



The Rivermead Round-Up

Friday 3rd May

Dear parents/carers,

It has been a very busy at Rivermead, with the highlight being a visit from an author Simon Murray for the children in EYFS to Year 2. The past two weeks, Simon Murray and Daniel Thompson have created an additional buzz with the children around reading and writing, which has been lovely to see – thank you to Miss Seymour and Mrs Morris-Coleman for their great work organising these wonderful learning experiences for the children.

Staffing

Miss Davies:

On Thursday, Miss Davies our EYFS team leader went on maternity leave. We wish her and her family all the best and know they will be enjoying the special time over the coming weeks. Mrs Morris-Coleman will be taking on the EYFS leader role during Miss Davies maternity leave.

Miss Beard:

Miss Beard has left the school, and is not returning to her role after Easter. We fully support Miss Beard in her decision to explore other opportunities and to take some time out of teaching to focus on her health. I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to Emily for her dedication and contributions during her time at Rivermead over the past 3 ½ years. We wish her every success in her new venture.

For the summer term, the class will be attended to by our internal supply teachers, Mrs Fiona Morrissey and Miss Gemma Beale. Both teachers are known and familiar to the children, which will provide consistency for the class. We are currently recruiting for a new teacher for September.

Author visit

Rivermead had a very exciting experience with author Simon Murray visiting us on Thursday. He worked with the children in EYFS, Year 1 and 2. The children thoroughly enjoyed their sessions with him and listened carefully to his step by step instructions on how to draw the main mischievous character of the story. The children were proud of their work when they had finished. I hope you enjoyed looking at their pictures.

Simon kindly donated a few copies of his book, Icky Doo Dah to each class and the school library. Book order slips have been sent home with the children, if you would like to order a book, please complete the form your child brought home and place the order and money (other payment options are available) in an envelope and return to your class teacher by **Wednesday 8th May**. Simon will return to school in a few days to drop off ordered books and sign them personally before they go home. The children have had a wonderful experience and there is a real buzz around the love of reading and drawing. Thank you to Mrs Morris-Coleman for organizing the author's visit and creating a wonderful learning opportunity for the children.

Sport Events

It has been a busy week for Sport at Rivermead:

Girls football

On Friday, Mrs Brown took both the Year 5 and Year 6 girls football team across to Highwood to play a friendly football game. All games were played in great spirit and there was great progress in terms of the level of football played.

The Year 6 Girls won one game and drew the other. There were some brilliant goals scored by Tilly R and Tilly M, as well as Jesscia. The team played really well together and passed the ball well between them. Lauren organised and led the team brilliantly and Laila was extremely strong in the tackle and was the most improved player. Well done and congratulations to all the Year 6 girls.

The Year 5 team also played exceptionally well, winning one game and losing the other. Axaia scored some terrific goals and made some astonishing saves as goalkeeper too. Bella was also on the score sheet and made some brilliant runs forward. Emelia worked hard chasing down the ball and made some great tackles. She was supported very well in this role by Ruby, Nancy and Karmel. Well done Year 5 girls.

A huge thank you to Miss Southerton for coming along to support the girls and cheer them on and a huge thank you to all the parents who assisted with transporting the girls across to Highwood.

Tennis

On Wednesday, six pupils were selected to attend a tennis festival at Berkshire County Sports Tennis club. There was a total of six tennis stations which the children rotated around, trying to score as many points as possible at each station. Although the weather was a little miserable, the children did not let this spoil their evening and had a fantastic time. They also demonstrated some great tennis skills, with amazing progress made in both their tennis skills, their self-confidence and belief. Mrs Brown was impressed with the resilience and perseverance shown by all of the children, as some of the stations were very challenging. Well done to George, Ellie-Mae, Ellie, Mabel, Finley and Sebastian.

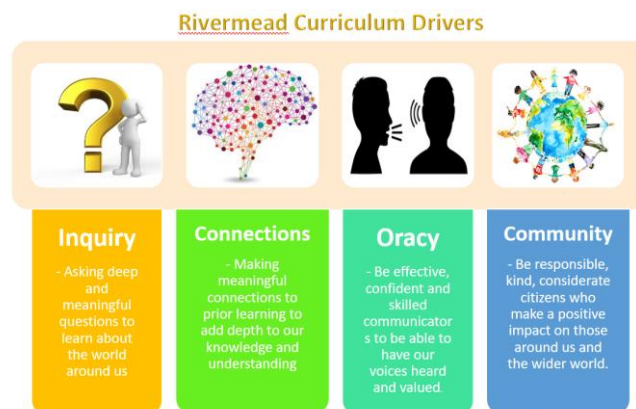
A huge thank you to Miss Hulbert who come along and helped the children. Again, a massive thank you to the parents who assisted with transporting the children to the event.

