

Tummy Bugs

Please keep children off school for 48 hours after a tummy bug. This stops the bug from spreading through school.

Head Lice

Please comb through your child's hair weekly with a fine tooth comb and hair conditioner. This will prevent lice from multiplying and spreading.

Poppies

Poppies will be for sale in school after half term. If your child wants to purchase the bracelet instead there is a minimum donation of ± 1

PE Bags are available for £3.50 from the school office.

Attendance

Regular attendance at school is essential for children's social and academic success. Attendance below 95% is a cause for concern. If your child's attendance falls below this level we will write to you to ensure that you are aware of this fact.

Children who miss 23 or more days are classed as 'persistent absentees'. Whatever the reason for the absence, we will be working with children and families to improve attendance levels. This work can be supported by the school nurse or the Children and Family Practice Team. We also issue Fixed Penalty Notices where this is necessary.

We cannot authorise holidays in term time. A week's holiday combined with time off with sickness easily lowers attendance below the required 95% and often into 'persistent absentee' status.

Please always inform us first thing in the morning if your child will be absent. We have a duty to check where children are and that they are safe.

<u>Please keep our children safe:</u> <u>park in local car parks and</u> <u>walk to school!</u>

Curriculum Evening

On Thursday 2nd November parents are invited to come along to our Information Evening. There will be opportunities for parents to find out about how we teach English, including phonics, and Mathematics.

Erasmus Project

We are in the second year of our mathematics project with our partner Swedish School, Strandskolan. Our project is entitled 'Adventures in Mathematics'. The focus of the project is on creating real and exciting contexts for learning and applying mathematics. Last year we developed approaches to teaching that included cross curricular work and learning outdoors. This year we will be developing approaches that include ICT, story-telling and team contexts.

Fairoza Jokhia and Laura Titley will be visiting Strandskolan the week beginning the 13th November. They will spend the week working in the Swedish School and will then return and feedback their experiences to staff and children. Two Swedish teachers will be visiting us later in the year.

Mrs Lewis and Mrs Thurgood will be covering Foxes and Hedgehog classes.

School Improvement

We are always working hard to improve our school. Three key objectives for us this year are:

- Continuing to work on improving children's writing, particularly in relation to boys.
- Further developing the 'wow' factor to heighten children's involvement and motivation.
- Further developing children's autonomy so that they are making more of their own choices and taking greater ownership of their learning.

Harvest

Thank you for your harvest donations. These have been collected by Milton Keynes Food Bank to support local people in need.

Book Fair

Thank you also for supporting the book fair. This raised £267 in commission for school book stocks.

A big thank you goes to Sue Vinden and her helpers for giving up their time to organise and man the fair.



Dates for your diaries

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

- 20-10-17 Last day of the half term31-10-17 **TUESDAY** Back to school
 - I-10-17 <u>IUESDAY</u> Back to school
 - Flu vaccinations for Reception and KS1
- 2-11-17 'Handy Tips for Parents' session 7-8pm
- 6-11-17 Autumn in the Park week
- 8-11-17 Open Day
 - 9:30am to 11:30am and 1:30pm to 2:30pm
- 13-11-17 Anti-bullying week Sweden visit
- 15-11-17 Stony Lanterns school hall 3-5pm
- 17-11-17 Wear blue for anti-bullying
- 22-11-17 Handy Tips for Parents' session 9-10am
- 23-11-17 Open Day
- 9:30am to 11:30am and 1:30pm to 2:30pm
- 27-11-17 Last week of curriculum clubs
- 2-12-17 Stony Lights
 - 10am Year 1 & 2 children invited to sing in the church
- 6-12-17 PA event for children 3-4pm
- 8-12-17 PA Christmas Fair 3-4pm
- 11-12-17 Christmas Concerts: Y1&2 10am Reception 2:30pm
- 12-12-17 Christmas Concerts: Y1&2 10am Reception 2:30pm
- 13-12-17 Christmas Concerts: Y1&2 10am Reception 2:30pm

Nursery Party

- 14-12-17 Essence Christmas Lunch Reception & Year1&2 parties Year 1 and 2 Disco 3-4pm
- 15-12-17 Last day of term
- 3-1-18 **WEDNESDAY** Back to school