



Runnymede St Edward's Catholic Primary School



Inspire



Challenge



Support



Faith

Newsletter Friday 6th March 2026

World Book Day & Mad Hatters Tea Party

World Book Day brought a wonderful buzz of excitement across the school as we celebrated the joy of reading, writing and imagination. In Key Stage 1, the children took part in a fantastic creative project where they designed their own stamps and became real authors by creating their own books based on 'Tell me a dragon' by Jackie Morris. The results were truly remarkable! The children embraced the opportunity with enthusiasm, producing some of the most imaginative and engaging writing we have seen this year. Their artwork was simply delightful.

KS2 enjoyed a treasure hunt of books around the school grounds. They had to use their investigation skills to work out from the clues which characters were hiding in and around the school! The children enjoyed sharing extracts from their favourite books. There were lots of book marks made so the children can enjoy further reading!

It was inspiring to see their ideas come to life on the page. Across the school, from adventurous tales to thoughtful stories, the children demonstrated creativity, confidence and pride in their work. Their beautifully designed stamps added a special finishing touch, making each book feel like a published piece of work. World Book Day reminded us all of the power of stories to spark imagination and develop a lifelong love of reading and writing.

Congratulations to the following children who were chosen for their beautifully designed stamps. We hope you enjoy your prize!

RB: Rua F	RP: George D
1W: Joseph M	1S: Blake K
2W: Mason C	2H: Charlie C
3D: Ava H	3MCK: Remy A
4D: Sienna W	4MCN: Charlotte M-G
5T: Gabrielle Mck	5N: Joseph D-G
6D: Jennifer P	



Thank you to our wonderful catering staff who provided our amazing themed 'Mad Hatter' lunch!

The deserts really were a fantastic treat for everyone!



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This week in preschool, the children have been busy looking for signs of Spring. We went on a walk around the school grounds to spot seedlings and flowers that have started to bloom. The children also made their own flowers, decorated their own flower pots and planted sunflower seeds. In RE, we have been thinking about how we can show love and kindness like Jesus through the things we say and do. To celebrate World Book Day, we had lots of fun reading our favourite stories in some unusual places around school! The children also became authors and illustrators by creating their own books, and together we made a wonderful book on flowers for our library.



This week in Reception has been full of exciting learning! The children worked together to solve toy rescue missions, using their thinking skills to plan, test ideas, and reflect on how they solved problems. We also had a wonderful World Book Day celebration, where some Year 6 pupils visited to share stories with us, which the children absolutely loved. In maths, we explored the number 5, learning how to break it into smaller parts and how to make bigger numbers using "5 and a bit". It has been a fantastic week of teamwork, storytelling, and mathematical discovery!



Year 1 have had a busy and exciting week. We loved celebrating World Book Day and creating our own books inspired by *Tell Me a Dragon*. We also began our new science topic on plants, and everyone planted their own sunflower seeds. We're looking forward to watching them grow over the next few weeks. A wonderful week of creativity, curiosity, and hands-on learning.



This week, Year 2 have been working incredibly hard across their learning. In RE, the children produced beautiful pieces of work focusing on how we can be disciples of Jesus and follow in His footsteps. It has been wonderful to see the children carrying the light of Jesus throughout the school by helping, supporting, and caring for one another. Year 2 would also like to say a huge "THANK YOU" to all of our kind parents and carers for their generosity each week in contributing to our toast sale. The children look forward to it every Tuesday and thoroughly enjoy their early morning snack! Thank you for your continued support, the profits have been used to enhance the children's learning through the purchase of new playground equipment, as requested by our School Council team. They have had a lot of fun this week at playtime.

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Year 3 have been setting themselves personal challenges in PSHE and showing great perseverance, resilience, and determination as they work hard to achieve them.



Year 4 have spent this week reflecting on the theme of gratitude and thinking carefully about all the blessings in our lives. With the welcome sunshine brightening our days, we were inspired to take our prayer and liturgy outdoors, where we could truly appreciate the beauty of God's creation around us. Surrounded by fresh air and the signs of spring beginning to appear, the children took time to offer prayers of thanks and to sing hymns together, praising God for our wonderful world.



