



July News

The Official Newsletter of Rucstall Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of another academic year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly wonderful first year for me as Headteacher of Rucstall Primary School. Since joining in January, I have felt incredibly welcomed by our children, families, staff and wider community, and it has been a privilege to lead such a caring and supportive school.



This year has been filled with so many memorable moments, achievements and successes. I am continually impressed by the enthusiasm, kindness and resilience shown by our pupils, and I am extremely proud of everything they have accomplished.

At this time of year, we also say goodbye to our Year 6 children as they move on to the next stage of their education. While it is always sad to see them leave, we know they are more than ready for the exciting opportunities ahead. They have been wonderful role models for our younger pupils and we wish them every success and happiness as they begin their secondary school journey. We will also be saying farewell to several valued members of staff:

- Miss K Balasritharan, who will be starting an exciting new career as a teacher.
- Mrs S Bungaro, who will be taking up a Teaching Assistant position at another school.
- Mr Briggs, who is embarking on an adventure travelling the world.
- Miss Kay, who has secured a well-deserved promoted position at another school.

On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to thank them all for their commitment, hard work and contribution to Rucstall. We wish them every success and happiness in their next chapters

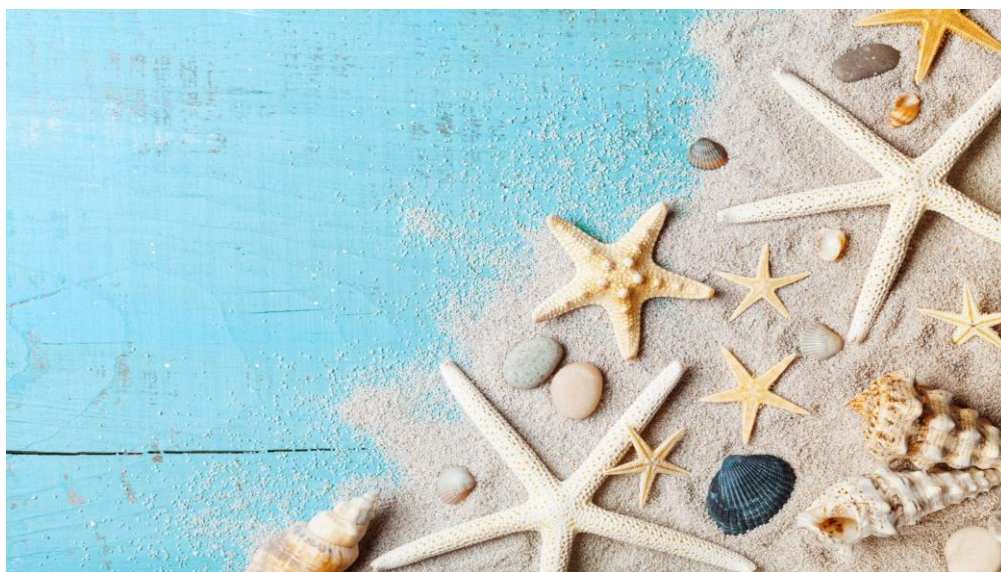
Whilst we are sad to see colleagues leave, we are also looking forward to welcoming several new members of staff in September, and I know they will quickly become part of our Rucstall family.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our staff, governors, parents and carers for your continued support throughout the year. Working together enables us to provide the very best opportunities for our children.

I hope you all have a restful, enjoyable and safe summer break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on **Wednesday 2nd September** for the start of another exciting year.

