

Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 1st December 2023

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch is taking place on 20th December. Parents will be receiving a letter from the office with details of how to sign up for your child. This MUST be returned by the end of day Friday 8th December so the kitchen has sufficient time to make the order.

Christmas Accessory Day

On 15th December, children can come to school in uniform but with accessories. This could be a Christmas jumper, festive headwear, Christmas socks or anything seasonally related. Parents are welcome to make a voluntary contribution to Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day.

Dates for the Diary

5 th December	Children's Flu Vaccinations
6 th December	Year 5 National Space Centre
13 th /14 th Dec	Year 3 Brackenhurst Trip
15 th December	Christmas Accessory Day!
18 th December	Y5/6 Carol Concert (2.45pm)
19 th December	Y3/4 Carol Concert (2.45pm)
20 th December	Christmas Lunch
22 nd December	Last Day of Term and Parties

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	90.3%
3J	90.7%
4H	89.3%
4G	89.7%
5AR	97.2%
5M	91.8%
6L	92.5%
6M	85.9%
All	90.9%

Congratulations to 5AR who have the best attendance this week!



Christmas Tree

The Tree is up and has been decorated and kicks off the start of the run up to Christmas – we hope everyone enjoyed opening that first door on the Advent Calendar! A huge thank you to East Bridgford Garden and Home Centre who kindly donated the tree to the school this year.



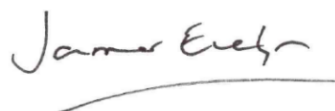
Dear Parents,

This time of year, as well as being a time of celebration, is also traditionally a time when coughs and colds are commonplace. Our school is no different and I know many of our children are not feeling at their very best right now. The attendance numbers on the bottom right of this page show this too. Our staff are not immune and also working very hard despite carrying coughs and colds. A reminder to continue making sure children are in their coats every day. Some children are still wearing shorts and whilst a number of them have told they like wearing shorts even in cold weather – and I do respect this! – it is probably the time for them to now switch over to trousers.

On Friday last week, our Member of Parliament, Robert Jenrick MP, visited the school. It was an opportunity to raise some of my concerns and challenges with him and hopefully utilise his position to get some answers. He also met with some of our prefects who asked him questions about various aspects of politics from how he communicates with the Prime Minister to what made him want to be a politician. Whilst we all have our own political views, it is important that children learn about democracy and how local accountability works. I am hoping that we might be able to arrange a trip to Parliament later in the year.

The weather is forecast to be extremely cold this weekend so wrap up warm and have a lovely time.

Best Wishes



James Evelyn
Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School

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	Alyssia Robinson & Dexter Gibbs-Jackson
3B	Alya Cheung & Teddy Davies
4G	Alston Liu & Noah Simpson
4H	Camille Kwok & Lucas Cheng
5M	Molly Gibbs-Jackson & Jessica Sanders
5AR	Sadie Smith & Ffion Smart
6M	Ellie Wheat-Brown & Rory Maberley
6L	Riley Saxton & Grace Pearson


Infant School Crossing Patrol

David Crouch, who has been the School Crossing Patrol by the Infant School for many years, is retiring at the end of this term. Lots of our children will have benefited from his support over many years. The Infant School has organised a collection for him so if you would like to contribute, please contact the school by the end of Monday. We are also aware that David is a big supporter of the Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance who are currently fund raising and have a deadline of 5th December to obtain match funding. Parents may also be interested in supporting this very worthy cause.

Flu Vaccinations

NHS Flu Vaccinations are taking place this coming Tuesday. This was communicated by the office back in October with parents signing up to give consent.

No child will receive the vaccine if consent has not been given. Please get in touch with the School Office with any questions you may have.



LNAA

LNAA crews are on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year

Jasmine Lowe
BBC News

28 November 2023

An air ambulance service is aiming to raise £70,000 in one week by accessing matched funding.

Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance (LNAA) said the money would "support their year-round life-saving work."

If the charity receives £35,000 between 28 November and 5 December all donations will be doubled by corporate supporters.

The LNAA crews are on call 24 hours, every day of the year and fly an average of four missions a day.

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.

Jupiter	415
Mercury	425
Neptune	485
Saturn	447



Christmas Fair Choir

A huge well done to our RMJS Christmas Fair Choir who performed on stage last Friday night to our community. If you were at the fair, we do hope you enjoyed our performance of 6 Christmas favourites. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with these children who have been so willing and enthusiastic. They have committed to lunchtime rehearsals, quickly learnt actions to songs and been fantastic in their determination to do well. Many battled with coughs and colds on a very cold night but they happily donned their Christmas outfits and filled the stage with such wonderful voices. Thank you to all of you for doing such a fantastic job and for being such amazing ambassadors for our school – we are so proud of you all and you have definitely put us all in a very Christmassy mood for the rest of the term! Thank you and well done from Mrs Alcock.



