



# Royal Russell Junior School



## Newsletter



### Autumn Term

6th November 2020



Dear Parents and Friends,

A warm welcome back after the half-term break. It has been exciting to have the school and the children back in action.

Our pastoral and PSHCE theme for this half term is 'Celebrating Differences' and we began by using Monday morning's assembly to recognise the importance of celebrating the differences in our community and the wider world around us. It remains as important as ever that the inclusivity of our school community allows us to celebrate and cherish all that we are as individuals as well. I look forward to sharing more as we continue this theme across the next few weeks.

There are exciting entries in this week's newsletter, reflecting the many facets of life here in the Junior School. These include an update from Mrs Pain on firework safety, World Music in Year 5 and a spotlight on what happens in the Junior School Debating Club. There is also an update on the generous donations that were made during our recent Harvest Festival. Our children are also warmly invited to send in an entry for our Christmas Card competition with the chance to have their card shared with our community.

### **National Lockdown Guidance**

Please find attached to this email a document that sets out the School's response to the current National Lockdown following Government advice published this week. It is very important that we respond to the guidance and do all that we can to stay safe as a community whilst ensuring the continuity of education for all pupils.

As part of our response to continued safety on site please can I ask you to continue to support us by remaining socially distanced whilst on site, ensuring that your children remain with you as you move around site and that you adhere to the timings for drop off and collection as closely as possible and wait in your car if you have arrived before those times.

### **School Car Park**

You will be aware that the car park is a busy place both before and after school. Please can I politely remind you that the drop off and pick up zone in the car park should only be used for those purposes and parking of cars remains in the main car park area.

### **New Arrivals**

I am delighted to share with you the wonderful news of the arrival of not one, but two of our newest members of the Royal Russell Family who arrived last week. Millicent (Millie) and Charlotte (Lottie) were welcomed into the world by Mrs Henriette Smith (and, of course, her husband Jon). The whole family are doing very well and adjusting to life as a four rather than a two. In Mrs Smith's own words, they are completely over the moon with the arrival of the girls.



As ever, my warm wishes for a restful, if quiet, weekend.

**John Evans**

**Headmaster, Junior School**

# Safeguarding Corner



Safeguarding, the action that is taken to promote the welfare of our children and protect them from harm, is the single most important thing we do. We all safeguard our children in so many different ways every day, even more so in the current climate.

Our Early Years pupils are currently exploring all about people who help us and Nursery have been learning about firefighters this week. A well-timed fire drill on Thursday morning reinforced this learning and we were incredibly impressed with how all our Junior School pupils exited the building in a calm, quiet and orderly manner.

Whilst, thankfully, our fire alarm was only a practice, many of our Royal Russell families will be celebrating bonfire night this weekend. With the current restrictions we are currently in, bonfire and fireworks celebrations are going to be a little different and instead of attending organised firework displays, many of us may choose to light a bonfire in the garden and create our own firework displays.

Each year, over half of all firework injuries are suffered by children; sparklers can get up to 5 times hotter than cooking oil. Below you will find some advice and a short video from the British Fireworks Association:

## **Always follow the firework code**

- Stand well back
- Keep pets indoors
- Keep fireworks in a closed box
- Only buy fireworks that are CE marked
- Light at arm's length, using a taper
- Follow the instructions on each firework
- Never give sparklers to a child under five
- Don't drink alcohol if setting off fireworks
- Always supervise children around fireworks
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them
- Never go near a firework that has been lit - even if it hasn't gone off it could still explode

<https://www.britishfireworksassociation.co.uk/firework-advice-for-consumers/>

**If you or anyone else gets into difficulty remember:**

**STOP, DROP, ROLL**

Always remember, if your clothing catches fire - **STOP, DROP and ROLL.**

If your clothes catch fire, running around won't help. You must always stop, drop to the ground (cover your face with your hands) and roll over and over. Make sure you roll over a few times, to ensure that you put the fire out.

I hope you and your families enjoy a safe bonfire night!

Mrs Sarah Pain  
Deputy Head – Pastoral



# Year 5 study World Music

Year 5 are currently exploring **World Music** and we have really enjoyed learning about and celebrating each other's family heritage and culture, in our recent music lessons.

We were absolutely delighted when Kaya and Shubh brought in their traditional dress and other precious objects connected to their Indian heritage.



*Shubh gave a very informative Presentation to the class.*

*"I would like to tell you about the Dhandiya and the God, Ganesha. The Dhandiya is used for dancing at special occasions. Lively music plays whilst we dance with the Dhandiya. Ganesha is our sacred God and is known as the elephant God."*

mera naam shubh hai  
Translation = my name is shubh  
My family can speak Gujarati and Hindi  
I can also speak a little bit as well.  
I have also travelled to India and have visited my family.