Warmest Regards

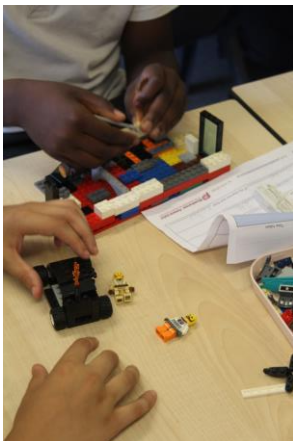
Miss Hughlock



RECENT EVENTS

Wellbeing Wednesday

Pupils enjoyed a fantastic Wellbeing Wednesday, taking part in a range of activities designed to promote happiness, mindfulness and positive wellbeing. From yoga and creative activities to board games and Happiness Walks around our school grounds, children had the opportunity to slow down, reflect and appreciate the world around them. The afternoon finished with a calming body scan, helping everyone feel relaxed and ready for the rest of the week.



Year 6 trip to Paultons Park and Residential

Willow Class enjoyed an exciting and memorable week, beginning with a fantastic trip to Paultons Park where they had great fun exploring the attractions and enjoying the rides with their friends. They then took part in a STEM Day, working collaboratively to solve problems and develop their scientific thinking. The week concluded with their residential at Mill on the Brue, where the pupils took part in a range of adventurous activities including raft building, ziplining, tunnelling, water slides and obstacle courses. They showed fantastic teamwork, supported one another and created many lasting memories. Throughout the week, their enthusiasm and excellent behaviour made them a credit to the school.



Rocksteady concert

Thank you to everyone who came along to support our Rocksteady Concert. It was wonderful to see so many families cheering on our budding musicians. We are incredibly proud of all the children who took part and showcased the skills they have been developing throughout the year. Well done for a fantastic concert!

Sports Day

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our Sports Day and supported our pupils throughout the event. It was wonderful to see so many families cheering on the children and celebrating their achievements.

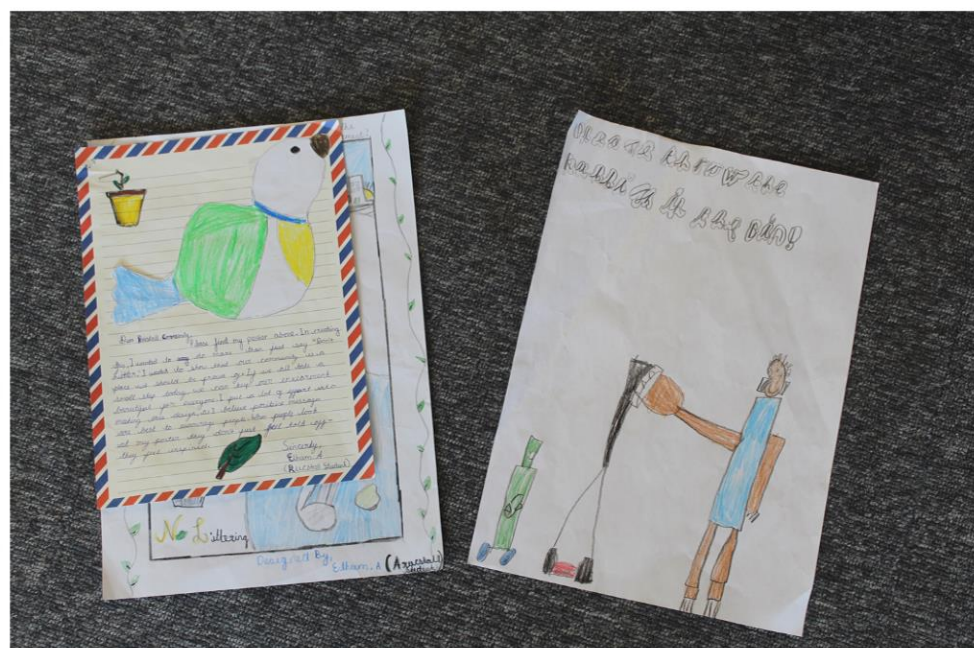
Congratulations to Yellow House on winning the Cup this year! We hope everyone enjoyed sharing a picnic with their children and making the most of the ice cream van and barbecue. Thank you for helping to make the day such a success.



