

Rusper Primary School

Newsletter 13.02.26

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Important Dates:

Date	Year Group	Event
Tuesday 3 rd March	Dance Club Members	Horsham Dance Festival

Forest Schools

A big thank you to Mrs Russell for fabulous Forest Schools sessions this half term with Y5. Despite the rain we have had a fabulous time making dens, using knives, lighting fires, enjoying hot chocolate and making and eating pancakes! The children have embraced every moment!

Thank you too to our amazing parent helpers who have braved the elements to join us, making the sessions even more enjoyable and successful for the children. We really appreciate your support!



Blossom Class – Mrs Green

A massive well done to the Blossoms class. They have had a fantastic term filled with lots of love and laughter.

Highlights of the term: sharing photos of our family pets, the children loved being able to talk about their furry friends. The Handa's Fruit tasting experience, even if we didn't like the avocado. Of course, Jaws and Claws the animal handling and this final week bird watching, celebrating the Luna New year and Pancake day.

Willow Class – Miss Jones

Willow Class have had a fantastic half term exploring our theme Amazing Animals. The children have enjoyed reading a range of fiction and non-fiction texts, learning how to find facts and use features such as headings and labels to create their own animal information leaflets.

In Maths, we focused on fractions, learning that parts must be equal and exploring halves, quarters and thirds using practical resources. In Science, the children learned to identify living, non-living and once-living things, using the correct vocabulary to explain their ideas.

A highlight of the half term was the Jaws and Claws workshop, where the children met animals from around the world, bringing their learning to life and inspiring lots of excitement and discussion.

Willow Class have also worked hard on teamwork, kindness and making positive choices, and we are very proud of their progress. Thank you for your continued support at home.

Well done Willow Class!



Maple Class – Mr Snook

This week, Maple class has been captivated by our new class text, *The Last Garden* by Rachel Ip and Anneli Bray. Through this moving story, the children have been exploring the powerful theme of hope by analysing the contrasting settings of a war-torn city and a hidden, luscious garden. We've had some fantastic discussions comparing the grey, harsh landscapes of the city with the vibrant, blooming life found within the garden walls. It has been wonderful to see the children use such descriptive vocabulary to express how nature can provide a sense of peace even in the most challenging times.

Redwood Class – Mr Rogers

A Huge Thank You

A heartfelt thank you to all the parents and carers who came to see the children's work at our recent exhibition. The support truly meant a lot to the class. Redwood have been incredibly reflective this term, showing great maturity and compassion in their discussions and creative responses. They have thought deeply about how words and art can move people, challenge thinking and inspire change. We are so proud of the care and consideration they have shown throughout this unit.

Looking Ahead – Auditions

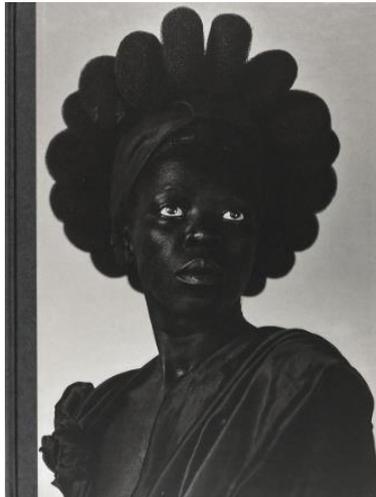
Please look out in your child's bag for their audition information sheet. After half term, we will be hosting auditions for roles in our upcoming production. Although the performance will take place in the late summer term, we are keen to begin the process early so the children feel confident, prepared and excited about bringing the play to life. More details will follow soon!

Game Changer of the Week: Zanele Muholi

This week's Game Changer is **Zanele Muholi**, a South African photographer and visual activist who uses art to stand up for equality and human rights. Through powerful black-and-white portraits, Muholi celebrates and documents the lives of Black LGBTQ+ people, ensuring their stories are seen, respected and remembered.

Muholi describes their work as “visual activism” — using photography not just to create art, but to challenge unfairness and spark important conversations about identity, dignity and representation. Their famous series *Somnyama Ngonyama* (“Hail the Dark Lioness”) uses striking self-portraits to explore themes of race, history and resilience.

Zanele Muholi is a game changer because they show how creativity can be a tool for courage and change. Their work reminds us that everyone deserves to be seen, valued and treated with respect — a message that is just as important in our classrooms as it is around the world.



And finally...

We hope everyone has a lovely half term! We'll see you on Monday 23rd Feb.