



## Rowner Junior School

### Newsletter 1 - September 2023

Well done to **Lacey W** for achieving gold in her first judo competition. Well done to ALL CHILDREN who completed the HCC Summer Reading Challenge. Yet to finish all the books? No problem - you have until 16 September to have them 'signed off'. Please contact the Discovery Centre for more information. Please send your child to school with their medal on Friday 22 September so we can congratulate your child in our Celebration Assembly.

DATES FOR SEPTEMBER: The dates below are for your diary and are also included on the electronic calendar; occasionally they are subject to change	
YEAR GROUP TEACHING STAFF	YEAR GROUP PE DAYS
Year 3 - Miss Dymond and Miss Finn	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
Key dates for September	
Friday 1st September	INSET day
Monday 4th September	Year 3 to return to school
Monday 4th September	Meet the teacher meetings (Personal Learning Review) for Years 4, 5 and 6 in The Hall.
Tuesday 6th September	Years 4, 5 and 6 all return to school.
Monday 18th September	1:30-2:30 Year 6 RE workshop at St Mary's Church (Redwood)
Monday 25th September	1:30-2:30 Year 6 RE workshop at St Mary's Church (Maple)
Thursday 21 September	Friends of Rowner Meeting - 14.30
Tuesday 26th September	Year 3 Parent Coffee morning (09.00-09.45)
Upcoming dates for October ( <i>Please note dates will be added to this list in the next newsletter</i> )	
Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October	Half term
Monday 30th October	INSET day

**WELCOME**

**A WARM WELCOME** to you all. We are really looking forward to an exciting Autumn Term. The school extends a particularly warm welcome to our Y3 children and their parents/carers. Y3 can look forward to having the school all to themselves, as part of our transition, on Monday 4 September to help them familiarise themselves with the site and staff. Y4, 5 and 6 will start on Tuesday 5 September. Y3 children are required to arrive **from 8.40am**, on the main playground, via the Tichborne Way pedestrian entrance or via the infant school. Members of Team Rowner will meet and greet the children and be available to parents/carers to answer any questions you may have. This will be really swift in order that children can start their Rowner learning journey promptly. End of school is at **3.05pm**. Children are to be collected from the main playground. Please follow our one way system to exit the school site.

**MEET THE TEACHER** On Monday 4th September Year 4, 5 and 6 are invited to school for a 10 minute, in person, appointment with their Class Teacher in the School Hall. Parents/carers are encouraged to attend the appointment with their child - either in person or online, at your convenience. If in-person is not possible for you, you can meet with your child's Class Teacher online. Yet to make your appointment to meet your child's new class teacher and talk about the year ahead? Please see emails and respond accordingly. On the day, please make your way to the school hall via Reception where you will sign-in, with your child, 5 minutes ahead of your appointment time. Access to the school site, on the day, will be via the car park gate.

**ATTENDANCE**

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.

Towards the end of the academic year, we had a sharp increase of holiday request forms. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, we will not authorise holidays and you can be fined for taking your child on holiday during term time without school's permission.

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

**UNIFORM**

**UNIFORM** is important because we recognise that a consistent uniform approach increases children's identity and self-esteem, impacting positively on behaviour. It also puts the children in the right frame of mind for learning. Additionally, it ensures that pupils are not differentiated from one another because of the clothes they wear to school. **Skoolkit** are our stockist for items with the school logo and are all set up to help you - local supermarkets have lots of stock too making uniform affordable. Children are to wear their PE kits to school on their PE days and will be required, on cooler days, to wear a school jumper if you choose not to wear the zipped PE sweatshirt - this is very popular and branded with Team Rowner on the back. To ensure you have the correct uniform please do check the [website information](#) We look forward to welcoming our pupils in their smart uniforms at the start of term. Please ensure all uniforms are clearly named. For health and safety reasons long hair needs to be tied back for PE. Children will be reminded if they have forgotten their school uniform. Children should not wear any jewellery (with the exception of watches) apart from a single or pair of **stud earrings** in pierced ears. The school cannot accept any responsibility or liability for mislaid personal jewellery. To help keep your child safe, earrings need to be removed for PE lessons. We suggest they are not worn at all on PE days.

