



Royal Russell Junior School



# Newsletter

Autumn Term

11th December 2020



Dear Parents and Friends,

As I explained to the Upper Junior children in assembly this morning, my colleagues and I remain very proud of the way in which everybody has worked so hard towards the end of term, making each day at school an exciting part of their journey. This week's newsletter highlights many of the exciting learning opportunities that have continued throughout the end of term. Look out for some slightly chilly looking Egyptians and some Year 4 teachers with some interesting eyeliner!

We have enjoyed the build up to Christmas and we have a lot to look forward to next week as well. I am also very proud of how well the children have kept each other safe. At a time when the national picture is challenging, even though some good news is visible, they have set an example to follow.

My message to all of our families this week is to continue to ask for your support in keeping our School community safe. We are close to Christmas and, in order to safeguard your family plans, please ensure that you carry on supporting us in doing all that you can to minimise the spread of Coronavirus.

I would like to offer my thanks to all families who donated gifts and goods for the Salvation Army collection. We were overwhelmed by your support and the difference that your generosity will make to families this Christmas must not be underestimated.

I am excited to share the link for the Upper Junior Carol Service which will go live on Firefly at 4.30 on Sunday 13th December.

<https://royalrussell.fireflycloud.net/music/christmas-2020/upper-junior-carol-service>

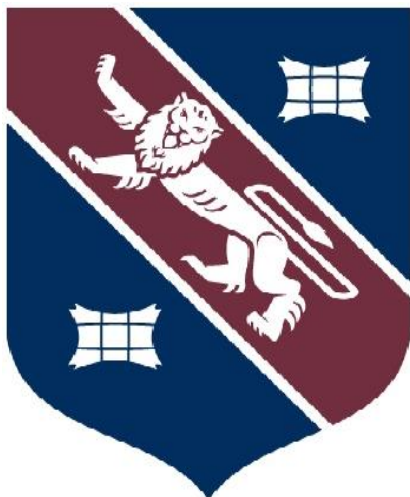
My thanks go to the whole team who have worked so hard to plan and prepare for our virtual service this year.

I hope that you all have a joyful, yet peaceful weekend.

With best wishes,

**John Evans**

**Headmaster, Junior School**



## 1853 AGM – 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021

The 1853 Society AGM The 1853 Society (Royal Russell Parents' Association) would like to invite you to attend our AGM which will now be held on the amended date of Wednesday 20th January 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 [email1853society@royalrussell.co.uk](mailto:email1853society@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. Many thanks Emma Thistleton Chair of The 1853 Society (Royal Russell Parents' Association)

# Your Guide to Christmas 2020

We are delighted to be able to provide you with the details of our Christmas events.

## **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

Upper Junior Carol Service Recording will be released to parents from Year 3 to Year 6.

## **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

Year 3 and 4 Virtual Pantomime in the Auditorium from 9-10am.  
Year 1 and 2 Virtual Pantomime in the Auditorium from 2-3pm.  
Nursery/Reception/Year 5 visit to Father Christmas's Grotto.

## **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

Year 5 Virtual Pantomime in the Auditorium from 9-10am.  
Nursery and Reception Virtual Pantomime in the Auditorium from 2-3pm. The Nursery Team will be in touch separately.  
Year 1/Year 2/Year 3/Year 4/Year 6 – 1.00pm visit to Father Christmas's Grotto.

## **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

**'Christmas Jumper Day'** - All members of the Junior School community are invited to wear 'mufti' and a Christmas jumper for the last day of term. A suggested donation of £2 will support 'The Croydon Nightwatch'. This Charity has been chosen by the prefects and is a lifeline to homeless people living in Croydon.

<http://croydonnightwatch.org.uk/>

Year 6 Virtual Pantomime in the Auditorium from 9-10am.

Christmas Lunch

Whole School Christmas Assembly

**Term ends 15:30pm.**

**There will be no Clubs, Prep or Tea**





# Year 4's Egyptian Day

The day began as we all entered the classrooms wearing our wonderful Egyptian costumes, then made our way to the hall to meet our host, Lauren. She enthused us, even from behind her mask, about all of the activities of the day and took us through a dramatisation of the history of Egypt, Pharaohs and Gods.



After break, we were treated to an amazing story about a Pharaoh and his wife, and the process of mummification.







In the afternoon, we had two activities in class, one making wonderful headdresses as worn by the Gods, and the other involved us enjoying 'wrapping' and 'rapping' whilst we acted out the mummification process in more detail. It was a great day and our costumes looked wonderful!



