



Russells Reporter  
Summer Term 2 2025  
Issue 12



*'Working together to be the best that we can be'*

Attendance Update

This year, our whole school attendance stands at 93.1%, slightly below the national average of 94.5%. While there is room for improvement, we are proud of the commitment shown by our families and staff in prioritising regular attendance.

**We are pleased to celebrate our Top 5 classes for attendance this year:**

- **1st Place: Class 1D with an impressive 95.7%**
- **Joint 2nd Place: Classes 3M and 6BP, both with 95.1%**
- **Joint 3rd Place: Classes 3CW and 2H, both achieving 94.9%**

**Well done to all pupils, staff, and families involved!**

**A special congratulations goes to the 20 children who achieved 100% attendance this year—two more than last year! Not a single day of school missed—what an exceptional achievement. You are true Superstars, and your names will be proudly displayed on our Wall of Fame. We hope you enjoy your well-deserved trophy and find the perfect spot to display it!**

**Thank you to all families for your continued efforts in supporting punctual, consistent attendance—it truly makes a difference.**

West Midlands Fire Service

Earlier this term, Year 2 were treated to a fantastic visit from the West Midlands Fire Service as part of their history and writing topic on *The Great Fire of London*.

The children were fascinated to learn about how firefighting has changed over time, comparing the equipment and uniforms of today with those from the past. They listened carefully as the firefighters explained their important role in keeping people safe and shared stories about their daily work.

A real highlight was seeing the fire engine up close – the children were amazed by all the tools and gadgets on board. Best of all, they even got to have a turn squirting the fire hose, which brought big smiles all round!

The visit sparked lots of excitement and curiosity, and it really helped inspire the fantastic writing Year 2 produced over the term. Well done to all the children for showing such enthusiasm and to the firefighters for making it such a memorable experience!



### International Day of Play – A Joyful Afternoon of RE Activities!

On Wednesday 11th June, the whole school took part in a special afternoon to celebrate the International Day of Play. This year's theme, "***Choose Play Every Day***", was linked to our RE curriculum, with each class exploring a different world religion through creative, hands-on activities.

**Reception** had a wonderful time on a Kind Words Treasure Hunt. They searched high and low for words like "love", "happy", "helpful", and "you are amazing" – and were so excited to share their finds with friends and teachers. What a lovely way to spread positivity!

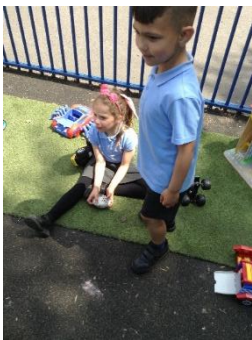
**Year 1** explored Judaism by taking part in a range of role-play and craft activities inspired by Jewish traditions and celebrations.

**Year 2** got creative with geometry, designing beautiful prayer mats and patterned tiles, learning about Islamic art and culture along the way.

**Year 3** enjoyed working on vibrant Rangoli patterns, using colour and symmetry to celebrate Hindu traditions.

**Year 4** took a calm and reflective approach by designing their own mindful Zen gardens using sand and pebbles – a peaceful exploration of Buddhist practices.

Across the school, children showed curiosity, respect, and joy as they learned through play.



### Year 6's Last Trip from Primary School

On Friday 20th June, Year 6 visited West Midlands Safari Park for their last ever primary school trip. We explored the safari drive through where we spotted a boisterous herd of zebras, followed by lions, camels, elephants and giraffes.

After lunch, the children roamed free around the theme park. This was without doubt the highlight of the day with many of the children-*and indeed staff*-finding their bravery to try out the attractions. They had a thrilling time on the rides with many choosing to keep cool with repeated visits to the log flume! It certainly was an unforgettable day out.





## Russells Hall Sporting News

Thankfully, the heatwave was behind us and we enjoyed a sunny and comfortable week for Sports Day. Thank you to all the families who supported us and joined us on one of our Sports Days. Here are the final results, in case you missed them.

### KS1

1st Sapphire 116

2nd Emerald 109

3rd Citrine 98

4th Ruby 83

### Y3/4

1st Emerald 217

2nd Citrine 209

3rd Ruby 194

4th Sapphire 171

### Y5/6

1st Sapphire 149

2nd Citrine 113

3rd Emerald 110

4th Ruby 100

### Overall (Years 1 - 6)

JOINT 1<sup>st</sup> Emerald & Sapphire 436 points

2nd Citrine 420 points

3<sup>rd</sup> Ruby 377 points



## Worcester Cricket Club

For our second year running, Worcestershire Cricket Club have been supporting our 'Sports development' during the last half of this term. Pupils from Years 3, 5 and 6 have enjoyed an extra P.E session weekly with one of their coaches 'Charlie'. Some of our pupils in Years 3, 4 and 5 have also enjoyed our free 'After School Cricket club' too.

