

Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 13th October 2023

Dear Parents,

This morning I held my first 'Parent Forum'. Thank you to those parents who came along. The purpose of these sessions is for me to talk about how the school is running, what we are working on and what is coming up. It is also an opportunity for parents to ask questions and meet our Chair of Governors. We will run another one during the spring term.

Next week, our Year 6s are off to Dukes Barn for the annual residential. I know Mrs Melhuish, Miss Lanagan and Mrs Clayton have spent a great deal of time preparing and organising everything and I am sure it will be a great week. A reminder that if your child is not attending, they must still be in school every day. Mr Maylard-Mason will be joining the children for the week so there will be no tag rugby, handball or cricket clubs next week.

Finally, another reminder to Year 6 parents about the upcoming deadline for secondary school applications. We are aware of 10 families who have yet to complete this – please do not leave it to the last minute and risk missing the deadline! Do get in touch if you need any help with this process.

Have a great weekend.

Best Wishes



James Evelyn

Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School

Dates for the Diary

w/c 16 th Oct	Year 6 Dukes Barn Residential
23 rd 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	98.5%
3J	95.6%
4H	97.1%
4G	95.2%
5AR	98.4%
5M	97.2%
6L	97.2%
6M	95.3%
All	96.8%



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

Sports Ambassadors

In the last newsletter, we shared the names of our newly appointed School Councillors and Prefects. Today, we can share the names of our newly appointed Sports Ambassadors.

Sports Ambassadors will be the school voice for PE and Sport. They will promote the positive values of sport and be a role model for PE. Throughout the year, sports ambassadors will also collect data from pupils on what activities they would like to see on the playground at lunchtimes and facilitate these whilst building their leadership skills.

Lexi Thompson

Freya Wroblewski

Isaac Michael

Rosie McCormick

Dolly Barker-Richards

Sophie Wilson

Emmy Hardie

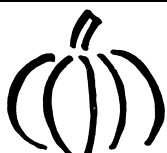
Imogen Groom

Emily Mogg

Thomas Hallam-Waite (also Sport Prefect)



Halloween Disco



Halloween Disco

Monday 23rd October 2023

6.30 – 8.00 pm



We are holding a **Halloween/Autumn Disco** for the children on **Monday 23rd October 2023**. (Please note that this is a change of date from Tues 24th). 'Gazza's Disco' will be back to entertain the children.

Halloween Fancy Dress is optional.

Tickets are priced at £2.00 each, which will cover the cost of the disco. Please pay on the door.

A 'Tuck Shop' will be open on the night. Drinks will be supplied.

We would appreciate adult volunteers to help with the tuck shop on the night. Please e-mail office@robertmiles.notts.sch.uk if you are able to help. For those parents who offered at the 'end of year disco' but it wasn't needed, you will be priority to help this time.

Macmillan Bake Sale

A huge thank you to all the parents and children who contributed to the Macmillan Bake Sale – we raised a brilliant £285.45. Message from Macmillan: "Thank you for being part of this year's coffee morning. We'll put the money you've raised straight to work. It could mean someone with cancer can get help with how they're feeling on our Support Line. Pay their bills during treatment. Or turn to a Macmillan nurse for vital medical, practical and emotional support.



House Points

Children are earning House Points each and every day for showing the REACH values, making good choices and doing their very best. Each Friday in Honours Assembly, we announce the latest scores. At the end of each term, the house with the most points earns a non-uniform day.

This week's overall totals:

Jupiter	410
Mercury	351
Neptune	377
Saturn	364



School Bus

Please note that the bus fare on the school service (667) has now been increased to £2.00 for a single journey and £3.50 for a return. The drivers are clamping down on non-payers, so please ensure your child pays the correct fare and, if appropriate, retains their ticket for the return journey. If any child is refused entry onto the bus due to non-payment, then they will be brought back into school and we will call you to come and collect them.



This is not a school decision. The bus is run through Nottinghamshire County Council and we are expected to follow their guidance. If you are finding that your individual circumstances are making it difficult to pay for the school bus, then please contact the office on 01949 875011.

Excellent work under the Spotlight



This week in Year 5, the children have been writing their own portal stories that draw the reader in by developing a setting through their character's perspective. Based on the year 5 model text, Clock Close, and using inspiration from the picture book The Viewer, these short stories will continue to be written into next week. The 5M have had many fabulous ideas and Mr Miller is excited to see the dramatic cliffhanger each of these will leave him on.

