



Rowner Junior School

Newsletter 6 - February 2024

<p>DATES FOR FEBRUARY: The dates below are for your diary and are also included on the electronic calendar; occasionally they are subject to change</p>	
<p>Year 3 - Miss Dymond and Miss Finn Additional teaching support from Mr Hill and Mrs Freeland on Monday, Tuesday and Friday morning.</p>	<p>Monday and Wednesday Children are to wear their PE kit into school on their PE day</p>
<p>Year 4 - Mrs Thomson and Miss Winzar</p>	<p>Monday and Thursday Children are to wear their PE kit into school on their PE day</p>
<p>Year 5 - Miss Daly and Miss Harding</p>	<p>Wednesday and Friday Children are to wear their PE kit into school on their PE day</p>
<p>Year 6 - Miss Pollit and Mrs Walton Additional teaching support from Mrs Lovisetto</p>	<p>Tuesday and Thursday Children are to wear their PE kit into school on their PE day</p>
<p>Key dates for February</p>	
<p>Tuesday 6th February</p>	<p>Safer Internet Day</p>
<p>Friday 9th February</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. INSET day 2. Dance Live Dat at Portsmouth Guildhall 3. Last Day of term
<p>Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February</p>	<p>Half Term</p>
<p>Monday 19th February</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Return to School 2. Y4 Swimming (PM)
<p>Monday 26th February</p>	<p>Y4 swimming (PM)</p>
<p>Upcoming dates for March <i>(Please note dates will be added to this list in the next newsletter)</i></p>	
<p>Monday 4th March</p>	<p>Y4 swimming (PM)</p>
<p>Thursday 7th March</p>	<p>World Book Day</p>
<p>Monday 11th March</p>	<p>Y4 swimming (PM)</p>
<p>Wednesday 13th March</p>	<p>Athlete Visit to RJS</p>
<p>Friday 15th March</p>	<p>Science Day at RJS</p>

Monday 18th March	Y4 swimming (PM)
Monday 25th March	Y4 swimming (PM)
Thursday 28th March	Last Day of term. Start of the Easter holiday.

After School Clubs

After school clubs are now well underway. These clubs will run until the end of the Spring Term. Therefore, your child will not need to reapply after half term. If your child has not yet signed up, but would like to join a club, please look in the bulletin boards where the number of available places are updated regularly. Please then speak to the office team who will assist you.

We would like to thank our staff who give up their own time to provide the extra curricular clubs for the pupils of RJS. Whilst we endeavour to ensure that your child has at least one of their choices, this might not always be possible due to the number of applicants for clubs. If your child is not successful, then they will be placed on a waiting list.

Monday	Football (Y3/4) Yoga (all year groups)
Tuesday	Service Club (only open to children whose parents are in the Armed Forces) Drama Club (Y4, 5 & 6)
Wednesday	Field Gun (Y4, 5 & 6) Musical Theatre Choir (all year groups)
Thursday	Football (Y 5 / 6) Sewing (all year groups - we will inform parents when this club is able to start),
Friday	

All clubs finish at 16.00, with the exception of Dance Live which finishes at 16.15. Please ensure that your child is collected promptly.

If your child is taking part in Y3/4 football, Field gun and Y5 /6 football and it is not a PE day, they are welcome to wear **school PE uniform** on their club day.

Attendance



You will have seen, in the news recently, the Government's national drive to improve school attendance. **Improving school attendance is everyone's business and, to tackle the challenge we face, we need to work together.**

Did you know:

- In 2018/19, just 40% of persistently absent (PA) children in KS2 achieved expected KS2 standards, compared with 84% of pupils who were regular attenders.
- And 36% of PA children in KS4 got 9 to 4 in their English and maths GCSEs, also compared with 84% of regular attenders.1
- Regular school attendance can facilitate positive peer relationships, which is a protective factor for mental health and wellbeing.

At Rowner, we support this drive! In the coming weeks we will be sending out letters to those parents whose child has dropped below 90%.

100%	0 days off school
97%	5 days off across the school year
95%	10 days off across the school year
90%	20 days off across the school year
85%	30 days off across the school year

Communication

As a school we are trying to limit the number of text messages that we send. Therefore, our main form of communication will be through email. Please ensure that the school has an up to date email address for you and check your emails regularly. We are looking into how we can use the Arbor App in order to communicate with our families.

Dance Live!

After months of rehearsals and preparation, our Dance Live Team will be taking place in their heat event at Portsmouth Guildhall on Friday 9th February. We wish them all the very best of luck, but most importantly to enjoy the fantastic opportunity that performing live in front of family and friends brings. Go Team Rowner!

Donations

If your child has any old football boots that they are no longer able to wear, we would like you to consider donating them for our football clubs. At this time of year, the ground is very muddy and we would be grateful for any donations that you could offer to support our young people.

Healthy Snacks Please

Healthy Snacks are recommended for break snacks such as fruit and raw vegetables, or low sugar savoury snacks, like pretzels or rice cakes and popcorn rather than crisps or chocolate.

Hair Ties

As a school, we encourage the children who have long hair to tie it up wherever possible. It looks neat and tidy, helps to reduce any nit problems and helps keep children safe. For PE it is essential that children have their hair tied back. If your child, who has long hair, comes to school with their hair down, please ensure they have a hair tie to tie it back for their PE learning.

