



April 2024

Rowsley C of E Primary School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, it is finally looking like Spring has sprung! With the weather warming up, please make sure that your child has a water-bottle in school and if they need sun-cream, this must be applied before school.

Christian Values

This half-term 's Christian value is 'service' – "serve one another in love" (Galatians 5.13). But what does this mean? The act of service should be to help build up another person and/or make our world a more loving, happier, safer, cleaner, holier place. And I think we do this really well at Rowsley.

We can learn a lot from these amazing young people who support each other daily; say thank you to those who make a difference in their lives and help others should they be in need.

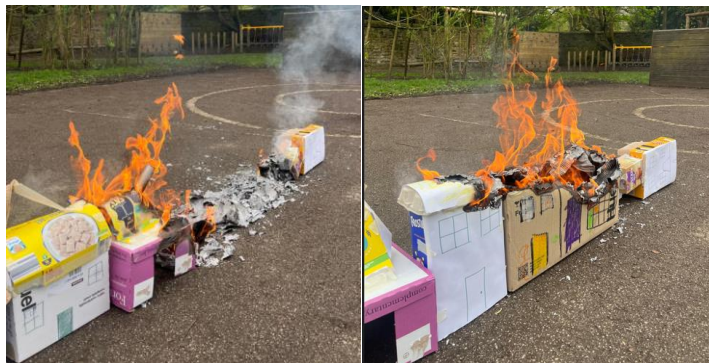
If you have not yet looked at our SIAMs report, this can be found at <https://www.rowsleyprimary.co.uk/page/?title=SIAMS&pid=116> It is a really lovely read. Our school was praised for providing a place where, "All staff and pupils are able to flourish through a culture of compassion, respect and love which is underpinned by the Christian vision." The inspector could see that, "Rowsley Church of England Primary School is a nurturing, caring community built on a foundation of love," and she saw evidence that, "the school's vision and values underpin its inclusive approach to supporting all pupils."

We are really proud of the report and children's exemplary behaviour.

What is going on in school?

The Mother Teresa Class

The Mother Teresa class have been having lots of fun with their topic on London. I had the privilege of being invited out to watch the Rowsley 'Great Fire of London' experience. The children built houses out of boxes and then recreated Pudding Lane. Miss Lindley then set fire to the houses so that the children could see how quickly the fire spread. The squeals of joy were delightful. It was a thoroughly brilliant lesson and one which they will remember. They have been able to tell me so many facts about the Great Fire.



The children were all safely behind the wall and all safety procedures were followed.

The Amelia Earhart Class

The Y3/4 children have been enjoying learning about sound in Science. They have been exploring how to change pitch on different instruments and using data loggers to record the volume of these instruments. The use of data loggers also links in with our Computing work this half term, during which the children will soon be inputting their data onto spreadsheets. The seeds we planted last half term have now grown into young plants and we have planted them out in our refurbished planters in the playground along with some potatoes.



The Marcus Rashford Class

This half term the children are learning about the Ancient Maya civilisation.

The Maya topic is a fabulous one and they all seem to be really enjoying it – they loved learning about the Maya Gods and religion, especially the sacrifices that were made! Very gruesome.

They have also been learning and writing about the Mexican festival, Dia del los Muertos (Day of the Dead). They have had to produce some emotive language and draw on their senses in our English work.

We also welcomed two new children into our class just before the Easter holidays. They have both settled in brilliantly and have been given a wonderful Rowsley welcome. It is like they have been here all along.

The Year 6 children are also gearing up towards their SATs in a week's time! I know that they will be relieved when they are all over. Please make sure that you are up to date with arrangements and refer to the letter sent out 15th April and again 5th May electronically.

Forest School

It is with great sadness that I am having to write that over the Easter holidays and again over the last few weeks, we have seen some vandalism in our Green Zone area.

We came back after Easter to find the plant pots that had been painted by the children had been smashed; doors ripped off storage cupboards and pieces of the children's obstacle course removed and taken to Whitworth Park.

Since coming back to school, three males were spotted by a local in the woods one evening, where they seemingly opened the farmer's gate and let the cows into the area. The cows subsequently got on to the A6 which could have caused all sorts of trouble.

We have contacted the police about this matter and are looking into additional security measures.

Safeguarding at Rowsley CofE Primary

If any Year 6 parent is interested, the Bakewell Mental Health Team are offering parents their support:

Bakewell Mental Health Support Team

**SUPPORTING MY CHILD WITH THEIR TRANSITION TO
SECONDARY SCHOOL**

- **DATE:** 16TH May 2024 **DATE:** 21st May 2024
- **TIME:** 17:30-19:00 or **TIME:** 09:45-11:15am
- **VENUE:** Online via Teams **VENUE:** Lady Manners
Secondary School

AGENDA

Welcome and Introduction
Supporting Feelings of Anxiety/Worry
Getting Your Child Used to Change
Building Resilience and Next Steps

Please see the additional advice regarding mobile phone use with children of a primary school age at the end of this letter.