*"This is my traditional dress. I enjoy wearing it for special occasions such as Diwali and when we do dancing. The bells are called Ghungroos."* **Kaya**



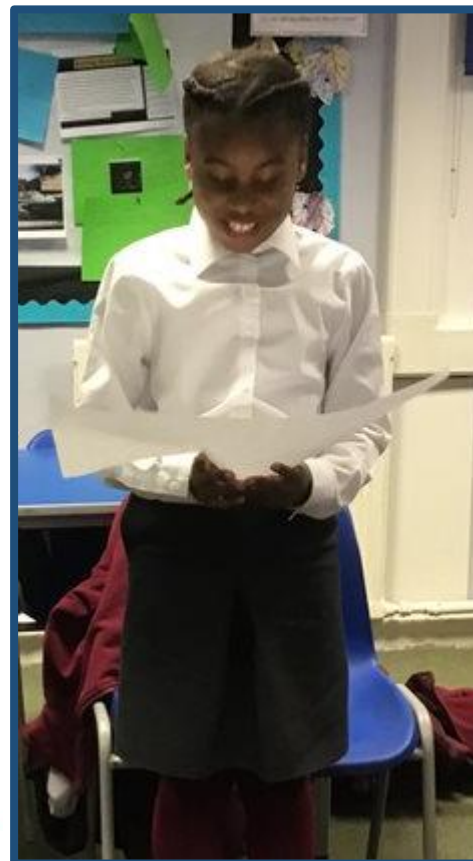
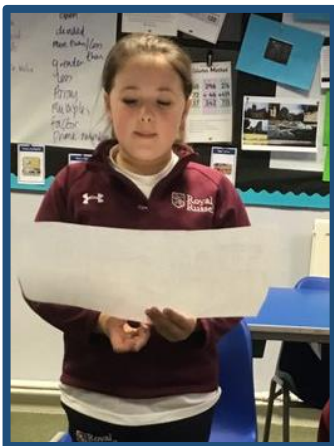
# Debating Club

Debating Club is an exciting club, which challenges your thoughts and ideas and helps you to speak out and become confident. We enjoy expressing our views about current topics and scenarios such as 'All meat should be banned' or 'All fast food should be banned' and 'All children should own a pet'. We learn how to argue our points in a structured way and are able to listen to others views respectfully.



Joshua

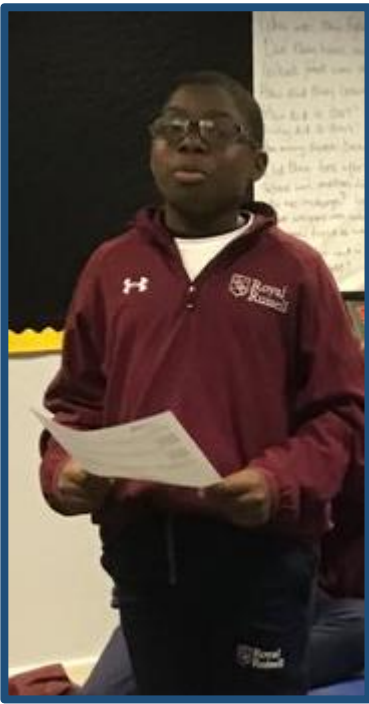
I really enjoy doing research on interesting topics.



I like hearing what other people have to say and I like being confident when speaking.



Taymar



We are able to talk about important points and things that matter.



Ava

Debating Club has helped me to make new friends.



Leke

Here is what some other members thought about Debating Club.

“I like sharing my thoughts with my friends in Debating Club.”

“I like hearing what other people have to say and I like being confident when speaking.”

“I love being in Debating Club as it’s really fun and you get to share your views.”

Time is running out for discounted photographs

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# Harvest Festival Offerings Update



The Salvation Army  
New Addington  
Community Church

Major Emma Spencer  
Mob 07800646165  
[emma.spencer@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:emma.spencer@salvationarmy.org.uk)

Royal Russell Junior School

20<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear students, parents and staff,

What can we say but a huge thank you for your incredible generosity this Harvest time. We were taken aback by the abundance of food and household items you donated to our Foodbank.

We really didn't expect to receive any this year due to the Pandemic and the restrictions placed on schools and indeed the financial strain that many people are under. It seems however that people have gone above and beyond to meet the needs of others who are struggling and this show of love and support is one of the positive aspects of the challenging time we are going through as a country. Isn't it good to know that people are caring for one another in this way? You are a part of that and you are amazing!

We have been actively helping many families during this challenging time and we expect that the need will increase in coming months especially at Christmas. The abundance of food you have given us will help greatly, both now and at Christmas.

So thank you all for the love and care you have shown to so many.

With grateful thanks

Emma Spencer  
Major  
Leader - The Salvation Army New Addington



We wanted to share with you the wonderful thank you letter and photos from the Salvation Army, for all your overwhelming and generous donations from the Royal Russell community.

As you can imagine, this year has been particularly tough on many families and charities like these do fantastic work but rely completely on local support.

Thank you for demonstrating what an amazing caring spirit we have here at Royal Russell. We are extremely proud.

# CHRISTMAS CARD

## Art Competition

Can you design the Royal Russell Junior School's Christmas card for 2020? Take on the challenge of creating an A5 Christmas card design using the materials and creative process of your choice e.g. drawing, painting, collage, digital drawing, mixed media.

The winner of the competition will have their art work shared with our Royal Russell community and will receive a special Art prize!

Hand in your entries to Miss Ciccone or your class teacher by **MONDAY 21<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER**. Include your full name and class on the back of your card in pencil.

Digital entries should be sent to Miss Ciccone :  
[cciccone@royalrussell.co.uk](mailto:cciccone@royalrussell.co.uk)

**GOOD LUCK EVERYONE!**

