



Rudyard Kipling Primary School and Nursery Newsletter

Where learning is an adventure!

Friday 15th December 2023

Headteacher Reports:

Issue 23.24 14

Dear Families

I hope that you enjoyed this week's many Christmas performances-weren't our children amazing? They certainly loved performing for you and we really do celebrate Christmas with a bang here at RKPS!

Finding out yesterday that we are again in the top ten performing primary schools in Brighton and Hove was a fitting way to bookend a super term. More details can be [found here](#).

Our high academic achievement is only one element of what makes our school so special. I'm sure that you will agree that our high quality performances this week reflect the high expectations we have in everything we do: from sport to art to outdoor learning. An exciting and engaging creative curriculum runs through our school and our excellent academic outcomes result from it.

These excellent results are only possible because of the calibre of teachers and support staff we have here-they are incredibly dedicated and talented. I would like to thank all of our staff team for their hard work and for making the learning fun for our children.

I would also like to thank our governing body. They perform an invaluable-behind the scenes role-and are a key reason for our school's successes. Teamwork is one of our five school Values and our school embodies it.

Tuesday January 2nd is a staff INSET day so we look forward to welcoming all of our children back to school on Wednesday January 3rd for the beginning of an exciting new term.

Wishing all families in our Woodingdean community a wonderful Christmas.

Euan Harington

Headteacher

STAY SOCIAL



@RudyardSchool



RudyardKiplingPrimarySchool



@Rudyardkiplingprimary



KSI Christmas Production



Positivity



Teamwork



Equality



Respect



Kindness

Special Mentions

Louie



YR1

I am amazed by Louie this week. He has been showing superb resilience throughout all his learning. Every day he is concentrating on his work making sure it is fully completed and his absolute best work. To further add to this Louie is such a polite and kind person in our class. He is always helping others and listening to instructions. This incredible attitude is paying off as he is making so much progress in his learning. A massive well done Louie!

Oliver



Oliver, you always greet every day with a wonderful smile, spreading your positive energy throughout our classroom. You always take on board any feedback and have really impressed all adults in Obama with your reflectiveness in this. You are a super classmate, happy to help others and a great learning partner. You have also been remembering to use your thinking thumb to share your super ideas, and I have been especially impressed with the vocabulary that you have been using in our 'picture of the day'. Keep up the hard work superstar and always keep that smile on your face!

Arthur



Wow, wow, wow, Arthur! You embody all the 5Rs, but what impresses me is how you remember and apply our values and your learning. You are an asset in Attenborough Class and a joy to teach. You quietly get on with everything, are an excellent example to all around you and a super star!

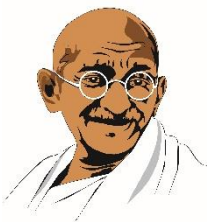
YR2

Frankie



Frankie, Frankie, Frankie... you have consistently blown Mrs McCormack, Mrs Vernon and Miss Ghattas away this week with your excellent readiness! It has been great to see you carefully bring your jeep design to life in DT creating the most wonderful dinosaur jeep which you are very proud of. This was a laboursome job but when it comes to building, no job is too big for Frankie. We certainly have a future engineer on our hands. Frankie, we are so lucky to have you on our team! Your cheeky smile brightens up each and every day in Parks Class! Keep shining like the star you are :).

Amelia



This week in Gandhi class, we've been writing newspaper reports. It's a very different style of writing than we're used to, and it takes considerable skill, perseverance and flair. There were so many wonderful pieces of writing, but one stood out for Mr Wynne! Such was her quality of writing, local newspaper, the Argus, made numerous attempts to lure Amelia away with lucrative offers. Thankfully, however, Amelia stayed true to her school and remains a Rudyard child... For now! I'm sure one day soon, we'll be seeing her writing on the front pages of our tabloids and broadsheets.

YR3

Ivy



Ivy is an all-round superstar in class, but she especially shone in our Christmas performance. Not only did her clothes sparkle, so did her smile, dancing and singing! It made me smile watching her enjoying herself so much. You should join the school choir Ivy!

