

Russell Street School

Newsletter



Spring Term 2 2023



Message from our Headteacher

Welcome back to the second half of our Spring Term. We are all looking forward to brighter weather and more outdoor education.

The pandemic meant that school attendance percentages were much lower than usual. On their return to school, children caught infections such as chickenpox that they hadn't previously caught because of less mixing with other children. There is an expectation now that attendance levels in schools match the pre-pandemic level of 96.5% (in primary school – this is a different percentage in secondary and special education). Classes will receive a weekly reward when their class achieves either a weekly target of 96.5% or an overall target of 96.5%. These targets, when mixed together, allow for a normal level of illness within any class.

Children who have poor attendance at primary school are likely to underachieve at secondary school. Children who miss between 10% and 20% of school stand only a 35% chance of achieving five or more good GCSEs, compared to 73% of those who miss fewer than 5% of school days. Friendships are also affected by persistent absence as it is hard for a child who misses lots of school to form consistent relationships with their peers.

You are now able to view your child's attendance percentage on Weduc. Please remember that this should be 96.5% with no unauthorised late attendance. Open the Weduc APP. Click on your initial in the top right-hand corner. Select relatives, then select your child and finally select attendance



This newsletter contains a brief summary of some of the events happening across the school this term. Further information about everything we do is always contained on our website and will be sent to you in our weekly sways.

Kind regards
Mrs Robinson



World Thinking Day – Wednesday 22nd February

To celebrate World Thinking Day, we invite all Rainbows, Beavers, Brownies and Cubs to wear their uniforms to school. The theme for World Thinking Day is 'Our World, Our Equal Future: The Environment and Gender Equality.'

Explorer Dome – Year 1 – Monday 27th February [Explorer Dome: Space Show](#)

The awe and wonder of space in a Dome! A story-telling introduction to the earth, moon, sun and stars. Children will learn that the sun is a star, find out why the sun moves across the sky, look for different phases of the moon and discover how to spot the pictures and stories in the stars.



Art Gallery – Wednesday 1st March

We are excited to invite you to our Art Exhibition featuring artwork created by all of the children in Russell Street School. You will be able to view the exhibition in the school hall from 2.50pm – 4pm on Wednesday 1st March, and will have the opportunity to purchase your child's framed art work for £8.

World Book Day – (This is being celebrated on FRIDAY 3RD MARCH)

<https://www.worldbookday.com/>

Children are invited to come to school dressed as a character from 'The Jungle Book'. We will be making masks in school and children may like to wear these masks with jungle colour clothes.

Watch and listen to some authors read their own books:

[🐻 We're Going On a Bear Hunt 🐻 | BOOK | Kids' Poems and Stories With Michael Rosen - Bing video](#)

[Time for Storytime: My Hair with Hannah Lee - YouTube](#)

[The Very Hungry Caterpillar read by Eric Carle | Waterstones - Bing video](#)

[Julia Donaldson reads What The Ladybird Heard - Bing video](#)

[Stick Man by Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler - Julia Donaldson stickman - Bing video](#)

[Beware Of The Greedy Highway Rat! 🐭 | Gruffalo World | Compilation - Bing video](#)

[Jez Alborough reads Where's My Teddy - YouTube](#)

Signed stories – learn new signs:

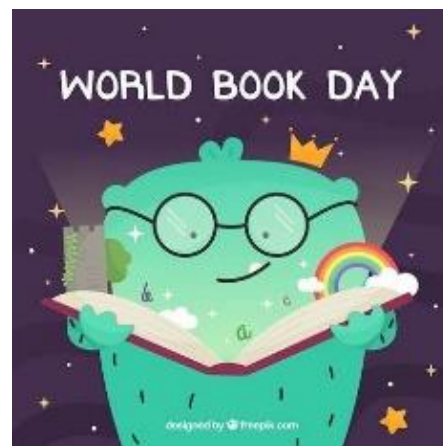
[The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister - Signed Stories - Sign Language | BSL | SSE |](#)

[Read Aloud - YouTube](#)

[Not Now Bernard by David McKee - Signed Stories - British Sign Language - BSL | SSE](#)

[| Read Aloud - YouTube](#)

[Signed Story - Handa's Surprise - British Sign Language \(BSL\)/SSE - YouTube](#)



The Jungle Book - Theatre Company – Friday 3rd March

To celebrate World Book Day, a theatre group will be performing 'The Jungle Book' in school during the morning, and holding workshops with Year 2 during the afternoon.

