

WHAT'S GOING ON IN OUR SCHOOL?

September 2023

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy September! I am really looking forward to seeing the children back at their desks, working hard and enjoying the many exciting activities planned by their teachers and support staff. Firstly, I would like to give an extra special welcome to all our new children in Pre-school, Reception and the small number of children who have joined classes throughout the school. With 214 children in the main school and 28 children on roll in the Pre-school we have limited space for new children moving into our area. *School tours for January/April 2024 starters in the Pre School and Reception starters for September 2024 can now be booked this term.*

At the beginning of the academic year, one of our main priorities is to establish routines for both children and parents/carers. The information below is to help communicate some of these routines.

School Day

Pre-School: 9am until 3pm

Reception and KS1: 8:45am - 3:15pm

Staff will be out on the infant playground at 8:40am. At 8:45am a member of staff will blow the whistle. This is the signal for the children to line up and the start of the school day. Please could I ask parents/carers to stand back from the class lines once the whistle is blown allowing all the children to be seen by their teachers. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 finish the school day at 3:15pm.

Key Stage Two: 8:50am - 3:20pm

Key stage two children have a staggered start to the day to help ease traffic congestion outside of the school gates and to reduce overcrowding in the cloakrooms. Children can enter their classrooms from 8:40am, and should be in school by 8:50am. The junior gate is locked at 8:55am. Year 3 to Year 6 children finish the school day at 3:20pm

Please note that there is no supervision before 8:40am and **unaccompanied children should not be on the school site before this time.** If your child arrives after the start of the school day, they must enter the building by the front entrance. This will cause an added delay to your child's learning and disrupt the start of the school day for other learners. **Please ensure your child is on time with all of the necessary school equipment, PE kit, lunch box etc. in order to make the most of each school day.**

Arrivals after the close of the register are given an unauthorised code. Persistent lateness and absence is monitored by the Education Welfare Officer and in accordance with Cheshire East, 10 sessions (equivalent of 5 days) or more of unauthorised absence within a term or two consecutive half terms can lead to a penalty notice being issued.

Building Work

We are really pleased that our school is getting a new roof installed as it has been needed for some time. We are very excited to become a leak free school! However, as you will have noticed, it is a significantly large project. In order for the work to comply with Health and Safety, we have fixed scaffolding and safety barriers around the entire exterior of our school. Due to the work taking place, we will also have restricted access to our car park and the entrance to the infant playground will feel more enclosed than normal. As we are hoping (awaiting Cheshire East's approval) that we can replace the entire roof, therefore the work could carry on for quite some time - approximately 16 weeks. Can I please ask for your understanding whilst the work is taking place? If you have any questions in regards to this, then please come and see me.



School Office

The office is open from 8:30am until 3:30pm each day (term time only). This is to ensure we maximise our funding to support the education of each and every child. Outside of these hours parents/carers can leave a message that will be acted upon as soon as possible. Contact for our **All Stars before and after school provision (outside of office hours) is via 07778027570.**

Illness

If your child is ill and will not be attending school, please phone the school from 8:30am on the first morning of the illness to speak to a member of staff or you can leave a voicemail prior to this time. If we have not received a phone call by 9.15am the school office staff will contact you by phone asking you to contact school immediately. The safety of your child is paramount.

Newsletters/Letters

The school newsletter is the main source of practical information provided to families and is produced monthly. Please read the newsletters carefully and make a note of the information relating to your child. Feedback on the newsletter and information provided is very useful and would be gratefully received. Where possible all letters are sent out via email. Copies of all letters and newsletters can be found on the school website. We encourage parents to contact the school office with their e-mail address should there have been any changes. Please note it is your responsibility to make the school aware of any changes.

Home-School Communication

We pride ourselves on always being approachable to parents/carers. Parents/carers are encouraged to speak to class teachers or senior staff if they are concerned about their child's welfare or educational progress. However, the start of the school day is very important for all children so I would ask parents/carers to be mindful of this when speaking to teachers before school. If you feel your discussions need longer than a few comments please contact school to make an appointment or speak to me as I will always be outside the front of school every morning.

Parents/carers are encouraged to write messages pertinent to that day in your child's reading diary. However, children must bring this to the attention of their teacher as the reading diaries are only routinely checked once a week.

Parent/Carer Transition Meetings

In order to aid transition into your child's new class the teaching staff will host a Meet the Teacher meeting via Zoom. These meetings are to give parents/carers a greater insight into the curriculum areas that will be taught, the new routines of particular classes i.e, timetable, homework cycle etc, and plans for the rest of the academic year. These meetings will take place over the next few weeks on the dates below.

