



November 2025

# Rowsley C of E Primary School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

In the run up to Christmas, please keep a close eye on the boards outside school and on the school website. Mrs Middlebrook has put together a handy list of all events so that you know what is going on, this will be sent out next week.

We appreciate it is a busy time, but we do all this to make Christmas a magical and memorable time for all the children.

## Christian Values

Mrs. Wyer will centre her collective worships around our Christian value – Truth. We will focus on knowing Jesus is with us in stormy times (Mark 4: 35-41); standing on God's promises (Psalm 18:2) which describes God as a rock, fortress, deliverer, strength, shield, and high tower; being trustworthy and not spreading gossip (Proverbs 11:3) and trusting God (Isiah 49:16).

## What is going on in school?

### The Julia Donaldson Class (EYFS, Y1 & Y2)

Our EYFS have been learning the numbers 1 to 5. They have been learning through play, song and rhyme. We have focused on the Five Little Men rhyme, and they have enjoyed playing with the space rocket on the Five Little Men tuff tray. The children have also been learning about seasons, so they have made their own hibernation den to put in the classroom!



### The Judith Kerr Class (Y3 & Y4)

A highlight of last half term for Judith Kerr class was definitely our DT sessions on cooking healthy meals. Y3/4 produced a tasty pasta sauce in the final lesson. Recipes have been sent out if you would like to replicate it at home! This half term, children are already very engaged with our history topic on the Romans and our related English unit about gladiator battles. They have also enjoyed using BBC Dance Mat to learn the foundations of touch typing, as part of our word processing unit in Computing.



**The Joseph Coelho Class (Y5 & Y6)**

At the end of the last half term, we had a fabulous WW2 day. It was so lovely seeing all the children dressed up as evacuees and everyone brought in a rationed packed lunch – thank you for all the effort that you put into this. Thank you also to the ladies from Rowsley Craft Club who came in to do a ‘make-do-and-mend’ session, and to Maxon’s sweets from Sheffield who put together a WW2 sweet jar for me.

This half term we will be learning about evolution and inheritance – we will learn about Charles Darwin and Mary Anning and their discoveries.



**Forest School**

Our Forest School sessions offer valuable benefits to our children by fostering their spiritual, emotional, and physical development through meaningful outdoor experiences. By engaging with God’s creation firsthand, pupils learn to appreciate nature as a gift and responsibility, deepening their sense of gratitude. The hands-on, child-led activities set up by Mrs Booker, help build confidence, resilience, teamwork, and problem-solving skills, all whilst encouraging reflection and awe at the natural world. This holistic approach aligns closely with Christian values of respect, care, and wonder, nurturing both faith and personal growth in a joyful, nurturing environment.

I had the pleasure of joining the infants in the woods just before half term, and I thoroughly loved it. I was made French onion and minestrone soup from the mud kitchen; visited a museum of giant’s bones; played games; made and hung bird feeders; got muddy and had an amazing time. It was lovely to see the sessions in practice.



## Safeguarding at Rowsley CofE Primary

Safeguarding remains a central focus at Rowsley CofE Primary, ensuring every child feels safe, valued, and protected. Staff stay vigilant as daylight hours shorten, reinforcing safe routines during arrival and dismissal times. Grounded in Christian values of love and care, our school community works together to provide a secure environment where all children can flourish.

**“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”**  
— *Matthew 19:14*. This verse beautifully reflects the Christian commitment to protecting, nurturing, and valuing every child in our school.

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please see one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads in school - Mrs Wyer and Mrs Hewitt. Alternatively, if you believe that any child is in danger, please ring Call Derbyshire on 01629 533190 choosing the option for urgent child protection calls at any time.

## Bits and Bobs

**Cycling to school** - Many of our children cycle to school, which we love and encourage, but many are cycling near a very busy road without protection. Please ensure that they are wearing a cycle helmet. Wearing a cycle helmet offers several important benefits:

1. **Head Protection:** Helmets significantly reduce the risk of serious head and brain injuries by absorbing impact in the event of a fall or collision.
2. **Visibility:** Many helmets have bright colours or reflective materials, making cyclists more visible to drivers, especially in low-light conditions.
3. **Weather Shielding:** Helmets can provide some protection from sun, rain, and debris, keeping riders more comfortable and focused.
4. **Confidence and Safety Habits:** Wearing a helmet promotes responsible cycling and sets a positive example for others, especially children, encouraging a culture of safety.

