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23rd October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Newsletter Number 2

Whole School

The new school year is now well underway with our extra-curricular clubs running and school trips taking place for some. Year 3 have now fully settled in and are adapting well to new routines and clearly enjoy being with their friends.

Our Pastoral Support Team are on hand should children need additional support with any aspect of school life.

Safeguarding in School

Safeguarding is our top priority and we take our moral and statutory responsibility seriously. We work hard to create a safe and welcoming environment where both children and adults feel secure, have a voice and believe that they are being listened to. We are supportive of all their needs including any needs they have for protection from abuse. We all have the right to be happy, to be safe and to learn and we all have the responsibility to make this happen. Safeguarding underpins all aspects of our work as a school.

Everyone in school is trained to spot the signs of Safeguarding concerns and we use CPOMS (an electronic recording system) to record any concerns we have. Mrs Thornton (Assistant Head and SENCO) and I are Designated Safeguarding Leads and we oversee and monitor safeguarding practices across school. We are supported by Mrs Gosling (Operating Deputy Safeguarding Lead), Mrs Marriott, Mr Crane and Mrs Young who are all Deputy Safeguarding Leads.

Should you have any individual concerns you feel you need to share with us then please approach us and we will discuss these with you confidentially.

As we are approaching the half-term holiday I thought it would be helpful to remind you of our designated safeguarding email DSL@ringwood-junior.hants.sch.uk

This email address is on the school website under contact details and is monitored by a member of the strategic leadership team during term time and the school holidays.

Parent Forum - Friday 22nd November 2.00pm-3.00pm

We have an established tradition of taking parent views on aspects of school life through our Parent Forum. This is a small number of parents who meet regularly to help us with school development. In the past we have reviewed our approach to encouraging a healthy lifestyle and have produced a guidance for parents. We have updated our annual reports and reviewed our Anti-Bullying Policy.



We value your perspective and we are looking forward to establishing the Parent Forum again this year. Our first meeting will be held on **Friday 22nd November 2:00pm-3:00pm**. If you feel you could make a contribution and are available to meet on a number of occasions to discuss important issues, we would like to hear from you. Please contact the school office for further details and to express your interest.

Meetings for Prospective Parents and Carers

On **Thursday 7th November and Thursday 14th November**, from 9:00am – 10:30am, there will be an opportunity for parents, who are considering sending their child to our school, to come in and see the school in action and meet myself and other school leaders. We welcome all parents who have a child currently in year 2, who would like to join our school in September 2025.

We shall need to do this on an organised basis so hope any interested parents or carers will join us at 9.00am for the 'Official Talk and Tour'. Afterwards, over a cup of tea or coffee, there will be the chance for an informal chat with staff and the Leadership Team about aspects of the school.

Open Mornings/Afternoon - Reminder

Earlier in the term, at the Curriculum Information Meetings and in our termly curriculum newsletters, we shared with you a number of key dates, one of these was our open mornings/afternoons. We hope that you will be able to come into school to work alongside your child, see learning in action and experience a typical lesson in class. This will be followed by refreshments and informal discussions with the year team and senior leaders afterwards. Please see the dates below:

Year 3 – Tuesday 12th November 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Year 4 – Tuesday 11th December – Mini Violin Music Concert

4KM 9:10am – 9:30am, 4MB 9:50am – 10:10am, 4HW 10:30 – 10:50am

Year 5 – Friday 25th October 9:00am – 10:00am

Year 6 – Tuesday 5th November 9:00am – 10:00am

Scotathon – 6th – 14th November

Whilst we have a reasonable amount of play equipment to occupy and interest the children at break and lunchtimes, nevertheless, we feel more equipment would meet a greater range of needs. The children agree with this!

Our school council are planning another annual Scotathon fundraising event designed to involve the whole school in raising money to continue our playground project and to improve the playground area. We shall also be using some of the funds raised to purchase playground equipment at our link school in Kenya.

The fundraising is taking the form of a sponsored event where children will complete laps of the front playground on their scooters. The Scotathon will take place on the following dates –

Year 3 – Wednesday 13th November

Year 4 – Wednesday 6th November

Year 5 – Thursday 14th November

Year 6 – Friday 8th November

A Scotathon "rain off" date will be scheduled, if needed, due to adverse weather conditions.



BBC 500 Word Story Writing Competition 2024 – deadline Friday 8th November 2024

This year's BBC 500 word story writing competition is now open, with entries due in on **Friday 8th November**.

We feel that this would be a wonderful opportunity for our children to celebrate and show their amazing writing skills.

