



Royal Russell Junior School



# Newsletter

Autumn Term

20th November 2020



Dear Parents and Friends,

Ending last week on National Kindness Day gave us an excellent foundation to begin this week by launching Anti-Bullying Week. The School was festooned with brightly coloured and decidedly odd socks to raise awareness of this important week-long event and the message this year, that we are “United Against Bullying.”

Royal Russell is a special school with kindness and inclusion built into its fabric. We need look no further than the School motto, ‘Non Sibi Sed Omnibus’ to see what it is that the School values at the heart of its community. It is important, however, that we raise awareness of a serious issue that affects lots of young people nationwide.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance support Anti-Bullying Week and their [website](#) has a host of useful links for families to find interesting resources. Whether at School or at home, it remains important that we support and care for our children, and that we are proactive in our care, not just supporting when things have gone wrong. Promoting a positive sense of self and positive relationships with others is key to developing a strategy against bullying. Our form time with class teachers, PSHCE curriculum, House events and our half term’s theme of ‘Celebrating Differences’ all fulfil important pieces of our wellbeing jigsaw that look after our children.

One issue that cannot be underestimated is the significant role that electronic devices play in a young person’s life and how they add an extra dimension for schools and parents as we try to balance our children’s independence with the need to keep them from harm. Cyberbullying is, sadly, another facet of the challenge faced by young people today. E-safety is promoted throughout the School and we work with pupils to help them understand the impact of decisions they may make on digital platforms.

We have enjoyed another exciting week here in the Junior School and I hope that you enjoy seeing what different pupils have been learning and taking part in throughout this newsletter. Even though it is November, the word Christmas is beginning to be whispered in quiet corners. We know that, this year, Christmas Cheer will be more welcome than ever, and I look forward to confirming the details of some of the exciting festive treats that we have in store for our children and families this year.

With my best wishes for a relaxing and refreshing weekend,

**John Evans**  
**Headmaster, Junior School**

# Anti-Bullying Week

It was lovely to see our Junior School pupils and staff arriving at school on Monday morning with an array of colourful socks. Behind the excitement of wearing odd socks to school on a chilly November morning was an important message for our Junior School pupils as **Odd Socks Day** marks the beginning of Anti-Bullying Week. The wearing of odd socks aims to celebrate what makes us all unique.



This year's theme for Anti-Bullying Week was 'United Against Bullying'. The start to our week was launched by Mrs King and Mrs Taylor in our whole school assembly on Monday morning.



"It was so much fun to express our individuality and wear our colourful socks."

Pupils discussed what constitutes bullying, explored who can help at Royal Russell and heard from CBBC's Andy, McFly and Mo Farah. The Anti-Bullying Alliance video can be found here should you wish to watch it with your children.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6AUB79YxkwQ&feature=youtu.be>



We raised an incredible **£236.50** which will be donated to the Anti-bullying Alliance.

**Thank you so much for your kind contributions.**



Year 1 enjoyed dancing in the Assembly

In PSHE lessons, children have been discussing how, by standing united, we can all help to stop bullying.

The children took part in a range of activities, from role play to completing individual jigsaw pieces to show what part they can play in stopping bullying.



## Farewell to Melissa Flint



Melissa attended Royal Russell as a pupil and used to help at **Junior School Gymnastics Club**.

Melissa joined the coaching team five years ago and has progressed to leading the sessions.

Melissa has coached our youngest members of school taking the Lower Junior Gymnastics club alongside the Upper Junior Gymnastics Clubs. Melissa has also worked with the Senior pupils.

It has been brilliant to see the progress the pupils have made in Gymnastics Clubs due to her expertise and passion for the sport.

We will miss Melissa's experience and wish her all the best for her future at Croydon Gymnastics Club's new, purpose built facility.



# Ducklings Learn about Cold

As the weather takes a turn this week, the Ducklings in Nursery explored the topic 'Cold'



"The ice is melting."

**Charles**



"Penguins like to be cold."

**Prince**



"Its cold, very cold!  
The animals like it  
because it's cold"

**Jayrishan**





“Ice comes from water.”