Football Team Update

Boys Football vs Carnarvon

A game against Carnarvon is always a challenge and the boys were ready for it. What an incredible game. At the beginning of the game, with a new formation and gameplan, the boys set off on the pitch only to be greeted with two conceded goals in the first five minutes. That was not the end of the game. Robert Miles decided that it was time to control the play and we went from strength to strength. Olly quickly scored an incredible goal from the corner of the pitch to lob the keeper. Throughout the second half, we controlled the game and kept much more possession than the opposition. It was a fast paced game, one which we continuously applied pressure and created multiple chances. Although we filled the second half with opportunities, unfortunately we were unable to hit the back of the net. The score line was not what we felt was deserved, however, the boys are ready and waiting for the rematch!

Girls Football vs Edwalton

The girls team played brilliantly against a strong league contending team. They challenged the ball, created non-stop chances and played some amazing football. Communication with each other and supporting each other at every step was clear and how we represented RMJS was second to none. Lucy was a constant challenger upfront and was a pressure which Edwalton were not a fan of. I believe this is the beginning of a team that knows they are capable of challenging the top teams in the league. It wasn't the result we had hoped for, and it was lovely to hear parents from the opposition stating the score line was not a representation of the brilliant game just played. Girls, you did amazing and you are going from strength to strength and I am excited for Spring term when we step back out onto that pitch.

Times Table Rockstars

Times Tables Rockstars

Congratulations to the following children who have topped the charts for their work on TTRS this week:

Most correct answers: Athena 4H

Most coins earned: Athena 4H

Biggest improvement in accuracy: Nancie, 4G

Biggest improvement in speed: Nancie, 4G

Excellent work under the Spotlight



This was the very last stage of our Talk For Writing which involves the children writing their own story - in our case it was a warning story full of suspense - and the children are tasked with writing it independently, applying many of the skills and writing features that we have been working on over the past weeks. Here are some extracts:

Eleanor Corcoran As she swam deeper, a moonpool glistened in the light, as if waiting for her. The majestic moonpool eddied slowly around her.

Piper Gilfillan As she made her way into her room she spotted all of her favourite things: there was her bookshelf full of adventures to the rainforest and fairytales to lands faraway; there was her musical box with a tiny little ballerina dancing to a twinkling tune; but what she loved most was a china doll, with curly, golden ringlets and a white floral dress, which sat upon the cabinet.

Sophie Ryan A mystical tiger pranced around, lurking in the shadows. A shining suit of armour lay against the wall, waiting for a worthy champion. In the corner of his eye, he spotted a book, perfectly poised on the glimmering lectern.

Edward Macintosh Regret filled the air. Two glowing eyes appeared in front of him, as if saying, "It's over, Arthur!"

Whatever it was, it was not in the mood for a game.

"Whatever happens, don't go in the old cathedral." How idiotic he had been...

[Mr Evelyn: I had the great pleasure of hearing each child reading their stories. They were of exceptional quality and the children were suitably proud of their excellent work.]

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.

GUEST VISIT FROM
BLAZE CRICKETER SARAH BRYCE

GIRLS CRICKET @ BINGHAM CRICKET CLUB

1787
BINGHAM CC

9 till 10am
Years 3 to 6

First session
FREE

Saturday, 25th Nov 2023
TOOT HILL LEISURE CENTRE

Contact: 07817 983285 Email: binghamcc@hotmail.co.uk
Please contact to book a place!

In association with: **ELITE SPORTS**

THE BLAZE

FAMILIES, YOUNG PEOPLE AND PARENTS-TO-BE LIVING IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

HAVE YOUR SAY ON OUR PROPOSALS FOR THE HEALTHY FAMILY TEAMS

(you may know this as health visiting and school nursing)

complete the survey by
December 17 2023

Please click here to go to the survey link
or scan the QR code opposite



Help us make sure that services continue to meet the needs of children, young people and families.

Christmas Foodbank Appeal

This week we have joined up with the Methodist Church and their annual reverse advent calendar. The image below shows which items can be donated on each day. Any donations will be gratefully received.










Bingham Methodist Church

Have you considered a **reverse advent** this year? It's simple! Start with an empty box, add an item every time you shop, drop off the box; we do the rest!

