



RUSKIN
JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Blue Kite
Academy Trust

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Ruskin Junior School

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 @Ruskin_Juniors

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back to the start of another new term and one that promises to be full of learning and fun! As always, it's been a busy month and there's plenty to celebrate. The start of this term always feels like the countdown to Christmas (incidentally, this is the time of year that Homesense at Greenbridge start preparing for Easter: my last Homesense related comment, promise) and it's going to be a busy one. But first, get yourself a cuppa and we can reflect on what's been an eventful month here at Ruskin.

All the best,

Mr Beadnell

"Believe you can and you're halfway there" Theodore Roosevelt

Term 2's Value: Creativity

ruskinjuniorschool.com

Dates for Term 2:

Thursday 8th November

Fireworks Extravaganza

Friday 9th November

Sir Ranulph Fiennes Class
Assembly

Tuesday 13th November

Literature Event at Kingsdown
for Year 5

Wednesday 14th November

Shakespeare Event at the
Wyvern

Thursday 15th November

First World War Theatre
Workshops for Years 4 and 6

Friday 16th November

Children in Need
Beatrix Potter Class Assembly

Tuesday 27th November

Flu Vaccinations for Years 3, 4
and 5

Friday 30th November

Banksey Class assembly

Friday 7th December

Non-uniform for Christmas
Morning

Tuesday 11th December

Christmas at the Church

Wednesday 12th December

Christmas at the Church

Friday 14th December

Friends Christmas Morning

Wednesday 19th December

Years 3 and 4 Christmas Lunch

Thursday 20th December

Years 5 and 6 Christmas Lunch

Friday 21st December

Last day of term: finish at 1:30

Monday 7th January

TD Day

Tuesday 8th January

Children return to school – start
of term 3

Value for Term 2:

Creativity

In the Name of Science

October saw the Ruskin annual Science Week where the school is transformed into a science research facility with all of children involved in scientific activities in some way. Over the course of the week, children carried out experiments, made observations and evaluated evidence culminating in a science fair on Friday where they were able to show off their findings and also get the chance to demonstrate what they'd learnt from a practical perspective.

Some of the activities the children were undertaking were investigating how organisms adapt to their surroundings; looking at the best materials to create gloves suitable for space travel; finding out how submarines work and experimenting with electrical conductors and insulators. The fair was very well attended and it was fantastic to see so many parents and relations come to see how hard the children had been working and what they'd learnt. We even had some of our more enterprising pupils organising and manning a stall where you could purchase all sorts of science related toys and games. It wouldn't surprise me if many of our children go on to pursue careers in science – the enthusiasm for the subject was that special. A wonderful event and an extra special thanks to all of our staff for making it happen and especially to Mr Burgess who organised the event.



Cake Sale

In light of the tragic events where adults from Prior's Court Special School for Autistic Children were killed in a minibus accident close to Swindon on the M4, staff, children and parents from our school's Special Resource Provision for Children with Autism and SEMH - the Beehive, held a cake sale in the school hall. They managed to raise a total of £160 that has been sent on to Prior's Court as a gesture of sympathy and support.

Sports Desk

10 of our children participated in this year's Inter-Primary School Cross-Country Running Event at Lydiard Park. Mrs Orankan organised and escorted the children and they showed great determination and perseverance and were superb ambassadors for the school. We anticipate this becoming a regular event and look forward to the same again next year.

The boys football team travelled to Eldene earlier in the month where they ran out as 6-1 winners in the league but narrowly missed out on booking themselves a place in the second round of the Cup losing 3-1 at Wanborough. The gaffer, Mr Edmondson heaped praise on the boys' performances and is looking forward to plenty more football to come.

Mr Robertson has also managed to secure some sports kit by signing up the school to the Premier League Primary Allstars scheme. The equipment includes a set of official Premier League balls, some pop-up goals, bibs, foam dice and bean-bags. More great resources for the school.

Morfa Mayhem



Some of our year 6 children ventured over the border to Wales for our annual residential at the Morfa Bay resort. Activities included climbing, zip-wires, body boarding and abseiling. The children returned fresh-faced and tired out after such a fantastic experience and full of stories of fun and adventure. A huge thanks to all the staff who escorted the children during the trip and getting stuck into each activity with gusto and energy! Some very amusing



Tweets coming to keep us informed and indeed, entertained. For those children who didn't go, Miss Sanderson ensured they too had a special week back here at school. This involved a trip to the cinema, biscuit making, a visit to Stanton Park and also some dance choreography. All in all, a fantastic week!



Poetry Day



October was also the month that featured National Poetry Day, an occasion marked by our Year 3s welcoming the Year 2s from Beechcroft to take part in some inter-school poetry action. The children got the chance to perform The School Kids Rap in front of the rest of the children on the stage

in the school hall. We would like to thank staff from Beechcroft for escorting their children over and making sure both schools could participate in such a fantastic event.

I'm Henry VIII, I am

October saw the first of our class assemblies for this academic year and we were treated to a fantastic performance by Sir Isaac Newton Class based on their Big Idea centred around the Tudors. The children provided us with a funny and very informative potted history of Henry VIII's reign. Some great acting skills on display here too, well done to all of you in Sir Isaac Newton Class.

After School Club

Another reminder that our after school club is up and running and is becoming increasingly popular. Details can be found on the ParentPay website where you will also be able to complete your bookings.



Snail Tales

Our Giant African Land Snail, Gayle (just thought that name up) is doing just fine and growing at an impressive rate. Unfortunately, Dale (just made that one up too) is missing, presumed dead having buried himself in the soil. Quite sad really but this is nature, in tooth and claw. Anyway, last time I checked on Gayle, he/she (snails are both - you can look this one up yourself), was happily sat on a cabbage leaf, presumably eating. To be honest, there's not a great deal to report. Who knows what they get up to when we aren't looking though? Maybe they can teleport...



Gayle. In about a month's time if it carries on growing at this rate...