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BSc Hons, PGCE, NPQH

March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Newsletter Number 5

Whole School

TCS Mini Marathon

We are excited to invite all our pupils to take part in the TCS mini marathon in-school event. This will be taking place on **Thursday 30th April** on the school playing field. We would like parents, friends and family to join us in cheering and encouraging our pupils as they navigate their marathon route.

Each child's participation will contribute to raising funds for our Playground Project, which aims to enhance our school's facilities and thus the children's learning environment. More details to follow.

Get Caught Reading in the Great Outdoors

Over the Easter holiday, children and staff are being challenged to be 'caught reading' somewhere outside, reading either a fiction or non-fiction book, comic, magazine or newspaper. The photographs should be emailed to admin.office@ringwood-junior.hants.sch.uk by **Friday 17th April 2026**. The photographs will then be very carefully considered and shared in a special celebration assembly, so GET CAUGHT READING!

World Book Day

Ringwood Junior School celebrated World Book Day on 5th March and children and staff embraced the opportunity to celebrate the magic of books. Walking through the school gates were 'Enola Holmes', 'Robin Hood', 'Hermione Granger', 'Harry Potter', 'Mr Twit', 'Beth Mead', 'Slime, a Bearded Dragon', 'Tom Gates', 'Lottie Brooks', 'Mary Poppins', footballers, rugby players, gymnasts, horse riders and many more wonderful book characters.

Children and staff were also given the option of wearing cosy pyjamas to school. We are passionate about encouraging reading with children and it is important that children view reading as a cosy, safe and relaxing thing to do. We also want to encourage positive reading habits, and reading at bedtime is a great way to create a mindful, wind down time at the end of the day.

Year 3 staff acknowledged, 'The Huey's in The New Jumper', Year 4 staff dressed in their pyjamas, Year 5 staff dressed as characters from, 'The Wizard of Oz' and Year 6 paid homage to, '101 Dalmations'.

The children brought their books in to school and they spent time in class sharing these as well as staff also sharing their favourite books. Dedicated time was spent enjoying all sorts of books and book related activities, both inside and outside in the sunshine.



Safeguarding

On 10th February, the whole school took part in Safer Internet Day 2026. This year's theme was "Smart Tech, Safe Choices", focusing on the safe and responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI).

Throughout the day, we explored what AI is and learned that it is designed to carry out tasks that can mimic some of the functions of the human brain. We discussed how AI can be a helpful tool in our everyday lives and identified ways we may already be using it without realising, such as through smart speakers, search engines, and digital art creation.

We also considered the limitations of AI, recognising that there are many things it cannot do that humans can. Pupils discussed the positive ways AI can be used, including translating languages and supporting research, as well as situations where using AI may not be responsible.

Finally, we revisited important online safety messages. We talked about how our use of technology can impact others, the importance of ensuring information is safe and reliable, and the need to speak to a trusted adult before using AI or if we ever feel unsure or worried.

Coram SCARF

We were delighted to welcome Coram SCARF into school to deliver a series of engaging workshops for all pupils. Each session was carefully tailored to the curriculum for the different year groups and focused on supporting children's physical and mental wellbeing. Through age-appropriate discussions and activities, pupils explored important topics in a safe and supportive environment, helping them to build confidence, resilience and understanding. These workshops are an invaluable part of our wider PSHE provision and we are very grateful for the positive impact they have on our pupils.

EARA Group

The Equality and Rights Advocates (EARA) group at RJS continues to play an important role in promoting inclusion and pupil voice across the school. This term, members have collaborated with children from other schools, sharing the valuable work they have been doing and learning from others within a wider network. As part of their efforts, the group carried out a thorough audit of the school to assess how well inclusion objectives are being met. They also undertook informal classroom visits during lesson time, observing the strategies and resources in place to support all learners. The children were highly impressed with the inclusive practices they saw across RJS. They have greatly enjoyed presenting their findings at termly meetings with other schools and are looking forward to continuing their work in the Summer Term, with a particular focus on strengthening a sense of belonging for everyone at RJS.

Curriculum Events

Year 3 Ancient Egypt Exhibition – Tuesday 24th March

All year 3 parents were invited to our Ancient Egypt Exhibition in the school hall. The children's learning from this History project were on display and you were able to talk to the children about what they have learnt. We were very impressed with the quality of work. Thank you for supporting the children with their project work.

Summer Term 2026

Year 3 Chris Connaughton Workshop – Monday 8th June

We are delighted to let you know Year 3 children will enjoy a story telling workshop around their class books of traditional tales. This will support the children with their writing.



Year 4 Chris Connaughton Workshop – Tuesday 9th June

We are delighted to let you know Year 4 children will enjoy a story telling workshop around their class book of Beowulf. This will provide an engaging stimulus for their writing.

Year 6 SATS – Week of 11th May

Year 6 children will be taking their Key Stage 2 Assessment Tests starting on the 11th May. It is vital that all Year 6 children are in school during this week to take their tests. The test papers are sent away for marking and the results are received in school early in July, these will be shared with children and parents.

Points of Interest

An update from the PTA: An update

During the first quarter of 2026 we had some wonderful events, and with your support we have raised £2,200.00.

January saw the PTA starting 2026 with the Class Coins Challenge. It was a great event, where all the classes raced to fill their class bottle first. It was class 4HW who pipped it to fill their class bottle first! This achievement was matched by class 4MB who raised the most monies. Well done to both classes.