For the past 2 weeks, Year 5 have engaged in two fantastic sessions with Coach Billy from LSSP which have focused on Self-Defence. Coach Billy spoke to us about the different steps we can follow to diffuse a situation if we detect there may be a problem. Billy taught us how to be aware of others and the situation and what we can do to help ourselves and stay safe. The children had a go at practising a range of Self-Defence techniques involving loosening somebody's grip, escaping from a situation and detecting a threat from others. The children demonstrated excellent skills and learned a lot from the two sessions.



This week we attended Crucial Crew workshops, where multiple agencies spoke to the children about their safety and how to keep themselves safe and healthy. The children all showcased excellent knowledge and their behaviour and manners were excellent throughout.

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As National Online Safety believes in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

10 Conversation Starters for Parents

Talking about mental health to children is sometimes hard. To the point that we can put off raising the subject, not wanting to unearth problems or raise overwhelming subjects that we perceive our child is too young or not ready for. But rather than keeping children in the dark, this guide is designed to help you confidently talk about mental health, so they feel comfortable talking about their own worries and end any stigma before it begins.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

- 1 LISTEN**
This sounds obvious, but it is not something we are always great at. Active listening is where we listen without interrupting or making judgements and show interest in what is being said. If your child feels listened to in the 'smallest of problems' they will become confident that you will listen when the 'biggest of problems' arise.
- 2 ASK TWICE**
The campaign from time to time is great. It helps families build a support system. Be curious about your child's wellbeing. Children instinctively know when your questions and support come from a place of wanting to help and care.
- 3 THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A STUPID QUESTION**
This advice also relates to the first point. If your child can ask you any questions about the smallest of things and you listen and answer without shaming or belittling, then they will have more confidence to ask the biggest of questions.
- 4 BE OPEN AND HONEST**
Children appreciate honesty, particularly if you are honest to share information or talk about a difficult subject. For example, you may be talking about death or loss. To say 'yes' and that Nana has died or 'I feel sad that Nana has died'. How you talk about a subject will differ depending on their age and developmental maturity. Talking about death to a younger child for example will be different to that of an older teen, as their experience and understanding of death is different.
- 5 KNOW WHEN TO SEEK HELP**
Assess the severity of the mental health difficulty you are noticing. Is the difficulty making it hard for your child to function regularly throughout everyday life? How frequently is your child affected, how long does it last and how persistent is it? Are they having problems controlling the difficulty? Talk to your child about your concerns and that it is likely they will need further support beyond family and friends.
- 6 TALK ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH NATURALLY**
Speak about mental health as part of everyday life, so that talking about our feelings and those of others is normalised. If the usual 'let you go?' is not creating an opportunity for dialogue then say something like 'I know when something like that has happened to me I felt like this... is that how you are feeling or are you feeling something else?'
- 7 EMPATHISE**
'It makes sense that you would feel this way, it is understandable'. Children often worry about things that we as adults might see as trivial or silly. However, for them at their age and stage it is a big concern and they need our kindness and care when they show their vulnerability and share their worries.
- 8 HELP YOUR CHILD FEEL SAFE**
Teens particularly feel that by talking about their worries or concerns that this will make things worse. Reassure your child that you will discuss a plan of action together and what may or may not need to happen next. If they are a younger child, it is likely you will need to lead the conversation and explain next steps.
- 9 MIND YOUR LANGUAGE**
Be mindful of the language you use at home to describe and talk about mental health. Stigma often arises from misconceptions and a choice of language which is harmful. Using the word 'mental', 'mad' or other such words in a derogatory way even if it encourages your child to talk about their mental health for fear of being belittled.
- 10 IT IS OK TO SAY 'I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO NEXT'**
Adults do not have all the answers but often children think they do. It is ok to acknowledge that what your child is experiencing is not something you have come across before or know anything about, but that you will work it out together and seek help together.

Meet our expert
This guide has been written by Anna Batesman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department of Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.