All the stories **must**:

- **Be 500 words or less** (title is not included in the number)
- Be written by an individual and not a group
- Be a child's own original idea
- Be prose, not rap or poem

Stories **must not**:

- Give any personal details of the child, including their name
- Recount an historical event (but they can use a real person or historical character as a source of inspiration).
- Be created, written or developed by AI

All stories will be judged on the following criteria:

Characterisation

Plot

Originality

Language

Enjoyment

For further details about the competition please follow the link attached to the BBC 500 word website.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/articles/zctk7v4>

Curriculum Events

Reading Workshop for Parents – Thursday 21st November

We shall be holding a reading workshop for parents where there will be an opportunity to hear about our approach to the teaching of reading and the best ways to support your child at home. We do hope you will join us.

Curriculum Newsletters

Your child's termly Curriculum newsletter has been sent out to you. These outline the areas of learning that will be taught this term across all Curriculum areas. The Curriculum newsletter for each year group can be found on our school website under the Curriculum tab. Please look at the website from time to time for details of key information that you may need to know, such as dates and times of events.

Curriculum Knowledge Organisers

When a new unit or block of learning begins, the children are given a 'knowledge organiser'. This sets out the key knowledge that is to be learnt during this study. It outlines for children what is to come and provides an aide memoire to help memorise this new learning. This goes into the children's exercise books and is referred to throughout the project. We will be sending a copy to you this week in booklet form for your convenience, and hope you will use this to discuss learning with your child.



Year 6 Southampton Visit – Wednesday 23rd October and Thursday 24th October

As part of the year 6 Geography project on Southampton, children will develop their fieldwork skills by walking around Southampton where they read maps and locate significant places around the old part of the city. They carry out surveys and have an educational boat trip around the harbour. This enables the children to gain a greater understanding of Southampton port, its environment and how it operates.

Year 5 Chris Connaughton visit – Friday 8th November

Chris Connaughton, a local author and story teller, will be working with year 5 children to introduce their next English unit based on Legends. He will tell adventure stories based on 'Robin Hood' to enhance children's writing through learning dramatic techniques and engaging in role play. This will stimulate pupils' imagination and inspire them to turn their own ideas into quality writing.

Community

Harvest Festival for Ringwood Foodbank

On Friday, we held our Harvest Festival and were pleased that Chris Lee from Ringwood Foodbank was able to join us and talk about their work in the community. He went away armed with food and household items to replenish the supplies at Ringwood Foodbank. We are most grateful to you for your donations.

There is an ongoing need to support families whose economic circumstances have changed and those who rely on community support to supplement their income.

Should you find yourself in a challenging situation, then please speak to Mrs James or Mrs East in the school office who will be able to help.

Help with your utility bills

If you are having difficulties with the cost of energy bills, the Citizens Advice Bureau can offer free support and advice. For more details visit this part of their website:

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/get-help-paying-your-bills/grants-and-benefits-to-help-you-pay-your-energy-bills/>

Poulner Chapel – Light Parties – 31st October 2024

Please find below information from Poulner Chapel for Family Light Parties on Tuesday 31st October.

Links to FREE tickets for those struggling financially...

Afternoon Family 4pm:

<https://poulnerbaptistchapel.churchsuite.com/events/vnlxeyie?tickets=FcGa>

Evening Family 6pm:

<https://poulnerbaptistchapel.churchsuite.com/events/jjv7q28g?tickets=4pfn>

Evening Youth Party 8pm:

<https://poulnerbaptistchapel.churchsuite.com/events/ueff11nt?tickets=M2w1>

Links for Pay online or on Arrival...

Afternoon Family Party 4pm: <https://poulnerbaptistchapel.churchsuite.com/events/vnlxeyie>

Evening Family Party 6pm: <https://poulnerbaptistchapel.churchsuite.com/events/jjv7q28g>

Evening Youth Party 8pm: <https://poulnerbaptistchapel.churchsuite.com/events/ueff11nt>

Website link to all parties: <https://www.poulnerchapel.org.uk/light-parties>



Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

Each year we contribute to the House of Opportunity Christmas Shoe Box appeal for people in South East Europe. The shoe boxes go to abandoned children living in state care, poor rural schools and kindergartens, women's refuges, prisoner's children, isolated elderly people, refugees and Roma children living in difficult conditions. I am therefore inviting you to keep up the tradition and give your support. A leaflet will be sent home this week with further information about making your Christmas shoe box and suggested items to include. **Shoe boxes will need to be in school by Monday 18th November 2024.**

Update from the PTA

With our first half term nearly over and what a busy one it has been with welcome discos, spooky spoons and clothing collections, we are now onto planning the Christmas term.

Over half term we are running our Autumn Air Adventure which the teachers helped to demonstrate in assembly a couple of weeks ago. Hopefully you all have your balloons purchased for the start date of 28th October. If not, please use this link: <https://www.balloonrace.net/rjsp>

Wednesday 6th November our next PTA meeting to discuss the Christmas Fayre! If you are able to pop along it would be lovely to see you, bring all your Christmas game ideas. Coffee and cake will be provided.

