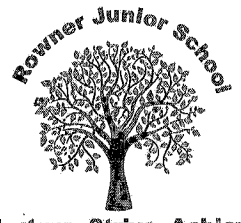


**GROWING LEARNERS,  
GROWING LEADERS AND GROWING CITIZENS**



Nurture Strive Achieve

Nurture Strive Achieve

7<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

**Support for Service Families**

I am writing to let you know that one of the priorities when developing The Drey, the timber building next to the car-park, was to better support service children. This already means that we offer things such as a weekly lunch-club to children whose parents are deployed and emotional support if required.

One particular problem with supporting these children is that we are reliant on parents letting us know when deployment is approaching and sometimes only discover that a parent is away during a chance conversation. In view of this I would really appreciate it if you could keep me up to date with events which may unsettle your child. It surprises me how resilient these children outwardly appear, but during meetings it can transpire that they feel that they will upset the parent if they 'make a fuss', so it is always useful for everyone if we can be ready to help.

Another way I am hoping to offer support is to hold half-termly coffee afternoons to forces parents, particularly those left behind. I know children can often present with challenging behaviour around times of change and it can feel lonely as the parent left dealing with this. We hope that by getting together, sharing ideas and, if necessary, sign-posting to other areas of support, things can feel easier. The first of the afternoons is on Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup> of September at 1:30pm and we hope to use this initial event to share thoughts about further ways we can help your children. If you are able to join us please leave a message with the office, or pop in to see me to give me some idea of the numbers to cater for.

For those who don't already know, I am in school from 8:30 until 5:00 Monday to Thursday and 8:30 until 3:05 on Fridays. If you have any concerns which you would like to see me about, or if you just need a chat, please call in at the office, or telephone and make an appointment. Of course, if I am free I will meet with you straight away. If you unable to get to school within these times I can be flexible, so please don't hesitate to ask for an alternative appointment.

Yours sincerely

Josie Vinall  
ELSA

Head teacher Miss Kerry Payne  
Tichborne Way, Rowner, Gosport, Hants. PO13 0BN  
Telephone: 01329 280299 Fax: 01329 285428

E-mail: [headteacher@rowner-jun.hants.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@rowner-jun.hants.sch.uk) Website: [rownerjunior.co.uk](http://rownerjunior.co.uk)