



## Rowner Junior School

### Newsletter 4 - December 2023

PE days	
YEAR GROUP TEACHING STAFF	YEAR GROUP PE DAYS
<b>Year 3</b> - Miss Dymond and Miss Finn Additional teaching support from Mr Hill and Mrs Freeland on Monday, Tuesday and Friday morning.	Monday and Wednesday
<b>Year 4</b> - Mrs Thomson and Miss Winzar	Monday and Thursday
<b>Year 5</b> - Miss Daly and Miss Harding	Wednesday and Friday
<b>Year 6</b> - Miss Pollit and Mrs Walton Additional teaching support from Mrs Lovisetto and Mr Reed Monday - Friday	Tuesday and Thursday
<b>DATES FOR December:</b> The dates below are for your diary and are also included on the electronic calendar; occasionally they are subject to change	
<b>Friday 1st December</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y5 Portsmouth Dockyard Trip</li> <li>Autumn report cards to be shared with parents</li> </ol>
<b>Monday 4th December</b>	<b>Non-uniform day in exchange for a donation towards our Children's Raffle</b> , see more information below or on our letter regarding Christmas at Rowner Junior School
<b>Monday 4th December - Thursday 14th December</b>	Christmas Post Box on the playground in the morning.
<b>Monday 4th December</b>	Sycamore, Redwood and Hazel online progress meetings
<b>Tuesday 5th December</b>	Chestnut and Poplar online progress meetings
<b>Wednesday 6th December</b>	Maple online progress meetings
<b>Thursday 7th December</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Willow and Rowan online progress meetings</li> <li>Christmas Book Flood - see below or letter regarding Christmas at Rowner Junior School</li> </ol>
<b>Friday 8th December</b>	Father Christmas Visit (AM)
<b>Monday 11th December - Friday 15th December</b>	Christmas week begins (see events below) - Raffle tickets can be purchased
<b>Monday 11th December</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y4 christmas party</li> <li>Y6 Christmas shop</li> </ol>

<b>Tuesday 12th December</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Y4 Christingle</li> <li>2. Y5 Christmas shop</li> </ol>
<b>Wednesday 13th December</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Y3 Christmas film</li> <li>2. Y4 Christmas shop</li> <li>3. Y5 christmas party</li> <li>4. Y6 Christmas movie</li> </ol>
<b>Thursday 14th December</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Christmas lunch (all)</li> <li>2. Y3 christmas shop</li> <li>3. Y4 christmas movie</li> <li>4. Y5 Christmas movie</li> <li>5. Y6 Christmas party</li> </ol>
<b>Friday 15th December</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Y3 Christmas party</li> <li>2. Online Christmas Raffle - children</li> <li>3. Christmas-sing-along 13.15</li> <li>4. End of term - 14.00</li> </ol>
<b>Upcoming dates for January (Please note dates will be added to this list in the next newsletter)</b>	
<b>Tuesday 2nd January</b>	Pupils return to school
<b>Wednesday 24th January</b>	Autism Hampshire parents meeting 1.30pm-

### 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. Our current attendance figure is at 94.4%. This is slightly below the national average which is at 95.1%. 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%.

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. We recently sent home a google form for you to give us permission to administer calpol for use in limited/exceptional circumstances i.e. for children who complain of a mild to moderate headache or limb pain. If you have not received this, please find it enclosed here.

**Scarlett Fever:** Scarlet fever is a contagious infection that mostly affects young children. It's easily treated with antibiotics - in positive cases please do contact your GP. The first signs of scarlet fever can be flu-like symptoms, including a high temperature, a sore throat and swollen neck glands (a large lump on the side of your neck). A rash appears 12 to 48 hours later. It looks like small, raised bumps and starts on the chest and tummy, then spreads. The rash makes your skin feel rough, like sandpaper. On white skin the rash looks pink or red. On brown and black skin it might be harder to see a change in colour, but you can still feel the rash and see the raised bumps. All taken from the [NHS website](#).