- Mrs Kelly Brown

Thank you to Mrs Brown for all her hard work organising, planning, coaching and supporting the various sports teams and for providing these wonderful sporting opportunities for the children.

Learning & Teaching – curriculum enrichment

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



Lower School

EYFS: This week in EYFS the children have been reading the traditional tale of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. They have been practicing their **oracy** skills through retelling the story through drama and story maps. The children were really excited to meet Author and illustrator Simon Murray and have a go at drawing his book character Icky Doo Dah. We were very impressed by everybody's illustrations. They were amazing! We made **connections** with our previous learning about books. In Maths, they have been decomposing, manipulating and rotating shapes to make pictures. They made their own shape pictures by following instructions.

Year 1: It has been a very busy week in Year 1. A highlight for the children was participating in a workshop with the author/illustrator Simon Morris who supported them in creating their very own version of his character Icky Doo Dah, they were very excited to bring these home and share them with you. In maths the children have been using their **oracy** skills to discuss how they can make a half and understanding that when they make this, there will be 2 parts and the parts will be equal. In Science we have been conducting an **inquiry** into the features of different animal groups, using our questioning skills and understanding to support us in identifying an animal our partner might be thinking of. In PSHE the children have been reviewing money and the most efficient ways to keep this safe in the **community** as well as what they should choose to do if they ever found money. In PE the children have been making **connections** between shapes and how they can position their body to make these through different types of movement.

Year 2: have had a lovely week studying poems by Roger McGough in our master readers lessons. We have thoroughly enjoyed the way he is able to create rhyming poems so beautifully. In writing, we've been writing letters to our story character, Max, to help him decide whether he should continue his journey through the wild area, or return home to his family. We've also used our **oracy** skills in our drama work, acting out the wild rumpus that Max engages in. In computing, we've used our **inquiry** skills to find out how to create an effective search using search engines. Our highlight of the week has definitely been the visit from Simon Murray! His fantastic workshop taught us all how to be great illustrators and we made some wonderful Icky Doo Dah characters.

Year 3: have been completely hooked on all our reading books this week! We came to the end of 'The Flower' and discovered that Brigg's city is finally going to be filled with beautiful flowers! We wrote some fantastic diary entries and setting descriptions linked to the end of the book and showed off our ability to use features like fronted adverbials in our writing. We continued to read about plastic and discovered that all plastic becomes waste eventually. We considered the impact of this on the worldwide **community** and used subject specific vocabulary such as 'microplastics' and 'vented'. In addition, we are loving our class book 'The Creakers' and are making some interesting predictions about the storyline. In computing, we made **connections** with our learning in PSHCE, by looking at how to appropriately compose emails. We discussed what to do if we receive an unwanted email and practiced sending some to our friends. Finally, we have begun looking at time in maths.

Year 4: Year 4 have loved finishing our English book this week and finally uncovering its name – The Tin Forest! The classes performed the book dramatically and ensured their section demonstrated the right mood, using our class emotions graph to help. In maths we have moved onto money after consolidating our learning of halves and quarters as decimals. This has been supplemented by our real-world learning in PSHE, where the children have learned about handling money and changing careers

Year 5: This week Year 5 have been busy writing a balanced argument, using their **inquiry** driver, to think, while writing, how the reader might receive this email and if could they understand both sides to the argument. In maths, they have been making **connections** between angles and clocks, understanding the connection between full turn on a clock and measuring this angle. Finally, in PSHE they have been using their **oracy** and **community** driver to better understand their responsibility as a citizen in the UK.

