

Newsletter 5: January 2020



Happy New Year and welcome back, I hope you all had a lovely holiday and managed to rest. It was great to see all the children and staff back at school and we are looking forward to the term ahead.

I would like to introduce our newest members of staff to you:

- Mrs Deville has joined as Inclusion Leader
- Miss Brown has joined as Year 5 Ash Class Teacher.
- Miss Hook has joined as Assistant Cook.

I know you will all join me in welcoming them to the Ruislip Gardens team.

There are a lot of activities taking place this term so please make sure you keep checking the calendar, website and your emails for information.

You may have seen by now that we are having an outdoor gym installed in the playground. The children are very excited as are the staff to start using this in lessons. This equipment is designed for specific use and therefore children are not permitted to use it before or after school. The children will be taught how to use the equipment safely by a member of staff and will only be allowed to use it under supervision during the school day. Thank you in advance for your support with this when dropping and collecting children to and from school.

Another big project that will be happening very soon is our school roof is going to be repaired. I am happy to announce that the Local Authority have given the go ahead for work to commence during the half term. This will be a 57 week project which takes us through to March 2021. There are lots of details to be sorted out and shared with you all so please do read correspondence which will be coming very soon and be aware when walking around the school site of any changes that may have been made. We aim to keep you updated as much as possible throughout the process.

Kind Regards

Miss Bulpett.

Reminder – Pupil Drop-offs

Please can we remind parents that EYFS and KS1 must be accompanied to school by an adult. Older siblings CANNOT take siblings into the playground.

FEBRUARY 2020:

Monday 3rd: Year 1 Phonics Meeting (Parents to Attend)

Wednesday 5th: KS1 SATS Information Meeting (Parents to Attend)

Thursday 6th: 9:00 AM Year 2 Cedar Class Assembly (Parents welcome)

Friday 7th: Y2 Space Day

9:00 AM Year 4 Birch Class Stay & Maths Session (Parents welcome)

2:00 PM Year 4 Sycamore Class Stay & Maths Session (Parents welcome)

2:30 PM Cake Sale

Monday 10th: Celebration Assemblies (Pre-Invited Parents to attend)

(please note change of time for this event compared to previous Celebration Assemblies)

- Year 5 & Year 6 at 9.00 AM
- Reception & KS1 at 10.00 AM
- Year 3 & Year 4 at 11.00 AM

Tuesday 11th: Safer Internet Day

13:30 – 19:30 PM Parent Consultations (**SCHOOL CLOSURES AT 1:15 PM**)

Wednesday 12th: Reception Superhero Day

Y1 Festival of Learning: Antarctic day

Thursday 13th: 9:00 AM Y2 Blossom Class Assembly (Parents welcome)

9:30 AM Life Skills Group visiting Pets at Home

Curriculum day of Learning: Hinduism - KS1 and KS2.

END OF TERM: SCHOOL CLOSURES NORMAL TIME

Friday 14th: **STAFF INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED**

Monday 17th – Friday 21st: **HALF TERM - SCHOOL CLOSED**

Monday 24th: **ALL PUPILS RETURN**

: 1:00 PM The Hillingdon Road Safety Team visit Y5&Y6

MARCH 2020:

Thursday 5th: World Book Day & Cake Sale Competition

Friday 6th: 9:00 AM Year 5 Oak Class Stay & Maths Session (Parents welcome)

2:00 PM Year 4 Sycamore Class Stay & Maths Session (Parents welcome)

Monday 9th – Friday 13th: Health & Wellbeing Week

Thursday 12th: FROGS School Disco

Friday 13th: 9:00 AM Year 2 Cedar Class Stay & Maths Session (Parents welcome)

2:00 PM Year 2 Blossom Class Stay & Maths Session (Parents welcome)

Monday 16th – Friday 20th: Y6 PGL Residential

Monday 16th: EYFS Bubble Sow

Thursday 19th: 9:00 AM Y1 Beech Class Assembly (Parents welcome)

Friday 20th: 9:00 AM Reception Mother's Day Stay & Play Session (Parents welcome)

