

Rusper Primary School Newsletter 17.10.25

Rusper Primary Open Evening 5-6pm Wednesday 22nd October

If any of our current parents and carers have friends or family who have a child who will be starting school in September 2026, please encourage them to join us for our open evening next Wednesday, we'd love to see them. Please follow the link below or use the QR code to book.

<https://forms.office.com/e/nCNW9ZjY8U>



Secondary School Transfer Applications Reminder

The closing date for Y6 Secondary Transfer applications is fast approaching. So far the admissions team have only received around 50% of applications for children living in the Horsham and Billingshurst area.

Don't forget to make your secondary application for your Y6 child by Friday 31st October.

Rusper Village Hall Parking Update

We've been informed that building works at Rusper Village Hall will begin on **Monday, 20th October**. As a result, the Village Hall car park will **not be available for school drop-off and pick-up** from that date onwards.

Please make alternative arrangements and allow extra time for parking. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Water Bottles in School

Second Reminder: Water Only in School Bottles

We kindly ask that all pupils bring **water only** to school each day. Juice and other sugary drinks are not permitted during school hours. Staying hydrated with water supports concentration and overall wellbeing. Pupils are welcome to use their **Air Up bottles** if this helps encourage water intake. Thank you for your support in promoting healthy habits across our school community.

Halloween School Disco – Thursday 23rd October

Get ready for a spooky evening of fun! **FORPS will be hosting the Halloween School Disco on Thursday 23rd October**, starting at **4:30pm**.

Tickets are available from **FORPS members** and the **school office**. We hope to see lots of ghouls, ghosts, and giggles on the dance floor!

Halloween Dress Up Day – Friday 24th October

We're inviting all children to come to school dressed in their favourite Halloween costumes or normal clothes on **Friday 24th October**! It's a fun way to celebrate the spooky season, and we kindly ask for a small contribution to **FORPS** to support future school events and activities.

To help keep the day safe and enjoyable for everyone, we do ask that children **do not bring accessories**, as these can be easily lost, and **avoid wearing masks** that may frighten the younger members of our school. Children may wear a **small amount of makeup**, provided it's not too dramatic or frightening for our younger pupils. E.g. a small spider on the cheek. Thank you for your support!

Cake Sale – Wednesday 5th November

We're excited to let you know that **FORPS will be holding a cake sale on Wednesday 5th November**, just after half term. It's a great opportunity to treat yourself and support our school at the same time.

More details will be shared soon – watch this space!

Children in Need

To help celebrate and support **Children in Need**, we're encouraging all children to come to school on **Friday 14th November** wearing something fun, bright, or spotty! Whether it's Pudsey-themed, colourful clothes, or a favourite accessory, it's all about joining in and showing support.

We kindly ask that children bring in a **small donation** to contribute to this wonderful cause. Thank you for helping us make a difference!

Autism Family Support Service

We have been emailed with details about a free online autism drop in session for parents and carers. Please see below:



You Are Not Alone - Free Parent Online Drop-In

Parenting an autistic child can feel amazing, confusing, and overwhelming, sometimes all in the same day. That's why we host our **no-cost monthly online drop-in sessions for parents and carers**.

First Tuesday of every month

7pm - 8.30pm

Platform: Zoom



Erik Wagter - host of the drop-in

What these sessions are all about

We've created a safe, non-judgemental space where parents can bring their questions, share worries and connect with others who 'get it'.

Topics often included:

- Understanding and responding to challenging behaviour
- Making sense of autism on a deeper level
- The ups and downs of family relationships and dynamics
- Working with schools and professionals
- Meeting like-minded parents and realising you are not alone



What parents say:

*'Thank you so much for the group this evening. I can't tell you how grateful I feel, and I really do feel less alone and more validated. **My hope is back**'*

Who runs the sessions?

I'm Erik Wagter, co-founder of Autism Family Support Service. Alongside being a social worker, trainer and Solution Focused family coach, I also bring over two decades of personal lived family experience of autism. Sometimes my wife Sally will join in as well.

If you would like to join please send an email to sallywagter@gmail.com and we will send you the Zoom link.

Autism Family Support Service
www.autismfamilysupportservice.com

Website Calendar

Don't forget to use this very useful tool. This will help you keep up to date with all that is happening in our busy school. To view the calendar you can use the QR code below.