Our Place, Our Pride Poster Competition

Earlier this month, children were invited to take part in the Ruckstall Community Centre's Our Place, Our Pride poster competition, organised as part of their Tidy Town Throwdown event. The competition encouraged children to think about what makes a community a great place to live and how we can all help look after our environment.

We are delighted to share that Jovarn and Elham were recognised for their fantastic entries. Their posters showed great creativity and thoughtful ideas about community pride and caring for the local area. Well done to all the children who took part.



HEALTHY EATING AT SCHOOL

We'd like to remind all of our families of the expectations around lunchboxes and snacks to help keep children safe and well throughout the school day.

These expectations form part of the consent booklet shared when your child joined the school, and we really appreciate your continued support in following this guidance. Please take moment to revisit the guidance below:



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FOOD AND DRINK EXPECTATIONS

- Please be aware that we are a NUT FREE school. This includes, no peanut butter or hazelnut spreads or items including nuts e.g. chocolate bars.
- Children are only permitted to have water within their water bottles. Squash or other drinks are not permitted unless directed by a medical practitioner in writing directly to the school.
- We also ask parents to ensure that break time snacks and lunches are healthy. We would not expect more than one chocolate item within a child's lunchbox. Sandwiches should not be chocolate spread, as this is often nut related. If you have concerns about your child's eating at school, then please do speak to the school office who can talk to the class teacher and lunchtime team who can monitor and support.
- Children in EYFS and Key Stage One are provided snacks and should not bring food in to school. Children in Key Stage Two can bring in a healthy non-chocolate snack. In all eventualities, any non-food waste will return home via children's lunchboxes/bags in Key Stage Two.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep all children safe and promote healthy habits across the school.

Summer Fair

A huge thank you to our PTFA for organising a fantastic Summer Fair. The inflatables and soak the teacher proved especially popular, alongside the games, raffle, ice cream van and many other activities on offer.

Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered and supported the event. It was wonderful to see so many families and friends from our school community enjoying the afternoon together. We are incredibly grateful for all the time, effort and generosity that helped make the fair such a success.



The PTFA has raised an amazing £5073 this year. We would like to say a massive thank you to all the PTFA members for their tireless work. We look forward to more exciting events next year.



AUTUMN UNIFORM - PE

Just a reminder that in the Autumn term children should come to school wearing their PE kit on PE days. The teacher will tell you in September which days are PE days

For indoor PE, children can wear PE shorts and in colder weather, they can wear tracksuit bottoms over their shorts.



Children also no longer need to be black trainers. They can be any colour



ATTENDANCE UPDATE

The total attendance across the school for June was 96.16%. Well done to Hazel with the highest attendance of 98.41%.

July's attendance was 96.1% with Rowan Class having the highest attendance of 97.7%

Attendance Matters

Good attendance means being in school at least 96% of the time.

We are in school for 190 days of the year.

Punctuality Matters



Absence matters



STAYING ORGANISED

Communicating with the school.

Please direct messages and enquiries to our office team, they will ensure your communication finds the correct person and who will action. **For any absence, please call the school office rather than send in an email.**

Please be mindful that all our staff have additional duties and commitments, they are therefore not available for immediate communication. Allow 5 working days for a response.

School office opening hours – Term Time – Monday to Friday – 8.30am to 4pm.

Email: adminoffice@rucstall.hants.sch.uk Tel: 01256 466524

Alternatively, to relay short face-to-face messages to the class teacher, this can be done when collecting your child at the classroom door at the end of the school day.

Medication and Forms

Each academic year we are required to have a new medical form, for each medication we are required to administer (this includes Inhalers).

- We have emailed instructions to all parents of pupils with known medications. Please check and action this email.
- Any pupils no-longer requiring medication, please let the office staff know.
- Any new medical concerns must be brought to the office team's attention directly.

It is parents' responsibility to ensure the medical information held at school for your child is correct and up to date.

Children will NOT be able to take part in any off-site activities without the correct medications and up to date forms.

Everything Looks the Same as Everyone Else's!

