

“Together”

The John Rankin Schools' Newsletter

www.jrs.w-berks.sch.uk

Inspired to learn—challenged to achieve



From the leadership Team ...

Firstly I would like to share with you how proud I am of our children and the way they conducted themselves during our junior Ofsted. They were polite, helpful and respectful of each other and of adults around them.

Their engagement in learning was evident throughout the day and we were amazed at how articulate and precise they were when they were talking about their learning to the inspector. I would also like to thank you, as part of the John Rankin family for your continued support as without that we wouldn't have come so far. The report is evident in how far we have come—thank you!

As well as Ofsted, we have had other busy and exciting times! Thank you to Mr Swan for organising our Quad Kids and the girls football tournament. He has further plans for more of the same in our final term - watch this space! We are also preparing for Sports Day which will take place on 28th June from 9am (weather permitting!)

Have a good rest and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 3rd of June where the children will be participating in a fun week of science based activities.

Mr Rayner — Executive Head

Reminders ...

Just a reminder to parents and carers, that as part of our safeguarding policy we ask that children enter the school building in the morning independently where members of staff are there to supervise them. This is an extremely busy time of day where staff are responsible for looking after the children as they enter the building. There is very little room in the cloakrooms and as you can imagine having some unauthorised adults amongst the children at this time is a safeguarding issue.

In addition to this, whilst we understand that some children can become anxious at separation from their carer, prolonging this can also exacerbate this anxiety. Staff are happy to speak with parents and carers at arranged times to discuss strategies to support this.

If you wish to speak to a member of staff urgently, who is inside the building, please notify the office staff or if not urgent, after school would be more convenient.

Please would you make sure that your children, and their younger siblings, are supervised at all times before and after school in the playgrounds.

Please can we ask parents and carers to remind children to stick to the walkways when arriving and leaving school as it can be very dangerous to walk through the staff carpark. This has also been addressed in assembly so the children can understand the dangers more clearly—thank you for understanding.

The next coffee shop will be in the Community Room at JRJ Thursday 11th July 2019 from 8.45am (drop off) to 9.45am. As usual, this is open to all parents, carers and young children.

Sporting news ...

Thatcham and Newbury Town Ladies and Girls Football Tournament ...

On Thursday 16th May, John Rankin took 49 aspirational female footballers to Newbury Rugby Club to participate in an annual event kindly arranged by the aforementioned Thatcham and Newbury Football club. The 49 girls were split via their age group and 7 teams were prepared to battle their way towards victory.

There were two teams from year 1/2, two teams from year 3/4 and a staggering three teams from our year 5/6 cohort. Each team also had the pleasure of being managed by our very own JRS staff members - not forgetting the two young male year 6 co-coaches (Aidan S and George B).

The tournament was a huge success and all of the girls performed with determination and pride.

Our most successful team was the Year 3/4 B team who navigated their way to the semi-final, losing out to the eventual winners of the event.

All of the girls who took part would like to thank Mr Swan and all of the adults who made this event possible and we all hope that next year we can take even more girls!!

#GIRLPOWER #JRSGIRLSFOOTBALL

By Daisy H, Fleur C
and Mr Swan



Quadkids Event 2019 ...

On Saturday 11th May, John Rankin took part in the annual Quadkids event that is held at Park House School. Twenty children arrived full of excitement and just a little bit of nerves.

We set about defending our impressive legacy in year 5/6 of finishing in the top 3 from 2 years in a row. The children in both year groups certainly did not disappoint...



Our year 3/4 team worked their way through wave after wave of rival schools to finish in a remarkable 3rd place!

They overcame injuries, weaknesses and lots of very challenging activities to finish sensationally only losing out to Falkland and Hungerford.

Not to be outdone by their younger teammates, the year 5/6 team knew that if they performed well, they stood a great chance of making the top 3 also. Consistency was undoubtedly the key and following on from the success of year 3/4, the 5/6 athletes managed to edge past Spurcroft and finish in an astounding 2nd place! Falkland did win the event, but they must have been feeling slightly nervous, as up until the last 15 minutes or so, John Rankin were neck and neck with them.

We had even more individual success this year as three of our children finished in the top three for their ages and genders.

Congratulations goes to Decaon C (year 3/4) and Anna D (year 5/6) for finishing in 3rd place and James F (year 5/6) for going one better and finishing 2nd!

The year 5/6 team have therefore qualified for the Quadkids County Finals to be held at Bisham Abbey on the 28th June.

Year 5 and 6 ...

At the beginning of the Summer Term, Year 5 were lucky enough to have a planetarium visit at school extending on from our learning on astronaut day. Each class was transported to space, learning exciting new facts about the ISS, planets and what it's like to be an astronaut. Sophie said: 'The planetarium taught us all about what can't be seen in space with the naked eye. We learnt the different constellations and that these changed over time. We also learnt about what life would be like on other planets and if they could support life. It was great and I can't wait to learn more!' Everyone had their eyes opened further to the wonders of space. Amelie went on to say: 'It was so realistic, so much was learned and it is a great experience for all! The current Year 4's will love it next year as you learn so many things you don't already know!'

We are so proud of the resilience that the Year 6 children have shown during their SATs, now on to rehearsals for a show stopping performance in July.

Key Dates 2019

Below is a list of the key dates for 2019.

Please be aware that it does not contain assemblies or school trips. You will be advised of these dates by email.

May 2019

24th May—INSET DAY

27th—31st May—Half Term

June 2019

3rd June—Start of Summer 2 term

3rd—7th June—Science Week

28th June—JRS Sports Day

6th, 13th, 20th & 27th June—Incredible Years Programme

July 2019

8th, 10th, 12th July—Year 6 Play

12th July—Den Day

22nd July—Y2 Branching out Assembly

23rd July—Y2 Branching out Assembly

24th July—JRJ Y6 Leavers Assembly

24th July—Family Picnic and end of Summer 2 Term
