

The Rivermead Round-Up

Friday 26th April

Dear parents/carers,

It has been a very busy at Rivermead, with the highlights being a visit from a poet Daniel Thompson and having a photographer in our school, taking photos and videos to update our school website and provide a marketing video. The children have settled very well into the final term of the year, and it is lovely seeing them all engaged and showing a positive learning attitude throughout the day.

Author visit

Rivermead had a very exciting experience with poet Daniel Thompson visiting us on Thursday. He worked with the year 4 and 6 children on writing positive poetry about themselves. The children thoroughly enjoyed their sessions with him and wrote some wonderful pieces where they celebrated themselves. Daniel also did an assembly to the whole school where he shared his journey to becoming a poet and giving the children tips on how to become a poet themselves. Many of the children also met with him after school where he sold and signed his books. We had a wonderful time with him visiting and would like to thank our wonderful PTA for funding his visit. The children have had a wonderful experience and there is a real buzz around the love of reading, poetry and ourselves too!

Thank you to Miss Seymour organising the visit from the poet and planning the day ensuring an exciting and inspiring learning opportunity for the children. It was brilliant having children telling me over the day how they now want to be a

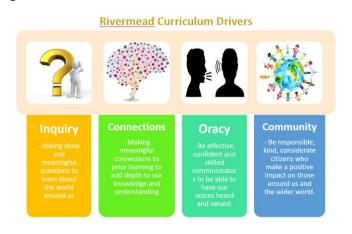
Marketing photoshoot

poet or an author!

On Thursday we had the Squid Photography team into the school. This is a service provide through the Trust's central team, where photos and videos are taken over the day to provide materials for the school which can be displayed internal, on our website and through other marketing resources/products. The weather was kind in the morning allowing shots to be taken with children taking part in PE, environmental science, gardening and reading on the storytelling chair. Thank you to all parents and carers for ensuring that your child/children where in correct uniform and neatly presented. A big thank you also to the various children from across the school who agreed to be interviewed/videoed discussing different aspects of the show and be part of the school's marketing video. We will inform you when the new video of the school is available on the website to view.

<u>Learning & Teaching – curriculum enrichment</u>

Below is a summary of the highlights for each team this term:



Lower School

EYFS: In EYFS this week the children have been reading the fairy tale, 'The Gingerbread Man'. Using oracy as a driver they have been joining in the repeated refrains and retelling the story. The children had a go at writing some of the things that the gingerbread man said in the story. We decided to make gingerbread men to develop connections in their learning. The children thought about what they would need, we found the recipe and the children were challenged to

write the method. They thoroughly enjoyed making, rolling and cutting their Gingerbread. They iced them the following day and even got to eat them at the end of the week. They were delicious!

Year 1: have had a lovely week. In maths, the children have continued counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and have been making equal groups, finding connections between this and sharing. In DT, the children are creating their own windmill, conducting an inquiry into how their cutting skills can affect the movement of the sails. In PSHE, the children have been discussing their similarities and differences and how this can help them in identifying the group they belong to and the group they choose to be part of in their community. In Science, the children have been looking at similarities and differences between mammals and birds, using their oracy skills to discuss their key features.

Year 2: This week, Year 2 have been working hard to produce some fantastic setting descriptions. We have written beautiful similes to help our readers visualise our mythical lands! In maths, we are progressing with fractions and making great **connections** with our multiplication knowledge. In reading, we are using our **oracy** skills and performing some hilarious poems by Michael Rosen. We particularly like Chocolate Cake! During PSHE lessons, we are learning about the **community** and how adults earn and save money. We used our **inquiry** question What are the benefits of bank accounts? and found that banks offering higher interest rates were the best.