Sources of Information and Support
Your GP
Young Minds: <https://youngminds.org.uk/>
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/>
<https://www.actionlineuk.org.uk/news-and-blogs/poetry-writing-tips-2016-november/>
A simple guide to active listening for parents: <https://www.themind.org.uk/mental-health/>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @nationalonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety
Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 05.02.2020

Parking

As our school community continues to grow, we would like to remind everyone about the importance of safe and considerate parking around the school site. The safety of our pupils, families and local residents is our shared responsibility.

When dropping off or collecting children, please park with care and follow **all** local parking regulations. Remember, you will receive a fine for parking in the close directly opposite Runnymede.

We would encourage only families with the youngest children in school to use the car park opposite school. This will help aid the flow of traffic.

Avoid stopping on zig-zag lines, blocking driveways, or parking on pavements, as this can create hazards for pedestrians—especially young children who may need to cross the road.

We also encourage parents and carers to allow a little extra time during busy periods so that parking can be done calmly and safely. If possible, consider parking a short distance away from the school and walking the final stretch. This helps reduce congestion at the school gates and supports a safer environment for everyone.

Please remember to drive slowly around the school area, remain alert for children crossing the road, and always supervise younger pupils closely when arriving and leaving.

Finally, we ask everyone to be respectful of our neighbours by parking considerately and avoiding unnecessary noise or obstruction.

Arbor

Please ensure your child's Arbor account is up to date and all trips have been paid for.

As a school we cannot afford for accounts to be running in a deficit. Mrs O'Donnell will be making phone calls to parents/carers in due course if your account is in debt.

Many thanks.



School Uniform

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform and P.E kit. Please note at present, leggings **cannot** be worn.

Only Year 6 are allowed to wear plain, non designer/no logo black coats. Children in Reception to Year 5 must wear the approved purple school coat.

Please click [here](#) to view our summer dresses. Please note only the approved summer dresses is to be worn from Reception - Year 6 (Pre School is optional)

Instagram

Please follow us on Instagram



[@runnymedesteds](#)

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1S	Blake K	1W	Oliver F
2H	Evelyn O'B	2W	Jacob M
3D	Rose E	3Mc	Edward T
4D	David B A	4Mc	Scarlett D
5N	Polly Mc	5T	Teddy M
6D	Liam O'C		



1S	Sophia Q	1W	Saoirse A
2H	Fifi B	2W	Blake Mc
3D	Aaron W	3Mc	Sienna B
4D	Michael N	4Mc	Daisy A
5N	Renley H	5T	Tilly D F
6D	Efua E		



1S	Luca P	1W	Polly A
2H	Robyn B	2W	Chloe O
3D	Joseph M	3Mc	Theo P
4D	Seth M	4Mc	Ella H
5N	Sofia C	5T	Kendall S
6D	Kieran G		



1S	Alexander S	1W	Oliver T H
2H	Harry K	2W	Ethan R
3D	Jude A	3Mc	Leia Mc
4D	Matilda B	4Mc	Francis L
5N	Joseph D G	5T	Ava G
6D	Penny A		

Attendance—Our target is 97%

Monday 2nd March - 6th March

is as follows:

97.04%

Every day in school is a step towards success—thank you for helping your child be here, ready to shine!

Reception Stars of the Week



RB Sophia A for always bringing laughter to reception and **Theo M** for showing me his beautiful smile every morning.

RP Grace B for always sitting beautifully and sensibly and **Jack C** for excellent progress in Phonics.



Week commencing 9th March

Monday	Y1, Y3, & Y5 PE Ski Trip - all week
Tuesday	Y2, Y4 & Y6 PE Toast Tuesday
Wednesday	Ukulele with Mr Tallant
Thursday:	REC PE
Friday	No Swimming

Blue for Bobby

REC Mothering Sunday Assembly at 2:30pm

Happy birthday to all children who have had a birthday this week! We hope you had a lovely day!



Dulcie-Luna W, Grace B, Charlie C, Jan W, David B A, Bobby K, Roman Mc, Wallace K, Lucas Mc, Sophie S & Ava G