Sasha

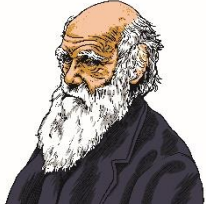
YR4



Christmas is the time of year for giving gifts, but when Mr Jones inherited Year 4 at the beginning of this year, he received the biggest gift of them all – Sasha! Her positive energy and ability to adapt to any situation that is thrown her way, shows that she is Little Miss Readiness in disguise. She always takes her learning that one step further to really show her talents. Her adaptation of Varjak Paw (Shag Claw) was a real page turner, gripping the reader and keeping them hooked – an incredibly hard talent – but not for Sasha! Keep up the hard work.

Ari

YR5



Amazing Ari should be found in the dictionary under resilient; this is one of many words that can be used to describe this fantastic learner. Developing our work and ideas onto paper is not an easy feat, however, Ari never shies away from a challenge. No matter the subject, you can always count on Ari to be focused, absorbing every speck of information he can get his hands on. Miss Smith loves hearing all of Ari's ideas and always enjoys reading his work. Keep up the enthusiasm, your hard work does not go unnoticed!

Arthur



Arthur is such an asset to Seacole class that he could have received a Special Mention every week since Year 5 began, but he has patiently waited and it is now very overdue. Arthur always brightens up Mrs Newbold's day. He is always focused, does his best, challenges himself, never gives up and the list goes on. He is such a positive, wonderful person and we are very lucky to have him in Seacole!

Will

YR6



Will is a shining star of Yousafzai class. We are all very impressed with this incredible progress in handwriting –all the children comment on it! This was highlighted in a very engaging and informative orangutan non –chronological report showcasing his talent! He is a joy to teach as he always contributes interesting ideas and is always showing his values - the dream! Thank you and bravo Will



YR1 Kahlo:

Jude – Super writing about Egypt.

YR1 Obama:

Bear – Super writing about snowball throwing!

Freddie – Amazing 'snowman' writing!

Y3 Pankhurst:

Halle – A superb piece of writing based on the Iron Man.

Y4 Mandela

Lewis – A super Christmas poem!

Matilda – A wonderful Christmas Poem

Harry – For always showing kindness in every situation.

Luca – His amazing artwork – creating a super Grinch!

Sasha - A quite incredible extended story based on her class book: it was well worth the many hours it took.

Y5 Darwin:

Raniah - For a very detailed sketch of a Viking – great shading!

Jacob - An exceptional drawing of a Viking using fantastic shading!

Alexandra - High quality sentences, encapsulating Shackleton's journey.

Fin - A fantastic Viking drawing, full of great detail.

Y6 Yousafzai:

Jazzmine, Scarlett, Lianna, Bailey, Layla, Inaya, Lennon and Ethan – Secondary school quality writing about orangutans

William - Excellent history work on the workhouse, working with Lottie.

Lottie - Excellent history work on the workhouse, working with William.

RKPS Reading Recommendations

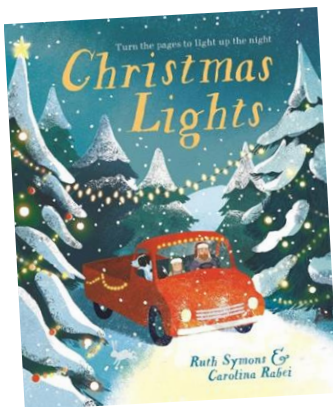


Hello all, every week the English Team and various adults around school share two reading recommendations for you and your lovely children to read.

Reading Research Alert:

“Students who read for pleasure make significantly more progress in vocabulary, spelling and maths than children who read very little.” Sullivan and Brown 2013.

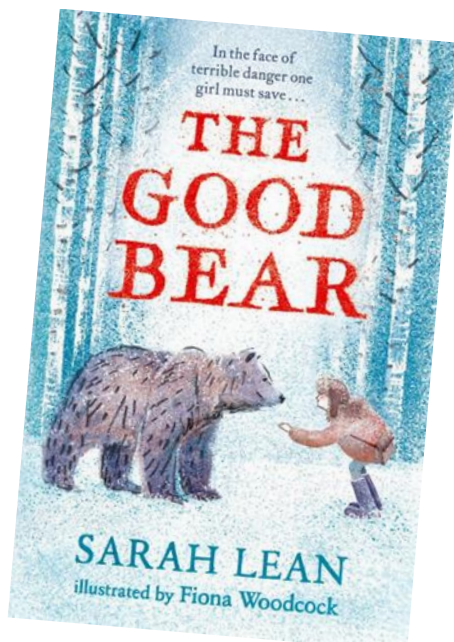
Christmas Lights by Ruth Symons and Carolina Rabei



Join one little girl and her father on their drive home for Christmas. Lift the flaps and spin the wheels to watch stars shoot past and fairy lights twinkle. With a lyrical text and beautiful art by The Ride-by-Nights illustrator Carolina Rabei, this book makes the perfect Christmas gift, and will capture the hearts of the whole family.