Gassell



“It’s icy.”

Judah

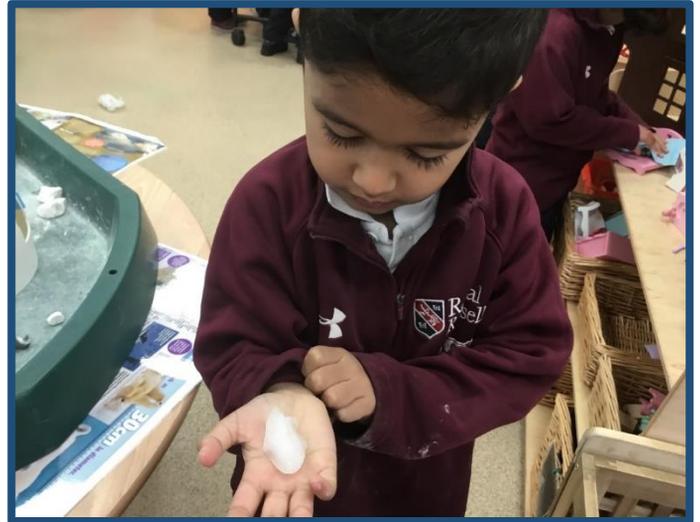
Kyan observed the effect of holding ice in his hand.



“Colder and colder.”

Kyan

“It’s melting in my hand.”



Ivy enjoyed pretending to toboggan like a penguin.

# Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) - Quizlet

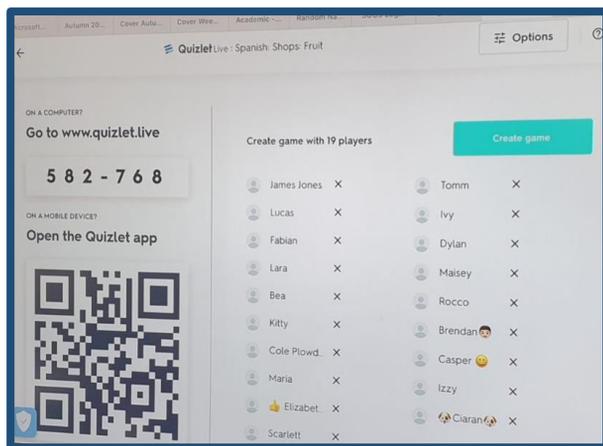
Quizlet is a new programme that we have been using in our MFL Spanish lessons.

The children have responded to it with sheer delight and there is an incredible buzz within the class as they are learning.



Everybody gets ready, lined up with their iPads, when Quizlet selects which group that they are in.

