



Rowsley C of E Primary School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow! How time flies when you are having fun!

We cannot believe that we are nearly at the end of another school year!

The last half term is always a really busy one. Jam-packed full of events and activities so thank you for keeping up with it all.

Information can always be found on our website and on your child's class pages, on the whiteboards outside school, and on the newsletters.

We also now have an Instagram account to go alongside our Facebook account – please follow and share at [rowsleycofeprimaryschool](#) to get the word out about our wonderful little school.

Year 6 Leavers

This half-term is also an emotionally charged one for our Year 6 pupils, many of whom have been with us since Reception. It has been the greatest of pleasures to work with, and teach, 6 amazing young men and I look forward to hearing about their adventures as they go forward from Rowsley. Each one is full of charm, wit and intelligence. As a school, we wish them all the best. Personally, it will be hard to say goodbye as they have all had an impact on me in one way or another. They have taught me how to be a better, more patient teacher and they have given me so many laughs (and a few grey hairs) over the years. I hope they take away fond memories of Rowsley. I shall miss them greatly.



New Starters

We look forward to welcoming our new starters over the next few weeks – they have several taster sessions planned before they start full-time in September.

There is still availability in our Reception year group, so if you do know of anyone needing a place, please let them know how great we are, they can make a late application through derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions.

Sporting Events

Weather permitting, our Sports' Day will be going ahead on Thursday 13th July. Mrs Booker has planned another fabulous sporting event and training is underway for the children. As always, you and your families are welcome to attend – I hope that you have been all practicing for the highly competitive adult races!

The infants enjoyed an afternoon of Cricket Skills and games at Great Longstone this half-term. Their behaviour and attitude, as always, was great and they all participated with enthusiasm.

The Y5/6s had the chance to shine with the highly competitive KS2 Rounders Tournament on 6th July, at which Rowsley triumphed, coming first amongst other local schools – well done everyone!

What goes on in school?

The Obamas and The Simone Biles Classes have been working really hard to learn their words and have been rehearsing weekly for this year's end of year performance of *Pantastic*, which will be shown at the village on Tuesday 11th July. There are two showings: 1.30pm and 6pm. The PTA have very kindly offered to provide refreshments for the performances. Please note that doors to the Village Hall do not open until 1.15pm or 5.45pm, and due to the fact that we need to set up, we cannot allow people in before these times.

The Obamas

We had a fabulous residential trip to Mount Cook this half term. The weather was amazing; it was one of the best residential trips that I have attended. Many thanks to Mrs Pawley and Mrs Middlebrook who each stayed one night and Mrs Booker for coming on the last day to help (and have a go) at the High Ropes Course.

The children tackled everything with smiles and enthusiasm and tested themselves too. Here are a few quotes from their stay:

"We need to be making a cart from wood and rope, my team have a good cart but the other team copy - all because other team have bad cart but we won the other team because original every time is better."

"After a while, we went to our pods for an hour until we had to go to bush craft and fire - we made sparks and everybody was struggling except Caveman Connor - he whizzed through it. He even got it to work with the flint and steel!"

"I loved to hang out in the pod that I was in and also the pods had the comfiest beds so I had the best night sleep."

"Your breakfast was one of my favourite things whilst I was there. I wish you could bring your breakfast to my house every morning! Thank you for the amazing breakfast whilst I was there."

"The indoor climbing was really good and it was very easy to get up, but you have to trust the rope because I was scared at first but then I thought, 'If I slip, the rope will catch me.' It was great fun and I got really close to the top. The team member (Catherine) was very supportive of children that were scared or worried."

Photos of our stay can be found on the Obamas class page – and there are also a few in the Peak Advertiser!

The Year 6s also attended Lady Manners for a children's illustrator event for the Greenaway Prize. They worked creatively on posters with children from Baslow Primary on the selected books and got a chance to meet the Head Teacher and librarian. Three of them won prizes: Connor for creativity with his partner, and Zac and Dorian for a team effort – they created a puppet show about the Titanic!