Miss Vaughan's nephew loves it!

The Dog That Saved Christmas by Nicola Davies

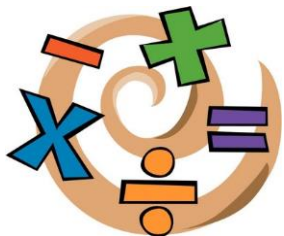


It's the Christmas holidays and Thea is looking forward to spending them with her father. She can tell him all about her plans to become a writer, and maybe he'll buy her the typewriter she's been dreaming of.

But when Thea arrives in snowy Norway, everything feels . . . wrong. Her father is as distant as ever and now she has to share him with his new family: his girlfriend Inge and her children. Then Thea makes a surprising discovery. Deep in the snowy woods by the house, is a bear. He's scared and hungry and he desperately needs Thea's help.

When the town hears about a bear living in the woods, Bear's life is in even greater danger. Thea needs to show everyone that he's not dangerous – he's a good bear – if she's to save him.

The Good Bear is a superb story to snuggle up with in the winter months, exploring themes of families, relationships and 'togetherness' through the tale of a young girl and a life-changing visit to the Norwegian winter. Thea's complex emotions towards her father are sensitively and honestly written; particularly Thea's anger towards Henry's new family and their seemingly perfect life. Thea's relationship with the bear is central to the story and gives the book a sense of Christmas magic that is warm and gentle.



Mr Jones' Maths Challenge



of the Week

The countdown is well and truly on as we 'step into Christmas'! Ho ho ho! To get us in the festive mood we have put together some Christmas challenges for you to complete. You'll need some colouring pens/pencils for this one! As always good luck, and have a very Merry Christmas.