9:30 AM Cedar Class RAF Northolt Trip

Wednesday 25th – Friday 27th: Creative Curriculum Exhibition

Thursday 26th: 9:00 AM Y1 Elder Class Assembly (Parents welcome)

Friday 20th: 9:30 AM Blossom Class RAF Northolt Trip

Monday 30th: Celebration Assemblies (Pre-Invited Parents to attend)

- Reception & KS1 at 9.00 AM
- Year 3 & Year 4 at 10.00 AM
- Year 5 & Year 6 at 11.00 AM

Safeguarding Communication

If you have any safeguarding concerns which you would like to raise confidentially, please either arrange to meet with one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads or send an email to safeguarding@ruislipgardensschool.co.uk. This confidential account is only accessed by the school's four Designated Safeguarding Leads who are:



Miss. Bulpett
Headteacher



Miss. O'Neill
Deputy Headteacher



Miss Elsworth
Learning Mentor



Mrs. Deville
Inclusion Leader



Mrs. Wilson
Inclusion Assistant

News and Events



Club spaces still available

There is still availability on the following extra-curricular clubs. If your child is interested in joining please contact Clare in the School Office (01895 632 895) for further information or assistance with booking.

ACTIVITY	YEAR GROUP	DAY	TIME	VENUE	RUN BY
BEFORE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES					
Tennis Club	5, 6	Wednesday	7:50am-8:30am	Playground	www.eastcotetennis.co.uk
LUNCH ACTIVITIES					
Performing Arts	3,4,5,6	Thursday	12.20-12.50pm	Upstairs Hall	www.apex360.co.uk/bookings
AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES					
Shakers Kids	Reception, 1, 2	Wednesday	3.10pm-4.10pm	Cloud Room	shakerskids@gmail.com
Football (KS1)	1 and 2	Wednesday	3.20pm-4.20pm	School Field	www.elmssportinschools.co.uk
Street Dance KS2	3, 4, 5, 6	Thursday	3.20pm-4.20pm	Upstairs Hall	www.apex360.co.uk/bookings
Street Dance KS1	1, 2	Friday	3.20pm-4.20pm	Upstairs Hall	www.apex360.co.uk/bookings
Football (KS2)	3,4,5,6	Friday	3.20pm-4.20pm	School Field	www.elmssportinschools.co.uk



Morning Tennis Club - Tuesday & Wednesdays 7:50am - 8:30am



Please can we remind parents to wait with their child until the staff member running the morning tennis club arrives!

Children should not be left unattended as we cannot be responsible for children during this time.

Parents wishing to drop children from 7:30am can book their children into SMARTY's breakfast club which is chargeable.

More SMARTY@'s information can be found via: <https://www.smartysafterschool.co.uk/breakfast-club/>

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who donated used postage stamps during 2019. These have been sent to the Air Ambulance Charity.

We will continue to collect stamps and used batteries. The collection points are by the office doors for children to drop them in the boxes.

The Royal Institution GEM (Girls Engaged in Maths) Masterclasses

We were delighted to be invited to take part in the Maths Masterclasses at St Helens School in Northwood. Congratulation to four of our Y5 girls, Abbie, Insiyah, Emmie and Freya who were chosen to take part in the 6 workshops which are led by experts from Industry, Academia and Education.

They offer pupils in-depth investigations of topics in Maths, combining theory with interactive exploration. It hopes to open their eyes to the world of Mathematics and inspire them to continue their engagement with the subject. The girls enjoyed working as a team and learning about Florence Nightingale and pie charts. The girls attended their first masterclass on Saturday 18th January and thought it was very exciting!

Attendance: Reception



From this Term 'Alfie the Attendance Bear' will be joining the Reception children. They will have the opportunity to take home and look after him. The children or child with the highest attendance over the half term will be awarded the bear during the celebration assemblies.



Sports News

The football team played a match against Warrender Primary School on Wednesday 22nd January. Although we were defeated the team played well together – great effort. Miss Keene.



We are very grateful for the donations of tissues to classes. During the winter months children use endless tissues, please continue to provide a box of tissues for your child's class if you are able to. Thank you

If you have spare grey socks and grey or green tights, your child has outgrown of please donate any spares via the office.