The Simone Biles Class

The Simone Biles class have done some great map work on seas and oceans this half term and it was a delight to go in and have them name them all for me!

This half term's DT was product design – to design something for a specific purpose. They started out looking at bags and their suitability – Miss Sutton role-played taking a suitcase to a supermarket and then opening the case and all the shopping falling out!! They went on to discuss problems that they encountered on an everyday basis. Here are some of their problems: dropping cutlery on the floor, not being able to reach things and teddies falling out of bed. They then went on to design a product to combat their problem and made a prototype. There were some fabulous creations and the children had an awful lot of fun.



The Greta Thunberg Class

This half term, our Reception children have been reading the modern classic story - Handa's Surprise. We have sequenced the story, written our own versions and even had a tasting session where we explored different fruit (some more popular than others).



New Class Names

Your child will have had their transition morning with their new class – in some cases with a new teacher. As always, we have chosen inspirational people as our class names:

EYFS/Y1 & Y2 will be the Mother Theresa Class with Miss Lindley

Y3 & Y4 will be the Amelia Earhart Class with Mrs Hodgson

Y5 & Y6 will be the Marcus Rashford Class with Mrs Hewitt

Family Support Worker

From September, Mrs Chisholm will be our school Family Support Worker.

She will be available every Monday and Tuesday. If you feel your child needs support or you need support at home you can email her at r.chisholm@peaktorfederation.co.uk, make an appointment via Mrs Middlebrook or speak to her at the gate – she will be out with myself on her working days.

A Family Support Worker is an invaluable asset to the school and Mrs Chisholm will deal with all cases in confidence.

Summer Reading Challenge

Your child will be coming home with a school Summer Reading Challenge, but there is also a library reading challenge in which your child can participate.

The library and the Reading Agency have teamed up with the Youth Sports Trust to create a sports and games themed challenge that will encourage play and participation. It is called Ready, Set, Read! You can find out more information on <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/readysetreadd-bc-landing> or at your local library.

Your child can do both or choose just one challenge. They will receive 10 dojos per challenge and a small treat.

Well-Dressing

This year's well dressing was truly superb, thank you to everyone who gave their time to set it up and getting it completed on time. It looked absolutely amazing!

The theme of wellbeing and Rowsley CofE Primary being a happy place was spot on. It is a tradition that we need to keep going in our local communities, and starting the children off early will hopefully encourage them in the future.



Friends of Rowsley Primary

This tireless group continue to be amazing by running events to raise funds for our school. Please support them by either volunteering and/or supporting the events. They have been selling ice lollies and ice creams on sunny Fridays to keep everyone cool in the warm weather and they are currently in the throes of preparing for the Summer Fair on Tuesday 18th July. If you can help to set up, man a stall, provide bottles for the tombola or cakes for the cake stall please see Mrs Middlebook, or Claire Harrison (infant parent). Thank you in advance for all your support!

School Uniform

School uniform is part of our school identity and continues to be important to the ethos of our school. We hope to get off to a good start in the new academic year.

Daily Uniform

Boys: grey tailored shorts or trousers, royal blue or white polo shirt and royal blue school sweatshirt, black school shoes or sensible black ankle boots (not trainers or equivalent).

Girls: grey skirt, pinafore, trousers or tailored shorts, royal blue or white polo shirt and royal blue school sweatshirt or cardigan, black school shoes or sensible black boots (not trainers or equivalent), blue gingham summer dresses are also acceptable in warm weather.

PE Kit

Navy or black joggers or leggings, white or royal blue t-shirt – no emblems other than the school logo, school jumper or cardigan, trainers.

Football kits or labelled clothing such as Nike tracksuits are not acceptable as a PE kit.