KS1

6 8 10 12 14 16 18

4+4

7+7

6+6

5+5

6+6

3+3

6+6

8+8

5+5

9+9

6+6

3+3

6+6

7+7

8+8

9+9

5+5

4+4

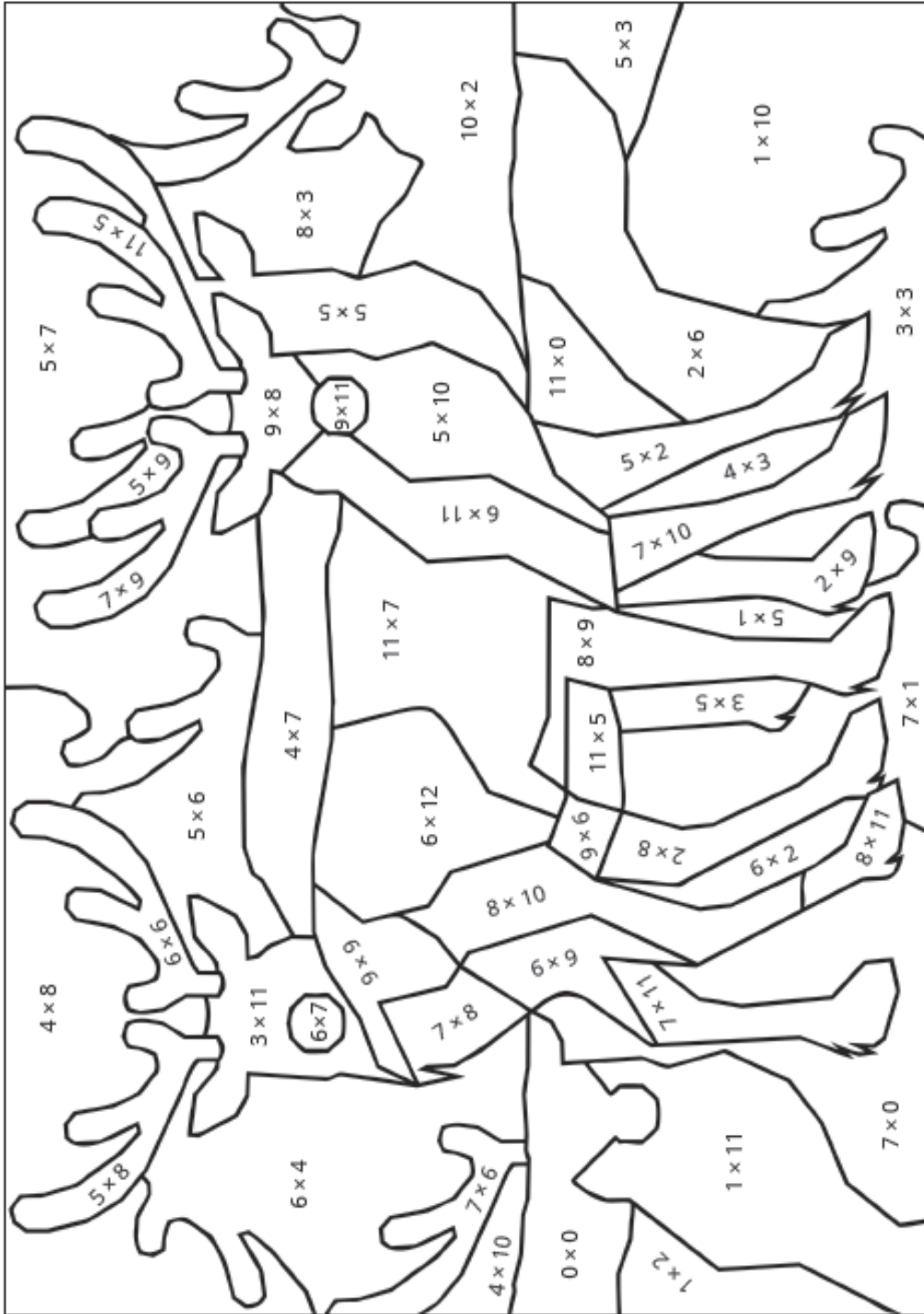
7+7

Join up each short set of coordinates every day over Advent to create a Christmas picture.

Instructions

Without using a calculator, work out the answer to each multiplication. Then, use the key to shade each section using the correct colour.

0 - 19	White
20 - 49	Navy
50 - 69	Cream
70 - 89	Brown
90 - 100	Red



Times Tables Rockstars

Most Improved Accuracy awards in Times Tables Rockstars went to the following children this week:

- 1st - Curtis in Pankhurst
- 2nd - Rowan in Mandela
- 3rd - Betsy in Mandela



Danish Longball Festival

Year 3 / 4 Danish Longball Festival – Thursday 7th December

Last week, Mr Wynne took a group of keen sportspeople down to Longhill for the long awaited Danish Longball event, which had sadly been postponed all the way back in Autumn 1. As the event was a festival, and not a competition, there were no medals or trophies up for grabs but this did not deter the competitive spirit of the Rudyard children. Alongside this competitiveness, they showed true respect and kindness at all times as they had to mix with the other schools and work with people they had never met before! Never was their respect and kindness more present however, than at the end of the session when the Rudyard children were first over to thank Mr Hoad and Mr Wescott for their time and effort in setting up such a wonderful event – right they were too! Isn't it amazing that the children are offered such a wide variety of sports in the ACE events!?



Thank you to all the children that took part last week: Mason, Asomi, Ole, Halle, Mariatou, Alla, Eli, Ruben, Euan, Dexter, Rocco, Max, Sanvi and Rodan.

That's it now for ACE events until after the Christmas holidays, and the spring term, when the children will be partaking in an indoor netball event. Here's hoping for a clean sweep just like in the cricket event during the autumn term!

Merry Christmas from After School Club

To all our After School Club Families,
The After School Club Team wanted to wish you all a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!





We are now an Arbor school!

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Parent App and Parent Portal means we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go!

We are slowly transitioning to Arbor over the next term, please keep your eyes peeled for updates in the newsletter and SchoolPing. Until informed otherwise, please keep using current procedures for booking clubs and ordering uniform. When we are ready to launch the Arbor App, you will receive a welcome email with instructions on how to use the features in the app.

Free Swimming

Free Swimming is still open to under 16's who go to School in Brighton and Hove.