Class Teachers	Date	Time
Mrs Adams / Mrs Barnett	Wednesday 27 th September	5:30pm
Miss Ward / Miss Scott	Wednesday 13 th September	5:30pm
Miss Moss	Wednesday 20 th September	5:30pm
Mr Randall	Thursday 14 th September	5:30pm
Mrs Pecora / Mrs Wiskow	Wednesday 13 th September	6:30pm
Miss Beard	Thursday 21 st September	5:30pm
Mr Scott	Thursday 21 st September	6:30pm

Please note that your Zoom invitation to these meetings will be sent to the e-mail address we have on file at school on the day before the meeting. **We request that your username is that of your child or your family name so that we can securely admit you into the meeting. If we cannot verify who is on the call you risk not being admitted.** Please inform the office immediately if your e-mail address has changed.

Reading Diaries

We will be handing out reading diaries on Tuesday 5th September so please ensure that you update the permissions section as soon as possible so we can update our systems.



PE Lessons/Daily Mile

Children are to wear PE kit on their allocated PE days. This will maximise curriculum time without the need for getting changed in already small classrooms. Please note your child's PE days from the table below. PE lessons start this week *wb 04.09*.

Class Teachers	PE Day One	PE Day Two
Mrs Adams / Mrs Barnett	Wednesday	As the EYFS curriculum involves daily outdoor activity a formal PE session is only needed once a week.
Miss Ward / Miss Scott	Tuesday	Wednesday
Miss Moss	Tuesday	Wednesday
Mr Randall	Tuesday	Friday
Mrs Pecora / Mrs Wiskow	Tuesday	Wednesday
Miss Beard	Tuesday	Friday
Mr Scott	Tuesday	Wednesday

All Rec to Yr 6 pupils will be walking or running the daily mile track on the days that they don't have an allocated PE session. As the track is made from artificial grass, children can wear shoes to complete this activity. Children who choose to 'run' the daily mile ideally should wear running shoes or trainers. These can be brought in daily or left in lockers/cloakrooms.

School Meals

The current school meal menu, which runs until mid-October, is on the school website. Please follow the link: <http://www.rodeheath.cheshire.sch.uk/page/school-dinners-menus/5687> This link also explains how parents pay for meals (Pre-School children and children in Years 3 to 6 only) .

Health and Safety

Anaphylaxis – Allergy to Nuts

We insist that children **do not bring nuts and products containing nuts into school**. We currently have two children in school with allergies who require an epipen on site should they come into contact with nuts. The school kitchen has had this policy in place for a number of years and we request that this is the case for packed lunches and also break time snacks. ***This includes some cereal bars and chocolate bars that contain nuts.*** The children will be reminded about this in an assembly and it will be reiterated that they have a responsibility to support and protect their friends in our caring community. More information about anaphylaxis can be found at <http://www.epipen.co.uk/>

Car Park / Congestion

Vehicular access to the school site is controlled by the barrier. Blue badge holders are permitted to use the disabled bay but must be parked up prior to pedestrians being on the school site and remain in situ until it is safe to move.

To help ease congestion around the school gates The Broughton Arms have kindly offered the use of their car park. If possible, please park and take the short walk to the school grounds – especially at the moment with our very limited car park due to the building work currently taking place.

As you will be aware there has been a heightened police presence to monitor parking/safety issues. Please do not double park, mount the pedestrian paths, stop/park on the yellow zig-zags or park on corners. Please also be considerate of our neighbours and do not block driveways. A number of tickets were issued for these offences throughout the last academic year. ***The safety of the children is a responsibility we all share.***

Please pass this message onto other parents, grandparents and carers who may not receive this newsletter.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.



School Equipment / Uniform

With limited cloakroom space within school, we request that children refrain from bringing large bags/rucksacks. We encourage the children to bring their homework and reading materials in a school book bag (or a satchel of the same size). Also, please can any snacks or water bottles sent in with your child **NOT** be placed in reading folders as we are regularly throwing books away due to water and food damage.

The school has always aimed for a straight-forward and pragmatic uniform policy for all parents/carers to follow ie, plain black shoes, boots for the winter months (should they be needed), hair accessories of school colours with the minimum of detail and single ear-studs. No make-up or nail varnish is permitted. More details available from this link. <http://www.rodeheath.cheshire.sch.uk/page/our-uniform/11089>

Our school website is regularly updated with school information. This monthly newsletter, parent letters and school holiday dates can all be found on our website

Our school Twitter and Facebook feeds are also updated regularly. <https://twitter.com/rodeheathschool>
www.facebook.com/rodeheathschool

Kind regards,

John Frankland

Headteacher