**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.

## Character Education

We are a school of character! Following a focussed 18 month school improvement programme, we were delighted to receive our Quality Kitemark in October 2022. Throughout daily life at Rowner Junior School, we allow the children opportunities for character to be explicitly taught, as well as to be recognised within the role models around them. Alongside character lessons, the children also take part in a broad curriculum that encourages them to challenge themselves and be the best version of themselves. All children within the school are invited to apply for the School Council. This is an integral part of the development of the school as it allows all children the opportunity to be leaders and make important changes in their community. For more information on how 'character' is taught, sought and caught, please visit our [school website](#).

### Christmas at RJS - see below:

<b>Monday 4th December</b>	<p><b>Non-uniform Day</b> Children are invited to wear non-school uniforms in exchange for a donation towards <b>our Children's Raffle</b>. Donations could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Selection box</li> <li>- Chocolate bar / sealed bag of sweets</li> <li>- Small toy</li> <li>- Children's book</li> <li>- Colouring books</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday 7th December</b>	<p><b>Christmas Book Flood</b></p> <p>Children are invited to wear their Christmas Jumper on this day in return for a contribution for the book flood.</p>
<b>Friday 8th December</b>	<p><b>Father Christmas Visit (AM)</b></p> <p>Father Christmas will be joining Team Rowner for a flying visit before visiting other schools in Gosport.</p>
<b>Monday 4th December - Thursday 14th December.</b>	<p><b>Christmas Post Box on playground</b></p> <p>The Christmas PostBox will be on the playground at the start of each day. Cards will then be distributed to classes on Wednesday 6th December, Monday 11th December and Thursday 14th December. Please remind your children to address the cards with their friends name and class. (Yr 3 Poplar, Chestnut; Year 4 Rowan, Willow; Yr 5 Maple, Hazel; Year 6 Redwood, Sycamore)</p>

### Christmas Week Monday 11th December - Friday 15th December

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Year 3</b>			Christmas film	Christmas lunch Visit  Christmas shop	Christmas party  Online raffle  Christmas sing along
<b>Year 4</b>	Christmas party	Christingle	Christmas shop	Christmas lunch  Christmas movie	Online raffle  Christmas sing along
<b>Year 5</b>		Christmas shop	Christmas party	Christmas lunch  Christmas movie	Online raffle  Christmas sing along
<b>Year 6</b>	Christmas shop		Christmas movie	Christmas lunch  Christmas party	Online raffle  Christmas sing along

During this week, your child be able to take part in the following activities:

**Class Movie**

Food will be provided for the children, so please do not send sweets in with your child.

**Year group Party**

Children are invited to wear their Christmas jumper alongside their normal school uniform on the day that it is their Christmas party.

**Opportunity to purchase gifts at our Christmas shop**

A range of gifts are on offer for children to purchase. Children will need a maximum of £5. To ensure there is enough stock for everyone, they will only be allowed to buy 2 gifts and then if we have gifts left over on the Friday, children will be able to buy more.

**Christmas raffle**

Raffle tickets can be bought for 20p per ticket. Your child will need to bring in their money in an envelope that has their name, class, amount of money and number of tickets they wish to purchase. The raffle is online, so physical tickets will not be given to your child.

Raffle tickets will be on sale from Monday to Thursday 11th - 14th December.

**Christmas lunch**

Google form has been shared and **must be completed by December 6th**. All children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper or Christmas clothes for the day.

**Christmas Sing-a-long**

Parents are invited to join our school community for a Festive sing-a-long on the last day of term. This will be from 13.15. School finishes at 2pm on this day.

**KGA Meeting with CEO Mr Nick Cross**

Mr Nick Cross is scheduled to meet with parents in **The Hall at 2.00-3.00pm on Tuesday 5 December** - please enter The Hall via the path door. Mrs Mulhall and Mrs Sharpe will be present at the meeting also. This will be an opportunity for you to hear a presentation from Mr Cross, learn more about Kings Group Academy (KGA), address any questions or concerns you may have and learn more about the GFM joining King's Group Academies. If you are unable to attend these sessions, you can still participate by submitting your questions or comments via email to [vshorter@gfmat.org](mailto:vshorter@gfmat.org). All questions received will be used to support the development of a 'Frequently Asked Questions' document which will be published on the GFM website.

**Personal Development Learning at RJS**

This half term, children have been looking at caring and respectful relationships, as well as valuing the differences in our communities in their PDL learning. They wanted to share some of what they have been learning...