Pupils from Year R all the way up to Year 6 lose multiple items every day. We will always help pupils look for lost items, it really does make that job a lot easier if the item is named. Please ensure your child has their name on everything that belongs to them. Un-named items tend to get lost forever.

P.E Kits

P.E kits need to be in all week so that the pupils have access to them at all times. P.E lessons may need to be moved last minute or kit maybe used for other lessons.

School Dinners

Pupils in KS2 (year 3 and above) unless they are intitled to free school meals, need to pay for their school lunches. School lunches are £3 a lunch. Funds are paid into the class account, in advance of any school dinners required for the week, as the school cannot allow debt to accrue.

Finding Information

All information is sent to you via ParentMail any letters sent out are also uploaded on to the website under the Parent tab. Diary dates can be found on the website on the calendar tab and are sent out with details on the newsletters. Before contacting the office, please check ParentMail and the website.

Calendar

We have the school calendar on the school's website to ensure you always have easy access to the diary dates. You can also subscribe to this calendar right there on the website and it will sync with your own diary, keeping you up to date with all your child's events and activities.

REMINDERS

Please do read these newsletters to keep up to speed with news from the school. A few reminders are included below, as well as our Diary Dates for the upcoming term. The website also contains all dates, which you can link to your own electronic calendars also.

Nuts: Please could you ensure that you do not send your child into school with ANY nuts. This includes pistachio, pinenuts, almonds, cashew, walnuts, brazil and pecan nuts. We have children in school with severe nut allergies so we must ensure our school is completely nut free. Thank you for being vigilant in helping to safeguard our children.

