

Rusper Primary School Newsletter 27.02.26

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Welcome back, we hope you all had a restful/fun-filled half term break. This half term will be a busy one as it's only 5 weeks long! We will be packing in lots of learning and fun along the way.

Important Dates:

Date	Year Group	Event
Tuesday 3 rd March	Dance Club Members	Horsham Dance Festival
Thursday 5 th March	All	World Book Day
Monday 9 th March	All	Parents Evening
Tuesday 10 th March		Book online
Wednesday 25 th March	All	Egg Hunt – Details to follow soon

Dance Festival

Don't forget that our Dance Club are taking part in the Horsham Dance Festival on Tuesday 3rd March. Children will need to bring their costumes into school and have their hair ready for the rehearsal in the afternoon. We will be taking photographs of them on the stage and will need them to be performance ready!

Horsham Children's Parade

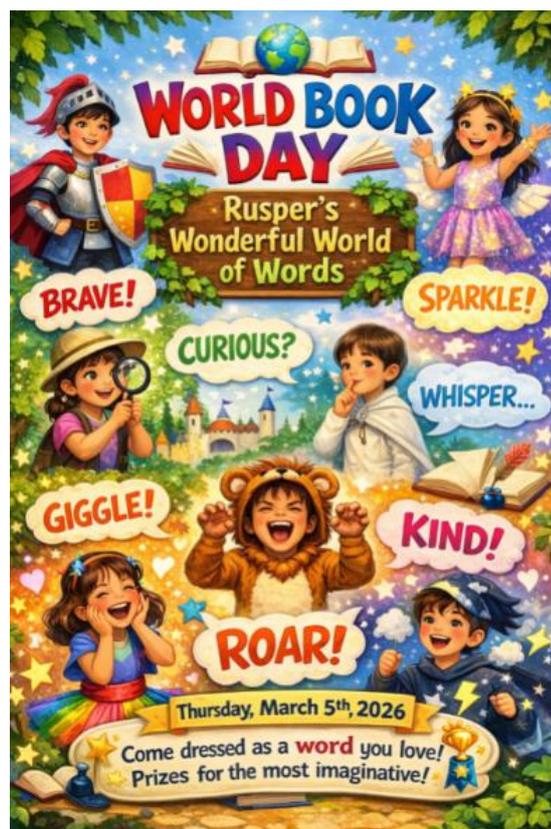
We're delighted to share that our school will once again be taking part in the Horsham Children's Parade this July. This year's theme is celebrating childhood and our school will be focussing on **LEGO**, and we can't wait to get creative and showcase our colourful designs alongside the community!

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March 2026

This year, we're celebrating words, not just books. Words can inspire, comfort, challenge and change the world and we want our children to feel the power of the words they choose.

Dress up as a word, loud or small, kind or curious — words shape us all!

Children will spend the day exploring what words mean, how they make us feel, and how the words we use can impact ourselves and others. A fun, creative day celebrating language in all its forms!



Some possible dress up ideas:



Blossom Class – Mrs Green

What a magical week it has been in Blossoms. Our theme this term is: Into the woods. With the focus on traditional tales and storytelling.

We have a brand-new enchanted cottage roleplay in the classroom, and the children have loved dressing up, making and feeding me poisoned apples and conjuring up magic spells.

Linked to our story this week, the children have enjoyed lots of oat exploration. We have linked this play to our maths. The children have been comparing capacity with bowls of porridge for the bears, and we have revisited mass. The blossoms compared weight, to make sure each bear had the right amount of porridge. Lastly, we have begun learning about spring and enjoyed a spring walk on Tuesday, spotting all the signs of spring. Linking to new beginnings, the children have been introduced to the Easter story and the celebration of Easter.



Willow Class – Miss Jones

It has been lovely welcoming the children back into school and settling into our learning together. Thank you so much to parents and carers for the fantastic home learning you shared with us - we were blown away by the beautiful artwork, photos, and the very cool creatures the children discovered on their nature walks. In class, we have been learning about different animal groupings, including mammals, reptiles and more, and the children have shown great curiosity and enthusiasm. In R.E, we have been exploring what Muslims believe, including learning about the 99 names for God, which prompted some thoughtful discussions. We have also been focusing on understanding who our safe adults are, both in school and outside of school, helping children feel confident about who they can turn to for support. In gymnastics, the children have been developing their travelling skills, practising straight-leg and bent-leg walks, and working on mirroring each other's movements with control and awareness. It's been a brilliant start well done, Willow Class!

Maple Class – Mr Snook

This week, Maple class has traded the classroom for the canopy as we begin our brand-new topic on the **Amazon Rainforest!** The children have already shown incredible curiosity about the "lungs of our planet," We can't wait to see their knowledge grow as we explore the geography, climate, and cultures of this remarkable region over the coming weeks.

Here are some book recommendations based on the topic:

- **The Great Kapok Tree** by Lynne Cherry – A classic tale that beautifully illustrates why the rainforest must be protected.
- **The Explorer** by Katherine Rundell – A gripping adventure story about four children who must survive in the Amazon after a plane crash.
- **Over and Under the Rainforest** by Kate Messner – A wonderful look at the animals living in every layer, from the dark forest floor to the high canopy.
- **Journey to the River Sea** by Eva Ibbotson – A beloved story of an orphan's journey down the Amazon River.
- **The Leaf Detective** by Heather Lang – An inspiring true story about Meg Lowman, a scientist who pioneered the study of the rainforest canopy.

Redwood Class – Mr Rogers

It's been a fantastic first week back in Redwood — the children have returned refreshed, focused and ready for the term ahead. I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half term; it's been lovely hearing about the adventures, quiet days and everything in between!

In Literacy this term, we are diving into **Beowulf** by **Michael Morpurgo**, a powerful retelling of the ancient Anglo-Saxon epic.

Morpurgo's version brings the original poem to life for modern readers while still preserving its rich language and heroic themes. Alongside our reading, we will be exploring Anglo-Saxon history, discussing how stories were passed down through oral tradition, and analysing the poetic devices used in the original epic. The children will be developing their inference skills, exploring kennings and alliteration, and considering what makes a true hero.

We have also held our auditions for our upcoming **Peter Pan** production. I was incredibly proud of how confidently and thoughtfully the children approached the process — it takes real courage to stand up and perform in front of peers, and they truly impressed us. We will continue to discuss roles and organisation over the coming weeks; no casting decisions have been finalised yet. Thank you for your support in helping the children prepare.

And finally...

Game Changer of the Week:

Greta Thunberg is a Swedish climate activist who began protesting outside her country's parliament at just 15 years old, launching the global movement **Fridays for Future**. Her powerful speeches, including at the United Nations, have challenged world leaders to take urgent action on climate change and inspired millions of young people worldwide to stand up for the future of the planet.

