



Rode Heath Primary School

"Inspiring learning; nurturing minds; achieving for life."

December 2023 Newsletter



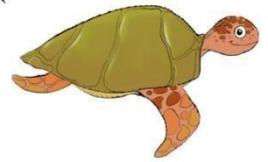
Curiosity



Teamwork



Fairness



Resilience

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope your preparations for the holiday period are going well and that you are starting to feel the festive cheer. Please take note of the items in this newsletter that are pertinent to your child/ren.

It was a pleasure to see most of you during our parent consultations and we thank you for your continued engagement. The month of November has been a busy one and I am so proud of the children's constant enthusiasm for school - they are all doing exceptionally well. Alongside all of the work going on in school, we have participated in two Crewe Alex football tournaments where we played some great football and scored some exceptional goals. We have also continued to perform to a high standard in the Sandbach football league, where we currently sit in top spot!

During November there were a number of school trips: our Year 6 children visited the Imperial War Museum, Manchester. This was a particularly poignant trip taking place close to Remembrance Day. Year 4 have had their Egyptian day (thank you to the parent volunteers who helped with the market hall); the hummus tasting session was a massive success! Year 5 have been to the Space Centre and have come back with an abundance of space related facts! These trips add so much value to our curriculum and I thank parents/carers for their financial contributions towards these events. Without you, we couldn't enrich our curriculum.

We have so much more to look forward to over the next four weeks including, Christmas performances, carol concerts, our pantomime and a visit from the Cheshire East Fire department.

Here is a list of events taking place December:

Monday 4 th December	2pm	EYFS (Pre-School and Reception) Christmas Celebration (Ticketed Event)
Tuesday 5 th December	2pm	EYFS (Pre-School and Reception) Christmas Celebration (Ticketed Event)
Friday 8 th December		Parents' Association Chocolate Tombola Competition Donations Monday 4th to Thursday 7th - Weigh in Friday morning!
Tuesday 12 th December	1:45pm	Key Stage 1 (Y1 and Y2) Christmas Production (Ticketed Event)
Wednesday 13 th December	6:00pm	Key Stage 1 (Y1 and Y2) Christmas Production (Ticketed Event)
Monday 18 th December		Year 5 lead our Carol Service at All Saints' Church, Odd Rode Year 1 to Year 6 children to attend (Only Y5 Parents to attend)
Wednesday 20 th December		Christmas Dinner Day Pre-school Christmas Party
Thursday 21 st December		Christmas Jumper Day / Whole School Panto: (Kindly funded by the PTFA) School Closes for the Christmas Break



Pantomime

On Thursday 21st December the children in Reception to Year 6 will enjoy a pantomime from Chaplin's visiting theatre. Our fabulous Parent, Teacher and Friend Association have funded this and have also funded a selection box for each child. Children are encouraged to wear a Christmas Jumper should they wish to alongside their uniforms. *NB Should you choose for you child not to attend the panto please inform their class teacher.*

Residentials

The Year 5 York residential letter will be going out next week with costings and information about the trip. A deposit will be payable by the end of January and we have extended the time period for full payment to the end of February. Please come and talk to me if you have any concerns about making the payment deadlines. Residential letters for Y2, Y3, Y4 & Y6 will be going out at the beginning of January.

School Dinners

Unfortunately, from January 2024 school meal prices will increase to £2.65 a meal. As you are aware, we use Cheshire East catering for our school dinners and below is their justification for the increase:

Cheshire East have had substantial increases in food and labour costs over the last 12 months with further increases expected. We are constantly developing our menus and dishes and always looking at alternatives to help absorb these costs so that we can keep any price increases to a minimum whilst still continuing to use where possible local, good quality ingredients without undesirable additives, however due to further increases to labour and reduced subsidy due to local government budgetary pressures we are now having to pass some costs on to our customers.

Medication

Can I please request that all medications come through the main office and any self-medication remedies such as throat sweets, throat soothers, etc. are not permitted. Please do not send any type of medication into school with your child/ren. On the contrary and due to it not being a form of medication, lip balm and hand cream is permitted (as long as this is not prescribed by the GP) for children who suffer from severe chapped hands and lips.

The Importance of Reading

I wanted to start by saying thank you for your support so far. As we end the first term, I thought I would reiterate the importance of early reading and how you can play a huge part in this.

It is widely known that reading for 20 minutes a day at home in addition to reading completed in school, has a profound impact on success in later life. It also widens vocabulary, which invariably has a positive impact on writing. Research also shows that reading for pleasure daily promotes better health and well-being.

As a parent of primary aged children myself, I know how hard it is trying to juggle the balance of work/home life and finding time to read or listen to my children read four times a week. However, reading at home at least 4 times a week, is part of the weekly homework set for all our pupils. I strongly believe and have seen first-hand how positive reading habits can have such a profound impact on a child's development.

Please help us get the very best from your child, by ensuring they are completing their reading homework and that you are detailing their reading in their reading diaries.

Rode Heath Primary School
17 November at 18:42

Year 6 were a credit to themselves and the school on the trip today. We had a great time!



Parking

I know parking can be an issue for families during the busy times of the day but below is a reminder from the Cheshire Constabulary in regards to parking:

Kind Regards

John Frankland



Winter 2023

Parking Enforcement Notice

Parking Issues in Relation to Drop Off & Pick Up Times

We all strive to set a positive example to others.

Your children and other pedestrians are being put at risk of being seriously injured or worse by drivers who park or drop off illegally. There has also been an increase in vehicles being parked on zig-zags, at junctions restricting the view of other drivers, blocking residents' driveways or the public footpaths.

Pedestrians, in particularly children should be able to cross the road outside close to their school without having their safety compromised.

Relating to the illegal parking complaints recently, we take this opportunity to remind you of the restrictions:

- Parking too close to the junction that causes an obstruction/danger to other road users is an offence (within 10 meters of the junction)
- Causing an obstruction to the footpath is not acceptable and is an offence
- Parking in a way that causes UNNECESSARY or WILFUL OBSTRUCTION to other vehicles/driveways and EMERGENCY vehicles getting down a road is an offence
- Parking in a disabled bay when not in possession of a blue badge
- Parking on a zig-zag in the designated timings

Please be aware that we shall be enforcing these restrictions by way of a £30 Non Endorsable parking ticket and/or points on your driving license.

This enforcement will improve the parking situation on and around Rode Heath Primary School and other roads in the close vicinity.

We are asking you to think about child safety before one is seriously injured or killed.

We are taking this opportunity to educate drivers as opposed to enforcing legislation as we'd rather work with you, than against you as members of the community.

Yours faithfully,

PCSO Scott Watson

Cheshire Constabulary, Congleton Local Policing Unit, Congleton Beat Management, Odd Rode Police

