

Russell Street School Newsletter



Autumn (Second Half Term) 2022



Message from our Headteacher



The data summary for all schools has been released for Key Stage One and Secondary for the academic year 21/22 (Please note that Key Stage Two data – Year Six – is not being released for 21/22).

Thank you all for the tremendous support you give to your children and to us as a school. We are incredibly proud of our results below which place us within the top achieving schools in the country:

READING KS1: significantly **above** national and in the **highest** 20% of all schools in 2022.

PHONICS: significantly **above** national and in the **highest** 20% of all schools in 2022.

WRITING KS1: significantly **above** national and in the **highest** 20% of all schools in 2022.

MATHS KS1: significantly **above** national and in the **highest** 20% of all schools in 2022.

Reception data will be released in November. The proportion of our pupils in 2022 achieving a Good Level of Development is 79.6%. This is significantly above the provisional national average (66.7%) and the provisional local average (65.2%). We will send you the confirmed data once we have received this.

It is vital that children attend school to be able to learn. Thank you for getting your children to school. Our absence rates are in the lowest 20% of all schools, meaning that our children are in school and therefore have the best possible chance to learn.

Our Overall Absence (2.9%) **was** in the **lowest** 20% of all schools.

This newsletter lists many exciting things happening during this half term. We understand that many people will be currently facing financial hardships. Whilst events held in school may ask for donations, please only make donations where you feel you can, and remember that there is no suggested amount for a donation. Your child/ren can take part in any school event without the need of a donation. If you need support to pay the voluntary contribution for a school trip, please speak to Mrs Starr, Mrs Ames or myself in complete confidence. There are many eco-friendly ways that you can support the school/each other. Please see the end of this newsletter.

Kind regards

Mrs Robinson



SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

The deadline for applications for Year R and Year 3 school places for September 2023 is 15th January 2023. You can apply on-line now. Please see the link below for more information.

[Starting primary or junior/middle school in September 2023 | Milton Keynes City Council \(milton-keynes.gov.uk\)](https://www.miltonkeynes.gov.uk)

The Local Authority deals with applications for school places and all parents, including nursery parents, must apply by the deadline date.

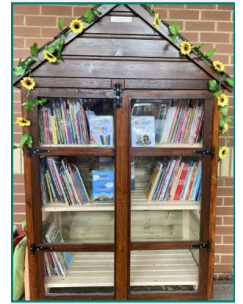
We are more than happy to answer any questions you have about the admissions process.

Reading Libraries

We are very fortunate that the PA were able to raise funds to have two reading libraries built for us. You will find these located inside the quiet playground (outside the After-School Club building) and outside the main hall, closer to Reception. The reading library in the quiet playground is most suitable for KS1 children. Please feel free to have a look at these books with your child/children and borrow any books of interest. Simply return these books once you have read them and then choose new books.

We would really appreciate any books you have to donate to the library that are in good condition, please leave them in the blue box next to the reading library.

We are also looking for donations of suitable comics that are in good condition. If you have any that you are able to donate to school, please hand them into the Office or to Mrs Camp. Thank you.



Poppy Appeal – w/c 7th November

Poppies plus other related items will be for sale on the KS1 & Reception gates and Nursery door during morning drop-off from Monday 7th November. Items can also be purchased from the school office.

Children's Book Week - 7th - 13th November.

On **Thursday 10th November** children are invited to attend school dressed as their favourite book character. Children's Book Week is an annual celebration of reading for pleasure for children of primary school age. It is a fantastic opportunity for extended teaching on favourite children's books. This year, 2022, marks the 100th anniversary of Children's Book Week and the theme is "How Do You Book?" Find out more at the Book Trust Website: <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/>

- Please note that this is a different event to World Book Day held every year in March.

For World Book Day in March a theatre group will be visiting to perform The Jungle Book. All children will be making a Jungle Book mask in school to wear for this event.



Anti-bullying Week – Odd Socks Day – Monday 14th November

Odd Socks Day marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week. We will celebrate what makes us unique and special with a focus on spreading kindness. Odd Socks Day is an opportunity for people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality.

Parents' Phonics Training Session – 15th November.

A variety of training sessions will take place across this academic year starting with phonics training on 15th November at 2:15-2.45pm and 4:30-5.00pm. This training will be for one parent only per family. Parents from all year groups are welcome to attend, however the session will be based around Reception and Year One phonics lessons. The information from the session will be sent to all parents.



Theatre Trip – Reception and Year 1 – Friday 18th November

Reception and Year 1 are visiting Milton Keynes Theatre on **Friday 18th November** to see "The Tiger Who Came to Tea". We will be leaving school at 9.45am and returning in time for lunch.

Year 2 will be visiting Holdenby House on January 11th.

Children in Need – Friday 18th November

Children may wear Children in Need items or their own non-uniform clothes to school on Friday 18th November and make a donation to Children in Need. Children may like to bring 1p coins to school to fill a Pudsey drawing.



