



MILE POST



Important Dates

Mon 29th Oct – Fri 2nd Nov: Half term holiday

Wednesday 7th Nov: New street naming ceremony

Thursday 8th Nov: Marathon Kids assembly

Tuesday 20th Nov: Year 5 Harry Potter Trip

Friday 7th Dec: Christmas show dress rehearsal

Monday 10th Dec: Christmas show 1.30pm

Tues, Weds, Thurs 11th – 13th Dec: Christmas show 7.00pm

Monday 17th Dec: Year 3 Nativity performance in the Church 1.45pm

Tuesday 18th Dec: Year 3 trip to Brackenhurst

Tuesday 18th Dec: Year 6 trip to Eden Camp

Wednesday 19th Dec: Christmas Fair 3.30pm – 5.30pm

Friday 21st Dec: Last day of term



Year 6 had a fabulous time at Dukes Barn last week. The children were a credit to themselves and thoroughly enjoyed all the activities – they went canoeing, abseiling, weaselling, indoor climbing, zip wiring and problem solving. Check out the website by the end of this week and we will upload the photos so you can see what they were up to.

News and Information

Breakfast and After School Club

For some time now the Governors here at RMJS have been looking at how we can develop our own before and after school provision at the Junior School. We have a long term aim of being able to offer this sort of Junior focused provision to all who want to make use of it.

The biggest problem we face in achieving this aim is finding a suitable place for the provision. It would be very impractical for us to use the school hall as this would put an end to the many different ways in which we use the hall at

the moment. We also have to have access to kitchen facilities which again would be very difficult from our hall. Due to these problems we have ruled out the use of the hall as anything other than a very short term solution if a permanent place can be found.

Therefore the only way we can offer this sort of provision is to purchase a separate building. We have identified possibilities and location – in the corner of the top playground where the quiet area used to be, but the problem is the funding.

There is no way we can afford

such a building from the school budget and the reserves we have built up do not cover the entire cost, as well as there being other priorities that we need to spend on. We have had discussions with the Equals Trust finance committee and there may be possibilities we can explore further to allow us to go ahead.

This is a key ambition for the Governing Body and we will continue to work on this project and will bring you updates as soon as we are in a position to, hopefully, move forward.

Holiday Patterns September 2019 Onwards

Nottinghamshire recently held a consultation about future holiday patterns, in particular changing to a 2 week October half term holiday. The final vote was in favour of this pattern and Nottinghamshire schools will be beginning this from Autumn 2019.

However, as an academy we are free to set out own holiday pattern and our Trust were keen that our school set the pattern that best suited our local circumstances. Therefore, after discussion, the Governing Body of RMJS has decided NOT to adopt the Nottinghamshire change and will remain with a single week in October.

This fits with the half term patterns of Toot Hill School and the Infants. Half term week will be week beginning 28th October 2019 and we will break up for the Summer on Friday 17th July 2020.

We cannot give you a dates sheet yet for the year because we are still organising the INSET days but the rest of the holiday dates for 19/20 are on the website on the school calendar.

Building Works

As you will no doubt have noticed, the school is currently getting a facelift. Equals Trust successfully gained funds from the DfE to follow up last year's new roof with a recladding of the whole building. The old brown tiles, which have been on the school since it was opened, are being removed then extra insulation is being added before the walls are reclad, in a rather nice shade of green! The contractors are working their way round the school and any disruption is being kept to a minimum. A lot of the bigger areas are being saved for the half term break.

We are also increasing security on the school site with a remote locking system being fitted, again, during the half term break. This will mean all visitors to the school will have to be buzzed in via a video entry phone system. Please bear with us as

we get this up and running if there are any unforeseen issues.

Finally each class will be having a new interactive screen fitted during the break. Our old interactive whiteboards have lasted nearly 15 years now and we can no longer buy replacement parts to keep them running.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to all who baked cakes for this year's coffee morning. The morning was enjoyed by all who came and the children certainly enjoyed buying a cake for playtime! We raised a total of £278.25 for Macmillan Cancer Care.

Armistice Centenary

We are working with several local community groups to mark the Centenary of the Armistice. Bingham Town Council has worked with the constructors of the residential development off Chapel Lane to agree to name the streets after Bingham's WW1 fallen, and the children of Bingham have been invited to be part of this.

Every child in the 3 primary schools in Bingham has painted a poppy design on the side of a brick, all supplied by the contractors, Barratt and David Wilson. The bricks have been collected and will form an artistic installation of hundreds of poppies to form the backdrop for the unveiling of the first street name.

This will take place on Wednesday 7th November, the ceremony starting at 10.45am. There will be music from the Toot Hill Big Band, laying of wreaths by children from each school and a song by 40 children from RMJS and Carnarvon. (Year 6 children learning the Young Voices songs.)

Year 6 children will also be visiting the Town Library for a Poppies and Poetry event and Bingham Heritage Trail Association exhibition.

E-Safety

The digital world is constantly evolving therefore our attempts to help children remain safe on line have to adapt and keep up. This is such a crucial part of our Safeguarding work in school and to

help you support this further we have introduced a new E-Safety area on the school website. There will also be an E-Safety tip of the month which will have the latest advice for you to read.

New Contact Forms

Please could any parent/carer who has not returned the new style Contact Form please do so as soon as possible. The new form reflects the new requirements under the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), in particular around the use of children's photographs. You may have noticed that there have been a lot less new photographs uploaded to the school website this term - due to us waiting for the majority of these forms to come back. We are nearly there, please help us by sending any outstanding ones back.

Walk for Alex

Following the Summer's unbelievable fund raising walk in memory of Alex Munn, we have been working with his family to spend some of the money. We have identified and ordered a wonderful Outdoor Classroom / Gazebo that is going to be placed just off the playground on the school field. This open sided octagonal wooden building will fit a class of 30 and will be available for use in every playtime for somewhere to sit and make friends. We are also working on a way to decorate and name the building that would be in keeping with the use we intend to make of it and provide a long lasting reminder of our pupil and friend. This will be being delivered in early December and we will keep you updated.

Requests

Two things we would really like your help with:

1. Please do not send houmous in lunchboxes. We have pupils who are very allergic to sesame seeds and houmous is made of these.
2. Please ensure your child knows exactly what they are doing at the end of the school day, particularly if they are going to a club. This will save the office unnecessary worry and work. Thank you!