



Staffing

Tracey Francis and Sarah Jeffries are both back in school after their surgery. It is great to have them back!

Family Groups

Each child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 belongs to a 'Family group'. These have tree names. The groups include a range of children from each year group. Siblings are in the same group. Every fortnight family groups meet for a shared activity; for example, reading, story time, parachute games, playtime.

Our 'Active Day' was a family group activity. Children will also attend Sports Day in their family groups. This helps parents who have two children to watch!

At the end of the year we organise a family group day out. This year we will be returning to Waddesdon on Monday 17th July. The PA is kindly supporting this activity with a contribution from their fundraising work. We will therefore be asking parents for a subsidised contribution of £5. This is a great day out when the older children in each group take care of the younger children.

School Lunches

In order to avoid wastage we notify Essence Catering of any absentees at **9:15am** each morning. If your child has an appointment and is arriving late you will need to let the office know that they will be in for lunch or provide a packed lunch.

Parent Runners

Well done to Kellie Blundell, Sarah Griffiths, Kimberley Chapman and Corinne Valor who represented Russell Street at the Silverstone 10km run.

Year 2 Infant Strings

Our Infant Strings children played at a concert at Shenley Brook End School with 7 other infant school groups this Wednesday. They were confident and incredibly enthusiastic in front of a huge audience. We were very proud of them all!

African Drumming Group

Key Stage 1 children had a great day dancing, drumming and singing as part of their Africa theme. This event was funded by school disco income.

Adventures in Mathematics Project

Our Swedish teachers had a good visit last week. They loved our school and have returned to Sweden keen to try out some of the teaching approaches observed. They were particularly interested in how involved the children were in their learning, and in how lessons were made active and interesting for the children. The focus of our project this term continues to be learning mathematics outdoors.

Heating Project

The heating contractors continue to make good progress. We are grateful to parents for their patience at pick up and drop off times while the side of school is inaccessible. Unfortunately access restrictions, linked to the heating work, are delaying the construction of the new covered playground. This will have to be constructed in the summer holidays when access is no longer required.

Wrap Around Care

Our expansion to three forms is complete next year which means that demand for our wraparound care will increase further. Due to the numbers of children signed up for this provision we will **not be able to cater for children from the junior school at after school club**. See the policy on our website for breakfast club criteria. As a result of budgetary pressures, linked to increased staffing costs, Governors have reviewed charges for wrap around. From September breakfast club will cost £3:00 per session and After School Club will cost £10:00 per session.

If you will need to use this provision then please make sure that you have notified the office. Due to demand we will be recruiting an additional play worker for after school club from September.

Induction and Transition

We do not focus on the idea of class changes with the children this early in the summer term. This can be very unsettling and we still have half a term to go.

In July we will have a week of class swaps and visits (see calendar overleaf). It is at this time that we will notify parents of their child's new class. All parents are invited to our Induction and Transition Evening to see their child's new classroom and to meet their new teacher. All parents will also be invited to school during the teaching day for a 1:1 appointment.



Dates for your diaries

See also: www.russell-street-school.co.uk

- 26-5-17 Last day of the half term
- 5-6-17 Back to school
- 19-6-17 Summer in the Park Week
- 21-6-17 Reception to Woodside Farm
- 22-6-17 Full Governing Body meeting
- 24-6-17 School gardens open for Stony Open Gardens
- 26-6-17 Induction Evening for Nursery and Reception
- 27-6-17 Sports Afternoon
- 3-7-17 Year 1 and 2 Transition Evening
- Transition Week
- Last week of clubs
- 8-7-17 School Fete
- 10-7-17 Parent meetings for September's Year 1 and 2s
- 12-7-17 Reception Disco 3pm – 4pm
- 13-7-17 Year 1 and 2 Disco 3pm – 4pm
- 17-7-17 Year R, 1, 2 Family Group visit to Waddesdon
- 19-7-17 PA children's event 3pm – 4pm
- 20-7-17 Year 2 Leavers' Assembly 2:20pm
- 21-7-17 Year 1 Assembly 2:30pm
- Last day of term