



September 2026

Rowsley C of E Primary School Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to all our children and families as we begin another exciting school year at Rowsley CofE Primary School. We hope you all enjoyed a wonderful summer break and had plenty of time to relax, recharge and make good memories together.

It has been fantastic to open our doors once again and see the school come back to life, filled with smiling faces, laughter and, most importantly, lots of learning! The children have settled back into school routines brilliantly and have already made a positive start to the new academic year.

As always, we have high expectations for everyone at Rowsley. We are looking forward to a year filled with hard work, curiosity, resilience and positive attitudes to learning.

We are very excited to see what this new school year brings!

Communication

We communicate with parents in a variety of ways:

- ParentHub - we encourage you to please download this to stay up to date with events in school
- Newsletter – newsletters are sent out regularly with up to date information and dates
- School website – rowsleyprimary.co.uk - the calendar is updated regularly as are your child's class pages
- In person – there are at least two members of staff out on the gates every day – if you do not know something, please just ask
- The school board – there are two boards showing weekly information. One outside the infant classroom, which specifically shows infant weekly events, and one outside the Y5/6 classroom, which shows events for the whole school
- By phone – Mrs. Middlebrook is in the office every morning and is always happy to answer any queries you may have
- Email – class teachers are available via email (see class pages for details). Please note that teachers are not expected to answer emails outside of working hours.

EYFS Open Day

We are opening up our lovely school on Tuesday 6th October 2pm – 3pm for prospective parents (new starters for September 2027). Please spread the word. We have posted on both our Instagram and Facebook pages and would really appreciate it if you could share these – the more, the merrier.

What is going on in school?

Mary Anning Class (EYFS, Y1 & Y2)

Welcome to the Mary Anning Class!

What a busy and exciting couple of weeks we have had! In KS1, we have been working hard on structuring sentences in English, developing our understanding of place value in Maths, learning all about the UK in Geography, and exploring weather in Science. Meanwhile, our EYFS children have been settling into their new surroundings, making

new friends, exploring the resources in our classroom and, of course, getting wonderfully messy with paint! It has been lovely to see everyone growing in confidence and enjoying their learning. We are looking forward to a fantastic term ahead filled with lots more learning, exploring and fun!

Alexander Fleming Class (Y3 & Y4)

Alexander Fleming Class have really hit the ground running this September. Children are in the fortunate position to be in a class of just ten, so we are making the most of this opportunity to do lots of hands-on learning that can sometimes be trickier in bigger groups. Children have been exploring light and dark in science, investigating what they could and couldn't see in our 'bear caves' and trying out the data loggers to see how much light different materials reflected. In DT, children have been learning to cross-stitch, with the aim of making a cross-stitched bookmark later in the half term. In the first few days of the new academic year, the children enjoyed using pastels to recreate Edvard Munch's *The Scream*. Come and have a look at the display outside the Y3/4 classroom to admire the fantastic finished pieces. Children have, of course, been working very hard in maths and English too - they have already achieved so much and we're only a couple of weeks into the new school year.



Jane Goodall Class (Y5 & Y6)

What a tremendous start to the year. All the Y5/6 children have come back with a positive attitude and are ready and raring to go. I am really pleased with their work ethic and attitudes to learning.

In art the children have started looking at using perspective and have created some fabulous pieces already.



In English, we are using a child friendly version of Macbeth and the writing produced so far has been amazing. Most of the children have written their own versions of the 'Song of the Witches' – keep an eye on your post for a nice surprise!

The Y5s have been using manipulatives in maths – lolly sticks for Roman numerals and counters for place value.

The Y6s have come back with a fabulous attitude to their maths work and are all showing great skills and retention of knowledge.

Y5/6 Homework Club has started again; please see our class page on the Rowsley School website for further details.

Safeguarding

At Rowsley, the safety and wellbeing of our children remains at the heart of everything we do. As we begin the new school year, all staff have received up-to-date safeguarding training in line with the latest national guidance, *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026*. This includes continuing to be vigilant about children's wellbeing, online safety, attendance and any changes that may show that a child needs additional support.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and we greatly value the important relationships that we have with our parents and carers. If you ever have a concern about the safety or wellbeing of a child, however small it may seem, please speak to a member of staff. We would rather you share a concern with us than worry about it alone.

You can find further information about safeguarding, including our school policies and useful support for families, on the safeguarding section of our school website.

PTA

To keep our PTA running we need volunteers to continue to help out. If you can spare any time or want to help out please see myself or Mrs Middlebrook and we will put you in contact with Claire Harrison, the PTA chairperson. Everyone is welcome.

Our PTA do a tremendous job on a range of things i.e. subsidising school trips, putting on discos and entertainment for the children and fundraising for our school.

Family Liason Officer

Mrs Chisholm is our Family Liason Officer. She is available by appointment on Mondays and Tuesdays. Should you be feeling overwhelmed, have safeguarding concerns, or are struggling financially, please ring the school or see a member of staff who will be able to make an appointment for you. You can also email Mrs Chisholm on r.chisholm@peaktorfederation.co.uk. Mrs Chisholm can help with forms for benefits and grants, vouchers for food banks and much more. She is a wonderful asset to our school.

Harvest Festival

This year's Harvest Festival is on Tuesday 29th September at 2.30pm at St Katherine's Church. Everyone is welcome to join us. If you can, please send your child in with a non-perishable food item or toiletries i.e. soap, shampoo, tinned goods, sanitary products, nappies etc. All donations will go to the Jigsaw Food Bank in Matlock.



<https://www.churchinthepeak.org/jigsaw/foodbank> - you can find out more about the foodbank by following this link.

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Details
September		
Thursday 24 th Sept	Cross Country	Whole School event at Bakewell Juniors – pick up from school as normal
Tuesday 29 th Sept	Harvest Festival	2.30pm at St Katherine's Church – all welcome
October		
Tuesday 6 th Oct	EYFS Open Afternoon	2pm – 3pm Open afternoon for parents with children due to start Sept 2027
Tuesday 8 th Oct	Infant Football	Football tournament at Baslow Primary - pick up from school as normal
Thurs 22 nd Oct	Y3/4 Dodgeball	Dodgeball tournament at Bakewell Juniors - pick up from

		school as normal
Friday 23 rd Oct	Last day of half term	School closes for half term
November		
Monday 2 nd Nov	Start of Autumn Term 2	School reopens
Wednesday 4 th Nov	Individual School Photos	
Thursday 12 th Nov	Radio Derby Children in Need Event	More details to follow
Friday 13 th Nov	Children in Need	More details to follow
December		
Monday 7 th Dec	INSET DAY	School Closed
Thursday 10 th Dec	Whole school Panto trip	Sleeping Beauty at Buxton Opera House – more details to follow
Monday 14 th Dec	Christingle Service	2.30pm at St Katherine's - all welcome
Tuesday 15 th Dec	Infant Nativity	At St Katherine's Church – details and times to follow
Wednesday 16 th Dec	Infant Christmas Party	Children to dress in own clothes - details to follow
Thursday 17 th Dec	KS2 Christmas Party	Children to dress in own clothes - details to follow
Friday 18 th Dec	PJ and Book Day	Children to come in their PJs/onesies and bring a book – details to follow
Friday 18 th Dec	Last day of term	School closes for Christmas holidays until January 4 th 2027

And finally...

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 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