Parents' Evenings – 22nd and 24th November

Parents' evenings are being held during this half term.

3:30-6:00pm – meetings held in school

4:00-6:00pm – meetings held online

Booking information will be sent one week before this event.

Willen Hospice PJ Day – 25th November

Willen Hospice is holding a city-wide Pyjama day on the 25th November 2022.

With the population of MK growing rapidly, and reduced funding, Willen are really grateful to all the settings and schools willing to take part and add this day to their calendars.

Children may wear warm pyjamas (preferably no onesies) to school with outdoor shoes (no slippers please) on Friday 25th November and make a donation to Willen Hospice.





Christmas Nativity – Reception 7th and 8th December

Reception classes will be performing our Nativity. Other year groups in school perform concerts at different times of the year.

Our Reception Nativity will take place on: 7th and 8th December at 9:15am.

Further details will follow.

If anyone has any Christmas costumes they would like to donate to school, these will be gratefully received.

Christmas Jumper Day – Wednesday 14th December (This is the same day as Essence Christmas Lunch).

Everyone is invited to wear Christmas jumpers to school on Wednesday 14th December and make a donation to Save the Children.



Christmas Parties

Christmas parties will be taking place in school on the following dates:

Nursery - Tuesday 13th December (am)

Reception – Tuesday 13th December (pm)

Year 1 – Thursday 15th December (am)

Year 2 – Thursday 15th December (pm)

Children may wear party clothes to school on these dates, with sensible outdoors shoes.

Christmas Cinema

Children are invited to stay to watch a Christmas film after school on Wednesday 14th December (3:00-4:30pm) This is a fundraising event. All money raised will be spent by your child's year group staff specifically on items for your children.



Essence Christmas Lunch

Essence Christmas lunch will be taking place on Wednesday 14th December. Please book online. www.essence-catering.co.uk

Maths Support



Parent resources | Maths workbooks | White Rose Maths

Free White Rose Maths Workbooks are available using the above link.

1 Minute Maths – a free White Rose Maths APP is available to download: <https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths>

Benefits of 1 Minute Maths:

1. Excellent practice – and no distractions.
2. A clear, intuitive process that children pick up straight away.
3. No login or internet access needed. Just download and play.
4. Enjoyable and motivating... How many can they get correct in one minute?
5. Helpful hints match those used in class.
6. Brilliant for building number fluency and confidence.
7. It's FREE!



Maths with Michael | Michael Underwood | White Rose Maths

White Rose Maths understand that many parents feel like maths has changed and that it's sometimes difficult to keep up to date with current teaching methods.

At Russell Street School we use White Rose Maths and so do over 80% of primary schools and a growing number of secondary schools. Maths with Michael and White Rose Maths parent support pages help bridge the gap between school and home. See link above.

Home Learning – Early Years through to Secondary

White Rose Maths 'home learning' lessons for Early Years through to Year 9 are available on the link below. Lessons for Years 10 and 11 are being added as they are due to be taught in their schemes of learning. Every lesson comes with a short video showing you clearly and simply how to help your child complete the activity successfully.

[Maths home learning](#) | [Home learning](#) | [White Rose Maths](#)



School Uniform Support

A huge amount of uniform you no longer need still has a great deal more wear. Mrs Ames is more than happy to take donations from you of school uniform - logoed and no-logoed items. Mrs Ames will then re-sell these items for a small donation that should be made through Weduc. Donations will be used to buy school resources. Please remember that all donations are voluntary. If your child needs uniform, please remember that a donation is **not necessary** and you can request spare uniform by emailing your child's year group inbox, or you can ask Mrs Robinson, Mrs Camp or Mrs Ames (this conversation will be confidential).

Please remember that we do not require your child to wear items of logoed uniform to school. Items do need to be school colours.





Eco-Friendly School Donations

There are many eco-friendly ways that you can support school as well as our planet.

The following items are suggestions of items that are always gratefully received.

- Yoghurt pots
- Pumpkins
- Conkers
- Stones
- Large metal spoons
- Other metal kitchen items such as the below



- Flour
- Flowers
- Pasta
- Lentils
- Rice
- Chickpeas
- Shaving Foam
- Kitchen roll middles (no toilet roll middles please)
- Shells
- Wooden dishes
- Wicker baskets
- Wooden crates
- Dinosaurs
- Items linked to our units of work – Africa, India, Space, Victorians, Dinosaurs, Festivals, Seaside, Occupations
- Items related to all festivals
- Bulbs, seeds and compost
- Any historical artefacts
- Lego and other construction items
- Items related to seasons

All previous newsletters can be found on the front page of our website: [Russell Street School - Home \(russell-street-school.co.uk\)](http://russell-street-school.co.uk)

All weekly newsletters can be found here: <https://www.russell-street-school.co.uk/website/news/222141>