Forest School

Long sleeved top, joggers or leggings, sweatshirt or hoodie – all of a neutral colour. Long sleeves and trousers are essential due to brambles and nettles being in the woods

Your child can come to school in trainers or school shoes for Forest School but must have wellies or walking boots available in a separate bag. They are also expected to bring waterproof trousers

There is always stock on our pre-loved uniform rail, the rail is brought into the playground regularly, alternatively, please pop in when you drop off or pick up to take a look. There is no cost for the items on this rack. A BIG plea from all staff is to PLEASE label your child's clothing – we get so many jumpers left behind as we are unable to identify owners if they are unnamed.

Exciting News

Starting in the new academic year (around October time), Mrs Booker will be running a parent and toddler Forest School session every Thursday. Learning and playing in the outdoors builds confidence, enhances social skills, develops language and communication, motivation and concentration, and also has a positive effect physically and mentally.

This is a great opportunity for our school and community and we hope that it will be a huge success. A flyer was sent out on Parenthub last week, and reminders will be sent next term. So watch this space! And please share this news with your friends.

Flood Defences

The observant amongst you will have noticed that the sand bags have been removed from outside of school. This is due to the fact that we have finally received planning permission to have flood defences installed and we hope that this will happen over the Summer holidays. It has been a long process to get this sorted – a big thank you to all involved. Mrs Wyer has spent many hours fighting for this in order to keep our school flood-free for the future.

Diary Dates

Dates are subject to change, and more may be added, however we wanted to give as much advance notice as possible.

| Date | Event | Details |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| July | | |
| Tuesday 11 th July | KS2 Production | Afternoon performance 1.30pm Evening Performance 6.00pm Village Hall Please bring loose change for refreshments and to make a donation at the end of the shows. |
| Wednesday 12 th July | Transition for new Reception starters, followed by new parents' meeting | 2.30pm children arrive 3.30pm new parents' meeting |
| Thursday 13 th July | Sports Day | 1pm on the Rec, everyone welcome |
| Tuesday 18 th July | Summer Fair | 3.30pm - 5pm Please bring cakes, bottles for the tombola to school in advance. If you can volunteer at the event please speak to Claire Harrison or Mrs Middlebrook |
| Thursday 20 th July | School Leavers' Service | St Katherine's Church. Exact time TBA but it will be the morning |
| Friday 21 st July | Last Day of term | School closes at the normal time of 3.30 |
| September | | |
| Monday 4 th Sept | INSET | SCHOOL CLOSED |
| Tuesday 5 th Sept | INSET | SCHOOL CLOSED |
| Wednesday 6 th Sept | New Term Starts | School re-opens |

Your Child's Safety

In the final weeks of the half term we are taking part in an NSPCC initiative called 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' which encourages pupils to speak out against any harm they feel they are in. This relates to harm within school, home or any other safe environment and can be in the form of emotional, physical or sexual abuse. Staff will be conducting the safeguarding assemblies using the NSPCC videos and resources which use age appropriate vocabulary and content. If anybody would like any further information you can visit: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/services/speak-out-stay-safe> or ask Mrs Wyer for more information.

As always, keeping your children safe whilst online, is of paramount importance. There is a section on online safety on our website <https://www.rowsleyprimary.co.uk/online-safety/> and the NSPCC also have some key information on <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Job Opportunity – Clerk to Governors

We currently have a part-time vacancy for a Clerk to Governors for the Peak Tor Federation. This role is based from home, for a few hours each week, other than attending governor meetings which are in school 7 times per year on weekday evenings. The role involves working with Mrs Wyer to prepare an agenda and papers, being a point of contact for governors and the Governor Support Team at Derbyshire County Council, minuting meetings and filing papers. If you, or anyone you know, may be interested in this role, please speak to Mrs Wyer or Mrs Middlebrook. The role will start in September, at pay grade 4 (£10.79 per hour).

And finally...

Please do keep an eye on your child's class page on the school website over the Summer, as key information will be added.

If you would like a paper copy of our newsletter, please email me at c.hewitt@peaktorfederation.co.uk and I will arrange for one to be sent home with your child.

Enjoy your holidays, let's hope for some lovely weather. Live 'life in all its fullness.'

Many thanks,

Claire Hewitt

Deputy Head Teacher