

Russell Street School

Newsletter



Spring Term 2 2026



Message from our Headteacher

Welcome back to the second half of our Spring Term. This newsletter shares with you the many wonderful activities that will be happening at school. A very big well done Year 2 for their absolutely fabulous Oliver production last half term. You were all absolutely amazing performers!

We start this half term with a visit from the Wonder Dome. Year 1 children will be stepping into the Wonder Dome mobile planetarium where they will be transported on a cosmic journey, exploring the wonders of the Universe.

To celebrate World Book Week, M&M Theatre Group will be visiting school on the 3rd March bringing the story of the yellow brick road alive for Years R, 1 and 2. On Thursday 5th March (World Book Day), we are inviting all children (N, R, 1 and 2) to wear their bedtime clothes to school and bring in their favourite bedtime story to share with their friends. During this week we will once again be running our book fair where children will be able to spend their £1 World Book Day vouchers.

As we celebrate World Book Week, it is very important to remember that - Word Poverty Matters! We view words as a commodity.

- Evidence shows that vocabulary is one of the most significant factors to children achieving higher grades at GCSE in most subjects.
- The vocabulary gap starts early (by the age of 2) and is hugely significant.
- Children can have a 30-million-word gap before they even enter school.
- The link between vocabulary at 5-7 years old as a significant predictor of reading comprehension and academic understanding at GCSE.
- Less than 1/3 of children are read to at home daily. Children who are read to at home will hear 1.4 million 'rare words' yearly that improve their language development and understanding.
- Children's books have 50% rarer words than the language of television, or even the conversation of graduates.

During British Science Week the very popular Living Eggs will once again be arriving in school in Early Years.

On 10th March you are invited to our Art Exhibition featuring artwork created by all Russell Street School children (N/R/1/2). You will have the opportunity to purchase your child's framed artwork. This artwork makes a lovely Mother's Day gift.

We also look forward to celebrating Easter. As usual will be hosting a range of fun and festive activities for the children to enjoy.

This newsletter contains a brief summary of some of the events happening across the school this half term. Further information about everything we do is always contained on our website and sent to you in our weekly sways.

Kind regards
Mrs Robinson

Wonder Dome (in the school hall) – Year 1 - Thursday 26th February

Year 1 children will be stepping into the Wonder Dome mobile planetarium where they will be transported on a cosmic journey, a thrilling adventure exploring the wonders of the Universe. From planet formation to the birth and death of stars, from launching rockets to stepping foot on other worlds, the Wonder Dome is an unforgettable opportunity to enjoy the marvels of space in school.



Book Fair – 2nd – 5th March

We are excited to invite you to our book fair. This was once again a very popular event last year. Children will all be given a £1 book voucher that that can be used at the book fair. Each year we give our oldest children the chance to purchase books from the book fair first. Please see dates below when the book fair is open for your child's year group. The fair will be open between 8:15am and 8:40am and again from 3:05pm – 3:35pm (Nursery 2:50 – 3:20). Access to the book fair will be from the KS1 playground.

Monday 2nd March - Year 2 families only. Tuesday 3rd March - Year 1 families only. Wednesday 4th March - Year R families only. Thursday 5th March - Nursery families and any families who weren't able to visit earlier in the week.



Watch and listen to some authors read their own books:

[👂 We're Going On a Bear Hunt 🐻 | BOOK | Kids' Poems and Stories With Michael Rosen - Bing video](#)

[Time for Storytime: My Hair with Hannah Lee - YouTube](#)

[The Very Hungry Caterpillar read by Eric Carle | Waterstones - Bing video](#)

[Julia Donaldson reads What The Ladybird Heard - Bing video](#)

[Stick Man by Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler - Julia Donaldson stickman - Bing video](#)

[Beware Of The Greedy Highway Rat! 😬 | Gruffalo World | Compilation - Bing video](#)

[Jez Alborough reads Where's My Teddy - YouTube](#)

