

City of Rochester School Newsletter



Spring 2 2022 – Academic Year 2021-2022

Introduction from the Head

On the 24th March, we had a face to face Parents' Evening which was a wonderful occasion. Thank you to all of our parents who came along and for those who couldn't come – we very much hope to see you at our next one – I do know that some parents who could not make it are having a separate visit to school – so please let us know whether you would like to do this. We were very pleased to be able to have the opportunity to talk to you about your child's progress, have a look at their books as well as talk to the staff who work closely with your child. One of our pupil's had curated his own photography exhibition – he is a very talented individual and it was fantastic he was able to showcase his work. Pupils Liam and Macey prepared nibbles for the occasion – sausage rolls, brownies and cheese straws as well as refreshments and Oscar made cups of tea and coffee. In addition, an art exhibition of pupils work from across the school. Our construction workshop displayed some of the fantastic work pupils have undertaken. Parents had an opportunity to purchase planters and other items that their children had made – some were gifts for Mothers' Day.

Our community police officer was on hand to talk to parents about safety in the community; our Careers Advisor Christine spoke to many parents about planning for post 16; our fantastic therapy team were available and spoke to many of you about interventions and how best to support your child at home as well as briefing you on the work they do with your child in school.



Key Dates

Easter Break:

01/04/22-
18/04/22

Term 5:

19/04/22-
27/05/22

Half Term:

30/05/22-
03/06/22

Term 6:

06/06/22-
15/07/22

Summer Break:

18/07/22-

Term 1:

05/09/22-
21/10/22

Bank Holidays:

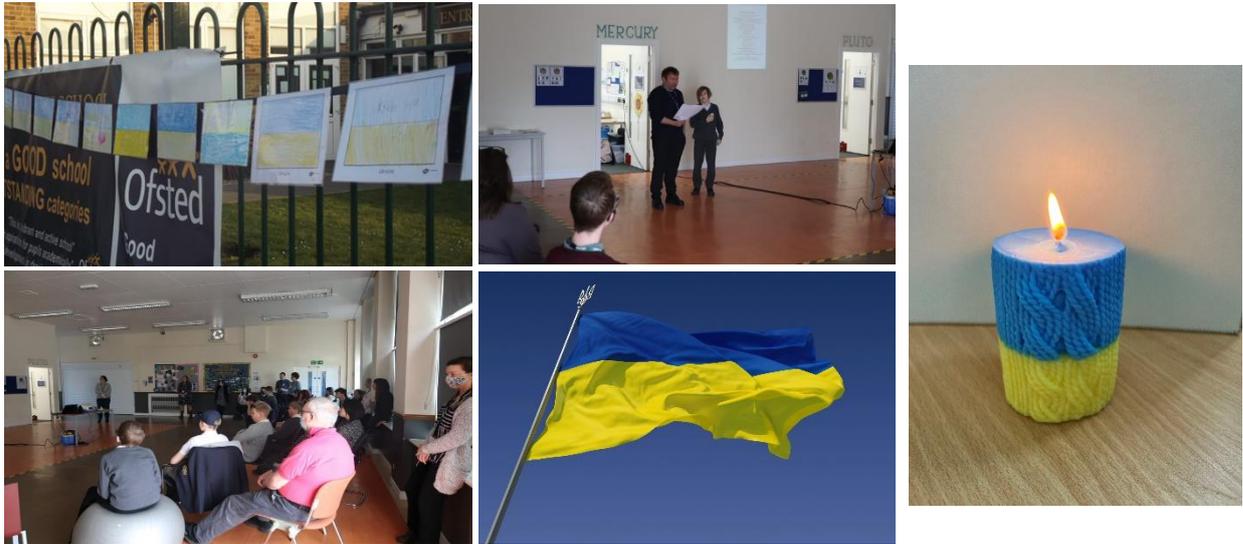
15/04/22
18/04/22
02/05/22
02/06/22
03/06/22
29/08/22

Reports Sent

Home:

08/07/22

As we approach the Easter break our thoughts are with the people from Ukraine. We held a Ukraine day in school where we discussed the invasion, pupils wrote messages of kindness and hope, we held an assembly in school to recognise what is happening and some of our pupils' read poems. I would also like to thank our parents and whole school community for their very kind donations. All our packages are being shipped off very soon and we all hope that this situation will be resolved very soon.



We wish you all a peaceful and restful Easter break and we hope you are able to spend it with your loved ones. We look forward to welcoming pupils back to school on Tuesday 19th April 2022.

Alicja Emmett – Headteacher

Curriculum News:

Experiential: In the lower school, the theme for Experiential this term was wide ranging, but included The Romans, rocks, minerals, living things and fossils. Pupils had a number of trips to Maidstone Museum and took part in workshops and interactive activities. The theme for next term will be music and pupils will be taking part in African Drumming Workshops.



We held our first overnight expedition in conjunction with Challenger Troop and two of our older pupils together with staff camped out at their site in Sittingbourne. Activities were planned for the evening and early the following morning and this included: A treasure hunt (for food), team challenges – laser tag, a camp stalk and capturing the flag. The following morning everyone took part in a triathlon. Pupil behaviour was exemplary and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Staff members Kaylee and Gary attended as well and I am not sure who was more excited to attend!



Equality and Diversity Calendar:

World Book Day: Pupils dressed up as their favourite book characters or brought in an item from home that was relevant and took part in an activity carasol afternoon.



Careers Week: We had a number of employers come along for a morning session to talk to pupils from across the whole school about careers. Our visitors included:

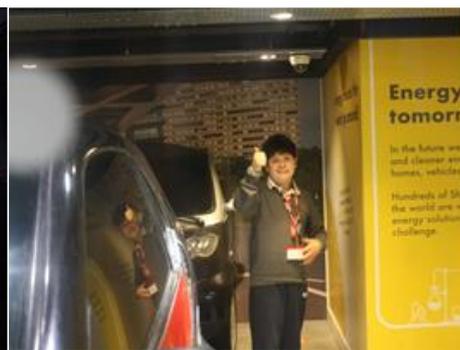
- NHS
- Cats Protection League
- Police
- National Grid
- Medway STEM Group

nationalgrid



The lower school and middle school visited Kidzania to **see and experience** “careers in action”. Pupils were fantastic and were thoroughly involved. Pupils in the upper school visited Blue Water and had a session in the Learning Centre where they took part in CV writing and a quiz.

We also have a pupil who is out on work experience at Cliffe Woods Primary School. He is enjoying his time there supporting year 5 pupils.



Science Week: Pupils from across the school took part in experiments and games and we involved pupils from Blue Skies by setting them experiment challenges.



News from our Placements:

Squirrells Riding School had a visit from the British Horse Society to see how our pupils were engaging in their Changing Lives Programme. Pupils were interviewed by representatives from the British Horse Society and told them how working at Squirrells with the horses had impacted their lives in a positive way. Well done to all our pupils who represented the School in such a positive way.

Squirrells
Riding School
Changing
Lives
through horses

The
British
Horse
Society

Exams: Pupils continue to sit public exams and well done to them for all for how they have approached this. Results to follow in the next term. We are preparing our older pupils for their GCSEs which are coming up in the summer term and I am sure we all wish them good luck. Easter revision sessions are in place for some pupils too.

Parent Survey Results March 2022

Attached to this newsletter you will receive the results of our Parent Survey. The results of the survey help us put together our strategic plans and ensure we listen to our parents.

We value your feedback.

School Council & Fundraising

School Council continues to take place and so far our pupils, parents & staff have raised over £600.00!