12th – 19th November: Scholastic book fayre. Stock up on Christmas presents and help us to purchase new books for the library.

Thursday 14th November we are holding a glow disco and tickets for this will be on sale after half term – please buy your tickets early as these are limited due to capacity. Years 3 & 4 will be 5:15pm – 6:30pm and Years 5 & 6 will be 6:45pm – 8:00pm.

Friday 29th November we are holding our Christmas Fayre and Santa's grotto from 3pm – 5pm. We will need volunteers to help during the day at school. We need help organising the donations and the rooms for the fayre. If you are able to help please contact Kim Bygrave.

Thursday 12th December – Christmas Movie Night. This is held straight after school and all children will be in the hall. Movie to be announced nearer the date.

Funds are being raised to replace the playground equipment in the front and back playgrounds and we are currently looking at design options which is very exciting! We look forward to sharing more about the plans in the coming months.

All of our events and details about our fundraising are on our PTA events page:

www.pta-events.co.uk/ringwoodjuniors

Communication

Midday Supervisor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for Midday Supervisor at school. Monday to Friday 11:55am – 12:55am. Please see Mrs James in the school office if you would like to find out more.

School Uniform

Since our first Newsletter when we covered all aspects of uniform information, the weather has changed and it is becoming colder and wetter. Please ensure your child has a warm and waterproof coat at all times and it is clearly labelled.



Christmas Holiday

For your diary please note that the Autumn Term will end on **Friday 20th December at 1.00pm**. The first day of term for pupils will start again on **Tuesday 7th January 2024** as Monday 6th January is an Inset Day.

Diary Dates

Please find attached a list of main school events for the rest of this term to help you with your forward planning and keep you up-to-date with what is going on in school.

One of the pleasures of my day is welcoming children at the beginning of the day and saying farewell to them as they leave the site at the end of the day. I have enjoyed meeting our new children, especially year 3 and informally talking to you. There are always members of our Pastoral Support Team who join me at the gate each day, so please pop over for a chat or come and tell one of us if you have a query, concern or question and we will do our best to help you.

I would like to wish you a healthy and relaxing half-term holiday.

Your sincerely



Mrs S-A Evans
Headteacher



Diary Dates

Wednesday 23 rd October	Year 6 Southampton trip (6LD & ½ 6AM)
Thursday 24 th October	Year 6 Southampton trip (6NW & ½ 6AM)
Friday 25 th October	Year 5 Open Morning
Friday 25th October	Last day of Half Term
Monday 4 th November	INSET Day
Tuesday 5th November	Return to School
Tuesday 5 th November	Year 6 Parent Open Morning 9:00am
Wednesday 6 th November	Year 4 Scootathon
Wednesday 6 th November	PTA Meeting 7:00pm
Thursday 7 th November	Prospective Parents' Open Morning 9:00am
Friday 8 th November	Year 5 Chris Connaughton Writing Workshop
Friday 8 th November	Year 6 Scootathon
Monday 11 th November – week of	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 12 th November	Year 3 Open Afternoon 2:00pm
Tuesday 12 th – 19 th November	Travelling Book Fayre After School
Wednesday 13 th November	Year 6 Height and Weight
Wednesday 13 th November	Year 3 Scootathon
Thursday 14 th November	Prospective Parents' Open Morning 9:00am
Thursday 14 th November	PTA Year Glow Discos – Years 3 & 4 will be 5:15pm – 6:30pm Years 5 & 6 will be 6:45pm – 8:00pm
Thursday 14 th November	Year 5 Scootathon
Friday 15 th November	Children in Need – Non-Uniform Day
Monday 18 th November – week of	Road Safety Week
Monday 18 th November	Christmas Shoe Boxes to be collected
Thursday 21 st November	Reading Workshop and Winter Warmers
Friday 22 nd November	Parent Forum Meeting 2:00pm
Friday 29 th November	Christmas Fayre and Non-Uniform Day
Friday 29 th November – Thursday 5 th December	Year 6 Bikeability
Monday 2 nd December	Choir Singing at Bickerley Green 11:00am



Friday 6 th December	Year 3 Christmas Sing-a-long – 2:00pm
Tuesday 10 th December	Flu Immunisation
Wednesday 11 th December	Year 4 Mini Violin Music Concert 4KM – 9:10am-9:30am 4MB – 9:50am-10:10am 4HW – 10:30am-10:50am
Thursday 12 th December	PTA Christmas Movie
Tuesday 17 th December	Christmas Carol Service, Ringwood Church 6.30pm
Thursday 19 th December	Christmas Lunch, Santa Visit & Year 6 Party
Friday 20th December	Last Day of Term, school finishes at 1:00pm
Monday 6 th January	INSET DAY
Tuesday 7th January	RETURN TO SCHOOL