Bring your donations in to school, and Bingham Methodist Church members will take it to Grantham Foodbank. School drop-off points will be in operation until the **8th of December**, so that donations can be sorted and given in time for Christmas. As a community if we work together we can make a real difference this winter.

If you are a family in need of support, please seek referral through the Children's Centre or see <https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/emergency-food/food-vouchers/>

Day 1  Baked Beans / Spaghetti	Day 2  Tinned Soup	Day 3  Toilet Rolls	Day 4  Tinned Tomatoes	Day 5  Rice 500g Packets	Day 6  Mince Pies
Day 7  Packet Biscuits	Day 8  Shower Gel Shampoo/Toothpaste etc	Day 9  Tinned Fish	Day 10  Coffee	Day 11  Jam	Day 12  Breakfast Cereal
Day 13  Tea Bags	Day 14  Selection Boxes	Day 15  Bottles Squash	Day 16  Pasta 500g packets	Day 17  Tinned Vegetables	Day 18  Pasta Sauces
Day 19  Tom Ketchup Brown Sauce	Day 20  Tinned Meat	Day 21  Christmas Pudding (non-alcoholic)	Day 22  Rice Pudding	Day 23  UHT Long-life Milk	Day 24  Tinned Fruit

Grantham.foodbank.org.uk



Registered Charity in England & Wales/Scotland/NI (1195874). 'Your donations will be going to a local food bank – a registered charity or charitable organisation which is part of the Trussell Trust network'

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 is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps 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 TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION 13+
(certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-16 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manually monitored and vetted.

DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the "blackout" trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-18s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app; it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthdate.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

TikTok can be addictive, especially for young people; compulsive repeated use can interfere with sleep patterns and be a distraction from other activities. The platform recently introduced default usage time limits of 60 and 100 minutes for new members under 18 (in the UK, children with TikTok average 102 minutes per day on the app), but these restrictions can easily be removed in the settings.

TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the "TikTok Now" feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or real-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content); set screen time limits; and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-16s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.

LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Twitter: @natonlinesafety Facebook: /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram: @nationalonlinesafety TikTok: @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: 02.03.2023

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

- Homemade macaroni cheese with sweetcorn and mixed vegetables.
- Mexican bean & roasted vegetable burrito with sweetcorn & mixed vegetables. (V)
- Jacket potato with tuna mayo or cheese or beans.
- Homemade apple sponge cake.

Tuesday

- Chicken & Indian lentil tikka masala curry & rice with peas and cauliflower.
- Cheese & tomato pizza and garlic bread with peas and cauliflower (V)
- Jacket potato with tuna mayo or cheese or beans.
- Oaty flapjack finger.

Wednesday

- Filled Yorkshire pudding with beef & vegetable mince with roast potatoes, carrots and seasonal greens.
- Quorn sausage casserole in a Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, carrots & Seasonal greens. (V)
- Jacket potato with tuna mayo or cheese or beans.
- Homemade vanilla sponge and custard.

Thursday

- Pork sausage roll with skin on baked wedges, green beans & sweetcorn.
- Cheese & onion pastry roll with skin on baked wedges, green beans & sweetcorn. (V)
- Jacket potato with tuna mayo or cheese or beans.
- Fruity strawberry jelly & mandarin segments.

Friday

- Cod fish fingers, chips, baked beans or peas.
- Mediterranean vegetable pasta bake with beans or peas. (V)
- Jacket potato with tuna mayo or cheese or beans.
- Chocolate shortbread.

Upcoming Dates w/c 4th December

Monday 4th December 2023

- Film club 3.30 - 5.15pm. The film showing this week is in search of Santa. £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 5th December 2023

- Year 3 watching the infants Christmas dress rehearsal performance.
- Children's Flu vaccinations.
- Handball session for group two. 8.15-8.55am
- Girls cricket club 3.30-4.30pm – Spaces available.
- Young Voices rehearsal 3.30-4.30pm.

Wednesday 6th December 2023

- Basketball club 7.45 – 8.45am.
- Year 5 at the Space Centre, please wear school uniform, sensible shoes, coat and bring a packed lunch.
- Bible explorers at lunch time.

Thursday 7th December 2023

- Martial arts club for years 4 and 5 8-8.45am. Please bring PE kit, a water bottle and any inhalers needed.
- Year 4 swimming. Please ensure you remember your swimming kit and any inhalers required.
- Basketball club 3.30-4.30pm.
- Year 6 Christmas afternoon at Toot hill.

Friday 8th December 2023

- Honours assembly.