



Rowner Junior School

Newsletter 3 - November 2023

PE days	
YEAR GROUP TEACHING STAFF	YEAR GROUP PE DAYS
Year 3 - Miss Dymond and Miss Finn Additional teaching support from Mr Hill and Mrs Freeland on Monday, Tuesday and Friday morning.	Monday and Wednesday
Year 4 - Mrs Thomson and Miss Winzar	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 5 - Miss Daly and Miss Harding	Wednesday and Friday
Year 6 - Miss Pollit and Mrs Walton Additional teaching support from Mrs Lovisetto and Mr Reed Monday - Friday	Tuesday and Thursday
DATES FOR November: The dates below are for your diary and are also included on the electronic calendar; occasionally they are subject to change	
Wednesday 1st November	Halloween Disco 5-6.30pm
Monday 6th November	Caroline Dineage in school - workshop and assembly
Thursday 9th November	1. Be Bright and Be Seen (<i>Change of date</i>) 2. Y6 Bikeability
Friday 10th November	1. Rowner Remembers (<i>please see below</i>) 2. Y6 Bikeability
Tuesday 14th November	Author visit- Chris Bradford
Wednesday 15th November	Y6 Bikeability
Friday 17th November	Y4 visit to Fishbourne Roman Palace
Wednesday 22nd November	Autism Hampshire meeting 1.30 - 14.45
Friday 24th November	Year 3 to Butser Ancient Farm
Wednesday 29th November	The Wizard of Oz on Ice - whole school to attend
Upcoming dates for December (Please note dates will be added to this list in the next newsletter)	
Friday 1st December	Y5 Portsmouth Dockyard Trip
Monday 4th December - Thursday 14th December	Christmas Post Box

Monday 4th December	Sycamore, Redwood and Hazel online progress meetings
Tuesday 5th December	Chestnut and Poplar online progress meetings
Wednesday 6th December	Maple online progress meetings
Thursday 7th December	Willow and Rowan online progress meetings Christmas Jumper day
Monday 11th December - Friday 15th December	Christmas week begins (see events below) - Raffle tickets can be purchased
Tuesday 12th December	Y4 Christingle
Thursday 14th December	Christmas lunch
Friday 15th December	3. Online Christmas Raffle - children 4. Christmas-sing-along 13.15 5. End of term - 14.00

ATTENDANCE AND KEY DATES FOR PARENTS (UPCOMING ASSESSMENTS IN KS2)

Regular school attendance is an important part of giving your child the best possible start in life. It is important that both school and home, work together on this. Whilst it might seem some time off, we wanted to share key dates with parents for Year 4 and 6 parents. We strongly advise against any absences in the build up and during these periods of time.

What: Multiplication Tables Check.

Who: Year 4:

When: Monday 3rd June - Friday 14th June 2024

What: Key Stage 2 SATS

Who: Year 6

When: Monday 13th May - Thursday 16th May.

More information will be shared with parents/carers ahead of these assessments.

Author visit

On Tuesday 14th November, Rowner Junior School will be visited by Chris Bradford, multi-million copy selling author of the Young Samurai, Bodyguard and Soul series. Year 3 & 4 and then Y5 & 6 will have the opportunity to meet Chris and hear some of his amazing stories, as well as to purchase some of his books. A letter will be shared with you all shortly on how books can be purchased ahead of the visit. If your child wanted to find out a bit more about Chris, they can follow [this link](#)

Christmas

Whilst we still have a month or so to go, Christmas preparations are well under way at RJS for the Festive season. We will be sending out a letter shortly with more of an overview of the events, but please see a summary of the offer below:

Wednesday 29th November	The Wizard of Oz on ice
Monday 4th December	Children are invited to wear non-school uniform in exchange for a donation towards our Children's Raffle
Thursday 7th December	Christmas Book Flood Children are invited to wear their Christmas Jumper on this day in return for a contribution for the book flood.
Monday 4th December - Thursday 14th December.	Christmas Post Box on playground

