



Rowner Junior School

Newsletter 3 - November 2022

It has been amazing to see **Nathan W** improving in his horse riding. He has now been graded as a level 4 horse rider and it was brilliant to see his first jump. **Chloe S** competed in the Solent dance festival winning 7 medals in total - 3 bronze, 2 silver and 2 gold, what an achievement Chloe. Huge congratulations to **Halle, Ava, Sophia D, Izzy (year 3), Kida, Tori, Darcie, Obi (Year 4), Isla, Michael, Eloise, Peter (Year 5) and Maisie, Liam B, Fraser W and Chloe (Year 6)**. They have all been voted as either an **Eco Ambassador or a Well-Being Ambassador** to represent their class in the pupil voice team this year. Thank you as well to our whole community on an amazingly successful Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Afternoon. Your generosity raised a staggering £501 for the charity.

DATES FOR November: The dates below are for your diary and are also included on the electronic calendar; occasionally they are subject to change	
YEAR GROUP SPECIFIC INFORMATION	
Year 3 - Miss Dymond and Miss Finn	PE: Monday & Thursday
Year 4 - Miss Pollet and Miss Winzar	PE: Monday & Friday
Year 5 - Mr Corlett and Miss Daly	PE: Monday & Wednesday
Year 6 - Mrs Southern and Mrs Walton	PE: Tuesday & Thursday
Key dates for November	
Monday 31st October	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> INSET Day Deadline date for Y6 applications
Tuesday 1st November	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Children return to school for a VERY exciting opportunity: whole school to visit Brune Park for Princess Anne Visit - please ensure your child is in school uniform and has a coat. NO PE for Year 6 today. Year 2 application for Year 3 (2023 start) open
Thursday 3rd November	Year 2 Parent Open morning (09.00-09.30) and Open Afternoon (14.30-15.00)
Monday 7th November - Friday 11th November	Bikeability for Y6
Monday 7th November	Year 3 Parent-Pupil-Teacher meet
Tuesday 8th November	Year 4 Parent-Pupil-Teacher meet
Wednesday 9th November	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Parent-Pupil-Teacher meet GFM Awards Evening (live-streamed from BP - 18.00-19.30) Good luck to all of those pupils that have been nominated!
Thursday 10th November	Year 5 Parent-Pupil-Teacher meet
Friday 11th November	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Year 4 Fishbourne Roman Palace trip

	2. Remembrance Day Service
Friday 18th November	1. Year 3 Butser Farm trip 2. Friends of Rowner meeting
Wednesday 23rd November	1. School photographs 2. Year groups with PE on this day will need to come to school in their school uniform and then change into PE kit in the afternoon
Upcoming dates for December (Please note dates will be added to this list in the next newsletter)	
Friday 2nd December	Y5 Portsmouth Historic Dockyard
Monday 5th December	Y4 to St Mary's - Christingle
Tuesday 6th December - Monday 12th December	Book Fair Children will have an opportunity to purchase books throughout the week. Parents are invited to a 'Biscuit and read' after school on Monday 12th December to purchase books.
Friday 9th December	Flu vaccinations
Monday 12th December - Friday 16th December	Christmas Week Information to follow
Wednesday 14th December	Christmas Disco
Friday 16th December	End of term

A School of Character - that's us!

For sixteen months Team GFM Primary have been working collaboratively to develop our understanding of Character Education and use this learning to ensure Character Education is an embedded feature of our school and curriculum. At Rowner Junior School, we are 'growing leaders, learners and citizens'. We love our school and care for one another. There are 'no outsiders' in our school which is a calm yet vibrant community for children and adults to learn and thrive in. Enabling our community to reflect on positive personal traits, dispositions and virtues, has informed our motivation and guides our conduct. As a consequence we have been awarded a Character Kitemark following significant evidence being submitted and an [Association for Character](#) assessor spending a day with us. We feel really proud of this and we will be sign-posted to other schools around the country as a beacon of best practice. Once we have the final report and the plaque, we'll tell you more. We look forward to working with our secondary family schools who are also working towards a kitemark.

Applications for Year 6 and Year 2 applications.

The **deadline** for our **Year 6** pupils for their secondary school applications is **Monday 31st October**. Please ensure that the online application is completed by that date. The application window for Year 3 applications opens on Tuesday 1st November. On **Thursday 3rd November**, we will be holding an **open morning and afternoon** for parents with a child in year 2 where they can find out more about our school. A letter has been distributed to year 2 parents informing them of this.

