support and empower all our pupils to reach their potential.





Mathematical Portraiture for Year 6 in Art

This week in Art has been full of happy faces both in real life and on paper, with Reception and Year 6 taking on the challenge of self-portraiture. It has been delightful to see the creativity and determination of our pupils as they have sought to recreate themselves in both abstract and realistic styles.

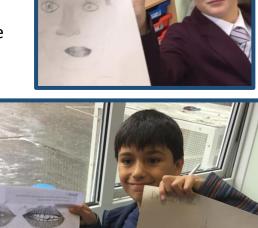


Year 6 are exploring a more mathematically driven approach to portraiture, aiming for accurate proportions and realistic shading.

They have started by learning to draw the features of the face step by step together and are now compiling their knowledge to create their own portraits.







Year 3 have also explored people in their work and have been looking at The Body. We have been creating paper sculptures of the human body by cutting out and attaching paper body parts together. Inspired by Antony Gormley, these wonderful paper structures have developed Year 3's understanding of how the body is connected and the many different poses our bodies can make.

I enjoyed the challenge of shading the hair using tone. I look forward to adding my plait and seeing the finished portrait.









Mixing colours was fun! I liked drawing my lips best!



Amaya, Reception

Kandinsky-ly Creative in Y1's Art Class

Year 1 have been drawing and painting to music, inspired by the Russian painter and art theorist Wassily Wassilyevich **Kandinsky**.

We have been learning about abstract shapes and how different colours make us feel.

Here are some amazing examples of our Kandinsky inspired balloons.

























I liked cutting out neatly and learning all the different patterns.

I really liked making my balloon, mixing the colours and patterns together.



Sofia

Summer Sports Catch Up

The children have enjoyed catching up on some of the sports that they missed out on during the extended period they spent at home over the summer term such as cricket and athletics. They even managed to mimic the gorgeous weather.



Y 1 and 2 Gymnastics Club

Gymnastics Club is a proactive sport in which children learn to be active, supple and to use their bodies in many different ways and to use equipment safely.











Gymnastics is so much fun and you get to make your body strong.







Layla, Year 2



I like using the gym equipment especially the rolling.



Amelie, Year 1

Year 2 brought the Seaside, Inside

This half term, Year 2 have been learning about features of the seaside. We have thought about the human and physical features of the seaside, used Google Maps to research different seaside resorts in the UK and this week, we each created our own **"Seaside in a jar"**.









Watching the food colouring mix with the water was so cool. Some people needed loads of water because their jars were massive!





I enjoyed using the stick to shape the sand and I was very careful adding my shells and gems.



Amelia





We had so much fun recreating the seaside using resources such as sand, shells and even a friendly fish! We loved adding the bright blue water to set the watery scene.

















By the end of the project, we could almost hear the sea!

Graham Swann's Virtual Marathon Update



Time Completed: 5 HOURS and 38 minutes

There's still time to make a donation to this very deserving cause.





Helping those with complex disabilities and those who are deafblind.

Just giving link: <u>https://www.justgiving.com/</u> fundraising/graham-swann2020