**"We have been learning about how important it is to be different in the world we live in. Everyone is different and that is great because we can show respect and understanding to everyone around us. We have found out about the British Values and that we should show mutual respect and tolerance to every citizen because we are all wonders!"**

**"We have been learning about the British Values in lots of detail to help us understand how it feels to live in Britain. We have learnt about lots of different religions and different people and talked about why it is important to show everyone high levels of respect. We enjoy living in a multi-cultural society because we get to learn from people's differences and it makes the world a more exciting place to live!"**

**Local Governing Committees**

The Gosport and Fareham Multi-Academy Trust (GFM) is seeking further volunteers to become members of the Rowner Junior Local Governing Body Committee to support and challenge school leaders as they implement the School Improvement Strategy. We are grateful to have filled six places so far. Governors are involved in conducting school visits and attending scrutiny meetings throughout the academic year. Local Governing Body Committees are significant in supporting the GFM's aim for every young person to receive the best possible educational experience. Members of Local Governing Body Committees will receive training, conduct school visits, speak to staff, students and parents, and successfully support the GFM to improve our schools for the whole community. We are looking for further volunteers within our community to become members to help school leaders to overcome challenges and provide solutions for academic success. We are particularly interested in applicants from diverse backgrounds. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact our Executive Headteacher, Mrs Georgina Mulhall: [enquiries@rowner.gfmat.org](mailto:enquiries@rowner.gfmat.org)

### Names in Uniform

It is essential that your child's school clothing has their names written on them, especially if coats, jumpers etc. This allows us to return any items of clothing directly to the child.

### 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.

### Parent/teacher Learning Reviews

Our meetings will be taking place the week beginning Monday 4 December. If you have not already done so, please book an appointment to discuss your child's progress and attainment so far this year. Please refer to the email sent home on 14 November 2023 for booking details.

### SATS 2024-25 (Year 5 and Year 3 parents only)

ATTENTION if your child is in **Year 5**, they will be completing their SATS between **Monday 12th May and Thursday 15th May 2024**. If your child is in **Year 3**, they will be taking part in the Multiplication tables checks between **Monday 2nd June and Friday 13th June 2024**. We are providing advance warning of this so that holidays are not booked at these times. Please remember that any term time holiday is still unauthorised.

### THANK YOU

Team Rowner have been awesome this half term and we would like to extend our thanks to some members of our school community. Some of our children have been participating in the inter-school football competition that is taking place at this moment, and Mr Fogwill and some of our other parents have purchased Rowner a brand new football kit and posts (still to arrive). The generosity of these parents is truly appreciated from both our staff, and most definitely our pupils. Friends of Rowner have been busy across the Autumn Term in hosting the Halloween disco, preparing the Christmas week and in donating funds for all of our pupils to be able to attend the Wizard of Oz on ice.

### The BIG Ambition

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel De Souza, has launched The Big Ambition national campaign to ensure that the voices of children in Hampshire are fairly represented and heard. The Big Ambition provides an opportunity for the children of England to tell political decision makers what is important to them ahead of the General Election. Their responses will be shared with the Government to ensure that children's voices are heard. Children or parents can complete the survey [here](#). Further resources are available on their [website](#).

### Well Wishes

Wishing you all a very happy and safe holiday. Wishing you a healthy and prosperous New Year also. It has been a busy term and we are delighted with all that the children have achieved. As a community we share and achieve so much - Here at Team Rowner we are really grateful for this. We look forward to seeing everyone on **Tuesday 2nd January 2024**.

### Winter school uniform

The children continue to look smart in their uniform. Thank you for your support with this. We will continue to remind children to correct their choices if their school attire is not in-line with our policy. As we move into the autumnal/winter season, please ensure that your child has the appropriate **named** 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 note that 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 continue to ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform, especially the PE kit.

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.

#### You Said / We did ....

You said that you wanted to find out more about what your child was learning in class.

- Curriculum and Hive newsletters.
- Daily social media posts that showcase learning across the school - [see here](#)
- Our webpage has a curriculum that not only gives a whole school overview, but also shares what each year group are covering - [see here](#)