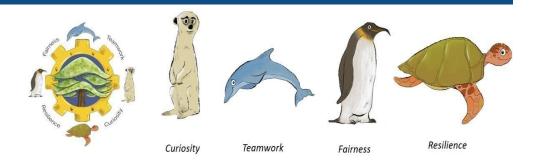


Rode Heath Primary School

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

October 2025



Dear Parents/Carers,

Now that we're into the second month of the academic year, it's clear that the children have truly settled into their routines. They've embraced their new classes, teachers, reading habits, and continue to show a fantastic attitude towards their learning. To ensure we maintain our high expectations in teaching and learning, senior leaders have been regularly visiting classrooms. It's been a pleasure to see our core values – curiosity, teamwork, fairness and resilience – evident in action across the school.

It's also been wonderful to welcome so many parents and carers back onto the playground at drop-off and pickup times.

A quick reminder: the play equipment should not be used before the start of the school day. After school, children may use it under the close supervision of their parent or carer. Please be aware that Mr Chadwick will close the perimeter gates shortly after dismissal, so we ask that all families vacate the premises promptly. Lastly, a gentle reminder that only authorised individuals are permitted on school grounds.

Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings

We will be holding individual parent/carer consultation evenings after the October half-term. These on-site meetings are scheduled for Wednesday 19th November and Wednesday 26th November. More information, including how to book via Scopay, will be shared soon.

School Office Hours

The school office is open during term time from 8:30am to 3:30pm. These hours help us make the most of our resources to support every child's education. Outside of office hours, you may leave a voicemail message which will be followed up as soon as possible. For any queries relating to All Stars before and after school care outside of these hours, please contact 07778 027570.

Illness

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please call us from 8:30am on the first day of absence to speak with a staff member, or leave a voicemail before that time. If we haven't heard from you by 9:15am, our office team will contact you directly. This is part of our safeguarding procedures, as your child's safety is always our priority.

School Tours

We are now offering school tours for prospective Pre-School starters in January and April 2026, as well as for Reception children starting in September 2026. If you'd like to arrange a visit, please get in touch with the school office by emailing admin@rodeheath.cheshire.sch.uk or calling 01270 314414.

Pupil Premium Funding – Is your child eligible for Free School Meals (FSM)?

As you will know, all of the children in our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes receive a Free School Meal under the Government initiative "Universal Infant Free School Meals". However, some children will also qualify for Income Related free school meals due to their personal circumstances. Whilst this does not affect your child's receipt of a free meal, if you are registered for free school meals via the Cheshire East Council website, the school will receive additional funding. This funding is known as Pupil Premium and brings in up to an additional £1515 per child that is registered. Please follow the link to see if your child is eligible https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free_school_meals.aspx

We can use the extra funding in any way we choose to improve the quality of our children's education. Currently, we allocate each child £50 annually towards uniform, 50% towards the cost of day visits and overnight residential visits and attendance at an after-school club. The remaining funding supports educational programmes throughout school.

Careers

As an on-going part of our wider development curriculum, we are looking for adults who would be willing to talk to our children about their chosen careers. If anyone would be willing then we would love to hear from you – just contact the school office.

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 Facebook feed is also updated regularly: www.facebook.com/rodeheathschool

PTFA

The PTFA held their annual AGM this week and it was very well attended – thank you for all of those who could attend.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our wonderful PTFA for their continued dedication, enthusiasm, and support. Their tireless efforts behind the scenes – organising events, fundraising, and building a strong sense of community – make such a positive difference to school life. From raising valuable funds that directly benefit our children's learning experiences to creating opportunities for families to come together and have fun, the PTFA plays a vital role in enriching our school. We are incredibly grateful for all that they do.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Mrs Margett for her outstanding leadership as Chair of the PTFA over the past two years. Her dedication, enthusiasm, and hard work have made a lasting difference, and we are truly grateful for the time and energy she has given to the school community. It's been a tremendous effort, and her contributions have been deeply appreciated.

We are now delighted to welcome Mrs Witkiss as our new PTFA Chair, and we look forward to the exciting opportunities and continued success the future holds under her leadership.

Their next planned event is the Dress up and Disco Day on Thursday 23rd October. Children are welcome to dress up for the day if they want to. The leaflet is on the next page.



GOVERNANCE STATEMENT September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As a governing body, we are proud to have been able to work with the staff and children of Rode Heath Primary School throughout the last academic year. As always, the school's core values of teamwork, resilience, curiosity and fairness have underpinned everything that has been achieved by both the staff and children. Mr Frankland has continued to build upon his successful first year as Headteacher. The reports that governors have received throughout the year are evidence that the passion to provide a sustainable and effective curriculum for our children is unwavering. None of which is possible without the dedicated and hardworking staff of the school, governors extend our thanks to every member of the team.

As we reported previously, Ofsted undertook a full inspection of the school in March 2024 which resulted in the well-deserved grading of 'Outstanding' with no Actions for Improvement identified. As governors, we believe the consistent desire to improve outcomes for all children, through both learning and personal development has continued since this inspection. The team have worked hard to ensure that every child reaches their potential and this is also shown in the fantastic Key Stage 2 results, Year 4 Multiplication Test Check and Reception Early Learning Goals from July 2025. Of course, none of this would be possible without the support of our parent and carer community. Governors extend our thanks to parents and carers for the support with home learning, high attendance rates and extra-curricular competitions.

Over the past year, our children have engaged in a wide range of enriching and inspiring activities. They have initiated and led fundraising projects supporting the RNLI, Dougie Mac, Alder Hey, World Down Syndrome Day, and the NSPCC through events like Maths Number Day. Leadership is encouraged throughout the school, with children taking on roles such as School Councillors and Eco Team members, even planning and delivering assemblies on important topics like environmental conservation and child safety. The ECO Team itself was a child-initiated project, demonstrating the children's commitment to sustainability. Academically and creatively, pupils have shone through participation in national competitions such as the Explorify Art competition and an exciting Sky Arts Connections Week. Our athletics team proudly won the Sandbach Town Sports Small School Shield and came second overall out of ten schools, while our mixed Year 4–6 football team and cross-country team were both runners-up in their leagues.

Music and performance are also central to school life, with regular Christmas, Harvest, Easter, and Summer productions involving every year group from Pre-School to Year 6. Highlights include a glockenspiel concert by Year 4 and a Christmas concert by the school choir. Children also took part in residential visits from Year 2 upwards. As part of our Careers Awareness initiative, numerous parents visited to speak about their professions, including a veterinarian, a marketing manager, a pharmacist and council workers. Finally, our extra-curricular programme has continued to grow, with children enthusiastically participating in clubs such as yoga, coding, choir, and engineering.

We would like to thank all parents, carers and the school community for their continued efforts as we work together to continue to provide a safe and exciting learning environment for our children.

If you would like to contact us, please feel free to email: chair@rodeheath.cheshire.sch.uk.

Kind regards, Lisa Asprey and Tara Sanchez, Co-Chair of Governors

Pupil Voice

We are very pleased to announce our new representatives for our school and we believe it is vitally important that the children in our school are given a voice. Alongside our pupil voice surveys, we also have three dedicated teams across our school. We have 12 school council representatives, 4 House and 4 Vice-House Captains and lots of Eco Ambassadors (these will be officially announced if a couple of weeks).



School Council



ECO team photo will be with you in the November newsletter

Kind regards, John Frankland