Year 3: Year 3 have enjoyed learning about the secret life of plastic waste this week. We considered the worldwide community and how the actions of richer countries impact poorer countries. We wrote predictions about why we think richer places, like the UK, often pay other countries to dispose of plastic waste and considered the environmental impacts of this. This helped us to make connections to Earth Day which was on Monday! Additionally, we learnt lots of new subject specific vocabulary such as 'gyres' and 'recycling plant'. In writing, we used our oracy skills to share ideas around how the main character was feeling at different points of the story. We then recorded these as fantastic diary entries and descriptive pieces of writing. In maths, we completed our unit on money where we focused on adding and subtracting pounds and pence as well as finding change. Finally, we had a really informative PSHCE lesson where we learnt what to do if someone is bitten or stung and discussed how to look for symptoms of allergic reactions.

Year 4: were so excited by our author visit this week! We loved hearing Daniel Thompson reading aloud his favourite poems and writing our own poems about ourselves. It was a great celebration of being 'me'. In reading and writing we have had an enjoyable focus on poetry, with the children this week writing their own poems about a dream jungle. The vocabulary the children used created a vivid image in our minds. This learning about rainforests has continued in our geography lessons where we wondered why jungles are so wet and deserts are so dry. We discussed the climate of jungles and compared this to Woodley. The children drew climate graphs to show our local climate. In art, we loved finding our 'artists voice' to provide information about our art for a class gallery.

Year 5: This week Year 5 have used their **inquiry** driver to ask how they can put themselves into a character's shoes to write a note, as if they were them. In reading, they have been making **connections** between the scientific information about Earth and their own knowledge of our planet. Finally, in History, they have used their **oracy** skills in discussing the most important factor as to why the **community** of the ancient Maya left their homes.

Year 6: This week, year 6 have had an incredible week looking more into their poetry writing making connections between our Master Readers book and our new book I Talk Like A River. The children have learned about the protagonist who has selective mutism and they have dived into researching what it might be like for someone who wants to talk but cannot. Using this as inspiration they have begun thinking about their specific style of poetry and will begin to construct their very own next week. The children also had the opportunity to enrich their poetry skills with our visiting poet Daniel Thompson who did a workshop with them on writing poems of positivity about themselves. The children were really engaged and enthused by the session writing some fabulous poetry. The children have also enjoyed completing more of their history unit where they focused on our oracy driver to identifying the key factors in why Britain won the Battle of Britain. They discussed the key events and justified their opinion of which was most significant and why. The children have also enjoyed continuing their maths unit on statistics where they have looked at how to read, interpret and draw a variety of graphs.

REMINDERS:

Scooters and bikes in the playground.

We have had some concerned parents report to us children riding scooters and bikes in the playground. Can you remind your child that they must walk their scooter and/or bike when passed the school gates – the reason for no riding of bikes or scooters in the playground as we have had children hit by the scooter/bike which has caused injuries. Could you also remind your child about the importance of safely riding their scooter or bikes on public footpaths and roads, so everyone is safe.

Thank you for your support.

Summer term events/dates:

Below are dates for various events for this term. More information about each event will be sent closer to the time:

SEND parent/teacher meetings

Wednesday 1st May 3.30pm – 5pm

Year 6 SATs tests

Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May

Year 4 & Year 5 Production Tuesday 21st May & Wednesday 22nd May

Half term
 Monday 27th April to Friday 31st April

INSET DAY
 Monday 3rd May

New class lists to parents for 2024-25
 Tuesday 18th June (proposed date)

Transition day
 Wednesday 26th June

Sports Day
 Tuesday 25th June - Reserved day: Thursday 27th June

Y3 – Y6: 9am to 12pm

12pm - 1pm: children & parents picnic lunch on the filed

EYFS - Y2: 1.15pm to 3pm

Year 6 Residential & Year 5 challenge week
 Monday 1st July to Friday 5th July

Annual school reports to parents
 Wednesday 10th July

Learning reviews Monday 15th July: EYFS

Tuesday 16th July: Year 1 & Year 2 Wednesday 17th July: Year 3 & Year 4 Thursday 18th July: Year 5 & Year 6

Year 6 Leavers evening & production Monday 22nd July

End of term
 Tuesday 23rd July, school finishes at 1.30pm

A variety of trips, visits, workshops, sport competitions, and visitors to the school have been planned by each year group for the term. The dates and information will be sent to parents as they are confirmed.