Don't forget Worcestershire Cricket Club are also offering our pupils free sessions every Monday evening at Russells Hall Park and throughout the summer holidays. For further details and book your child's place, please click on the QR Code below.



All Stars Cricket provides a fantastic first experience for all children aged between 5-8 years old. They will have 8 weeks of jam-packed fun, activity and skills!

Dynamos Cricket provides a perfect introduction to Cricket for all 8-11 year olds! Dynamos is all about fun and provides children with a more social offer, focusing on the skills to play the game.

Find your nearest All Stars & Dynamos programme using the link below!

<https://ecb.clubspark.uk/AllStars/Search>



It all starts with...

**FREE All Stars Cricket Sessions!**  
Date: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July -> Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August  
Time: 6:00pm-7:00pm  
Ages: 5-8 years  
Venue: Russells Hall Park, Dudley DY1 2LL  
Discount CODE: YXEU8

For more information please contact - Jacob.hockey@worcestershirecricketfoundation.co.uk

Scan to sign up!



Sign up today at [allstarscricket.co.uk](http://allstarscricket.co.uk)

Each participant will receive a t-shirt!



### School's Day at the Cricket

Year 3 were invited to spend the day at Worcestershire Cricket Club on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July. They enjoyed watching England U19's vs India U19's team play, plus were able to take part in a range of cricket themed activities with some of the players and ex-players from England.

"I want to be a professional cricketer when I grow up, it was great to see them playing on a proper pitch," said Ethan

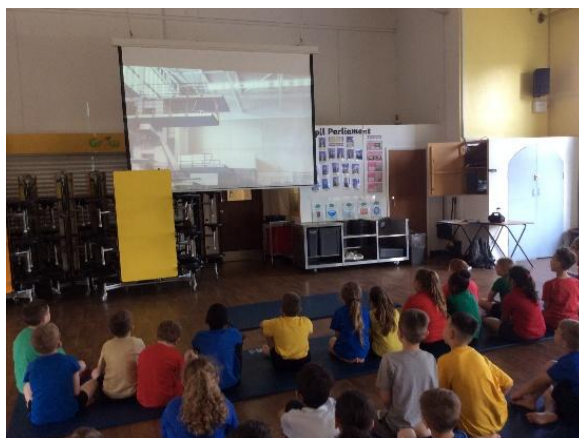
"I have really enjoyed going to see my first ever cricket tournament," said Amelia

"We got to meet the famous 14-year-old player Vaibhav Suryavanshi today, Mrs Wilkes told us all about his story and how hard he has worked. His mom used to cook his breakfast at 3am because he had to travel a long way every day to train " said Agney



### Other Sporting highlights this year

Year 6 took part in a two-day intensive course to gain their Level 2 Bikeability Awards. They were highly commended by the team from Dudley Safety Awareness for their determination, excellent behaviour and stamina. We hope to offer this award again next year, as it helps our pupils, who might want to travel to school on their bikes, the opportunity to gain valuable road safety awareness and the confidence to service and check their own bikes are road worthy before any journey.



### Diving Sport Talent Day

Sandwell Aquatics completed an inspiring day with our Years 2,3 and 4 pupils, full of dry side diving activities and information regarding diving. They were also looking for any up-and-coming talented pupils to join their training team at Sandwell Aquatics, in view of possible Olympic stardom. Dan spotted three of our pupils, who he stated showed a real flair for the sport and they were all invited to a follow up session at the centre and further discussions for future training. Watch this space!





### School Games Mark

We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded **GOLD School Games Mark Award for 2024/25**. The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

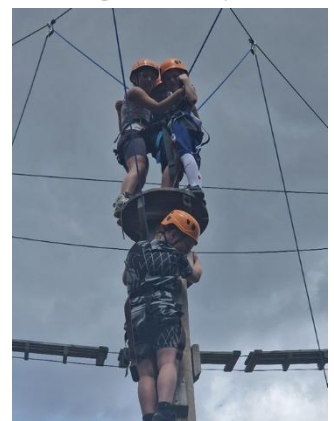
### Year 1 Beach Day Fun!

Year 1 had a fantastic beach day filled with fun and learning as part of our topic on the seaside, past and present. The children arrived in their best beach clothes and took part in a range of beach-themed activities, including playing in the sandpit and having their faces painted. To make the day even more special, an ice cream van visited and everyone enjoyed a delicious treat. The experience helped bring our history learning to life, giving the children a real taste of what a day at the beach is like!



### Year 5 Boundless Outdoors

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, the children in Year 5 took part in an exciting trip to Boundless Outdoors Centre in Bell Heath. They had the opportunity to take part in crate stacking, climbing a quad pole or a climbing wall, and travelling across high bridges. The activities were all at height and the children were very brave and ambitious to get as high as they could. Everyone had a fantastic time.



