

KS3 Rutlish Weekly



Message from Ms Botha-Smith, Associate Headteacher KS3

The beauty and enjoyment of nature

As the lock down restrictions have eased over the last few weeks and we can enjoy spending time more regularly and freely outdoors with friends and family, we thought it appropriate to focus this week on **the beauty and enjoyment of nature**. I love going to a park, especially on a beautiful, hot Summer's day. Being a Wimbledon resident I greatly appreciate the variety of choice when it comes to choosing a park to enjoy time in the sunshine (or whatever the weather!). We have so many beautiful parks on our doorstep: Wimbledon Common, Cannizaro Park, Wimbledon Park, South Park Gardens, Dundonald Park, Mostyn Gardens, Morden Hall Park and our own local park, John Innes. I have lasting memories of these wonderful parks, ranging from my daughter learning to cycle in John Innes Park and my son in Dundonald Park.

Two of my other favourite places to visit outside of Wimbledon are Painshill Park and Wisley. As a member of the RHS, we spend hours and hours and hours at Wisley, enjoying the lovely, colourful flowers, fresh air and long walks. What a joy to smell the trees and hear the birds! A time to relax, reflect and recuperate!

During lock down we found immense joy in going for long walks and since the measures have eased, it has been pure bliss to meet others (in small groups and still observing social distancing) outside. This week the weather promises to be particularly pleasant and what a great way to enjoy time with friends, having a picnic whilst catching up properly.

Wherever you live, which ever parks you are fortunate enough to have near you, **ENJOY the beauty of nature!**



Year 7

I am writing this on such a beautiful sunny morning at 7:05am after a walk in my local park. You may think that there would be hardly anyone else around at this time but with the temperature being 16 degrees it almost feels like it is 3pm as there are so many people utilising the free space that parks provide. It is a remarkable sight – people walking, cycling, jogging and sitting under trees reading! Being outside has so many benefits to our wellbeing; even in the rain. I live under one of the flight paths of Heathrow and the many birds before lockdown I would have seen in the sky are made of steel! However, one of the many benefits this lockdown situation has brought has been the earth appears to be healing itself and be able to breathe again. It has been great to see the pictures of how animals have begun reclaiming the empty streets; nitrogen dioxide pollution levels have plummeted; at its most simplest our sky is bluer and air is cleaner.

I now awaken at 4:45am to the morning birdsong, which is delightful. One of my favourite birds is the parakeet and I am blessed to see and hear many locally. During this time, I have seen so many different birds visiting gardens and trees. Our local village Facebook page reports that buzzards, red kites and kestrels have been seen on a daily basis so it must be true! We are still on the lookout for these amazing creatures.

As I reflect on these last few months, it has been such a learning curve in so many ways – one being that I will really appreciate the outdoor beauty we have; I am even more grateful for my local environment and often joke with Mrs Botha-Smith that 'West is best!' Here in West London we have Royal Parks (Bushy, Richmond); Kew Gardens, local parks – the riversides of Twickenham, Teddington, Richmond and Putney. I am embracing National Picnic week and I am looking forward to meeting friends at Kew Gardens for a picnic (Sat) and seeing my four-year-old niece on Sunday for a BBQ. (Of course socially distanced). I have also changed some of my intentions for family breaks in the next few months – instead of the hotel visits we had planned, we have been looking to book some camping and even 'glamping' experiences.

During this time it is especially important to have a break from screens and home learning – in the morning and / afternoon – get yourselves outdoors and look around. How about also embracing National Picnic Week with your families? Take the lead make some sandwiches, have some squash, grab a blanket and spend an hour or so outdoors – it'll do you good!

Your tutors, Mr Ross and I are starting to make phone calls to speak to you and it has been great to touch base with you personally so far; sometimes when your parents get a private number/ number withheld it may be one of us instead of cold callers! Thank you to those who are continuing to connect with us through Fronter rooms too- it is so important. Keep trying your best in your home learning; keep being kind and keep smiling!

Keep smiling and safe, Mrs Edwards & Mr Ross

Modeste, Strenue, Sancte

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Year 8

This week we think about the beauty of nature. Where do you like to visit? Although we still need to be careful, we can begin to explore nature and places a little more now. I have favourite places to visit, I love the sea and took a drive down to see the it last weekend. Some places you may know which show nature at its best that I love to explore: Box Hill, Reigate Hill which overlooks the South Downs to Brighton, our wonderful South Coastline, The Seven Sisters, National trust places in Surrey and the Southbank in London, the beauty of nature seen in a different way.



When lockdown began I am sure we all found it a challenge to only be allowed out once a day for exercise, we had such nice weather and it was hard staying indoors. I am lucky enough to have a garden and it was such a delight watching the flowers and plants grow, seeing the bees and watching the birds flying over. How many of you actually heard the birds through lockdown? Maybe it was the lack of air traffic but it was so lovely. I even planted some veg and watched that grow (and then get eaten by slugs!)

When lockdown eased slightly Mr Embling and I went for a run around Morden Hall Park and the next week I went with Ms Tiberti. We've missed our weekly 'Rutlish Runners' and it was good to get out, catch up and see the beauty in the park.