**Well done Year 4**



# Year 5's War Exploration Trip

Year 5 explored our grounds on Monday to find out about Royal Russell during the war. The children took photographs and wrote their own reports on their findings.

## Royal Russell in world war 1

### Let's find out about what Royal Russell school was like in the World War One

Yesterday we went on a walk all around the senior school to find out what happened in our school at that period of time.

We explored different areas and where some of the bombs were dropped.

A lot of bombs were dropped by St. Andrews, one was dropped on their old science block so they made a brand new part of that building.

There was also a ginormous crater of a bomb in the cross country route.

We also explored our memorial garden and the chapel.

We took note of all the signs that were imbedded in the walls.



We also took a look at the air raid shelters under the school, we looked at the steps that took us down there. It was really interesting to be pointed out things that I have never seen before. It really educated me on the school's history that I never knew about!

By Lucia Cummings





# A huge thank you on behalf of the Salvation Army

We have been overwhelmed by the sheer enormity of the generosity of our Royal Russell Junior School community. Throughout the week, the appeal has been gathering momentum, right up to the last day.



The donations of gifts and food trailed all around the tree in equal depth. We couldn't be more proud of what we have achieved to help so many local families who are in need of a little extra help and support this Christmas.





# House Sport

The girls have had a fantastic time taking part in their house matches. The development in their skills and match play has been wonderful to see in the final weeks of term. It has been so lovely to hear the giggles and celebrations during these fun but competitive games.



RESULTS





# Croydon Schools Cross Country

This exciting event took place in October this year and we have finally received the medals for our successful runners.



## HOUSE HOCKEY RESULTS

Y3 and 4 Results:

4<sup>th</sup> - Canterbury  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Durham  
1<sup>st</sup> - York and Exeter

Y5 and 6 Results:

4<sup>th</sup> - York  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Canterbury  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Durham  
1<sup>st</sup> - Exeter

Pictured above: Arabella H, Arabella O who finished 3<sup>rd</sup> individually, Ava B and Lara S - the Year 6 team champions.



Year 5 finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place as a team.

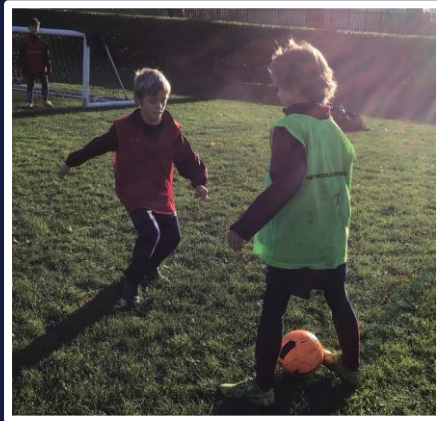
Well done to Amy J, Ava C, Betty H and Georgia B.



# Year 3 and 4 Saturday Sport Festival



It was a perfect and beautiful sunny day last weekend to welcome Year 3 and 4 to their Saturday Sport Festival. Parents dropped off their happy children in the morning, ready to enjoy some fun in the fresh air.



It was wonderful to hear the excited voices of children in the grounds at the weekend, after weeks without inter-school competitive fixtures.



The children had the option to play football or hockey then the fun and game playing commenced.





# Charitable Causes



<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/TomHudson5DayCharityChallenge>

Our very own Head of Boys' Sport, Mr Tom Hudson is completing a series of challenges in December to raise money for 5 charities and has raised £2,000 to date. The 5 charities are Meningitis Now, MIND, Cancer Research, British Heart Foundation and STEPS (lower limb condition charity).

The challenges are as follows:

**Day 1** - Climb the height of Ben Nevis on a step climber

**Day 2** - Row the distance of the channel

**Day 3** - Complete 1000 press ups/bench press, sit ups and squats in a day

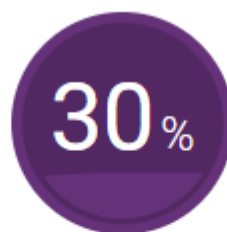
**Day 4** - Cycle 100 miles

**Day 5** - Run a marathon

If you would like to support Mr Hudson in his challenges, please click on the link or visit the page on the virginmoneygiving website.



**Mr Swann would like to thank everyone who has so kindly supported him raising money for Sense.**



**£510**

raised of £1,700 target  
by 25 supporters

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/graham-swann2020>





Offer extended until this Sunday

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

DISCOUNT OFFER  
EXTENDED UNTIL  
13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
SO ORDER  
YOUR REAL  
CHRISTMAS  
TREE  
NOW!

Remember your  
code

**RRS20**

For your  
£5 discount

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

The code is valid until **13<sup>th</sup> December**, or until stocks run out so please order ASAP!