### Junior PCSO Graduation

This half term we have celebrated the success of another group of Year 5 Junior PCSOs who have recently, and proudly, graduated from the scheme. The Junior PCSO scheme is an initiative run by West Midlands Police in partnership with local primary schools. It aims to boost children's confidence and self-esteem, while promoting positive engagement with the police to help children feel confident approaching their local policing teams with community information, concerns, or for help and support.

Our new Junior PCSO graduates completed a six-week programme that included learning about the phonetic alphabet, the roles of both Police Officers and PCSOs, how to be a responsible citizen, road safety, fire safety, and first aid through Junior Paramedic Training. In addition, they explored important topics such as anti-social behaviour, online safety, and bullying, helping them to become more informed and responsible members of their communities. They also took part in community work, including litter picking.

Throughout the programme, our Junior PCSOs demonstrated fantastic commitment to both their learning and their community. They even learnt the Junior PCSO pledge, which they proudly shared with the whole school during their graduation assembly. Well done – we are very proud of you all!

At the start of next academic year, we will be recruiting for our next group of Junior PCSOs and look forward to seeing how many of our new Year 5's would like to apply for the scheme. It's a fantastic opportunity for children to develop confidence, learn valuable life skills, and get involved in their community – more information to follow in September.



### Thinktank

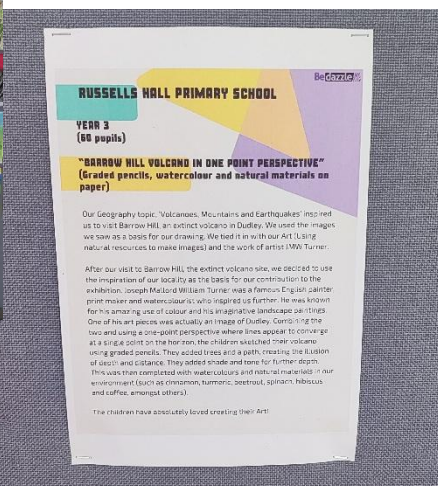
The Children in Year 3 had a fantastic time at the Thinktank Birmingham. We took part in a Science class all about mixing chemicals and made some slime. We also learnt about solids, liquids and gases. We learnt lots of things exploring the different floors including the garden.





### Year 3 ARTISTS

The Children in Year 3 have spent the last few weeks painting their volcanoes inspired by our visit to Barrow Hill. Combining the one-point perspective, the children sketched their picture and painted it using natural resources and watercolours. The work was then displayed in an Art Gallery at Priory House. Here are some pictures of the children's displayed work. We are so proud of you!





## Vikings!

Year 4 went on a very exciting trip back in time... we visited Bishops Wood and experienced life as a Viking. We travelled through the forest, built dens using the natural resources around us and even got to see how the Vikings lit a fire! Surrounding the fire, we told saga's just like the Vikings did- we even had the chance to sail away on our longboats! The whole trip the year 4 children were fully immersed in the experience. We crafted wonderful pieces of wool, created copper amulets and made beautiful clay pots.



## Summer Fayre

Many thanks to everyone who came to our annual Summer Fayre. It was a huge success and great to see so many of our families enjoying the sunshine with bags full of prizes. As it is a busy time of year, we have not yet managed to count all the money. As soon as we do, we will let you know.

The raffle was drawn in school and here are the lucky prize winners:

**1<sup>st</sup> Food Hamper – Emily F 6BP**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Toiletry Hamper – Katie 1D**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Gin and Chocolates – Riley 2H**

**4<sup>th</sup> Rum and Chocolates – Evie 4T**

**5<sup>th</sup> Toy Car Set – Mohammed RG**

**6<sup>th</sup> Bath Bomb Set – Layla 6BP**

**7<sup>th</sup> Skin Therapy Set – Myleigh 6C**

**8<sup>th</sup> Liqueur Set – Zach 3M**

**9<sup>th</sup> Mint Choc Irish Cream – Marnie May 3CW**

**10<sup>th</sup> Sequin Toy – Emily 3CW**

**Name the Whale Shark – Giselle – Raja 6BP**

**Name the Koala – Naomi – Callum 4T**

**Weight of the Sweets – 1702g – Molly 3CW**

**Treasure Map – Teddy and Sweets – Layla 6BP**





Happy summer!

As we wrap up another school year, I want to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone—pupils, families, staff, and the wider school community—for all your support, energy, and positivity over the past year. It's been a year full of challenges, achievements, and plenty to be proud of.

To those who are moving on: good luck in all that comes next. We're proud of you, and we know you'll go on to do great things.

To those coming back in September—we'll see you on Wednesday 3rd, ready to kick off another fantastic year together.

Wishing you all a safe, happy, and well-deserved summer break.

Best wishes,

Miss Harrison and all the RHPS Team xxxx