I hope you have an enjoyable weekend.

Mr Brian Prebble



Eco Top Tip-Help animals survive by putting up bird feeders and water baths in your garden. This will ensure they have food for their young in the Spring.

Achievements

Please forward details to Mrs Nicóla (jnicola@rivermead.wokingham.sch.uk) of your child's achievements in their activities outside of school for inclusion in future editions of the Round Up. This week we would like to say well done to the following children:

Abdullah took part in his first wrestling competition this weekend with The British Wrestling Academy and he won 3rd place in the under 24kg category, well done to Abdullah!





EYFS Growth Mind Set Ladder

We are pleased to mention the following children in EYFS who have tried their best, worked hard and reached number 10 on the Growth Mindset Ladder

Loddon	Dun
lzzy	Olivia
Arthur	Saanvi
Aurora	Rory
Chester	Eeren
Callum	Emily
Verity	Isabelle
	Isaac
	Riley
	Eshan



This week's Special Book

We are pleased to mention the following children who have worked hard and have achieved a place in our Special Book:

Lower school's special book

Vivin	Emmbrook	for his continued hard work in class. Well done ©	
Alfie	Kennet	for being a great talk partner and following instructions. Well done Alfie, keep up the great work!	
Ella	Hart	for working really effectively with her partner to develop and improve her spelling knowledge.	
Arielle	Thames	For showing fantastic resilience and a growth mindset in our maths lessons! Well done. ①	
Juliet	Avon	For always giving 100%. You work brilliantly with a talk partner and independently. You always listen to advice, act on it and continually try to improve. So proud of you ©	
Мах	Severn	for contributing excellent ideas to class discussions in every subject this week. Well done ①	

Upper school's Special Book

Ben and Megan	Trent	For being such helpful 'morning monitors' and getting our classroom ready for learning by handing out the books we need. Thank you
Zac	Mersey	for always trying his best. He is an excellent role model and he is always kind and caring towards everyone.
Daniel	Congo	for his brilliant reading comprehension answers, you have shown a superb mindset and put a lot of effort into achieving this- keep up the incredible work!
Rehan	Nile	for being such a peneomenal role model. You always uphold our golden rules and show kindness and respect to all.
Ronnie	Amazon	for being consistently kind, positive and wonderful to everyone. You are a true role model of kindness
Josh	Yangtze	for working so hard in writing this week. You gave such great insights into our character in our book and really added depth to our lesson.

Letters sent home

Arc 2024 primary school anxiety workshop	Sent 23.04.24
Year 3 and 4 tennis festival	Selected pupils Sent 25.04.24

Notices

Please remember that **Rivermead is a nut free school**. Please do not add any nut products into your childs snacks or packed lunches. We have children with nut allergies in our school and we would like to keep everyone as safe as possible. This includes any Nutella products.

2023-2024 Diary Dates

(Please note these are subject to change)

Information and details will be sent closer to the time regarding the various events during the term

Date	Event	Notes
1st May 2024	SEND parent/teacher consultations	Booking closes on 26.04.24 at 4pm
13 th May – 16 th May	Year 6 SATS	
21st & 22nd May 2024	Year 4 & 5 Production	Timings to be confirmed – a letter will be sent out in due course
27 th – 31 st May 2024	Half term	
3 rd June 2024	INSET day	School closed
25 th June 2024	Sports day KS2 9am - 12pm, picnic lunch on the field (children and parents/carers), KS1 1.30pm - 3pm.	Reserve Sports day - Thursday 27th June
26 th June	Transition day	
1st – 5th July	Year 6 Residential trip & Year 6 Challenge week	
10 th July	School reports to parents	
15 th July	EYFS Learning review	
16 th July	Year 1 & 2 Learning review	
17 th July	Year 3 & 4 Learning review	
18 th July	Year 5 & 6 Learning review	
22 nd July 2024	Year 6 production performed and Leavers evening	
23 rd July 2024	Last day of the summer term	Finish at 1.30pm