



★ Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023 ★

Dear Parents,

The start of the school year is a very busy time as systems are re-established and the school gets going again. One of these areas is ensuring staff are all fully trained and compliant with the latest requirements. This has meant a fair bit of classes needing to be covered.

Over the first week or so, I have taught in four classes – one in each year group – and it has been great to see how quickly the children have settled back into school life and their enthusiasm to learn. On Wednesday, I spent most of the day teaching 5M and, in the afternoon, we started the new Science topic which was looking at Forces. It was clear to see the children had retained lots of knowledge in this area, were keen to see different forces in action and could confidently use all the correct vocabulary. Whilst there is pressure on schools to teach a varied broad curriculum, time must be given for plenty of practical activities – in this case, looking at friction on different surfaces and identifying buoyancy and water resistance.



A couple of reminders for next week: firstly, please can parents ensure that children are not arriving at school before 8.45am (we have had children arriving before 8.30am this week). This is vital preparation time for teachers before school. Secondly, on chillier and damp days, please can you ensure your child wears a coat to school – sadly the forecast looks quite damp for next week. We are still keen for the children to play outside if at all possible so coats will definitely be needed!

Have a great weekend.

Best Wishes

James Evelyn  
Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School

**Dates for the Diary**

- 27<sup>th</sup> September Year 3 Parents Open Evening (from 2.30pm)
- 28<sup>th</sup> September Y6 Parents Duke's Barn Information Evening (6pm)
- 4<sup>th</sup> October School Photographer
- 9<sup>th</sup> October Year 4/5/6 Parents Open Evening
- 11<sup>th</sup> October Year 4/5/6 Parents Open Evening
- w/c 16<sup>th</sup> Oct Year 6 Duke's Barn Residential
- 24<sup>th</sup> October Halloween Disco
- w/c 30<sup>th</sup> Oct Half Term

**School Attendance**

Excellent attendance is vital to success at school. We track attendance closely and celebrate excellent attendance. Our target is for each child to have an attendance figure of at least 95%.

3B	92.5%
3J	96.4%
4H	95.8%
4G	96.4%
5AR	95.3%
5M	96.2%
6L	99.4%
6M	96.3%
<b>All</b>	<b>96.1%</b>

Congratulations to 6L who have the best attendance this week!



**Honours Assembly**

Honours Assembly is moving to a new time of 9.10am on a Friday morning. If your child is receiving a certificate, you will receive an email the Friday before inviting you to come along and share in your child's success.



## Year 6 – Transition to Secondary School

We are aware that Toot Hill ran sessions this week with Year 6 parents as part of the admissions process for September 2024. I am not fully aware of how Toot Hill publicise these events but I know the information was shared by our office quite late and some parents have been unable to join the open evenings. I know also that families at other local primary schools have experienced the same issue.

We have been in touch with the Toot Hill Headteacher, Dr Chris Eardley, to see whether there are any other options available. He said they are unable to put on an additional open evenings for staffing reasons but if Year 6 parents would like to look around the school to please contact the school's admissions office at [admissions@toothillschool.co.uk](mailto:admissions@toothillschool.co.uk). They will then arrange tours during the school day. If you do arrange a time during the school day, please inform us – this would be authorised absence.

**A reminder that Year 6 parents must have completed the secondary application form by 31st October 2023.** Further information can be found here:

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-admissions/applying-for-a-school-place-september>

There is also information on the Robert Miles website under Admissions / Secondary Transfer.

If parents have any questions about the transition to secondary school, please speak to Mr Evelyn or the school office.

## Pupil Voice at Robert Miles Junior School

Something new for this year is how we structure our Pupil Voice at Robert Miles. This is an important area where children have the opportunity to feed back on their experience of school and suggest areas for improvement. There are two main parts:

**Prefects:** In Year 6 this year, we are introducing a new opportunity for children to take on additional responsibility in the form of Prefects. Not only will the Prefects give us feedback on how we can improve our school, they will also have areas of responsibility to help them have even greater impact. These areas are:

- Arts Prefect
- Community Prefect
- Environment Prefect
- Inclusion Prefect
- Learning Prefect
- Sports Prefect

This week, all year 6 children received a letter with more information about how it will work and details for each area of responsibility. We strongly encourage children to apply – **the deadline for applications is Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September.** Children are then interviewed before being appointed. Please speak to Mr Evelyn if they have any questions or require any more information.

**School Council:** The second area is School Council. This will be formed of two children from each class – these children are elected by their peers – along with the six prefects. They will meet with the Headteacher every fortnight to discuss concerns and issues along with identifying areas for improvement. Children will then feed back to their class after each meeting.



### Community Prefect

The Community Prefect is responsible for the school's relationship with our local community – making connections with local organisations outside our school.

This role includes:

- Arranging activities with organisations in the local area and beyond
- Looking at how we can involve our local area in the work we do in school and our curriculum
- Identify local charities and/or organisations to fundraise for
- Investigate the possibility of making connections with a school in a contrasting area so we can learn from each other

As well as this area of responsibility, the Community Prefect will also attend Prefect Meetings with the Headteacher and other prefects to feed back and contribute to discussions regarding other areas.