### **BREAKFAST CLUB**

**BREAKFAST CLUB** continues for pupils of Rowner Junior School. Bookings should be made seven days in advance of the date required. All payments must be made on Tucasi (Scopay) to book and pay. Once the session is full you will not be able to book, so advance booking is recommended. We are aware that there may be times when families may need to make emergency bookings and we will always try to accommodate these if possible - however these must be booked via the [enquiries@rowner.gfmat.org](mailto:enquiries@rowner.gfmat.org) and [finance@gfmat.org](mailto:finance@gfmat.org)

DO NOT USE Facebook to make last minute bookings.

### **LUNCH AND SNACKS FOR BREAK TIME**

**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 biscuits should be reserved for lunchtime.

**LUNCH** continues to be provided by GFM Catering at the cost of £2.80 to those children not in receipt of FSM. Menus are available on our [website](#) which will be updated in due course. Please note the current menus run up to the end of September. We currently offer three different hot meals at lunch time: a red (meat) option, a green (vegetarian) option as well as a jacket potato option with a choice of fillings. Please let us know of any specific dietary requirements so that our kitchen team can work with you to ensure your child is appropriately catered for. Their menu choice will be taken each morning by their class teacher. Alternatively, children can bring a packed lunch in a clearly named lunch box.

We operate a **NO NUT** policy as we do have children in each year group that are allergic to nuts, so please do not send children into school with any food containing nuts (including nutella and certain cereal bars).

### **PAYMENTS TO SCHOOL**

**TUCASI (SCOPAY)** is used for all payments e.g. visits and school meals. If you have yet to receive a link code this will be sent to you soon - please check your emails. Additionally, it will be used for the booking of our breakfast club. Children need to be booked in, in order to attend.

### **OTHER KEY INFORMATION**

**AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS** will be starting w/b 25th September. We will be sending out communication about the clubs on offer w/b 11th September.

**BICYCLE SHELTER** is for whole school use. Children are reminded to cycle to school with a helmet and use a D lock to secure their bicycle, through the wheel onto the bicycle rack and keep the key in a safe space in their school bag. Children are also welcome to come to school on their scooters. Children are also reminded to lock these to the scooter rack.

**WATER BOTTLES** are encouraged in class. Please name bottles clearly and have them washed daily. Even in hot weather children were not being sent to school with bottles - we do not have a supply of these so please organise these from home. Ideally, children should be drinking water. They should not be drinking Prime or other energy. fizzy drinks.

If you wish to make **CONTACT WITH A TEACHER**, please email [enquiries@rowner.gfmat.org](mailto:enquiries@rowner.gfmat.org) and they will then pass your email onto the appropriate teacher. Alternatively, teachers are on the playground at the end of the day. If a more formal meeting is required, then please email the enquiries email address above to organise this.

Our **ONE WAY SYSTEM** will remain in place in the coming academic year. As the entrance onto Tichborne Way is so narrow, the one way system ensures that we allow everyone to exit the school site safely. For safeguarding, the gate in the far corner of the school site will continue to remain shut.

### STAFF MATTER

**WE WELCOME** several new staff members this term. Mrs Thomson will be teaching Rowan Class in Year 4 and Miss Harding will be teaching in Year 5 in Maple class. We also welcome Miss Jerrard who will be based in Years 5 and 6 supporting the children in a TA role.

Mrs Mulhall, our Executive Head Teacher continues to be at Rowner Junior for half of the week - typically, every Tuesday and Thursday and alternate Wednesday afternoons. Our Associate Head Teacher, Mrs Sharpe is on school site throughout the week.

### WE NEED YOU!

#### FRIENDS OF ROWNER

**Friends of Rowner** is our Parent Teacher Association. Over the years, the group has worked tirelessly to help raise funds for the school through our school including discos, Christmas Shop and our raffles. Last year, some of the funds that were raised paid for our whole school trip to Moors Valley.

**Friends of Rowner** look forward to welcoming YOU! As staff members and parents have moved on, we find ourselves needing your help. When your child joins the school, you automatically become a member of our Parent Teacher Association. Staff members have kindly continued the work of **Friends of Rowner**. However, if we are to continue providing events, we need more parents to support us. You might like to show your support at events such as the Spring Disco or attend Friends of Rowner committee meetings. If you are interested, please complete the attached Google Form, or speak to Mr Connor or Mrs Connor.

[Google Form for 'Friends of Rowner'](#)

**If you have previously put your name forward for either of these, please feel free to do so again for this academic year. If we do not have the support of parents, then we will be unable to run Friends of Rowner and associated activities - we are really keen to avoid this.**