



Together we learn, together we succeed

Headteacher: Nick Avey (BEd Hons)

Dear Parents and Carers,

17.1.25

We hope this letter finds you well. The Spring Term has started well, and we are pleased that so many of our pupils have come back to school well and very ready to engage in learning. The remainder of the Spring term looks to be exciting with plenty of learning enrichment and events. Below are some updates:

World Religion Day

As part of our school's commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion, we are having World Religion Day on Monday 20th January. This will be an enrichment day where all classes are split into groups to work with a specific teacher to learn about the key features of a selected religion and an associated festival. Each group will work with the same teacher on the chosen religious festival the whole day. The religions being covered are Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Sikhism and Hinduism. Leading teachers will be Miss Jones, Mrs Baroni, Mr Snook, Mr Rogers and Mr Avey. By the end of the day, each group will have

- learnt some new associated names and vocabulary
- sampled some different food (we will ensure pupils with allergies are supported and included)
- made or produced some relevant art/craftwork
- be able to talk about their studied religious celebration

If you have any queries about this event, please contact the school office and ask to speak to a teacher.

Academisation

The first piece of news is that we have been informed that there will be a further slight delay with our Bohunt Education Trust conversion date. The conversion is now aimed at 1st March.

Nonetheless, the end of the journey for RPS becoming part of the BET trust now seems very close and there is a lot of work going on between our school and various different reps from the Trust to ensure the transition is smooth. These include the logistics of migrating staff contracts, school operating systems.

There has also been a lot of linked curriculum work over the last twelve months between RPS school leaders and Lisa Wright (the director of Primary Education for the Trust).

Mrs Wright and Mr Avey have agreed that it will be very helpful for RPS parents to have an opportunity to meet with us both and have an opportunity to hear about the vision for our future shared working within the Trust, and also to ask any questions. We will be in touch shortly with a proposed date, time and venue; and a form for parents to fill to accept or decline an invitation.

Music Lessons

We are hoping to start flute lessons in school again and we now have a new teacher. Emily Potter is available to provide flute lessons on a Thursday afternoon and is offering trial flute lessons for a limited number of students for a limited time. For five weeks, Emily can provide two 20-minute lessons for two students from Y2 – Y6. These will take place at school between 2pm and 3pm on a Thursday afternoon during term time. Flutes will be provided. We will be in touch shortly with a separate form to seek uptake for the trial lessons.

Additional learning support (Inclusion Newsletters)

As always, Mrs Matthews will be working with all teaching staff to adapt learning to help meet the needs of all pupils. As with last term, there will be lots of additional learning opportunities for specific pupils. Some children will receive focussed intervention work throughout the school day to support with reading and maths skills development. If they have not done so already, either Mrs Matthews or your child's teacher will make you aware if your child is attending additional learning interventions this term.



Rusper Primary School, Rusper, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4PR

Telephone: 01293 871272 Fax: 01293 871135

office@rusper.w-sussex.sch.uk

www.rusperprimary.eschools.co.uk

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Keeping in touch with school Information

Just a reminder to parents to keep in touch with school via our website where you can access the school event calendar and a link to our Facebook page. Please can we also remind parents that there will be prompts for close events via the notice boards on the school drive.

For your information, our next Parents Evenings are scheduled for 24th and 26th February. The form to request a parent meeting time will be live for you all on Wednesday 22nd January.

Further upcoming events to be aware of are

- Dance Festival: 3rd March
- World Book Day Dress Up: 6th March
- Tag Rugby tournament: 21st March
- Science and technology enrichment day: 26th March
- Football tournament tbc

Also, if you need to speak with your child's teacher, please message them directly via your child's Teams, or alternatively, request an appointment via the school office.

Thank you very much for your support – it is helpful and appreciated.

Kind regards

Nick Avey, Headteacher, Rusper Primary School