As with all other prefects, the Community Prefect would lead by example and demonstrate all the REACH Values in everything he/she does.



## Children's Commissioner Survey

This week, the Children's Commissioner, Rachel de Souza, has launched the 'Big Ambition'. This is a large scale survey to gather the views of children and young people about 'their schools, communities, family life, and the wider world.' The survey is for anyone aged 18 or under.

The survey can be found [here](#) and more information about the 'Big Ambition' can be found [here](#).



## Bible Explorers

Bible Explorers is starting up again on 20<sup>th</sup> September. The theme this term is Women in the Bible. Sessions are listed below – the School Office will share information about how to sign up.

- 20<sup>th</sup> September - Noah's Ark (Nameless Women)
- 27<sup>th</sup> September - Meet the Matriarchs (Wonder Women)
- 11<sup>th</sup> October - Sarah
- 25<sup>th</sup> October - Rebecca
- 8<sup>th</sup> November - Rachel and Leah
- 7<sup>th</sup> November - Jochebed and Miriam
- 15<sup>th</sup> November - Mary and Martha
- 22<sup>nd</sup> November - Mary Magdalene and the women at the tomb
- 29<sup>th</sup> November - Mary and Elizabeth
- 13<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas

## Local News and Information

We are happy to publicise local events and activities for children in the newsletter particularly ahead of holiday periods. (Please note the school is not endorsing these events as they are run separately.) Any enquiries should be made through the website address shown on the leaflet below.

**HOW CREATE**  
**INSPIRE**

**CHILDRENS ART CLUB**

Qualified teacher with a passion for Art and providing children with a space to explore their own creativity.

Wednesday Gunthorpe Village Hall

4 - 4.45pm - Ages 4 -6  
£5 per class payable in a half term block  
Cost includes materials.

4.50pm - 5.50pm - Ages 7 -11  
£7 per class payable in a half term block  
Cost includes materials.

Contact Hannah to book:  
07852920239 h.webster03@outlook.com

Enhanced DBS check

 

**The Mill**  
**Holiday Clubs**

Fun packed days of adventure!  
children aged 7-13 years

Book online



   @nottsoutdoors

**NOTTS** Outdoors  Nottinghamshire County Council

## Weekly Menu

This term, we have a new catering company supporting us and other Equals Trust schools. Their new systems require parent notification when a child has a special dietary requirement.

All parents have received a link to a form where you can submit information about your child's dietary requirements. If you have not already done so, please complete the form here if your child has specific dietary requirements: <https://orders.lunchhound.co.uk/medicaldiets/request>

### Monday

- Cheese & tomato pizza, herby diced potatoes with mixed vegetables or salad.
- Vegetable sausage, mashed potatoes gravy. (V)
- Freshly baked jacket potato with tuna & mayonnaise, grated cheese or baked beans available every day.
- Chocolate shortbread biscuit

### Tuesday

- Pork hot dog & baked potato wedges with Peas and sweetcorn.
- Veggie burger & potato wedges(V)
- Freshly baked jacket potato with tuna & mayonnaise, grated cheese or baked beans available every day.
- Fruity flapjack with banana

### Wednesday

- Savoury mince in Yorkshire pudding & mashed potatoes with spring greens & cauliflower.
- Quorn roast vegetable sausage, mashed potatoes & gravy (V)
- Freshly baked jacket potato with tuna & mayonnaise, grated cheese or baked beans available every day.
- Oat crunch biscuit

### Thursday

- BBQ chicken, vegetable burrito & mixed rice with green beans and carrots.
- Macaroni cheese (V)
- Freshly baked jacket potato with tuna & mayonnaise, grated cheese or baked beans available every day.
- Apple sponge & custard

### Friday

- Fish fingers, Chips with baked beans or Garden Peas.
- Cheese & onion quiche with diced Potatoes (V)
- Freshly baked jacket potato with tuna & mayonnaise, grated cheese or baked beans available every day.
- Chocolate cornflake cake

## Upcoming Dates w/c 18<sup>th</sup> September

### Monday 18th September 2023

- Film club 3.30 - 5.15pm. The film showing this week is The Lego Ninjago movie. £2 charge for this club. Please pay for this using the School Money app. Soft drink and biscuit provided. No sweets or chocolate please.

### Tuesday 19th September 2023

- Handball group one 8.15-8.55am. Please ensure your child has their PE kit, a drink and any inhalers they may need.

- Girls cricket club 3.30-4.30pm Please ensure your child has their PE kit, a drink and any inhalers they may need.
- Young Voices rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm

**Wednesday 20th September 2023**

**Thursday 21st September 2023**

- Year 4 swimming. Please ensure you remember your swimming kit and any inhalers required.
- Tag rugby for years 5 and 6. 3.30-4.30pm. Please ensure your child has their PE kit, a drink and any inhalers they may need

**Friday 22nd September 2023**

- Honours assembly