



Our Tree of Values

Supporting learning at home

Thank you to all parents who were able to come into school yesterday for our Open Morning—we hope that it gave you a new perspective on your children’s experiences during a normal school day. This time, our parent workshops were on the two most significant areas of learning which we ask children to practise at home: reading and learning times tables.

In **times tables**, we looked at the national curriculum expectations: children should learn their 2, 5, 10x tables in Year 2, the 3, 4, 8x tables in Year 3 and all tables facts up to 12x12 in Year 4. Some parents were surprised by this expectation and it does take dedication and practice for children to know all their times tables facts by the end of Year 4. In our workshop we looked at games and techniques for learning times tables at home. Also, we are currently updating our Ryarsh Times Tables Mountain to include a ‘Golden Summit’ test for each year group, with a wider range of maths knowledge covered. Further information and all the resources covered in the workshop are on our school website at www.ryarsh.kent.sch.uk/times-tables .

In **reading**, we looked at the importance of phonics in early reading. By the end of Year 1, children’s phonic knowledge should be secure, leading on to a greater focus on reading comprehension. In our workshop we looked at different strategies and skills to support children’s reading comprehension, for example using the VIPERS acronym, so that reading is an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all of our children. Further information and all the resources covered in the workshop are on our school website at www.ryarsh.kent.sch.uk/reading-resources

At Ryarsh, parental support is an important factor in helping children to progress in their learning —thank you for taking the time to help and support your children at home. It really does make a big difference!

Enjoy your weekend.

Ruth Austin

ruth.austin@ryarsh.kent.sch.uk

Penguin class—our favourite learning

Our topic is The Great Fire of London. We have been learning lots of facts and imagining what the people of London experienced in 1666.

Emily: The fire spread quickly because the houses were close together and they were built out of wood.

Taylor: Six people died.

Lacey: The fire started in Pudding Lane in 1666.

Lola: People climbed out of windows and ran to the River Thames to escape!

Tilly: The fire spread quickly because it had been a long, hot summer.



Diary Dates

Fri 2 Feb
PTFA discos

Tues 6 Feb
Safer Internet Day

Wed 7 Feb
Koala class assembly 9.05

Fri 9 Feb
End of Term 3

Mon 19th Feb
INSET day

Tues 20 Feb
Start of Term 4

Wed 28 Feb
Parents’ Evening

Thurs 1 March
Parents’ Evening

Wed 21 March
Dolphin class assembly
9.05

Tues 27 March
Koala class production

Wed 28 March
Easter service at Ryarsh
Church

Complete dates are at
www.ryarsh.kent.sch.uk

Superstar Corner

Congratulations

Olivia (Y4)
Lexia superstar



Attendance this week

Dolphin	Seahorse	Penguin	Lion	Koala	Leopard	Orang-utan
99.0%	95.3%	96.7%	96.3%	99.0%	97.0%	94.0%

Whole school attendance is currently 97.7%

Learning update

	What have we been learning this week?	What will we be learning next week?	Ask your child
Dolphin	Take a look in our Learning Journals!	Next week we will be finding out about how the Wolf from the Three Little Pigs might be feeling! We are also continuing with adding two numbers together and will be writing and answering number sentences.	What do you enjoy most about Forest School?
Seahorse	In English this week we have learnt and written the opening of the story 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' - we produced some fantastic writing! In Maths we have been practising our addition skills and some of us have used tens and ones to add two 2 digit numbers—tricky stuff!	In English next week we will be changing the ending of the story of The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch! We are going to change the sandwich filling for the Seagulls. In Maths next week we will be moving to subtraction and learning methods to take away.	What is a rain gauge?
Penguin	This week we have been writing the story of the Clocktower and including words with the suffix ful and ly in English. In Maths we have been looking at weight and remembering it's usually measured in g or kg. In our topic lessons we imagined what it might have been like to be in the Great Fire of London (P.T.O.).	Next week we will be writing setting descriptions in English. In Maths we will be starting work on Time (thank you for all the practising you have been doing at home for this). We will be continuing with our fire dance and tag rugby in PE lessons.	What facts can you tell me about the Great Fire of London?
Lion	In Maths we have been looking at capacity, length and mass. I collected lots of different coloured tears and Lion Class have measured them using ml and litres. We also problem solved using different combinations of tears to fill the Tear Thief's sack. In English we have planned our Tear Thief story ready to write next week. In Science we have planted seeds using cotton wool and water, hoping to see some roots very soon!	Next week will be making some yummy biscuits by following instructions and measuring the ingredients carefully and accurately. In English we will write our own story and edit and improve it. We will then be learning about Fables. In Science we will plant seeds in different conditions and see how best seeds grow.	How many cm in 2m? How many ml in 5 litres?
Koala	This week in Maths we have been exploring multiplication, looking at using a short method and exchanging, when multiplying a 2 or 3 digit number by a single digit. In English, we have started to create our own stories for 'The Lost Happy Dreams' and have created some wonderful openings.	Next week in Maths we are going to look at using a written method to solve division problems, including those which give us remainders. In English, we will be continuing to write our stories and developing our skills in description and speech.	How did the Egyptians measure things? What is the difference between a Royal Cubit, a finger and a palm?
Leopard	This week, we have continued to focus on Street Child. We have looked at the features of a script and turned Chapter 4—The Workhouse into our own play script. In maths, we have investigated different units of measurement and the proportions of ourselves compared with Leonardo da Vinci's Vitruvian Man.	Next week, we will continue with Street Child, focusing on life in a workhouse and the descriptive vocabulary used within the story. In maths, we will be exploring mass, volume and capacity.	How can we test the magnetism of an object?
Orang-utan	In English we have been studying The London Eye Mystery and using this as a focus for writing using different formal styles and for exploring different grammar (such as the passive voice and modal verbs). In maths we have been learning about ratio and proportion.	Next week we will be continuing to work on The London Eye Mystery and using this to make predictions on future chapters. In maths we will be working on data and statistics—including finding the mean of a set of data.	What did the following scientists do for us: Louis Pasteur Edward Jenner Alexander Fleming?