British Science Week – 10th – 19th March

British Science Week is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths. This year's theme is connections! Connections are all around us. We will be making many connections in science and smashing stereotypes by celebrating the diverse people and careers in science and engineering.

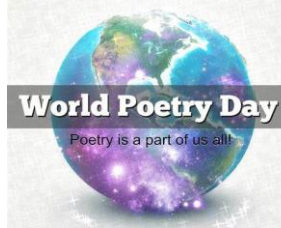


Professor Bubbleworks – Friday 17th March

At the end of British Science Week, we will be visited by the team at Professor Bubble Works. In order to explore the 'Connections' theme for 2023, they have devised some fantastic science demonstrations such as the ping pong ball launcher, centripetal force flying platform, Bernoulli's wind bags, light up energy sticks and plasma ball that the whole school can watch. KS1 will also have the opportunity to take part in some immersive workshops through the day.

Red Nose Day – Comic Relief – Friday 17th March

Children may wear non-uniform with items of red clothing as well as official Comic Relief clothing. Donations will be collected on the Key Stage One gate, Reception gate and Nursery door. A Just Giving page will also be available for use.



World Poetry Day – Tuesday 21st March

National Poetry Day is an annual event which takes place across the whole of the UK in celebration of poetry. The day is intended to help people discover and enjoy poetry and encourage everyone to read, write, and share poems. National Poetry Day demonstrates the importance of poetry and the value that poetry adds to society. Nursery and Reception children will be performing Nursery Rhymes they have learnt by heart to Key Stage One children, and Key Stage One children will be performing poems they have learnt by heart to Nursery and Reception children.

Parents Evenings 21st and 23rd March

We will be offering parents a mixture of face to face and online parents' evening sessions. We do understand that because of childcare needs & for work commitments, online meetings are much easier for some families. Booking details will be sent closer to the time.



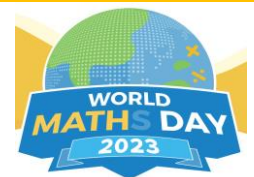
World Water Day – Wednesday 22nd March

The global campaign for 2023 is called 'Be the Change' and encourages people to take action in their own lives to change the way they use, consume and manage water. We will be learning how our school and community can make a difference by changing the way you use, consume and manage water in our lives.



World Maths Day – Thursday 23rd March

World Maths Day is one of the world's largest global educational events. Taking place on the 23rd March 2023, this day aims to get children excited and enthusiastic about learning maths! Outdoor maths activities will be taking place across the school.



Living Eggs – Monday 27th March

Living Eggs will be in school once again from 27th March. This is a super yearly activity that takes place for Early Years children. Living Eggs provide a happy, safe and ethical experience that enables children to learn about life cycles and caring for animals. See our Twitter feed for day by day hatching and growing of our chicks.

Oliver – Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th March – both shows at 9:30am

We are very excited that Year 2 children will be performing Oliver as their class assembly for their parents/carers. This involves learning many songs and the use of an actual theatre script. We are sure you'll be joining in with the songs at home! To ensure we can cover the costs of props and costumes each year, and so that wider family members can also enjoy the performance, we will be selling tickets for an additional performance of Oliver on Wednesday 29th March at 3pm. We have been asked if it is possible for the school to record this performance and sell DVDs. Our office staff will send out a form in Weduc asking for permission from all parents/carers for this filming to take place. We will need every parent/carer to return this form and provide consent for this to happen. We fully respect the decision of anyone who does not wish for this filming to take place.



School Closes on Thursday 30th March for Easter