Forest school kit: Please provide a spare pair of socks for your child's forest school kit in addition to the wellies and waterproof/outside clothing.

P.E KIT: This must be in school at all times. If you have difficulty sourcing the correct kit please speak to Mrs White or Mrs Thompson at the office and they can provide a spare kit for your child in the interim.



Unfortunately, parking continues to be an issue for our school community. It has been disappointing to see parents continuing to park on corners, yellow lines and zig zags and therefore compromising our children's safety.

We continue to communicate regularly with the local authority with the issues we see, and they are actively involved in supporting us to ensure this improves. We don't want there to be an accident before parents see the seriousness of this. Please do consider walking, parking further afield, or leaving earlier to secure a safe parking space.

Thank you to those of you who do this already and are supporting us with ensuring our roads are safe for our children.

Welfare: Reception Health Survey

Reception Health Survey: The school nurse team will be emailing a questionnaire to Reception parents over the next few weeks and this will also include information on where to find NHS support. This includes registering with a local dentist which the Nurses have asked that all parents / carers should do.

Extra-Curricular Clubs: Please ensure you have informed external clubs of your child's medical needs and update them of any changes throughout the term. This is a parental responsibility.

Thanks you to those of you who collected and donated their Book for Schools tokens from The Sun newspaper.

Unfortunately we didn't get near enough the 3,500 required so we donated ours to Hedgewood School.



Year Group Roundup

Nursery



Nursery have been learning all about Bears! We started with reading the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We compared the sizes of objects and matched them to the correct bears. We enjoyed cooking porridge and tasting it. We added toppings of blueberries, bananas, honey or jam. Some of us did not like the porridge at all and some of us loved all the toppings!

We have been learning about Pandas and the country of China. Do you know that pandas can smell with their ears and hear with their noses? This is one of the interesting facts we learnt this week! We also loved learning all about Chinese New Year. We have made fans, lanterns and dragons. We tried our best to write some Chinese symbols. And we even got to take our own chopsticks home to eat our dinner with!



Reception



We have all been Superheroes in Reception this term. The Evil Pea has escaped from the freezer to wreak havoc in our classrooms. He has hidden our resources, written messages and stuck them on the walls and caused all sorts of mischief. Worst of all, when we went to get our carrots for snack this week, he had frozen them in a block of ice! Don't worry though, Superhero has come to our rescue and we are busy making traps for the Evil Pea. We will find that Evil Pea and make sure he goes back in the freezer.

Year 1

All of Year 1 have been engaged in our topic for this term 'Hot and cold'. So far Year 1 have explored hot and cold countries in Geography, learning about the different features a hot and cold countries have. We have completed map work locating the seven continents of the world and the oceans and we have also located on a map the hot and cold countries by colouring coding. Year 1 also had a special trip to Gatwick airport where we boarded onto a plane to Spain! It was a fantastic trip, the weather was very hot definitely no need for a woolly hat or gloves. In Year 1 we have also been doing some outstanding writing about our story 'Lost and Found' and non-fiction reports on penguins and camels. In Maths we have continued to look at subtraction and addition to 20. We had a spectacular time teaching our grownups what we have been learning in Maths and showing them the different resources and methods to help us with our learning. The parents that came also had an enjoyable and insightful time. We are all extremely proud of Year 1's achievements.



Year 2

School life in Year 2 has been going exceptionally well this term. The children have impressed us across all subject areas, which has cross curricular links to our topic, Space. 'The real moon landing' by Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin has blown away the minds of our learners, given them lots of opportunities to show off their creative writing skills. The children have truly put themselves in the shoes of the astronauts and written a range of thrilling genres. Take a look at one of our newspaper reports that paints a fascinating picture of Neil Armstrong's first steps.

In our Maths we have moved onto multiplication and division where the children have used a range of strategies to help them understand key mathematical concepts. The children have been able to link these concepts to everyday contexts such as sharing sweets. Keep up the hard work!