Drop-In for Parents/carers with EAL

The first session has been scheduled for Tuesday 22 November, 4-5pm at the Gosport Community Hub. The aim of these sessions is to bring together parents, carers and families of children who speak English as an additional language (EAL), to build a community of support and information sharing. During this session we will share key information about the EAL provision at the GFM and introduce ourselves as the EAL team at the GFM. We will also give information on the support that is available for EAL students and families in the area. There will then be an opportunity to meet with other families. These sessions are open to all families in the Gosport and Fareham area regardless of whether or not they have a child who attends a GFM school. Light refreshments will be provided. No booking is required.

The GFM Awards

The GFM Awards are presented annually at an awesome online event. It is hosted at Brune Park and is a very special evening. Children who have been nominated, across the GFM, will have received a letter and have been invited to attend the online awards ceremony. Anyone is very welcome to watch the awards ceremony. Click [here](#) to make your way to the live stream. We are really proud of everyone who has been nominated and can't wait to see who has won, each category, on the night.

Menus

Menus for the second part of the term have been emailed to you. There is a three week cycle for the children to look forward to. Menus can be found on the website and we are very excited about the lovely changes Rick, our Executive Chef, has made. We are also pleased to inform you that we have a new oven which will be fitted during half-term. This will address our limited menu situation.

Princess Anne Visit

PRINCESS ANNE visits Gosport to open the [Gosport Community Hub](#) at Brune Park on Tuesday 1 November. Just before half-term the children all learnt about who Princess Anne is and why she is coming to Gosport to open the Gosport Community Hub which has all been sponsored by the [RNRMC](#). Additionally, the children had the opportunity to contribute to decorations for the visit. We are delighted that the whole school has been invited to greet Princess Anne. Some children will have the opportunity to talk to her also. Children are to wear full school uniform on that day - no PE kit. Soon after registration on 1 November, the children will be transported by bus to Brune Park. The children will need to be outside for much of the morning so need to have a coat with them and depending upon the weather, gloves and hats may be required too. We will be taking snacks and drinks with us, providing for all children, in order that they do not become hungry. However, we recommend a good breakfast that day too. We will also be taking some benches and seats with us so the children have the option of resting. Brune Park have a wet weather contingency in place which is really helpful. We will not be having lunch until we return to school just before 1pm. Thank you to everyone who has ordered their lunch for that day using the Google Form sent home a couple of weeks before half-term. The picnic style lunch will be ready for as soon as the children return to school. Those who have not ordered a school picnic lunch are to bring their own lunch as normal. We are not allowed to create our own social media posts without palace approval. So, we are not sure when we will be sharing on our own platforms. However, if the children are going to be on television news, we'll text you to let you know. We maintain a policy on not having children filmed or photographed who we do not have permission for.

We Will Remember

Remembrance is upon us. If children would like to purchase a poppy or poppy merchandise, please do send them to school with monies. The suggested donation list will be placed on website, after half-term, 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 11 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 will receive an additional communication about this gathering which we are keen to involve them with.

Winter school uniform

As we move into the autumnal/winter season, please ensure that your child has the appropriate 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 ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform, especially the PE kit as a few children have started to wear jumpers/hoodies that do not adhere to our school uniform.

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.

Healthy snacks

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.

Staffing

At the GFM, we strive to motivate each other to be greater and aspire further, this includes pupils, our community and our staff. Over the years Miss Zostch and Mrs Kealy-Williams have supported pupils in class, as well as pupils who have required more specialist support within The Hive. We are therefore exceedingly proud that they both have been successful in securing new roles within the GFM. Miss Zostch will continue to support our pupils in the morning at RJS, but will then be working with young people across the Secondary phase. Mrs Kealy-Williams is going to be taking on the role of Deputy Head of Year for wellbeing at Brune Park. We wish them both all the very best in their new roles and are thrilled to have retained them in our GFM family. The support and targeted interventions that The Hive provide will still be on offer and we are looking forward to sharing our new Pastoral Team model with you after half term.

Spare Adult Shirts

Our children love their art learning, and it would be really helpful if we could have any old adult shirts that we could use during the art sessions. If you do, can you please bring them in the first week after half term where we can then distribute them to classes.

YOU SAID/WE DID

You said our communication was not timely or detailed. We continue to maintain a detailed monthly newsletter which is shared by email and stored on our website. To enhance further communication, we have ordered two notice boards which we will place on the playground close to each entrance and exit. We will commit to having key information stored there too.