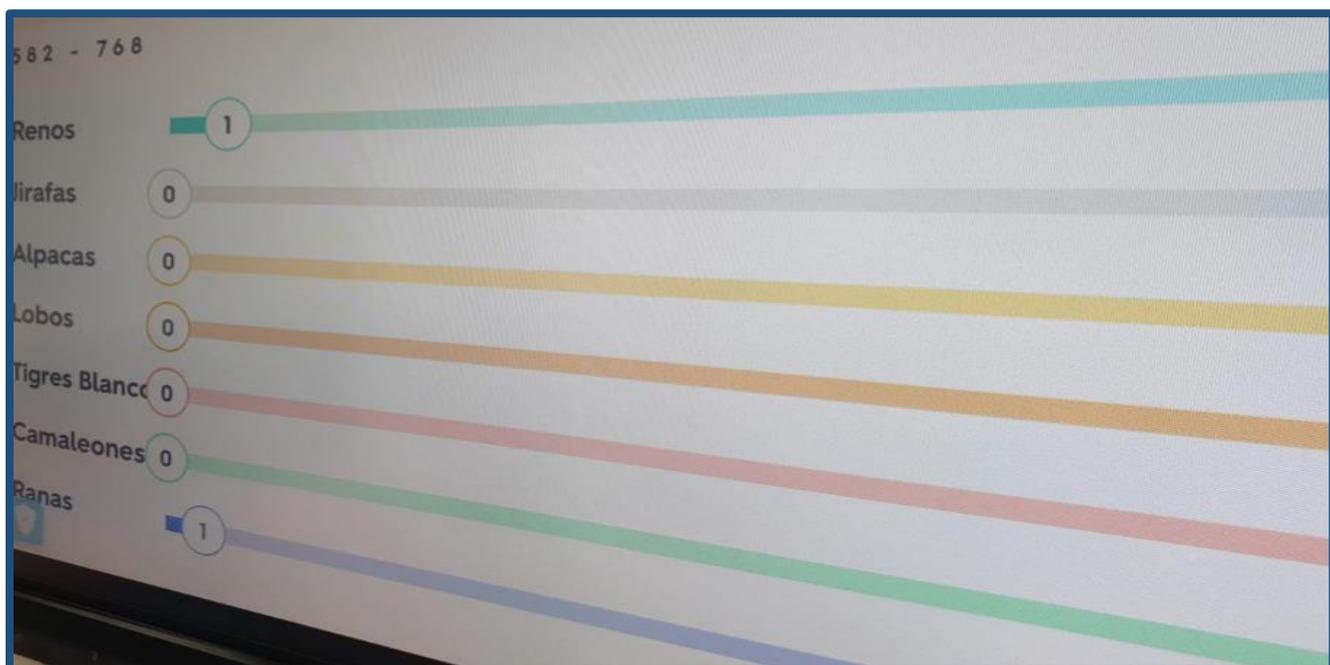
The Leader Board appears up on the whiteboard and the children organise themselves into the groups that they have been allocated. This only takes a moment, but causes great excitement as they swap seats and move around. The teams are different themes such as animals (*animales*)



A flash card will then appear on one of their iPads and the team have to choose the correct answer from options on the other iPads in the group.



The more answers they get right, the further along their team's bar goes on the Leader Board.



If they answer incorrectly, the bar returns to the start position, and the correct answer is displayed so children learn the correct translation.



Quizlet is an app that helps younger children to get better at languages like Spanish. In the game, you have to get 12 questions right. If you get it wrong, it will tell you the right answer, so you are always learning.

**Fabian**

I think Quizlet is a fun way to learn languages. It is very competitive and enjoyable at the same time. You can guess answers but learn new things at the same time, along the way.

**Isabella**

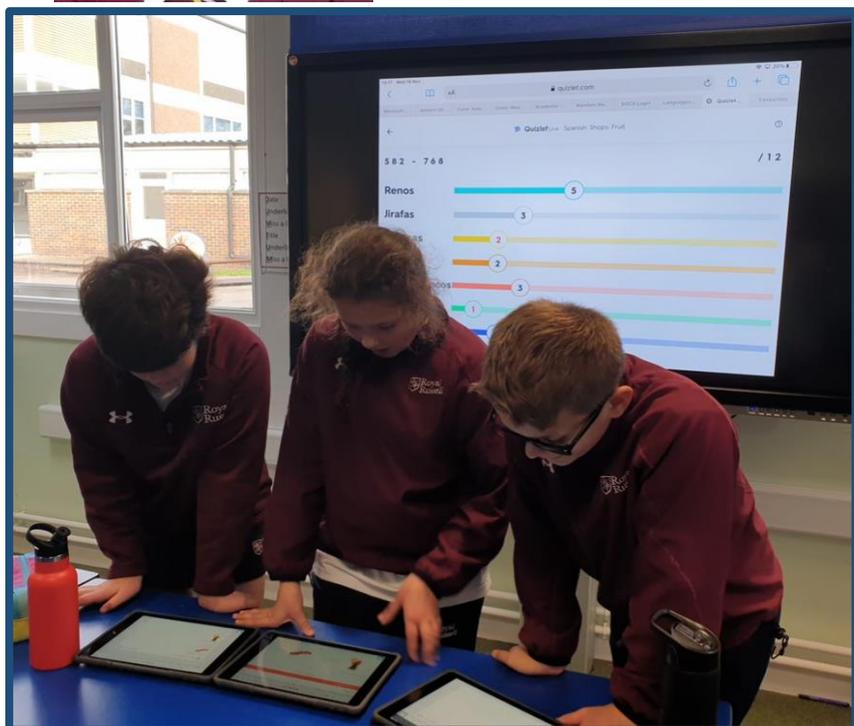


One thing I like about Quizlet is that it reminds us of words we have forgotten.