Monday 11th December - Friday 15th December	<p style="text-align: center;">Christmas Week</p> <p>During this week, your child be able to take part in the following activities:</p> <p><i>Class Movie</i> <i>Year group Party</i> <i>Opportunity to purchase gifts at our Christmas shop (maximum £5)</i> <i>Christmas raffle</i> <i>Christmas lunch</i></p>
Thursday 14th December	<p style="text-align: center;">Christmas Lunch</p> <p>Forms to book this will be shared with you shortly.</p>
Friday 15th December	<p style="text-align: center;">Christmas Sing-a-long</p> <p>Parents are invited to join our school community for a Festive sing-a-long on the last day of term. This will be from 13.15. School finishes at 2pm on this day.</p>

Covid-19

In recent weeks we have seen an increase in questions regarding what to do if they suspect their child has covid-19. This is the current government guidance to schools:

- It is [not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19](#) unless directed to by a health professional.
- If your child has mild symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, and feels well enough, they can go to school. However, if they have the following:
 - have a high temperature
 - do not feel well enough to go to school or do their normal activities

Then try to keep them at home until they feel better. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

- If members of the child's family have covid, children can still attend school.

Healthy and nut free foods.

HEALTHY SNACKS are encouraged at morning break. These need to be separate from lunch boxes. Please ensure snacks are nut free and of a healthy/low fat nature e.g. cereal bars, rice cakes, rice crackers, cheese box, vegetable sticks and fruit. Crisps and chocolate covered biscuits should be reserved for lunchtime.

Please remember we are a **NUT FREE** school. Foods such as peanut butter, nutella, peanuts/other nuts should not be brought into school as we do have members of our community that have nut allergies.

If snacks say 'May contain nuts' then children are welcome to bring these snacks into school. If it specifically says, 'May contain peanuts' then these are **not to be brought** into school. If it is discovered that your child has food that contains nuts, we will offer them something else to eat and return the food item home.

Local Governing Committees

The Gosport and Fareham Multi-Academy Trust (GFM) is seeking further volunteers to become members of the Rowner Junior Local Governing Body Committee to support and challenge school leaders as they implement the School Improvement Strategy. Governors are involved in conducting school visits and attending scrutiny meetings throughout the academic year. Local Governing Body Committees are significant in supporting the GFM's aim for every young person to receive the best possible educational experience. Members of Local Governing Body Committees will receive training, conduct school visits, speak to staff, students and parents, and successfully support the GFM to improve our schools for the whole community. We are looking for further volunteers within our community to become members to help school leaders to overcome challenges and provide solutions for academic success. We are particularly interested in applicants from diverse backgrounds. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact our Executive Headteacher, Mrs Georgina Mulhall: enquiries@rowner.gfmat.org

Newsround

Newsround is a BBC children's news programme, which has run continuously since 4 April 1972. It was one of the world's first television news magazines aimed specifically at children. At RJS, we have been using Newsround as a learning tool for around five years as it is a way for children to learn about news in their locality and around the world in a way that is presented appropriately for them. We have found this a useful way for children to raise and discuss current affairs in an age appropriate way.

Parliament Week

All schools are required by law to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. As part of this, RJS will be taking part in UK Parliament Week (UKPW), on 6th-12th November 2023. This is an annual event that teaches children about what Parliament is, what it does and how they can get involved. The children's PDL learning in this week will have a focus on this as well as being given the opportunity to work with our local MP - Caroline Dineage - in assembly on Monday 6th November. Year 5 will have an additional workshop with Caroline Dineage on this day.

Personal belongings

We would appreciate it if parents could support school by ensuring any personal belongings such as teddies, fidget toys etc are kept at home. We know how much these can mean to children and to ensure that they are safe, home is the best place for them to stay. We provide all children with the resources that they need to be able to access their learning, and so children only need to bring:

- Snack (if required for breaktime)
- Lunch (if they are not having a school lunch)
- Appropriate outerwear (coats, hats, gloves - as we head into winter)
- 1 water bottle

Please remember, in regards to snacks and lunches that we are a NUT FREE SCHOOL.

