

Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 22nd September 2023

*** Secondary School Applications ***

Year 6 parents **must** complete their secondary school applications by 31st October 2023. More information on the school website under Admissions / Secondary Transfer.

Dear Parents,

This week in assembly we talked about Online Safety. Being online is a huge part of all our lives and, as a school, it is really important we talk with children about how they can make good choices and stay safe whilst doing things they enjoy. We talked about the importance of not sharing personal details, only communicating with people we know and talked through some different scenarios.

Parents have frequently mentioned to me both here and in my previous school about problems coming up in the 'chat' area of games and we talked about being kind and only saying things to people that you would say in person.

I know that children's knowledge of computers can often exceed what we know as adults and it can be hard to keep up – I certainly find this. To help with this, from this week, I am going to start sharing National Online Safety posters in our weekly newsletter – see further down for this week's poster. These posters are really helpful as is their website which also provides information for both schools and parents. Follow this link for further information: <https://nationalcollege.com/parents>.

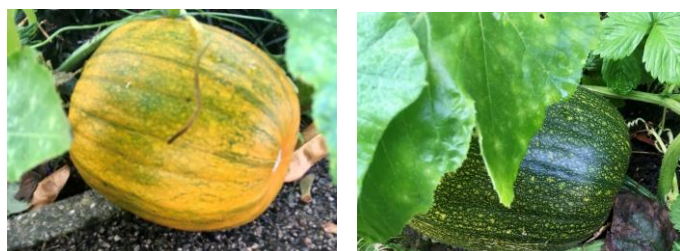
Have a great weekend.

Best Wishes



James Evelyn
Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School

Pumpkins!



Back in April, the children planted some pumpkin seeds and have been watching them grow. It's been the perfect summer for pumpkins with so much rain! The pumpkins are still growing and starting to change colour. Hopefully they will be huge by Halloween ready to be carved. Look out for them as you walk down the path to the school entrance.

Dates for the Diary

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

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	97.0%
3J	100%
4H	98%
4G	99.4%
5AR	95.3%
5M	96.2%
6L	98.7%
6M	92.5%
All	97.05%



Congratulations to 3J who have the best attendance this week!

Year 6 – Transition to Secondary School

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.

Honours Assembly

Congratulations to these children whose success was celebrated at Honours Assembly this week and some of their work was shared with all the children in the school.

3J	Ruby Sharphouse & Kirstie Gunn
3B	Lily Appleby & Kennis Lee
4G	Isla Johns & Oliver Brown
4H	Yanyu Chan & Oakley Bostock-Keen
5M	Jamie Gilbert & Isla Rowson
5AR	Joshua Stannard & Emily Carter
6M	Sophie Ryan & George Bartrop
6L	Sophia Reed & Nathan Scott

Excellent work under the Spotlight



Based on the poem The Door by Miroslav Holub, the year 6 children were tasked with writing their own version. Drawing upon their imagination and creative skills, they described in great detail things they would want to find behind a door and also those they would not welcome. Here a couple of extracts:

Go and open the door

Maybe outside

There's a gentle wave washing over the warm sand

Or an enchanting sunset that bathes the world in an orange glow.

Go and open the door

If you lose yourself in the cruel depths of darkness

It will pass

Year 6 have really impressed us with these wonderful poems!

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](#).



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.

GIRLS CRICKET

Come down to our Saturday morning softball cricket sessions for girls in year 3-6 (no kit needed). We will teach them batting, bowling and fielding skills, as well as how to have a blast playing cricket!

To register your child or for more information contact: [07817983285](tel:07817983285) or email binghamcc@hotmail.co.uk

Saturday mornings,
starting 23rd September.
10-11 at Bingham Leisure
Centre (Toot Hill School)

First session **FREE!**



We share E-Safety information from National Online Safety with parents in the Robert Miles newsletter. This is to help you in ensuring that your child can use technology safely. Please read the following information.

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upson is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.





National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://nipal.app/about/privacy.html>

 @natonlinesafety
 /NationalOnlineSafety
 @nationalonlinesafety
 @national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 13.09.2023

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 carrot and cucumber mixed vegetables.
- Cheesy pea and mixed vegetable pasta bake. (V)
- Freshly baked jacket potato with tuna & mayonnaise, grated cheese or baked beans.
- Oat and raisin cookie.

Tuesday

- Italian chicken and mixed rice with garden peas and carrots.
- Beany tomato ragu and fluffy cous cous. (V)
- Freshly baked jacket potato with tuna & mayonnaise, grated cheese or baked beans.
- Chocolate sponge with chocolate sauce

Wednesday

- Traditional Toad in the Hole with mashed potato, cauliflower & seasonal greens.
- Quorn roast vegetable sausage, mashed potatoes & gravy (V)
- Freshly baked jacket potato with tuna & mayonnaise, grated cheese or baked beans.
- Ice cream

Thursday

- Spaghetti with Beef Bolognese with green beans & sweetcorn.
- Veggie mince pasta bake (V)
- Freshly baked jacket potato with tuna & mayonnaise, grated cheese or baked beans.
- Vanilla blondie

Friday

- Fish fingers, chips with baked beans or garden peas.
- Vegetable nuggets and chips (V)
- Freshly baked jacket potato with tuna & mayonnaise, grated cheese or baked beans.
- Strawberry muffin

Upcoming Dates w/c 25th September

Monday 25th September 2023

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

Tuesday 26th 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 27th September 2023

- Year 3 open evening. 2.30pm – 7.20pm. Please book a slot online if not already done so.

Thursday 28th 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.
- Year 6 Dukes Barn information evening 6pm.

Friday 29th September 2023

- Honours assembly
- Macmillan cake sale. All donations of cakes will be grateful received for this important cause. Cakes will be on sale for 50p - £1. Thank you so much for your support in this. Separate letter has been sent.
- Payment due date for Dukes Barn and Young Voices.