One of my favourite things of lockdown has been finding new walks where I live. They've been so quiet, peaceful, lovely. I live in the countryside and surrounded by cows, horses, sheep, even some lamas! One of my walks takes me through a forest and onto a country path where through lockdown I've seen baby lambs born and even two foals. The most active foal I've named 'Sam' and it's magical to see him dance around the field on his skinny legs, he's only about the size of a large dog!

The beauty of nature. I've seen the forest change since March, grow bluebells and it's now full of leaves, full of green. My local pond had a swan family introduced a few weeks ago with 3 signets. On the lake nearby we've seen so many baby birds and watched them grow, most of them now ready to fly.

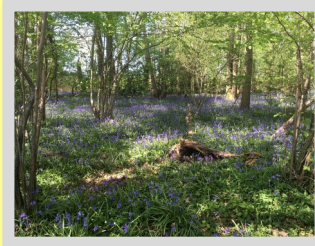
I've often written this newsletter in my head on my walks. But one thing I've really noticed is our school. The field is so green, healthier, better. The seagulls have disappeared as you aren't there eating! You can hear the birds, see the bees on the John Innes Path, the blossom came out shortly after school closed and it was amazing. We've had a few more trees planted. When you return, make sure you don't take the area for granted.

I know this edition sounds a bit different but I love nature and it's been such a pleasure to share lockdown surrounded by the beauty of it. What have you seen that you've enjoyed? I wonder where you and your families have walked?

Notice nature this week. Talk about nature this week.

Stay safe and keep working hard.

Ms Pearce



Year 9

Good Morning Year 9

This week I would like to mention the importance of simply going outside. One of the things that has remained consistent throughout lockdown is the ability to go outside and exercise. Now we are fortunate enough to be able to spend the whole day outside! Make the most of this opportunity, particularly with the good weather and summer around. Speaking to some parents, I have heard that you have been meeting up in the nearby outdoor spaces to socialise, play sports or do other types of activity. That is great! This week I would like everybody to reach out to somebody that they haven't seen, can be friend or family and try to meet up with them in an outdoor space, socially distanced of course. To give my own example, my friend and I, on Saturday morning, went for a long cycle around Regent's Park and managed to stop and see the giraffes and lions from just outside of London Zoo. It was great fun and something that would never have happened had I decided to stay at home and play Playstation or watch Netflix. I'm sure we've all done enough of that!

Have a lovely, warm and sunny week and get outside!



Modeste, Strenue, Sancte

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Quote of the week

"Look deep into nature and then you will understand everything better."

Albert Einstein

G&T (open to all!)

This week will focus on Geography and boundaries. Did you know that Africa is the only continent to exist in all four hemispheres (north, south, east and west) and to have land on the equator and the prime meridian (the line from the North Pole to the South Pole)? While the equator is defined by the way the earth rotates, the prime meridian had to be decided on by scientists, politicians and geographers from all over the world. Before this town and cities, often within the same country, would sometimes have wildly different measurements of what the time actually was! In fact, if you look in to the history of the Greenwich Meridian, it can get controversial as there are disagreements over why it is there, whether it is actually correct, and what that means for other countries – have a look in your riddles and teasers for more. These questions are interesting as they lead to some fascinating facts. Russia spans 11 time zones, meaning at one end of Russia it could be 7 in the morning and at the other it's 6 in the evening. France actually uses more time zones – 12 – than Russia or anywhere else in the world, due to its overseas territories. Finally, two islands 2.4 miles apart physically are actually 20 hours apart in time due to the way the world's time zones have been divided: the Diomedes islands between Russia and the United States.

Here are your riddles and teasers for this week:

1. What are the three enclave countries (countries that are completely landlocked by one single other country)?
2. How can you walk from Tomorrow to Yesterday (hint – look at the last part of the explanation above!)
3. How many time zones does China have?

Answers to last week

Which art museum houses the famous Mona Lisa painting? *The Louvre, Paris*
This ancient invention allows people to see through walls. What is it? *A window*
What are the seven colours that white light can be split in to? *Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, Violet*

Music Department

Some students have been making musical instruments using recycled materials. Here is a guitar made by Jamie Howson in 7V.

Well done!

Ms Pearce



Shop online and raise money for school: Easyfundraising

Every time you shop online (1,000 of online retailers including Amazon, John Lewis, Sports Direct) the school gets some money - go to easyfundraising.org.uk and choose Rutlish School as the cause you want to support.

MFL Weekly Challenge

MFL challenge for the week this week is an exciting cultural project!

Research a festival and how it is celebrated in France, Germany or Spain and how it's different to the UK: Easter, Christmas, Mardi Gras, Pancake day, music festivals?

Ms Minier



Designing an Instrument

First, I traced my own guitar onto Polystyrene to get the right shape. I had to cut it out in pieces. I cut out 3 pieces to give it depth. I cut a slot for the neck to fit inside so that it would be secure. Then I glued them together and sanded the edges so that they would be smooth. After that, I covered it in paper mache so that I could paint on it. Then I painted the back and neck. I used 3 different shades of blue to get a blended effect. I tried to give the neck a wooden effect. Lastly, I drew some interesting designs on the front and painted it in bright colours. I added strings and tuning pegs at the end.

Steven Nunes 7T



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Sea Creatures made from recycled materials



Modeste, Strenue, Sancte