**Dylan**

I think Quizlet is amazing for young learners and I think it helps us to grow in Spanish. I think it should be used more often as everybody really enjoys it and it's a very exciting way to learn. I think it is the way to go from now on.

**Maria**



The winning team is the one whose bar reaches the other side first.

# Hockey Club

In the absence of our usual packed out schedule of weekly competitive sports fixtures, it has been so important for the children to have the opportunity to continue with their favourite sport activities, outside of the school curriculum.



With focus that mirrors the curriculum led sport, Hockey Club allows pupils of all standards and abilities the chance to enjoy playing hockey whilst having access to top level coaches who help them develop and grow.

In Hockey Club, pupils participate in both technical practices and small sided games, providing a superb balance between developing their hockey skills whilst having fun.



Hockey Club continues to demonstrate its popularity every year, with **70 members** currently taking part across years 3-6.



Being a team sport enjoyed by both boys and girls, hockey club provides an environment where this collaboration can take place in addition to their separated games afternoons.



Our fantastic sports facilities mean the courts are flood lit, so Year 5 and 6 are lucky enough to be able to play for nearly two hours after 3.30pm.

Last chance to enter  
your designs (Mon 23<sup>rd</sup>).

# 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 23<sup>rd</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

**GOOD LUCK EVERYONE!**



# Christmas Trees

DELIVERED!

The 1853 Society Parents' Association have paired up with *Christmas Tree Express* to offer beautiful, real Christmas trees, delivered **straight to your door** with a £5 discount.

If you buy a Christmas tree through [www.christmastreeexpress.co.uk](http://www.christmastreeexpress.co.uk) this year you will receive **£5 off** any tree, in addition, *Christmas Tree Express* will donate **£5 to the 1853 Society**, benefitting all the children at Royal Russell School.

Ordering is simple, just use the code **RRS20** and your £5 discount will be added.

**Choose from 4Ft, 6Ft and 8Ft trees**

Remember your  
code

**RRS20**

For your  
£5 discount

[www.christmastreeexpress.co.uk](http://www.christmastreeexpress.co.uk)

The code is valid until **29<sup>th</sup> November**, or until stocks run out so please order ASAP!



## The 1853 Society AGM

The 1853 Society (Royal Russell Parents' Association) would like to invite you to attend our AGM which will be held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm.

The Society is currently in its 48th year and is a friendly and inclusive group of Mums and Dads who became involved to meet other parents and to organise several events throughout the year to not only raise funds but also to bring together the whole school community.

This year we are having to do things a little differently as we can't meet face to face, so if you would like to attend and learn more then please email [1853society@royalrussell.co.uk](mailto:1853society@royalrussell.co.uk) and I will then send you a link which can be used to join the meeting.

As in previous years, all officers and members resign and are re-elected during the meeting, so if you would like to apply for one of our officer positions or to become an ordinary member of the association then please email the address above and we can send you a nomination form. If you are interested in applying for one of our Officer roles then applications need to be with us by Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November so that they can be communicated in the Headmaster's newsletter.

Many thanks

Emma Thistleton

Chair of The 1853 Society (Royal Russell Parents' Association)



**CROYDON  
Gymnastics Club**

# Croydon Gymnastics

Join us at our brand new facility, it is state of the art that is purpose built and will run full time. Offering fantastic facilities, high level coaches and an enthusiastic team to offer a range of classes to suit your child.

We currently run pre school, recreational classes, squad programs and home school sessions.



Paintwork being done ready for the fit out.  
We will be open after lockdown!



For more information on classes available and to sign up please contact:

[info@croydongymnastics.org](mailto:info@croydongymnastics.org)

