

Spring 1 2024

Rowsley C of E Primary School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas and New Year seem so long ago, but this is the first newsletter of the new year. The staff at Rowsley CofE Primary wish you all the best for 2024. At school, the children came back full of enthusiasm and vigour. The children's attitude to learning continues to be wonderful.

Christian Values

Our Christian distinctiveness and effort towards making our children well-rounded citizens is of great importance to us. Our visions and values are at the core of everything we do. They underpin our teaching and learning, and we aim to provide an environment which prepares our pupils to be confident and happy citizens. Whilst we teach and live by all Christian values, the main values chosen by our stakeholders (parents) are as follows:

Love
Respect
Compassion
Belonging
Faith

Love - "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth." - Corinthians 13 4:5

Respect - "Do for other people the same things you want them to do for you." - Matthew 7:12

Compassion - "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as Christ God forgave you" - Ephesians 4:32

Belonging - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." - John 3:16-17

Faith - "For nothing will be impossible with God." - Luke 1:37

Our theme this half term has been 'Justice' which leads into Lent and Easter – "Goodness is stronger than evil." (John 18-19).

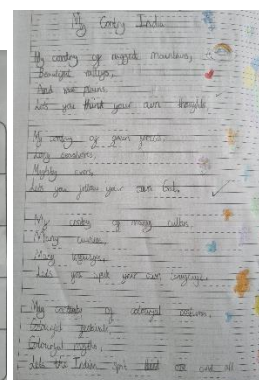
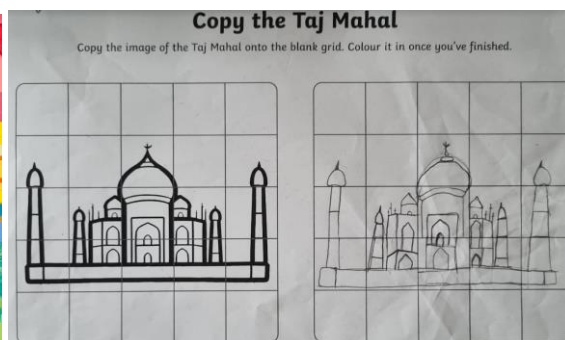
Miss Lindley's trip to India

As you will be aware, Miss Lindley recently spent ten days in India. It was great to hear that our children were following her blog whilst she was there. If you haven't yet seen it, it is still on our school website and can be found here: <https://www.rowsleyprimary.co.uk/page/?title=India+Jan+24&pid=111>

Every morning, Miss Lindley connected with each class for a Google Classroom meet. The children had the opportunity to ask many questions and also listen to Miss Lindley's accounts of her day and time in the Indian school. Their enthusiasm and maturity in their questions made me really proud.

This trip was so important to our school and highlighted our Christian and British Values.

Whilst Miss Lindley was in India, our children learned Indian poetry and stories, and looked at areas of India which they may not have known about. Learning about different cultures really helps to broaden the minds of our children.



Our links with Bhowanipore School will continue. Miss Lindley will be keeping in touch with the teachers there and has already received videos of the children singing songs that they learned with her.

SEND (Special Educational Needs & Disabilities)

Mrs Hodgson is our SEND-Co-ordinator. If your child has SEND, or you believe they have SEND, then she is happy to meet with you on a Thursday afternoon. An appointment will need to be made through Mrs Middlebrook.

All children with SEND needs have an IEP (individual education plan) and these are shared and discussed with parents in our parent consultation appointments. Your child's class teacher will have already approached you if we feel your child has additional needs. We have many things in place for our SEND children such as intervention sessions, differentiated work and positive play sessions. We also help children with their mental health and teach strategies to help children cope with the challenges that they face.

We value all our children whatever their needs.

What is going on in school?

The Mother Teresa Class

Years 1 and 2 have been doing some fabulous writing following the book Arlo by Catherine Raynor, I was privileged to be able to read some of their stories.

After 30 minutes Arthur grew two hands and two arms.
Arthur was happy!
Arthur went to tell Lolah the good news. But he woke Lolah up. To cheer her up, Lolah and Arthur played tennis together.
Lolah fell back to sleep after a fun game of tennis.

It was a sunny Monday in India and Arthur was sad. Arthur was a red snake he dreamt of playing tennis and watching him and bat play.
Arthur was angry and he gave up on playing tennis.
Lolah the magic bat swooped down and spoke to Arthur.
Lolah gave Arthur a red potion bottle.

Reception have been busy learning about traditional tales. They have completed science experiments on suitable roofs for the Three Little Pigs, they have baked gingerbread men and re-enacted the story, and they have also baked bread like the Little Red Hen.



Material used	Did the Pig stay dry?
	✓
	+
	+
	✓
	✗

The Amelia Earhart Class

The Amelia Earhart Class had a wonderful trip to Creswell Crags this half term where they learned more about their next topic Stone Age to Iron Age. On the trip they organised animal bones to identify different animals; they went into a cave for a circle time activity and they all had a go at throwing spears!



The Marcus Rashford Class

Our topic this half term has been World War II, both the children and I have loved this topic. Thank you to all the parents/carers who brought in WW2 artefacts and for making such a fantastic effort with their costumes on our WW2 day. It was a great success.



Thank you, too, to the ladies from Rowsley Craft Club who came into school for a 'make do and mend' session with the children. All the children learned how to sew a button on. Some darned socks; had a go at knitting and some also got to mend their own clothing. The ladies said they were really pleased with the effort put in by the children and commented on their fabulous behaviour and attitude.

