



October 2023

# Rowsley C of E Primary School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, the first half term is done and we are now on the run-up to Christmas. There will be lots of exciting things going on next half term so please keep yourselves up to date by reading the monthly newsletter, checking the website and reading Parent Hub messages.

If you have not yet got the Parent Hub app, please make sure that you download it as it is an important avenue of communication from school. If you have any issues downloading it, please come in to school and see Mrs Middlebrook who will happily help you get it setup. Parent Hub was so useful on Friday when we had to close the school due to flood water.

Thank you to the parents/carers and our local community who rallied together to keep our children safe last Friday. A big thank you from myself too to all the staff who helped.

## Christian Values

Next term's theme is Trust. 'My God is my strength in whom I trust.' Psalm 18.2

This will be the focus of our Collective Worship.

## Attendance

Attendance continues to be of upmost importance in school. Please see the chart below which highlights how important it is for your child to be in school. Even lateness makes a difference! Time outside of school impacts on your child educationally and socially.

### Every School Day Counts



### Every Minute Counts

**LATENESS = LOST LEARNING**  
(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

5 Minutes late each day	3 days lost!
10 Minutes late each day	6.5 days lost!
15 Minutes late each day	10 days lost!
20 Minutes late each day	13 days lost!
30 Minutes late each day	19 days lost!

Be at the classroom on time and ready to learn!



## What is going on in school?

The school continues to be a happy and thriving place. I feel so privileged to teach at Rowsley and would like to share some of my highlights:

Dancing with one of the new reception children when he came to see me dressed in a velvet waistcoat and glasses

Listening to the story of a hedgehog rescue

Having a class of children begging to read a poem over and over

Smelling the deliciousness of a pasta sauce that was cooking at the other end of school

### **The Mother Teresa Class**

This half term the children have been exploring Pablo Picasso's work on cubism. We used collage to create a portrait, using different shapes and colours.



### **The Amelia Earhart Class**

This half term in Design Technology lessons, Amelia Earhart Class have been learning about how to ensure we have a healthy diet and why this is important. It ties in brilliantly with our Science unit on the digestive system. We finished our DT unit by cooking a healthy pasta sauce. All children had the opportunity to chop vegetables, add extra ingredients and help cook the sauce on the hob. The children behaved very sensibly and maturely throughout. It was lovely to see so many children enthusiastically trying the pasta sauce - which included 5 different vegetables - and coming back for seconds. Mrs Hodgson had to put her foot down when they wanted thirds! Thank you to Dianne Hewitt who gave up her time to help us.



### **The Marcus Rashford Class**

I feel like we have covered so much this half term. The children have settled in fabulously and are all knuckling down. We have conducted a science investigation about birds' beaks and different foodstuffs; discussed the impact of tourism on the Galapagos Islands; created some fabulous art work; learned to play the recorder; and written lots of wonderful poems. In art we looked at the artist Emil Nolde who painted dancers and movement, we took a photo of ourselves in a dance pose, then used Paint 3D to create a digital image using complementary colours. Our final task was to paint the image that we had created.



## Forest School

In the woods, Mrs Booker has been focusing on mindfulness and well-being in relation to World Mental Health Day which was on 10<sup>th</sup> October. Activities this half term have included painting, toasting smores and the children have been using the new equipment donated by the PTA including palm drills and conker clamps!



## Safeguarding at Rowsley CofE Primary

October is Cyber Security Awareness Month

Advice can be found at: <https://esafetytraining.org/cyber-security-awareness-month-2023/>

Mrs Wyer will be talking to the children about being Cyber Aware and will be showing them this fun interactive game which you can play at home with your child. It will teach the whole family about cyber awareness in a fun and engaging manner!

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/training/ncsc-cyber-security-for-young-people-english-scorm-v2/index.html>

Here are some other links for staying safe online:

Share aware - from the NSPCC and O2 - for younger children - promotes safety when online or using apps and games.

Get Safe Online has resources to help children and young people of different ages. As a parent or carer you need to stay switched-on to children's online safety.

Safer Internet - has e-safety tips, advice and resources to help children and young people stay safe on the internet.

This all ties in with our Computing lessons this term which have been about Internet Safety.

## Toddler Forest School

Our Toddler Forest School with Tara will continue to run on Thursday mornings from 9.30am – 10.15am, and is a bargain at only £2 per session. It will also be open to 2 year olds from after half term! If you would like any further details, please email school or ask one of the members of staff for a leaflet. This is a wonderful opportunity for our community, so please spread the word.

## Musician of the Month

October's musician of the month is Babatunde Olatunji. Olatunji is a Nigerian drummer and his style of music is known as Yoruba music. He spent his life promoting African music and culture. When I first played his music to my class they spontaneously got up and started dancing!

## Diary Dates for the new half term

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

Date	Event	Details
<b>November</b>		
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	School Re-opens	Start of Autumn 2
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Y6 Bikeability	The Y6s who attended last time will need to bring their bikes and helmets to school
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' Evening	
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' Evening	
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Individual School Photos	Village Hall available from 8.30am for sibling photos with older/younger children not at Rowsley
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Y3&4 Dodgeball at Bakewell	Please return your permission slip if you haven't already.
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Y6 Bikeability	Bikes and helmets needed
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	PTA School Disco	Please return permission slips and payment to attend.
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	EYFS and Year 1 Phonics and reading meeting for parents/carers	From 3.30pm in Miss Lindley's classroom.
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need	Please see the separate letter about events occurring on this day
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	EYFS Open Day	From 2pm to 3pm, school will be open for parents with children wanting a place from Sept 2024, no need to book.
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET DAY	School closed for the day
<b>December</b>		
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Last swim of the half term	
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole school trip to Cinderella at Buxton Opera House	Please return permission slips and payment as soon as possible. Please also make sure that your child is here on time as we will be leaving at 9am on the dot
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christingle	2pm at St Katherine's Church All welcome to attend
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Carols in Community	Starting at 5.30pm in the playground, all welcome
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Hot chocolate and pyjama book day	Come to school in your favourite snuggly PJs with a book to share with the class
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Infant Nativity Performances	In the Village Hall at 1.30pm and 5.30pm. Miss Lindley will send a letter with further details next half term
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner Day, followed by class Christmas parties	Come to school in party clothes
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Christmas Jumper	Come to school in your Christmas jumper



	and/or Headwear Day. PTA Christmas Afternoon in school	and/or hat. The PTA will be arranging a fun afternoon of Christmas activities, details to follow.
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Last day of term	School closed until Monday January 8th

## School Term Dates

Autumn 2: 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 to 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

Spring 1: 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Spring 2: 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024 to 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

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

Summer 2: 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024 to 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2023

## School INSET Days

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024

## And finally...

The school newsletter can also 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](mailto:info@rowsley.derbyshire.sch.uk) or email myself at [c.hewitt@peaktorfederation.co.uk](mailto:c.hewitt@peaktorfederation.co.uk)

If you would like a paper copy of the newsletter, please let me know and this can be arranged. We wish you all a happy half-term break.

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

Claire Hewitt

Deputy Head Teacher