In February the children enjoyed a fantastic night with the “Wear what you love” disco. There was great excitement with the Golden Ticket Giveaway event, which sold nearly 400 chocolate bars! We closed this busy month with Year 3 providing a lot of yummy cakes for the well-received cake sale.

March, took off with our new Pet Portrait Competition event, and it was followed by the gift bags for that special person in the children’s lives. We have also provided the school with cards for the children to colour in to ensure each child in school had something to take home.

The children took part during assembly today, Friday 27th March in the very popular Easter Eggs Raffle.

In April we all look forward to the Mini London Marathon events! On Thursday 30th April, all our children are taking part in the exciting Mini London Marathon In-School event! Behind this excitement lies real need: raising sponsorship for the new multipurpose facility for the children. Please do encourage your child and share our cause with friends, family, or your workplace. Join our sponsorship on Zeffy via <https://www.zeffy.com/en-GB/register/user-info> If you can help in any other way, please contact us at pta.ringwoodjuniors@gmail.com, or leave a message for us at school.



Thinking about a clear out? On Friday 8th of May a clothes collection has been arranged.

We’re so proud of what’s already been achieved together. Let’s continue our efforts to give our children the space and facilities they deserve!

Term Time Holiday

Please could we remind you that parents should plan their holidays around school breaks and not take their children out of school on holiday during term time.

Where a parent wishes to take their child out of school, for whatever reason, please apply on a Leave of Absence form well in advance and with the reasons for the absence request. Headteachers make decisions on granting leave of absence due to exceptional circumstances, but will not do so for a holiday.



Please be reminded that if a child is absent for 5 days or more for an unauthorised holiday in a 10 school week period, then a Fixed Penalty Notice will automatically be issued by us on behalf of Hampshire County Council – it is £80 per parent and will need to be paid within 28 days otherwise it rises to £160 to be paid within 28 days of the original issue.

Parking

I am sure you are aware that there are some zigzag lines, marked in yellow, outside the main school gate. These indicate that there is no stopping or parking in this area when dropping off or collecting your child. You will appreciate this is essential for our children's safety. I am raising this with you as a number of people are stopping to drop children off or hovering to pick up children. This clearly contravenes the law and potentially puts our children's safety in danger. Please adhere to the road signs outside the front of the school.

Due to our school being situated on a narrow road, please can I ask that road users respect the highway code, and are courteous and considerate of one another. This is especially important in order to keep the traffic flowing smoothly, keep everyone safe and to reduce the risk of accidents.

It would help if drivers could adhere to a one-way system with the direction of traffic flowing from the mini roundabout at the junction of Hightown Road and Castleman Way, with the school on the right-hand side. Whilst we recognise that this is an unofficial system, it should ease congestion at peak times. Thank you for your cooperation.

May we remind you that there is no parking for parents and carers on the school site. If you need accessible parking please contact the school office for a permit.

Cycling and Scootering on School Premises

May we remind parents and children to dismount from their bicycles and scooters, prior to entering the school premises, to avoid any accidents with cars or pedestrians. Please use the vehicular access drive when dropping off and collecting scooters and bikes. Scooters are not permitted on the playground and children (including younger siblings) are not allowed to scoot on the school premises. Thank you.

Please ensure you fill in a scooter or cycling permit if your child is leaving their scooter or bike at the school premises.

Safety of Parents and Children

Please can I ask that no parents and children walk in or out of school via the double car park gates (unless your child has a cycle or scooter permit). For safety reasons, only use the main school gates and the gates situated at the end of the playground.

Scopay – Online Payments

Please use the school online payment system for school dinners, trips, events, and the booking of parent consultation evenings. There are still some parents who have not yet registered therefore, please contact the school office and we will help you with the registration.

School Uniform

As the weather can still be cold and wet at this time of year, children should still bring a coat or raincoat for outside wear. **Hoodies are not permitted.** Children should wear their school jumpers and may wear a school fleece for outdoor PE when the weather is cold. Please ensure **all items are named** as we always have a large amount of lost property that we are unable to return to its owner. Trainers should not be worn during the school day, except for outdoor games.



Diary Dates

Please see the diary below for a list of upcoming events and school holidays to help you with planning.

I would like to wish you a healthy and relaxing Easter holiday.

Yours sincerely

S.A. Evans.

Sally-Ann Evans
Headteacher



Diary Dates

Friday 27 th March	PTA – Easter Egg Raffle
Friday 27th March	Last Day of Term, school closes at 12:45pm
Monday 13th April	Return to school
Wednesday 15 th April	Year 5 Swimming starts
Friday 24 th April	Year 4 Open Morning 9.15-10.15
Friday 24 th April	Year 5 Cake Sale
Thursday 30 th April	In School Mini Marathon
Monday 4th May	Bank Holiday
Monday 11 th May	Year 6 SATs Week
Thursday 21 st May	Sports Day
Thursday 21st May	Last day of Term
Friday 22nd May	Inset Day
Monday 1st June	Return to School
Thursday 4 th June	Rain Off Sports Day
Saturday 6 th June	Summer Fayre
Monday 8 th June	Year 3 Writing Workshop Chris Connaughton
Tuesday 9 th June	Year 4 Writing Workshop Chris Connaughton
Friday 12 th June	Class and Year 6 photos
Monday 15 th June	PGL and Activity Week for Year 6
Tuesday 23 rd June	Year 4 Ancient Technology Centre – 4MB and ½ 4HW
Wednesday 24 th June	Year 4 Ancient Technology Centre – 4KM and ½ 4HW