Forest School

Despite the cold weather, the children have continued to go to the woods and enjoy their outdoor sessions. The Year 5 and 6 children have been digging trenches, they do love to dig! Mrs Booker treated them with a ration pack of jam sandwiches, a piece of chocolate and a cup of tea.



Year 3 and 4 enjoyed a campfire and made smores, as their topic is the USA.



The smile says it all!

Safeguarding at Rowsley CofE Primary

Tuesday 6th February was Safer Internet Day – details can be found at <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024>. On this website there is also a section dedicated to helping parents and carers navigate changes online and tips on how to set boundaries and keep children safe whilst online.

The children had a Collective Worship around it and junior pupils were encouraged to complete the online quiz by following this link: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024/quiz-for-7-11-year-olds>. The quiz offers insights into how children may feel about some of the choices they are asked to make whilst online. It would be useful to sit with your child as they do the quiz so that you can discuss some of their answers.

Mrs Wyer held an Internet Safety talk for parents this half term, if you were unable to attend, the information passed on in the meeting can be found on our website: <https://www.rowsleyprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding&pid=23>

Musician of the Month

February's musician of the month is Hans Zimmer. Hans Florian Zimmer is a German film score composer and music producer. He has won two Oscars and four Grammys. If you do not know his name, you will definitely know some of his legendary compositions: he wrote musical scores for movies such as Pirates of the Caribbean, Dunkirk, Lion King, Inception, Interstellar, Gladiator and King Fu Panda to name but a few.

Illness & Attendance

If your child is poorly, you **must** telephone or email school between 8.30am and 9.15am every day that they are off, unless you have informed us that they have sickness and/or diarrhoea in which case they will need to be kept off for 48 hours. If we do not hear from you, Mrs Middlebrook will call to check on the whereabouts of your child. Please be kind to her when she does, as she is doing her job and it is a school requirement and standard practice in schools whether they are primary or secondary. If you do not call and we are unable to get in contact, Mrs Chisholm and/or Mrs Wyer may conduct a home visit.

The school has a 'missing child' policy which you can find via this link <https://www.rowsleyprimary.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=6&type=pdf> and we are also following the

safeguarding procedures as outlined in the Department for Education's published document 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) 2023. A copy of which can also be found on our website via the following link

<https://www.rowsleyprimary.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=5&type=pdf>.

The start of the term saw several children across the school being absent due to a variety of bugs. Please be assured that we promote handwashing after toilet visits and at lunch times, have tissues handy for troublesome colds, the school is cleaned thoroughly every morning and the tables are cleaned before and after lunch.

If your child has been sick or had diarrhoea, it is imperative that you follow the 48 hour rule as things like this can spread easily and it is unpleasant for children and staff to have to deal with this in school.

Interesting fact: the origin of the word diarrhoea is Greek and means 'to flow through.'

World Book Day

World Book Day is being held on Thursday 7th March. The whole school will be using the books 'The Lost Words' and 'The Lost Spells' by Robert Macfarlane to complete activities throughout the day.

At Rowsley we love books and encourage all our children to read for pleasure. Each child has been sent home with a World Book Day voucher. The voucher entitles every child to a free book from the WBD list or £1 off a book of their choice (if the book is over £2.99) from participating bookshops.

There is no theme and no obligation to dress up for WBD, but many children like the opportunity to come dressed as a book character. If your child does want to come dressed up, then they are more than welcome to. Likewise, if your child is not comfortable dressing up, then they can come in their school uniform and enjoy the costumes worn by others.

Reading Books

Every child is given a Reading Challenge Book. If your child has reached Lime Level they can progress through the reading challenges as their school reader – all the books have been graded to match the progression of each child as an individual. From Challenge 6 the children are expected to read their challenge book at least 4 times a week independently - this is to be recorded in the reading record.

If your child is still completing phonics lessons or has not yet reached Lime Level, then the reading challenges should be read by an adult or fluent reader not by the child. These books are marked with a red dot sticker. We do not expect the children to read the red dot stickered books as they are just at the start of their reading journey and some of the words are too complex and do not follow the phonics pattern being taught in school. If you have any questions on this or are at all unsure, please do come and see me or your child's class teacher.

Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Details
February		
Monday Feb 26 th	School Re-opens	
March		
Tuesday March 5 th	Parents' Consultations	Slips will have been sent home this week
Thursday March 7 th	World Book Day	Children can come in character costumes, if they wish
Friday March 15 th	Red Nose Day	Details to follow
Thursday 21 st March	Y3/4 Hockey Tournament	At Bishop's Pursglove, Tideswell, children will need to come in PE kit and bring a water bottle
Tuesday 26 th March	Easter Service	St Katherine's Church 2pm – 3pm All welcome
Thursday 28 th March	Last day of term	School resumes Monday 15 th April

Remaining School Term Dates

Spring 1: 8th January 2024 to 16th February 2024

Spring 2: 26th February 2024 to 28th March 2024

Summer 1: 15th April 2024 to 24th May 2024 (6th May 2024 is a bank holiday)

Summer 2: 3rd June 2024 to 23rd July 2023

Remaining School INSET Days

Friday 21st June

Monday 24th June

And finally...

The school newsletter can also be found on our school website and diary dates are on the school website calendar.

If you have any queries or questions, please do speak to us or arrange a meeting. You can email the school at info@rowlsey.derbyshire.sch.uk or email myself at c.hewitt@peaktorfederation.co.uk

If you would like a paper copy of the newsletter, please let me know and this can be arranged. We wish you all a happy half-term break.

Live 'life in all its fullness.' (John 10:10b)

Claire Hewitt

Deputy Head Teacher