Remembrance

If children would like to purchase a poppy or poppy merchandise, please do send them to school with money. The suggested donation list will be placed on our website, once we have received it and we'll make the merchandise available to the children. All proceeds will support the Royal British Legion. We hope that children across the school will wear a poppy and in particular on **Friday 10 November** for our whole school period of silence outside. Children are welcome to wear the uniform of any military cadets, brownies, scouts etc that day. Our Service Families have received additional communication about this gathering which we are keen to involve them with.

Stand up to Cancer

Stand Up To Cancer is a fundraising campaign from Cancer Research UK and Channel 4, that brings the UK together to speed up progress in life-saving cancer research. Each year, stories are shared from the public on how cancer has affected their lives.

Elizabeth Rooney was keen to share her story with the public to help raise vital funds for the Stand Up to Cancer fundraising campaign. Her family wanted to share with our community that her story will be shared on *Channel 4 at 19.55 on Wednesday 1st November*.

To find out more information, you can visit the Stand up to Cancer UK website via this link: <https://www.standuptocancer.org.uk/>

The Wizard of Oz on Ice

The Wizard of Oz on ice is being performed at our local ice-skating rink on Wednesday 29 November - we thought this would be a wonderful alternative to a pantomime. With thanks to Huhtamaki for the £1000 prize money and help from FOR and FROGJS, we have booked all of the seats in order that all children from Rowner and Gomer Junior Schools can attend (each school will pay for their children). With huge thank you to the FOR for making this pre-Christmas treat possible. On the day, children are to attend school as normal in their school uniform. They will have lunch at school and will walk to the ice-rink. The children will then walk back to school where they will be dismissed at around 3:30pm - we will update any significant changes in time via text on the day. Due to our return being after the school day, if you need to collect your child directly from the ice rink at 3.05pm, please inform the school office. To help the school manage the logistics, there will be no after school clubs on this day.

Winter school uniform

The children continue to look smart in their uniform. Thank you for your support with this. We will continue to remind children to correct their choices if their school attire is not in-line with our policy. As we move into the autumnal/winter season, please ensure that your child has the appropriate **named** clothing for the weather. This might include:

- A coat (this is essential)
- Hat, scarf, gloves (if required)
- Wellies (if required - children will not be able to access the field if they do not have wellies)
- Children are also welcome to bring in slippers if they would like these for the classroom.

We are an all weather school and we encourage children to be out as much as possible.

Please also note that after half term, children are to wear the following 'winter uniform' (as per our website):

Maroon jumper/cardigan (ideally with school logo) with a maroon or white polo type shirt with a collar.

For boys: Grey or black trousers and white, grey or black socks.

For girls: Grey or black trousers, skirt or culottes and/or pinafore, long or short white, grey or black socks or black or grey tights.

Sensible black shoes (**no trainers** unless all black and shoe like), trainers for PE days and a sensible coat.

PE kit is to include:

- Plain black shorts or cycling shorts – **no logos**
- Plain white round neck t-shirt
- Maroon jumper/cardigan (ideally with school logo) zipped baseball sports jacket with Team Rowner lettering on the back
- Trainers
- **Tracksuit bottoms or leggings in black (no text or logos) for winter months**
- **Black base layers**

Please continue to ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform, especially the PE kit.

With the darker days ahead of us, we also encourage children to have an item of 'reflective glow' attached to their bag or coat if not already attached, to ensure they are visible when walking to school and home again. Additionally, bicycle lights should be considered for all children.

You Said / We did

That you would like a meeting with your child's class teacher closer to the end of the autumn term to find out more about their academic progress.

We would normally have our second parent - teacher progress meetings after October half term, however some of you felt you would prefer it later on in the term when they had completed more learning. We have therefore changed our autumn term progress meetings to the first week of December. These will be online so that more parents are able to access the meeting due to their own work commitments.

Letters will be shared with you shortly to make an appointment with your child's teacher, but please see the dates below.

Monday 4th December: Sycamore, Redwood and Hazel

Tuesday 5th December: Chestnut and Poplar

Wednesday 6th December: Maple

Thursday 7th December: Willow and Rowan