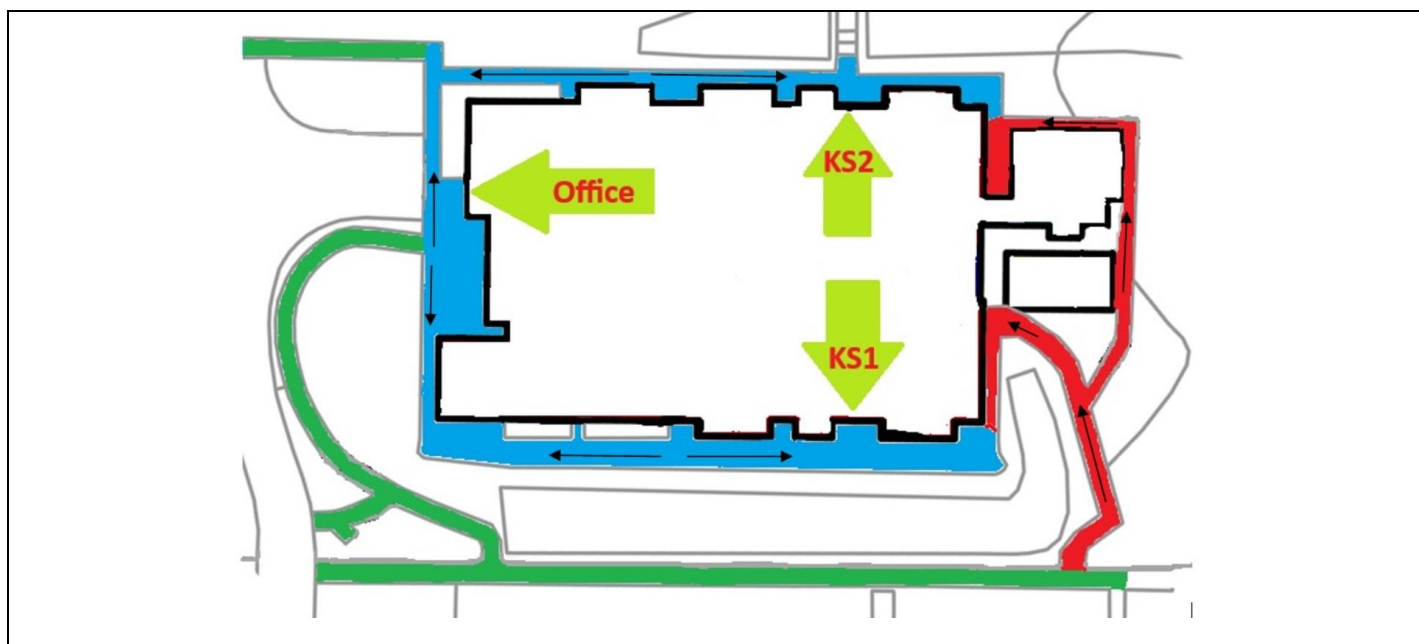


Labels: Please remember to label everything - names are starting to rub off jumpers.

School Library: Just a friendly reminder that the Key Stage One Library is open for parents on Mondays and the Key Stage Two Library on Fridays, both from 3:20 to 3:40. Please come and go from the library, this is the door before the cloakroom door.

Car Park – keeping everyone safe: Please can we remind everyone to drive slowly and carefully, especially in the school car park. We all want to keep our children safe. Please make sure you are watching your children at all times and please do not use your phone while walking through the car park. Please keep the path and gateway clear so people can walk home safely. Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe.

Drop off: We operate a one-way system for dropping off your children in the morning. This helps to keep everyone moving and ensures the children can get to their classrooms in a timely fashion. We appreciate that some parents are dropping off at both KS1 and KS2 and therefore two way traffic is necessary, but as you are aware narrow pathways around the school do create pinchpoints. Therefore we ask that the red areas on the map are one way only to avoid congestion and hazards.



Diary Dates for the Autumn term

Date	Event
Tuesday 1 st September	INSET Day 1
Wednesday 2 nd September	EYFS 1:1 Visit Days
Thursday 3 rd September	EYFS 1:1 Visit Days
Friday 4 th September	EYFS sessions
Monday 7 th September	EYFS sessions
	Parent Information Meeting (Year 6)
Tuesday 8 th September	EYFS Transition
	Parent Information Meeting (Year 5)
Wednesday 9 th September	EYFS all children Coffee & curriculum - EYFS parents
Thursday 10 th September	EYFS all day
Thursday 10 th September	Parent Information Meeting (Year 4)
Friday 11 th September	Parent Information Meeting (Year 3)
Monday 14 th September	Parent Information Meeting (Year 2)
Tuesday 15 th September	Parent Information Meeting (Year 1)
Monday 21 st September	Individual Photos
Thursday 1 st October	Whole School Flu Vaccinations
	CENSUS

Friday 2 nd October	INSET DAY
5 th -9 th October	Pupil Passport Week
Friday 16 th October	Open Morning 1 - 9.15am
Monday 19 th October	NSPCC Assembly + Lesson
Tuesday 20 th October	Parent Consultations 1 15:30 - 18:00
	Cake Sale
Thursday 22 nd October	Parent Consultations 2 16:00 - 19:30
	Cake Sale
	Pumpkin Trail
HALF TERM	
Tuesday 3 rd November	NSPCC Workshops
Friday 13 th November	Open Morning 2 - 9.15am
Friday 27 th November	INSET DAY
Wednesday 2 nd December	Non-Uniform Day - Bring in an item for the Christmas Hamper
Monday 7 th December	Nativity - Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday 8 th December	Nativity 1 (EYFS)
	Rocksteady Concert
Wednesday 9 th December	Nativity 2 (Yr1)
	Non-Uniform Day - Bottle donation for the Christmas Fair
Thursday 10 th December	Nativity 3 (Yr2)
Tuesday 15 th December	Parent Showcase
Wednesday 16 th December	KS2 Carols
	Christmas Lunch
	Non-Uniform - Dress Christmassy
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Events Day Christmas Fair
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	

INSET days for 2026/2027 academic year:

Monday 4th January 2027
Friday 28th May 2027