



Rowner Junior School

Newsletter 2- OCTOBER 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 October: The dates below are for your diary and are also included on the electronic calendar; occasionally they are subject to change	
Monday 2nd October - Friday 6th October	Christmas card collection box in the playground at the start of the day
Thursday 5th October	Bay House Open Evening National Poetry Day School Census Day - we're aiming for 100% attendance this day to capture all the children who attend our school
Friday 6th October	Flu vaccinations in school
Monday 9th October	School photographer
Tuesday 10th October	World Mental Health Day - wear yellow accessories (see below)
Wednesday 11th October	St Mary's Church Harvest assembly 10am
Thursday 19th October	Y2 Parents Open day event
Friday 20th October	'Show Racism the Red Card' - Red non-uniform day (see below)
Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October	Half term
Monday 30th October	INSET day
Tuesday 31st October	Children return to school

Upcoming dates for November <i>(Please note dates will be added to this list in the next newsletter)</i>	
Wednesday 1st November	Halloween Disco 5-6.30pm
Tuesday 14th November	Author visit
Monday 27th November	Y3 (Poplar Class) visit St Mary's church
Tuesday 28th November	Y3 (Chestnut Class) visit St Mary's church
Wednesday 29th November	The Wizard of Oz on Ice - whole school attend

ATTENDANCE AND ILLNESS

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. Our current attendance figure is at 95.3%, however our current persistent absentee figures are at 13.3%. A child is considered a persistent absentee if their attendance is below 90%. In the coming weeks, we will be communicating with parents whose children are below 90% to work together on how we can move towards improving their child's attendance. We will be reviewing this monthly and communicating with parents if their child's attendance is 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

In the coming months, there will be more seasonal illnesses around. Sometimes it is hard to know what to do, so the following information might prove helpful when judging if your child is well enough to attend school:

- **Coughs and colds:** It's fine to send your child to school with a minor [cough](#) or [common cold](#). But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.
- **Covid:** 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.

Nb If your child does have a cold, they may benefit from some Calpol or equivalent at the start of the day. Please also send them to school with a packet of tissues to help with their runny noses or sneezes.

Vomiting and diarrhoea: Children who have been sick should stay off school until they have not been sick for at least 24 hours. If they have had diarrhoea or sickness and diarrhoea, then they should not return to school until at least 48 hours after the last bowel movement.

Awesome start to the year

Wow! What an amazing start to the new academic year. It has been so pleasing to see everyone settle so well into the Autumn Term. Lots has happened including:

- We have had an amazing uptake of our after school clubs, which are now underway.
- Amazing learning - we have loved going into lessons, looking in books and speaking to the children about their learning.
- Working collaboratively with our feeder schools to ensure a smooth transition for our Year 3 children, as well as those who have moved onto secondary school.
- The Friends of Rowner have had their first meeting and are planning and organising lots of fantastic opportunities for the children for the term ahead.
- It has been amazing to see all of the children coming back to school looking so smart. Thank you so much for ensuring that your child has the correct uniform, The zipped tops look especially smart.

Curriculum

We can't quite believe that a whole month has passed since our last newsletter. We are so pleased with how the children have settled into their learning. September can be a challenging month to adapt to after the summer holidays so we are pleased that the children are fully involved in school life. Have a question about something related to school? Please chat to teachers or Learning Mentors at the start or end of the day, visit our [website](#), come to the Reception or access our public [FaceBook](#) page too which shares news and successes daily. Keep adding your likes please. **Not sure what your child is learning about this term?** Please do visit our online curriculum pages for each year group: [Year 3](#), [Year 4](#), [Year 5](#), and [Year 6](#) Additionally, you may like to read our curriculum newsletter.

Friends of Rowner (FOR) Events

Halloween Disco

On **Wednesday 1st November**, we will be hosting a whole-school Halloween Disco starting at 5pm and finishing at 6.30pm.

Children are welcome to wear their disco clothes or a Halloween costume. We do, however, ask that no clown costumes or face masks are worn and that all costumes are age appropriate (e.g. no references to characters from films which are higher than a PG rating). This is to avoid any children feeling uncomfortable or scared due to our youngest attendees being only 7 years old.



During the evening, children will be able to enjoy a hot dog and drink. For a small fee of 50p they can choose to enter the 'Room of Doom' where they will be able to enjoy a range of 'spooky experiences'. There will also be a quieter/calm room which will contain a selection of 'spooky' crafts and activities they can enjoy.