<https://www.rusper.w-sussex.sch.uk/web/calendar/2916>

Rocketeers Wraparound Care

Don't forget Rocketeers are offering free trials for Rusper families! Free afternoon sessions are still available on the 22nd of October and free morning sessions are available on the 24th October. Spaces on these sessions are limited so please contact us by emailing enquiries@rocketeerschildcare.co.uk to book your space! If you would like further information about our services please visit www.rocketeerschildcare.co.uk or contact enquiries@rocketeerschildcare.co.uk if you have any further questions.

Amazon Wish List

A Huge Thank You!

✧ Thank You for Your Generosity! ✧

We're thrilled to share that thanks to our amazing supporters and their kind donations from our Amazon Wishlist, we've received:

📖 3 fantastic new diverse stories

📖 3 brand new thesauruses

These additions will make a real difference and help us continue to inspire, educate, and empower. Your support means the world to us — thank you for helping us grow our collection and enrich our community! 💖

#Gratitude #ThankYou #AmazonWishlist #CommunitySupport #BooksMatter



Blossom Class from Mrs Green

Another wonderful week completed for the Blossoms class! This week in phonics the children have been developing their sound knowledge and practising blending simple words. You might find some 'green words' in your children's book bags to practice at home.

A special witch friend has been visiting the Blossoms this week! Winnie the Witch has shared her story, and the children have loved drawing pictures of Winnie and Wilbur, her black cat. Inspired by Winnie and her magic, the Blossom children made independent attempts to write the word 'cat'. Mrs Green was very proud of all the children!

Lastly, the children have thoroughly enjoyed the history project this week. They have loved talking about their family photos and discussing how they have changed since they were a baby. We look forward to sharing our family timeline work with you on Friday afternoon.

Willow Class from Miss Jones

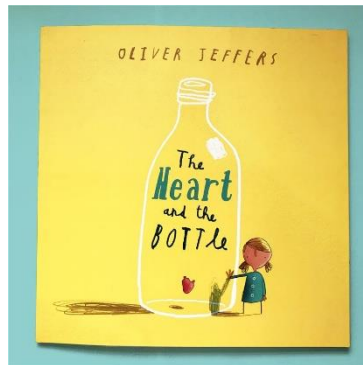
This week in PE, Willow Class have been stepping back in time to explore *traditional playground games* as part of our history topic, “*Childhood Then and Now.*” The children had great fun learning and playing classics such as What’s the Time, Mr Wolf?, Duck, Duck, Goose, and Stuck in the Mud. There was lots of laughter, teamwork, and running about as they discovered that children in the past enjoyed many of the same games we still love today!



Maple Class from Mr Snook

How fantastic was it to see our Maple Class tech whizzes this week? They've been brilliant in their discussions about online content sharing! This week, the children focused on two key areas: first, identifying what content is okay to share (like school projects or non-personal drawings) versus what should always be kept private (like personal information or photos of themselves). Second, and perhaps most importantly, they learned about the essential step of asking for permission before sharing anything that involves someone else. They now know that getting a "Yes, you can share that!" from a friend or family member is the key to being a responsible digital citizen. In the meantime, chatting with your child about what they would and wouldn't share online, and agreeing on those family sharing rules together, is a fantastic next step!

This week in school, Maple Class have been exploring the sweet and moving picture book, 'A Heart in a Bottle' by Oliver Jeffers. It's a gorgeous story about a little girl who, after losing someone close to her, decides to literally put her heart away in a bottle so it can't get hurt anymore. The book follows her as she gets older and discovers that keeping her heart locked up also means she misses out on all the fun and wonderful things life has to offer. Just a quick heads-up: the story does deal with the death of a family member and the big feelings of grief that come with it. It's a gentle way to talk about loss and why it's important to let ourselves feel everything, even the sad stuff, so we can also enjoy all the happy moments! It's a great conversation starter for you all at home.



And finally... from Mr Rogers, RSE/PSHE Lead

Game Changer in Focus...

Lewis Hamilton: Driving Change

Lewis Hamilton is not only a record-breaking Formula 1 champion—he's a powerful voice for equality and justice. As the first Black driver in F1, he's broken barriers and inspired millions. Off the track, he speaks out against racism, supports diversity in motorsport, and stands up for causes like environmental protection and LGBTQ+ rights. Hamilton believes in using his success to make the world fairer for everyone, saying: **"I don't want to be remembered just as a driver. I want to be remembered as someone who made a difference."**