Monday 9th October 2023

Clock Close

Innovation

9.10.23 The city dump was once a factory. Now it has no machines, no workers and no tools. No cars, no signs of life. Skilled workers died here long ago. It is now just an void of cars and machinery.

10.10.23 Tristan scanned over the wall of rubbish crowning over him. Suddenly he felt that moment he heard the glapping of wings. Swarming around him. He spun a look just before it vanishes somehow. It vanishes near a box.

11.10.23 Gradually, he crept forward and glared at the mysterious box. It was a vibrant red box with uncut jewels on it like diamonds, rubies and sapphires. There was a shining, glistening gold crank on it. Curiously, Tristan opened the box, inside was a scroll with a picture of a portal inside. The scroll was gold and had a pattern of straight and wiggly lines. Cautiously with a thundering heart the adventurous boy turned the scroll handle.

Silence, then gradually the portal in the wall initiated to life.

Monday 9th October 2023

Clock Close: Innovation

There were no soldiers in the castle. No secret passages. No furniture. No animals or people. No visible signs. Life died there centuries ago. It was now a city dump and people chuck their rubbish.

10.10.23 Tristan scanned over the wall of waste towering over the interested boy. Down below, Tristan from behind him, Tristan snelt a disgusting stench, but he couldn't quite work out what it was. On an enormous hump of abused wood he saw a flash - a glint.

11.10.23 Slowly, he crept forward and stared at the wood, there was a rusty metal box. Below was a small box made of rusty metal and blue glass. Protruding from the side, was a wooden lever. Tristan opened the box and inside was a tiny red flag and white flag. Cautiously he pushed down on the lever.

Nothing. Then the flag began to rise revealing a the ruins of a castle it was lying within.

12.10.23 The dump exploded into a scene of a gloomy night sky. Darker than darkness. Was this just a dream? Rotten smells and birds' shrieks created an atmosphere. Tristan was standing in the ruins of an abandoned castle wondering about what had just happened. All around him, all he could hear was nothing but silence. Tristan stared out far into the land and saw a hare hopping happily, its eyes wide with delight.

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.

NHS
Nottinghamshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

The Healthy Family Team

(Health Visitor & School Nurse)

FREE health advice and support for families with children aged 0-19 years living in Nottinghamshire.

ADVICE LINE: Please telephone 0300 123 5436

Parentline
Text: 07520 619919

A free confidential **text** messaging service for families with children aged 0-19 years living in Nottinghamshire.

A free health website for children and families living in Nottinghamshire.
www.healthforkids.co.uk

Health For Kids
SCAN ME

Board Games Club + Pizza

Age 10-18 (Year 6+)

SECOND Friday of the Month @ 3.45 - 5.30

Bingham Methodist Centre

8th Sept
13th Oct
10th Nov
8th Dec.

Lego Area

FREE (suggested donation for food £1)

Parent permission required. Must be in YEAR 6 or over.

Please email cyp@binghammethodist.org.uk to express an interest, or join the Facebook Group www.facebook.com/groups/binghamgames/

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.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it's needed. This guide focuses on one of many games which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefers and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODER is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter ODERs. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, and some private or VIP servers also have a cost.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/2020/11/21/2333431/roblox-over-half-of-us-kids-joining-virtual-parties-for-fortnite>
<https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 10.10.2022

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 available every day.
- 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 available every day.
- 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 available every day.
- 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 available every day.
- 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 available every day.
- Strawberry muffin

Upcoming Dates w/c 16th October

Mr Maylard-Mason is joining the Year 6 residential all week. As a result, there will be no handball, cricket or tag rugby this week.

Monday 16th October 2023

- Year 6 Group 1 going to Dukes Barn. Other children to be at school for normal school hours.
- Film club 3.30 - 5.15pm. The film showing this week is Ferngully: the last rainforest. £2 charge for this club. Please pay for this using the SchoolMoney app. Soft drink and biscuit provided. No sweets or chocolate please.

Tuesday 17th October 2023

- No Handball.
- No girls cricket club.
- Young Voices rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm.

Wednesday 18th October 2023

- Year 6 group two going to Dukes Barn. To be at school at normal time.
- Year 6 group one returning from Dukes Barn. Collect at normal pick up time.
- No Bible explorers.

Thursday 19th October 2023

- Year 4 swimming. Please could children who are swimming bring along a long sleeved t-shirt and leggings or Pyjamas bottoms (the tight fitting the better).
- No tag rugby.

Friday 20th October 2023

- Honours Assembly