



## Weekly Newsletter # 18 – 26 January 2024

### Public Health MMR Message for Parents

The UK Health Security declared a national health incident over the weekend due to rising cases of measles, including in London.

Measles spreads very easily among those who are unvaccinated, especially in nurseries and schools, and is a nasty illness and in some children can be very serious and lead to hospitalisation – and in rare cases tragically can cause death.

People in certain at-risk groups including babies and young children, pregnant women, and people with weakened immunity, are at increased risk of complications if they catch measles.

[Information on the symptoms of measles and what to do if you or your child has them is available from the NHS.](#)

The measles rash can sometimes look different on darker skin – an example is available [here](#). There is no specific cure for measles, but the MMR vaccine is very effective at preventing you from getting it.

Measles was eliminated in the UK in 2017, due to the success of the MMR vaccination programme, but falling vaccination uptake since then has meant that it has come back. [MMR vaccination](#) is very effective at preventing measles, and is extremely safe. It is given in two doses, one at 12 months, and one at 18 months. A version of the MMR vaccine that does not contain pork gelatine is available on request from all GPs.

**If you or your child have not had all your MMR vaccines, please contact your GP today to book an appointment.**

**i**mmunisation  
the safest way to protect your child

For more information contact your local GP surgery or visit: [www.nhs.uk/mmr](http://www.nhs.uk/mmr)



**John Ruskin Primary School and Language Classes**  
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**Headteacher: Miss C Tayton**



## Curriculum in Action - Science



Year 4 are currently doing the Animals Including Humans topic and are learning about the digestive system. So far, pupils have learnt about the different teeth humans have and their functions. If you see a year 4 pupil, why not quiz them on which teeth tear food and which do the grinding!



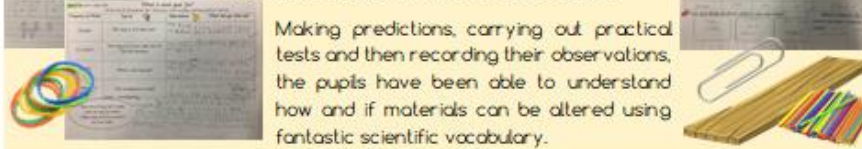
This week they had great fun demonstrating the process of digestion using a model. In science, a model is used to represent an idea or process which is difficult to observe directly. It was messy and a bit gross but everyone enjoyed themselves and, most importantly, learned what each part of the digestive system does to the food we eat.



Last term, Year 6 were learning to classify living things. Pupils went on a tree hunt and analysed different features of the trees they discovered. They also compared their similarities and differences then used an identification chart to name the trees they had found. Science is all around and learning can take place in and out the classroom!



Year 2 pupils have been working hard learning about, investigating and reporting on the properties of different materials in science.



Making predictions, carrying out practical tests and then recording their observations, the pupils have been able to understand how and if materials can be altered using fantastic scientific vocabulary.





## Job Vacancy – 1 to 1 Teaching Assistants



Vacancies for **1 to 1 Teaching Assistants** have arisen to join our highly successful team at John Ruskin Primary School.

This contract is **Fixed Term**, providing support for a specific child(ren).

Applicants do not need prior experience but must be:

- Caring
- Enthusiastic
- Hardworking
- A team player
- Enjoy working with children

This vacancy must be applied for via the TES - [www.tes.com/jobs/](http://www.tes.com/jobs/) - using the Southwark Council application form. Agency applications and CVs are not accepted.

## Your Child's Birthday

Pre-cut birthday cakes may be sent into school for the class on your child's birthday.

Please ensure cakes are completely nut-free as some children are allergic to these ingredients. Birthday cakes must be pre-cut, as this is very time consuming if done in class. **Please do not send in party bags as we do not distribute these in class.**



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## Chinese New Year Lunch

The schools' caterer is providing a special lunch for Chinese New Year.

If your child normally has a packed lunch but would like a school dinner on this day, please complete the form via the link by 31 January - <https://forms.office.com/e/2rjSsGgwBW>



**Celebrate**  
**Chinese**  
**New Year**

**Thursday 8th February 2024**

Szechuan Chicken  
Pan Fried Fish  
Oriental Noodles with Sweet Chilli  
Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings

Fried Rice  
Braised Carrots with Sweetcorn  
Salad Selection

Chocolate Flavoured Ice Cream  
Seasonal Fresh Fruit

**HARRISON**  
food with thought



# John Ruskin Primary School & Language Classes

## We are an Ofsted Outstanding School

Outstanding results in all Key Stages Nursery  
to Year 6

[www.johnruskin.southwark.sch.uk](http://www.johnruskin.southwark.sch.uk)

**Ofsted**  
Outstanding  
Provider



## Free Parent Group for Local Families

Parent and Communities Together(PACT) is a well-established organisation, operating in three locations in Southwark; there is no booking required, parents may come whenever they want.

A 'Parent University' and prenatal and antenatal course for parents to learn, share and gain practical and professional advice as well as support from other expectant parents is also available and interested parents can contact the number on the flyer for further information and registration.

**PARENT UNIVERSITY**  
A free course for pregnant women  
and new parents

Parent University is  
a place to meet new  
mums, share  
experiences and  
make new friends.  
Fatimah

Join us Mondays 1-2.30PM throughout the year (term time)  
Find us at Camberwell Salvation Army, 107 Lomond Grove,  
Camberwell SE5 7HG

Sessions are delivered by PACT staff, in  
partnership with local health professionals.  
We run **antenatal** (3 sessions) and  
**postnatal** (7 sessions) courses.

*“Parent University has helped me prepare for  
my baby, and gain knowledge about how to  
care for my baby and myself.”*

To find out more about the sessions, start dates or sign up,  
contact Mena Amnour:  
[mena.amnour@citizensuk.org](mailto:mena.amnour@citizensuk.org) or call/message 07534 727316



JOHN RUSKIN  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## Information for week commencing 29 January 2024

Monday 22 January

2.00 **Burgundy swimming**

Tuesday 23 January

10.00-10.30 **Turquoise Class swimming**

10.30-11.00 **Scarlet Class swimming**

Wednesday 24 January

All day **The Nest workshops for Years 1-3**

Thursday 25 January

All day **Fire Safety workshops for Years 2 & 5**

Friday 26 January

2.00 **Vermilion swimming**

## Forthcoming Dates

Tuesday 20 February 2024

**Reception and Year 6 Height & Weight Measurements**

Monday 18 to Friday 22 March 2024

**Year 5 School Journey to Kingswood**

Thursday 6 June

**Year 2 trip to Florence Nightingale Museum**



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