[Free swimming \(brighton-hove.gov.uk\)](http://brighton-hove.gov.uk)

To register, please follow the following link:

<https://freedomleisure2022.adidocdn.dev/PDFs/Free%20Swimming%20Form%20-%20Ages%2015%20and%20under.pdf>

Children can swim for free at:

- King Alfred Leisure Centre
- Prince Regent Swimming Complex
- St Luke's Community Swimming Pool
- Saltdean Lido (between May and August)



Find more information on the Free Swimming Scheme, terms and conditions and instructions on how to register on the [Freedom Leisure website](http://freedomleisure2022.adidocdn.dev/PDFs/Free%20Swimming%20Form%20-%20Ages%2015%20and%20under.pdf) or by calling 0845 803 5519.

Sports Coach — Spring 1

Mr Westcott will return in January to run his weekly 'Westcott Wednesdays' intra-school PE competition. Please make a note in your diaries of the dates for after half term:

Year 6 - Wednesday 10th January

Year 5 - Wednesday 17th January

Year 4 - Wednesday 24th January

Year 3 - Wednesday 31st January

Year 2 - Wednesday 7th February

Year 1 - TBC (we are looking at dates for Year 1's session, and will let you know in due course; if Mr Westcott is unable to find time in Spring 1, we will give Year 1 an additional session later in the year)

Community Notice Board

Come and join us
this christmas
at Holy Cross

**Christmas Carol
Service**

6pm, Sunday 17th December
Holy Cross Church,
Downs Way
Woodingdean



Christmas Holiday Consultation Line

Dear Parents/Carers,
Do you have a child or young person at school in Brighton & Hove?
If you have any concerns about their Emotional Mental Health and Wellbeing
you are invited to talk to a Primary Mental Health Worker or Education
Mental Health Practitioner from the Schools Mental Health Service.

Telephone consultations are available over the Christmas Holiday.
December 19th, 21st, 22nd and 29th along with 2nd January
9am-12pm.


Please email SchoolsMentalHealthService@brighton-hove.gov.uk

You will need to send us your name and phone number, with a brief outline of your concerns, and a Primary Mental Health Worker or Education Mental Health Practitioner will call you back.




Whilst we aim to call back within two days, please be aware we may have a high demand, so your patience is appreciated.

Please note, this would not be in place of current services you may already be engaged with.

This is not a crisis number – if you require immediate support you need to contact your GP, call CAMHS duty care on 03003040061 or go direct to A&E



Rudyard Kipling Primary School, Woodingdean
Where learning is an adventure!

  @rudyardkiplingprimaryschool
 @RudyardSchool

We are an academic school: our children excel.
They leave us with results which are in the top 10 of all 69 Brighton and Hove primary schools.

Is your child starting Reception in 2024?
Next Open Event: Wednesday 3rd January, 9:30am

To reserve your place at this event, please call the school office on (01273) 303328

Chalkland Rise, Woodingdean, Brighton, BN2 6RH
www.rudyardkiplingprimary.co.uk

Reminders

Class Teacher

1

- Any parent/carer communication should be with the Class Teacher in the first instance.

Head of Key Stage

2

- If the Class Teacher is unable to advise or rectify the issue this can then be escalated to the Head of Key Stage.

Deputy Head/SENCO

3

- If the Head of Key Stage is unable to advise to rectify the issue, this can then be escalated to the Deputy Headteacher or SENCO if your child has additional needs.

Headteacher

4

- If the Deputy Headteacher/SENCO is unable to advise or rectify the issue, this can then be escalated to the Headteacher.

Chair of Governors

5

- If the Headteacher is unable to advise or rectify the issue, the matter can then be escalated to the Chair of Governors.

Head of Key Stages

Foundation – Ms A Smith

Key Stage One – Mrs V Brewer

Lower Key Stage Two – Mr N Wynne

Upper Key Stage Two – Miss L Vaughan

Coats for School!

Please can parents and carers ensure that children arrive at school wearing a coat. The weather is now turning colder and wetter. We like our children to be able to continue to go out at playtimes with a coat on!

Thank you.



Dates for the Diary

January 2024	
Tuesday 2nd	INSET DAY
	RKPS moving to Arbor – Parent Portal
Wednesday 3rd	Children Return / Rec 24 Open Morning, 9:30am
Monday 8 th	Y4 – Start swimming
Wednesday 10th	Y6 Westcott Wednesday
Monday 15th	Closing date for Reception 24 applications
Wednesday 17th	Y6 Westcott Wednesday
Thursday 18th	Reception trip to the beach (details to follow)
Wednesday 24th	Y4 Westcott Wednesday
Wednesday 31st	Y3 Westcott Wednesday