Signed stories – learn new signs:

[The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister - Signed Stories - Sign Language | BSL | SSE | Read Aloud - YouTube](#)

[Not Now Bernard by David McKee - Signed Stories - British Sign Language - BSL | SSE | Read Aloud - YouTube](#)

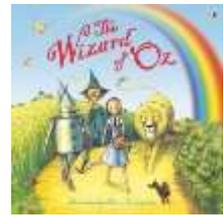
[Signed Story - Handa's Surprise - British Sign Language \(BSL\)/SSE - YouTube](#)



Tuesday 3rd March

M&M Productions – The Wizard of Oz

In celebration of World Book Day, M&M Theatre Group will be visiting school to perform The Wizard of Oz to Years R, 1 and 2 children.



World Book Day 5th March <https://www.worldbookday.com/>

On Thursday 5th March all children (N, R, 1 and 2) are invited to wear their bedtime clothes to school and bring in their favourite bedtime story to share with their friends. Please ensure the bedtime clothes are warm enough for school and that children wear outdoor shoes.



British Science Week – 6th – 15th March

The theme for 2026 is... 'Curiosity: what's your question?'

We will be asking ourselves some of the 'curious' questions provided in the British Science Week activity packs, such as:

Could we grow food on the moon?

What happens when crayons get warm?

Does the way food looks change the way it tastes?

<https://www.britishscienceweek.org/activity-packs/>



Living Eggs – 16th March (Linked to British Science Week)

Living Eggs will be in school once again from 16th March. This is a super yearly activity that takes place for Early Years children. Living Eggs provide a happy, safe and ethical experience that enables children to learn about life cycles and caring for animals. See our Twitter feed for day by day hatching and growing of our chicks.



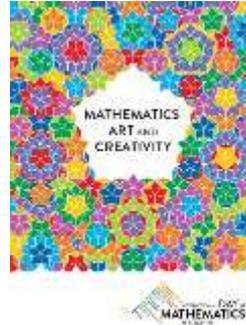
Art Gallery – Tuesday 10th March

We are excited to invite you to our Art Exhibition featuring artwork created by all of the children in Russell Street School. You will be able to view the exhibition in the school hall from 2.50pm – 4pm on Tuesday 10th March, and will have the opportunity to purchase your child's framed art work for £10. This artwork makes a lovely Mother's Day gift.



International Day of Maths – (celebrated Friday 13th March or Monday 16th March in school)

We will be discovering patterns in maths and how they feature across other curriculum subjects.



Parents' Evenings 17th, 18th and 19th March

We will be once again offering parents a mixture of morning and after school sessions.

Parents' meetings are as follows:

Tuesday 17th March: 8:45 - 11:00am – Year 1.

Wednesday 18th March: 8:45 - 11:00am – Year R.

Wednesday 18th March: 12:50 - 2:30pm – Nursery.

Thursday 19th March: 8:45 - 11:00am – Year 2.

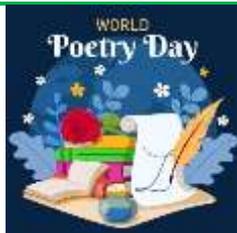
Thursday 19th March: 3:10 - 5:30pm – All Years.



Red Nose Day – Comic Relief – Friday 20th March

Children may wear non-uniform with items of red clothing as well as official Comic Relief clothing.

A suggested £1 donation will be collected on the Key Stage One gate, Reception gate and Nursery door.



World Poetry Day – Monday 23rd March

World Poetry Day is an annual event which takes place in celebration of poetry. The day is intended to help people discover and enjoy poetry and encourage everyone to read, write, and share poems. World Poetry Day demonstrates the importance of poetry and the value that poetry adds to society.

Nursery and Reception children will be performing Nursery Rhymes they have learnt by heart to Key Stage One children, and Key Stage One children will be performing poems they have learnt by heart to Nursery and Reception children.

School Closes on Friday 27th March for Easter