Year 6: In Year 6 this week, we have really focused in on our **community** and **oracy** drivers within all of our lessons. We have thoroughly enjoyed having the opportunity to use sewing machines in DT, where the wonderful Mrs Jacob came in to share her knowledge, skills and machinery with the children. The children enjoyed using their **oracy** driver when learning about the Christian and Jewish creation story in Religion and Worldviews and discussing the concept of free will and temptation and how we can link the morals from this story to our own lives. The children have loved starting their new science unit where they are looking into their **inquiry** question of how exercise impacts their heart rate whilst learning about the circulatory system. The children have been working on their **community** driver in PE where they work together with a partner to create counterbalances throughout a routine, they have had to ensure that their communication and listening skills are clear and they have an element of trust with their partner to ensure it is a successful routine. We have also enjoyed diving into our **community** driver where we have been working collaboratively with different members of our class to look at grammar and reading supporting one another to see how many points we can receive as a team.

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 is because 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:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • 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 May to Friday 31st May |
| • INSET DAY | Monday 3rd June |
| • 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 field 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 bank holiday weekend.

Mr Brian Prebble



Use less plastic. Use recyclable bags.

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:

On 21st of April Sienna, Amélie, Nina, Olivia and Ella took part in their dance schools medal test. They all did amazing, and they have now been presented with their certificates and medals. They all achieved either top marks or just under. And Amélie also received an additional special recognition for her efforts. Well girls!



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

Nabeeh
Emmy
Richelle
Harry S

Dun

Sienna
Bella
Isla
Reeva
Harry



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

| | | |
|------------|----------|--|
| Blake | Emmbrook | for having an amazing week and continuing to work hard in all of his learning. Well done 😊 |
| Albie | Kenet | For trying so hard in Maths and always doing everything with a smile on his face! |
| James | Hart | For always being positive, hard-working, enthusiastic and helpful throughout the day. |
| Hafsa | Thames | For working incredibly hard to produce a fantastic letter this week. Well done! |
| Spencer | Avon | For always being such a focused and hardworking learner. You are always looking to challenge yourself and support others in their learning. Well done and I am so proud of you 😊 |
| Lily-Grace | Severn | For making fantastic progress in her writing and beginning to edit to improve and check it makes sense. |

Upper school's Special Book

| | | |
|-----------|---------|--|
| Seb | Trent | being an exceptional role-model in class; you are the first to show the stop sign, work kindly and confidently with children in your group and you consistently do your best all day long! 😊 |
| Marley | Mersey | For trying really hard on his spellings. Mrs Twine and Miss Weeks were blown away by his effort and motivation this week. 😊 |
| Barnabas | Congo | For always being respectful and kind to others. You are a role model student by providing high effort in everything you do- well done! |
| Amelia | Nile | For being an excellent learning partner, particularly during spelling. You were able to support your partner in using their sound chart to select the correct graphemes to write for the phonemes they could hear in the word. |
| Alexandru | Amazon | For giving 100% in maths this week and really trying to improve, especially in his arithmetic. I am really proud of your work ethic and attitude. |
| Pradhan | Yangtze | For always giving 100% in all lessons. I have loved seeing your learning attitude continue to be so great in English as it is in maths. You give such insightful answers, always contribute something valid to the lesson and make my mornings so enjoyable. Thank you 😊 |

Letters sent home

| | |
|--|--|
| Woodley Sports week – Year 1 – 22.05.24 | Sent 01.05.24 - Responses by 10.05.24 |
| Woodley Sports week – year 2 – 23.05.24 | Sent 01.05.24 - Responses by 10.05.24 |
| Woodley Sports week – Year 3 – 21.05.24 | Sent 01.05.24 - Responses by 13.05.24 |
| Year 3 The Cole Museum of Zoology Trip - Severn 10.07.24 - Avon 11.07.24 | Sent 01.05.24 - Responses by 24.05.24 |
| Year 5 Trip to Winchester Science Centre – 05.06.24 | Sent 02.05.24 - Responses by 17.05.24 |
| Year 3,4,5 and 6 Athletics Tournament 09.05.24 | Sent 02.05.24 - Responses by 07.05.24 |
| Year 6 BPET Netball Tournament 10.05.24 | Sent 02.05.24 - Responses by 08.05.24 |
| Year 2 – The living Rainforest – 08.07.24 | Sent 01.05.24 - Responses by 14.06.24 |

Notices

Please remember that **Rivermead is a nut free school**. Please do not add any nut products into your child's 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 |
|---|-------------|-------|
| 13 th May – 16 th May | Year 6 SATS | |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| 21 st & 22 nd 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 27 th June |
| 26 th June | Transition day | |
| 1 st – 5 th 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 |