Year 3

Year 3 have had a wonderful start to 2020! To consolidate our topic of 'Extreme Earth' we travelled on the tube to the National History Museum. The children were amazed to see Mary Anning's fossils that they learnt about way back in Autumn term. We started the day with an 'Extreme Earth' workshop where the children became learnt more knowledge and became experts with volcanoes and earthquakes. We were so exhausted from all the walking and learning that a few children had to doze off on the way home!

It was lovely to have such a big turnout for our stay and play Maths session. It really helps to link our learning in school with what you could continue to support with the children at home. We hope the children are braver to dance in front of you next time!



Year 4

The Year 4 children have had a fantastic half term. We have really enjoyed reading and learning all about Aladdin and exploring all our new Goldilocks words. Now these words are appearing in our writing and everyone is so excited to read our work. After such an exciting topic last term, we can't wait to continue exploring the exciting world of the Anglo-Saxons. We have already begun to learn about Sutton Hoo and the discoveries beneath the mound. In Science we have been learning about electricity and how to make circuits. All the children enjoyed making the electrical circuits. Some of us even acted out the flow of electricity within a circuit. The children also enjoyed becoming scientists and investigated and followed a method to make ice-cream. We dressed up as Scientists and tried making our own ice cream. The children really enjoyed the different steps that we had to follow in order to make the ice cream including crushing the ice and adding different ingredients. In Maths we have been working really hard to learn our times tables by heart. This has helped us by making learning efficient written methods of multiplication and division much easier and has also helped us in preparing for our times tables test at the end of the year.

Year 5

This term we have been learning All about Canada and have started our Geography topic, learning about the different territories and states, the different biomes and the physical features of the country. During our English and Reading lessons, we have continued the frozen theme and joined the Pevensie children on a magical journey through a wardrobe into the snow-blanketed land of Narnia. Where we have discovered the White Witch, fauns, beavers and it is always Winter but never Christmas!

We were lucky to have a visit from the Stand Against Violence charity and learnt some top tips to keep ourselves safe and saw how a bad decision made when you are angry can not only ruin your life but the life of others around you.

In Maths we have taken on the challenge of improving our knowledge of times tables through long multiplication and short division. We have learnt to use place holders and the bus stop method.



Year 6

Welcome back to the new term! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and ready to continue to support your children this term. Year 6 have been very busy this term with the SATs drawing closer as the term progresses – and have been working extremely hard to achieve our goals. This term, we move to another exciting topic about WW2. The children have had many opportunities to link this theme with their other subjects in class. They have enjoyed learning about the important events of WW2 and have engaged in thought-provoking discussions. We can without a doubt, see many historians in the making! The children have also had an opportunity to design their own bag and will soon repurpose old clothing to bring their designs to life using different sewing techniques. We look forward to what the rest of the term brings.

The staff in the spotlight this month are...



Mrs. Elsworth – Learning Mentor

What inspired you work in a school? From a young age I wanted to work with children so I trained as a Nursery Nurse and went from working in day nurseries, being a Nanny, to working in mainstream and special needs schools. I really enjoy helping / working with children as every day is different and interesting,

How long have you worked at Ruislip Gardens? I have worked here for 3 years.

What hobbies/interests do you have outside school? Outside of school I enjoy going on long walks, keeping fit, spending time with my family and friends and relaxing!

What is your favourite book to read or favourite author? The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe and Charlotte's Web were my favourite books when I was at school. I still enjoy reading them with children.

What is your favourite subject to teach? My favourite subjects to teach are PSHE and PE.

What was the name of your primary school? Beavers Primary School

Mrs Garrish – Teaching Assistant

What inspired you to work in a school? I like supporting and working with children. I also like seeing their enjoyment when they succeed in the challenges in the lesson from all their hard work.

How long have you worked at Ruislip Gardens? I have worked at RGS for 5 years now.

What hobbies/interests do you have outside school? I like reading, embroidery and knitting. I recently started to learn Tap dancing, I have just passed Level 1.

What is your favourite book to read or favourite author? My favourite author is a man called Terry Pratchett.

What is your favourite subject to teach? I really enjoy Maths.

What was the name of your primary school? Deanesfield Primary School, South Ruislip