**School Jumpers** – Please make sure that your child’s jumpers are labelled/named inside. We often find jumpers around the classrooms and playground but cannot give these back to the relevant child if they do not have their name in.

**Christmas Crib Service** – every year St Katherine’s Church holds a Christmas Crib Service – this is not a school event. The service relies on volunteers to do readings at the church. Everyone is invited to attend whether they are reading or not. However, if you think your child would like to be a reader at this event, please let me know by December 11<sup>th</sup>.

You can email me at [c.hewitt@peaktorfederation.co.uk](mailto:c.hewitt@peaktorfederation.co.uk).

Each child is given a short passage to read out in church. The event will be held on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 2pm, and you will need to attend with your child.

## Governor Vacancy

**We still have a governor vacancy and would love to have another Rowsley representative.**

### **Could You Be a School Governor?**

We are looking for members of our community to volunteer as a **Primary School Governor for the Peak Tor Federation** (Rowsley C of E and Stanton-in-Peak C of E Primary Schools).

A school governor plays a vital role in shaping the future of our schools. Governors work as part of a team to provide support and challenge to the school leadership, helping to ensure that every child has the best possible start in life.

We are seeking volunteers who are:

- Honest, fair, and have integrity

- Good listeners and clear communicators
- Committed to working as part of a team
- Passionate about making a positive difference for children

You don't need to have experience in education—just an interest in supporting our schools and a willingness to give a little time and energy to the role. Our school governors meet 7 times a year on a Wednesday evening.

If you'd like to find out more, please contact Mrs Wyer ([a.wyer@peaktorfederation.co.uk](mailto:a.wyer@peaktorfederation.co.uk)) for more information or to register interest.

## PTFA

Our fabulous PTFA is always looking for volunteers to help with events. The PTFA is set up to raise additional funds for our children – this could be subsidising coaches for school trips, buying extra equipment or putting on fairs/activities for the children to enjoy. If you would like any more information or think that you would like to join, please look out for Claire Harrison or speak to a member of staff. The group is not just for parents, you can also join if you are a family member, local member of the community, or a friend to the school and it's pupils in any other way. You will be given a very warm welcome.

You should have received a Parenthub outlining the PTFA's new fundraising scheme - Easyfundraising. This is an app which enables us to raise free money whenever you shop online. Please sign up as the funds raised always go back into school towards trips, residential, new equipment and fairs.

Thank you to the PTFA for their efforts at the recent school disco. It was a lot of fun for all the children, and it was great to see all the children having a good boogie.

## Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Details
<b>November</b>		
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov	PCSO Boswell in to see Year 5 & 6	PCSO Boswell is coming in to talk to Yr5/6 about hate crime and knife crime
<b>December</b>		
<b>Monday 1st Dec</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>	<b>School Closed</b>
Tuesday 2nd Dec	Non-uniform Day	Please bring chocolate in return for non-uniform, this will go to the school fair
Friday 5th Dec	Christmas Fair	Straight after school, in Rowsley Village Hall
Tues 9th Dec	Infant Nativity	At Rowsley Village Hall 1:30pm & 5:30pm
Wednesday 10th Dec	Carols in the Community	School choir – 12:45pm at Peak Village. Please come along to support the school choir as they sing for the shoppers.
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Pantomime Trip	Whole School trip to Buxton Opera House to see Aladdin. We are leaving at 9am prompt. Packed lunch needed.
Tuesday 16th Dec	Christingle	2pm @ St Katherine's Church. All welcome.
Wednesday 17th Dec	Christmas Jumper/Headwear Day	Children to wear a festive jumper/top/headgear. Please bring a suggested donation of £1 for Save the Children.
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Dinner Day	Served in the Village Hall
Thursday 18th Dec	PJ and Book Day	Children to come in PJs and bring their favourite book
Friday 19th Dec	Christmas Party Day	Children can come in their party clothes

		and bring a snack – please see Christmas events list for more information
Friday 19th Dec	Last Day of Term	School Closes
January		
Monday 5th Jan	Back to school	School re-opens for 2026

### 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](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.

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

***Claire Hewitt***

Deputy Head Teacher