In order for this event to be successful we do need adults to supervise the children to ensure they have a safe and happy time. If you feel you might be able to offer some time to help at either of these events, please contact Miss Sewell via the school office before the event.

National Poetry Day

It takes just one poem... National Poetry Day is on Thursday 5 October. National Poetry Day is the annual mass celebration that encourages everyone to make, experience and share poetry with family and friends. Each year we come together because voices, words and stories help to bridge understanding in our community. Team Rowner will have opportunities to listen to and read a range of poetry on this day.

Open Evenings

In the coming months there are a number of Open Evenings for parents whose children will be joining Year 3 next year, or for those who are moving onto secondary school next September:

Open Day for prospective Year 3: Prospective Year 3 parents and carers have an opportunity to visit the Rowner Junior School site on Thursday 19th October. There will be two available time slots for this visit, which will include a short tour of the school in action. The school will be opening its doors between 9:00-9:30 am and again at 2:40 - 3:10pm for any parents who would like to view the school.

Applications for year 3 places in 2023 can be made online at hants.gov.uk between 1 November 2023 until 15 January 2024, which is the deadline.

Open Evening at Bay House: This will take place on Thursday 5th October from 16.30-19.30.

Opticians

Optician's appointments are free for children and it is recommended that children have an eye test at least annually. Although serious vision problems during childhood are rare, routine eye checks are offered for FREE to identify any problems early on. We are seeing an increase of children who are struggling to read from the board or from books and recommending that all children have an appointment to see an optician for a FREE test. For more information please see [here](#). Opticians can become busy so half-term may be an ideal time for your child to have an eye-test or after school on a weekday.

Parking

Parking safely and with courtesy helps the whole community. We are aware that it can be tricky to park around the school site. It is awesome that so many children walk, cycle and scoot to school. If it is not possible to walk or scoot all the way, please consider leaving home a little earlier so you can park a small distance away from school. It has recently been reported that some of our neighbours are struggling with school related traffic at drop-off and collection time. Drives should NOT be parked over. Please ensure the highway code is adhered to. For example it is illegal to:

- park on the yellow zig zag lines
- park on a bend, or dropped kerb

Please be considerate of our local community.

School Uniform

School Uniform remains a priority and we are so pleased that the vast majority of children are in the correct uniform everyday. We are still reminding some children to keep branded clothing or home and have a plentiful supply of pre-loved items for anyone who requires them. School 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](#). 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.

Service Offer

At RJS, Mr Paul Connor and Mrs Mechelle Connor host our weekly **Service Club** on a Tuesday afternoon after school. If you would like your child to attend then please complete the Service Google Form using this link: [Service Club](#). They participate in a range of different activities across the year and are there to support your child(ren.)

Other activities that support our Service children also include:

- GFM Community Hub: The GFM Service team is based at the Community Hub at Brune Park. They provide an array of activities throughout the year – parties, socials, cooking etc Invites to events are sent to our Service families.
- Mrs Charli Clarke: Mrs Clarke's responsibility is to provide emotional literacy support in conjunction with the school. Referrals for Mrs Clarke's support need to be completed via the school.

Show Racism the Red Card

Show Racism the Red Card will see us wearing as much red as we possibly can to stand up against discrimination and show racism the RED CARD on **Friday 20 October**. Children are encouraged to wear red non-school uniform (or red accessories with their uniform) if they prefer on **Friday 20 October**. Every heart and every mind that we change changes at least one life but has the capacity to change hundreds, if not thousands of others. 'In a racist society, it is not enough to be non-racist. We must be anti-racist'. This is an event to raise awareness not funds, so no donations required. **'CHANGE HEARTS. CHANGE MINDS. CHANGE LIVES'**

World Mental Health Day

World Mental Health Day is **Tuesday 10 October**. Children are encouraged to wear yellow accessories (socks, hair bands, scarves, broach/pin etc) to school **with their uniform** to raise awareness of this World Mental Health Day and remind all young people that they are not alone. This is an event to raise awareness not funds, so no donations are being requested.

You Said / We did Year 3 Coffee Morning - we missed you....

Following feedback from last year, we hosted a Coffee Morning last week for Year 3 parents/carers. This was an opportunity for parents to come into school for a 'cuppa and a chat' with Mrs Mulhall and Mrs Sharpe. Our Headteachers were left with lots of cakes and biscuits because no-one responded to the invitation. In brief, big Team Rowner are keen to further welcome families into school. We hope you are all feeling settled and we love talking to you at the start and end of the day. Should you want to pop into school for another 'cuppa and a chat' type opportunity, please just let us know.