

# Russell Street School



## Newsletter

Summer Term 1 2026



## Message from our Headteacher

Welcome to the first half of the Summer Term. This half-term we have a wonderful range of exciting activities planned. Year 2 will be visiting MK Museum, Year 1 will be visiting Whipsnade Zoo and Nursery and Reception children will be enjoying a visit from Little City. We will all be gardening, learning a traditional Maypole dance and learning how to look after our pets. We will also be practising our sign language and all children will have the opportunity to take part in a Forest School campfire session. These campfire sessions raise funds for Mrs Clack's Forest School supplies.

**Forest School Campfire Sessions (after school). There is a charge for these sessions.**

Nursery – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April

Reception – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May

Year 1 – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May


Year 2 – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May


A huge thank you to the MK Music Co-operative who are sending some of their brass teachers into school on the 16<sup>th</sup> April to perform live to the children.


As always, we are incredibly grateful for your continued support, and we look forward to working together to make this half term a memorable one for all children.


Kind Regards  
Mrs Robinson


	<p><b>16<sup>th</sup> April – National Offer Day 2026 Milton Keynes - Year R and Year 3 places for September 2026</b></p> <p>The National Offer Day for primary school admissions is <b>April 16<sup>th</sup> 2026</b>. This is the day when local councils across England send out school place offers for children starting Year R and Year 3 in September 2026. Parents will receive an official offer through the Milton Keynes council's online portal or by email.</p>
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<p><b>16<sup>th</sup> April – MK Music Co-operative Brass performance</b></p> <p>All children will experience live music performed by an ensemble of teachers from the MK Music Co-operative during their 'roadshow' week.</p>	
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<p><b>17<sup>th</sup> April - Year 2 Milton Keynes Museum Trip</b></p> <p>We are taking Year 2 children to Milton Keynes Museum on 17<sup>th</sup> April. The trip will be based on Victorians lives. On the visit the children will learn all about Victorian homes and way of life and compare them to life in modern day. They will take part in 3 activities - tour of the parlour and servants' room, tour of the Victorian laundry and kitchen, tour of Victorian cottage (including privy and garden weather permitting). In the afternoon they will look at a Victorian street with shops, schoolroom and different forms of transport.</p>	
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	<p><b>23<sup>rd</sup> April - St George's Day</b></p> <p>Children will learn about the history of Saint George, the patron saint of England. They will discover the role of a knight and what this brave Roman soldier was really famous for!</p>
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<p><b>24<sup>th</sup> April – Skipping Day</b></p> <p>National Skipping Day is on April 24<sup>th</sup>, and its purpose is to raise physical health awareness for children with a day of healthy exercise through skipping. Children will be skipping throughout the day and using their maths skills to count and compare their number of skips with their friends.</p>	
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<p><b>28<sup>th</sup> April – Phonics Screening Event</b></p> <p>Parents/Carers are invited to attend a presentation where teachers will explain what the Phonics Screening Check is, how it is carried out in school and how you can practise with materials at home in a fun and engaging way. More information to follow.</p>	
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	<p><b>29<sup>th</sup> April – International Day of Dance</b></p> <p>International Dance Day is held yearly on 29<sup>th</sup> April. Linking to our May Day celebrations, children will be learning a simple, traditional Maypole routine on the playground.</p>	
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<p><b>Assessment dates to note for this term</b></p> <p>End of KS1 assessments are <b>non-statutory</b>. The reception baseline assessment (RBA) is used as the baseline for primary progress measures. We use optional end of KS1 tests in school. These materials will be used to give you an indication of the attainment of your child in preparation for KS2. Year 2 optional SATs assessments take place in school between 1<sup>st</sup> and the 31<sup>st</sup> May. Year 1 Phonics screening will take place week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> June. Please refrain from speaking to the children about these at home; these assessments are carried out by class teachers who are familiar to the children and we do not want the children to feel any pressure or nerves whatsoever.</p>	
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	<p><b>Deaf Awareness Week – Week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> May</b></p> <p>Deaf Awareness Week 2026 theme is "Right to understand - Together, we break barriers," focusing on removing communication obstacles and improving accessibility for the 11 million people in the UK with hearing loss.</p> <p>We will continue to learn sign language as well as improve our deaf awareness.</p> <p><a href="#">Deaf Awareness Tips from colleagues at the National Deaf Children's Society (youtube.com)</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.ndcs.org.uk">Deaf Awareness Week   National Deaf Children's Society (ndcs.org.uk)</a></p>
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### 5<sup>th</sup> May – Pet Week

This week children will be learning all about our school tortoises and how we look after them. They will also learn about other household pets and how they are living animals with needs and feelings. They'll learn that pets should be handled carefully and only when it is appropriate to do so.



### Little City – 21<sup>st</sup> May for Nursery and Reception children

Little City is a wonderful, interactive and inclusive learning activity through play experience. The sessions marry with the Early Years Framework and promote wonderful links to careers, 'people who help us' as well as promoting many aspects of the EYFS and Early Learning goals. All children thoroughly enjoyed this event last year.



### 11<sup>th</sup> May – Year 1 Whipsnade Zoo

Linked to their African topic, Year 1 children will be visiting Whipsnade Zoo and taking part in African Animals workshops. In these workshops, children will be taken on a tour by a member of the Whipsnade learning staff around the meerkats, lions and zebras enclosures bringing to life the role camouflage plays in the survival of animals in the wild. Children will compare and contrast the different colours in the wild and compare colours of predators and prey.