Music at Rowsley

May's Musician of the Month is British composer, Anna Clyne. She has been described as a "composer of uncommon gifts and unusual methods." Her most well-known piece, Masquerade can be listened to here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEOchchAuWk>

Friends of Rowsley School

A big thank you to the 'Friends' for funding an exciting opportunity for the Year 5 and Year 6 children on their residential trip to Boggle Hole! They have paid for the whole class to have a surf lesson on Whitby Beach, plus transport to the beach. We are all very excited! Other contributions this term have included hockey kits and the bus travel for the infants' visit to Haddon Hall.

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Details
May		
13 th May - 16 th May	SATs Week	Y6's only - see letter for timetable
16 th May	Y5/6 Cricket	Cricket event at Youlgrave
20 th May	Magic Breakfast starts	Free breakfast for all children, and free access to Morning Club for Pupil Premium families
24 th May	Last Day of Term	School closes for 1 week
June		
3 rd June	Back to school	School reopens for the last half term
6 th June	Sports Day	Weather dependent. All welcome on Rowsley Rec at 1pm
7 th June	Bags2School Collection	PTFA Event. Please bring donations in bags to school on the morning
7 th June	National Doughnut Day	PTFA will be selling doughnuts after school
10 th - 12 th June	Y5/6 Residential to Boggle Hole, Whitby	Details to follow
18 th June	Y6 Transition Day	Y6 to spend the day at LMS
20 th June	Y6 to LMS	Carnegie Awards - details to follow
20 th June	New Reception	2.30pm - 3.30pm - New starters to

	Starters	come in and meet Miss Lindley and Mrs Isherwood, followed by the new parents meeting at 3.30pm
21 st June	Friday Inset Day	School Closed
24 th June	Monday Inset Day	School Closed
25 th – 28 th June	Well-dressing Week	Volunteers always welcome to help out
27 th June	Infant Cricket	Longstone
July		
1 st July	New Reception Starters	1.30pm – 3pm
4 th July	New Reception Starters	9am – 11am
4 th July	Whole School Transition Day	All classes to spend time in their new year groups, and Y6 to spend the day at LMS
6 th July	KS2 Summer Performance	Village Hall 1.30pm and 6pm
11 th July	Y5/6 Rounders	Sporting event held at Rowsley Rec.
16 th July	Olympics Fun Afternoon	PTFA event during school time – additional volunteers welcome!
23 rd July	Last Day of Term	Please note the last day of term is TUESDAY 23 rd July. School closed until 5 th Sept

Remaining School Term Dates

Summer 1: 15th April 2024 to 24th May 2024 (6th May 2024 is a bank holiday)

Summer 2: 3rd June 2024 to 23rd July 2023

Remaining School INSET Days

Friday 21st June

Monday 24th June

And finally...

The school newsletter can be found on our school website and diary dates are on the school website calendar.

If you have any queries or questions, please do speak to us or arrange a meeting. You can email the school at info@rowsley.derbyshire.sch.uk or email myself at c.hewitt@peaktorfederation.co.uk

If you would like a paper copy of the newsletter, please let me know and this can be arranged.

Live 'life in all its fullness.' (John 10:10b)

Claire Hewitt

Deputy Head Teacher

Keeping your Child Safe on their Mobile Phone

We have had an increasing number of parents raising concerns about children's use of mobile phones and other forms of social media messaging and usage whilst away from school. Mobile phones are not allowed in Rowsley Primary School but we have recently been made aware of inappropriate images being shared and some messaging which include the use of bad language and name-calling.

When used correctly social media has many benefits. When used incorrectly social media can cause upset and anxiety for adults and for children. Research says that children can be affected in many ways – they feel unhappy, vulnerable, left out, bullied, can't sleep and lose confidence.

This is clearly something that we all want to protect our children from. Incorrect or inappropriate use is very often texting or voice notes on mobile phones to individuals through group chats. We talk often about this in school but **it remains the responsibility of ALL parents to manage and monitor their child's usage of mobile phones and wider internet usage.**

Many sites have age restrictions; eg Facebook, you tube, Instagram, snap chat, musical.ly - this is to prohibit and ultimately safeguard primary school children from having their own authorised use.

Often peer pressure persuades children that they must have a mobile phone OR to join a social network group, "because everyone else has". This pressure can equally persuade parents to buy children a mobile phone for their child or children OR to overlook age restrictions on sites. As parents, it is entirely appropriate to say "no". If your child does have a phone (i pad, tablet or lap top) some simple but important safeguarding messages are:

- Set guidelines for when your child has use of their phone or device and what they can use it for
- check usage and messages for appropriateness
- restrict access to certain sites
- age restrictions on sites are there to protect and safeguard children, check and if in doubt say no!
- keep phones downstairs and not in bedrooms
- remove the privilege of a phone or device if it is used inappropriately
- Remind children that digital media leaves a digital footprint; this means that messages and images are stored and are traceable. Think what you say and post
- Use sensibly and safely – look after each other and yourself
- Talk openly with your child and keep those lines of communication open

We do not usually get involved with mobile phone messages sent outside of school as this should be something monitored by parents, but when it effects the safeguarding of our children and the children talk to us about how concerned they are for themselves and their friends, then we do need to get involved.