Internet Safety Day

Internet Safety Day complement's our Online Safety approach and is something that we are passionate about teaching - empowering our pupils to manage their safety online also. Next week, Tuesday 6 February, is Safer Internet Day, and to mark the day, we will be having a whole school assembly on to remind our pupils why it is important to know how to keep themselves safe online. The online world is ever evolving, and can be a truly fantastic tool, when used safely. Pupils will also take part in short activities in their classrooms, designed to encourage conversations and share experiences. Whilst it is important to us to educate our pupils, we endeavour to empower our parents and carers to be 'streetwise' about online safety. If you would like some more information, including lots of tips and conversation starters, then please visit the UK Safer Internet [website](#). Please also make sure you are reading and digesting the monthly online safety newsletter that is emailed to you at the beginning of each month.

King's Group Academy

King's Group Academy are currently working very closely with the GFM in preparation for us joining their Trust. We were grateful to parents/carers who attended our 'drop-in' sessions in December. More information can be found [here](#). Please scroll down the GFM website and look to the right of our CEOs' message.

SATS

In May, all Year 6 pupils across England will be sitting a statutory SATs. We have invited Year 6 parents to attend a meeting on Wednesday 7th February. We would like to offer parents some information about what the SATs will entail, and give practical strategies to support your child learning their key multiplication facts. The event will be held in **Sycamore class at 3.05pm**. Please enter via main reception. You will have an opportunity to look through some multiplication resources and ideas, before a presentation about the national times table's check is given at 3.30pm. Teachers will be available to ask questions and offer support after the presentation.

PE Uniform

Thank you to all of those parents who are supporting the school in ensuring their child is wearing the correct school uniform as well as the correct PE kit. For your reference, PE kit includes:

- **Plain black** shorts or cycling shorts – no logos
- **Plain white** round neck t-shirt
- **Maroon jumper/cardigan** (ideally with school logo) zipped 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 ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform, especially the PE kit. If there is a reason why your child is unable to wear the correct PE kit, please email enquiries who will pass this information onto the teacher/SLT. Reminders will be given to children if they do not have the correct uniform and alternatives, if able, will be found for them to wear. It is important for children to be wearing the correct uniform. The habits developed now, will stand them in good stead when they move to secondary school.

Rowner Public Google Calendar

This new feature on our school website enables you to see public school events - please see [here](#) to view the calendar.

STEM Returner Programme

Opportunities to return to a career in Engineering, Science or Technology with the STEM Returner Programme. Have you taken a career break from an engineering or a technical sector and wish to return? Are you working below your experience in a different sector? Do you have an engineering or technical degree that you aren't using? Do you just wish to transfer sectors but don't have any experience? If so this could be the opportunity for you! After the success of our pilot programme with AWE we are currently sourcing candidates for their second 'STEM Returners' campaign. All candidates not only get to take a different route to finding a new role, they will also have the opportunity to obtain free support and advice from our career coach and industry Mentors who support them right from interview through to navigating the first 12 months in your role. No career break is too long, register to return to STEM today! For more information please visit [AWE - STEM Returners](#) or email jazmine.gouldbourne@stemreturners.com.

Swimming

Our swimming programme begins after the February half term. Please see the table above for your child's swimming schedule. This will form part of the PE curriculum for the summer term and will take place at Brune Park school. Swimming is part of the National Curriculum and therefore **all children are expected to take part.**

Children need to have the appropriate swimwear, **not beachwear.**

- boy's trunks should be above the knee in length and girls must wear a one piece swimming costume.
- Goggles are permitted if your child would prefer to wear them.
- Long hair needs to be tied back and we encourage jewellery to be left at home – no earrings please on the days when they are swimming.
- We encourage children to wear swimming caps.
- Children will also need to bring a towel and waterproof bag to bring their kit into school.
- If children wear their swimming costumes to school as it is a morning session, please ensure they have underwear to change into.
- All swimming kits and school uniforms need to be named.
- Children need to wear their school uniform on the swimming day.

If your child is taking part in swimming then they will only have one other PE session that week. As year 4 will be

swimming first, then their second PE session will be on a Thursday.

World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 07 March and as always we are keen to encourage the children to be enthusiastic readers, book owners and book borrowers. We have lots of exciting activities planned. If children would like to dress themselves or one of their dolls/teddies/characters as a character from **a book** on this day, or come to school in their PJs or onesies, then they are welcome to do so. Dressing up is not obligatory and school uniforms can be worn if your child does not wish to dress up. Year groups have adapted their timetable and will use the day to immerse children into the exciting world of books. Book tokens will be made available to your child on the day. More information to follow...

YOU SAID/WE DID - Parking

It continues to be reported to us that our neighbours are struggling with school related traffic at drop-off and collection time and some of our parents have also identified that the volume of cars is making crossing more challenging for families.

Parking safely and with courtesy helps the whole community.

- We have communicated this to our local PCSO who will be supporting the school when they are able
- Some of our pupils have recently undertaken Junior Road Safety Officer training
- We have communicated your concerns to Hampshire County council. Equally, if you are concerned about the parking, you are also able to report this yourself at: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/parking>
- We have placed cones over the zigzag lines to prevent people parking on these and to ensure that our entrance is not blocked.
- Reminders are regularly sent to parents on adhering to the Highway Code.