

Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 8th December 2023



Dear Parents,

It is a busy time of year but also one of the best times to be working in a primary school. There is an air of excitement as Christmas comes ever closer and the school is alive with the sound of singing and practising for the upcoming concerts.

On Wednesday afternoon, I joined many of you at the Infant School for their Christmas production. It was a lovely occasion with the children performing and singing to a packed hall. It also coincided with the leaving event for David Crouch who has been managing the children to safely cross the busy road for the past 12 years – we wish him all the very best for the future.

Carol Ward Carol will be taking up a new role as Head of Inclusion for all primary schools in the Equals Trust. This is a newly created position and a great opportunity for Carol. It also provides schools across our trust with increased capacity in an important area.

Carol will remain as SENCo next term working on Tuesdays and Thursdays – please only contact her on these days from January. I will take over as the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) from January. Carol's role will be advertised later this month and we hope to have someone in post for the start of the summer term.

Carol has made an immense contribution to our school particularly with some of our most vulnerable children and I know the whole school community will miss her. Whilst I am very sad that Carol will not be working directly for the school anymore, I am delighted that she will support her successor in their induction and provide ongoing support to the school as part of her new role.

Performances On Monday and Tuesday week, our Christmas concerts are taking place – details as follows:

- Monday 18th December (2.45pm) – Year 5/6 Carol Concert. Mince Pies and refreshments provided along with the Christmas Raffle
- Tuesday 19th December (2.45pm) – Year 3/4 Carol Concert. Mince Pies and refreshments provided along with the Christmas Raffle
- To stay within the fire regulations, we ask that a maximum of two people attend per child.

Best Wishes



James Evelyn
Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School

Dates for the Diary

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

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.

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	95.4%
3J	96.9%
4H	86.4%
4G	95.6%
5AR	93.5%
5M	94.9%
6L	96.8%
6M	93.4%
All	95.3%



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

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	542
Mercury	517
Neptune	580
Saturn	527



Excellent work under the Spotlight



Watch out Vincent Van Gogh, Year 5 has its own artists in the making! Leading up to our recent trip to the National Space Centre, we focussed this term's art project on the artist Peter Thorpe who took all his inspiration from the wonders of space - creating colourful, vibrant and eye-catching pieces of artwork. As a result, we began our project by learning all about colour and tone and how these can be used to create different effects. We then looked at how Peter Thorpe has used this in his artwork. Next, it was time to get messy! We practised five different painting techniques, using paint brushes, sponges and even paper towels but splattering was by far the favourite! We then practised making a rocket look 3D using a range of tones and highlights. Equipped with all of this knowledge, we set to work planning our very own, unique Peter Thorpe inspired masterpieces. Watch this space, as next week we will be putting our plans into action and creating our final pieces!



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: Micah, 4H

Most coins earned: Micah, 4H

Biggest improvement in accuracy: Noah, 4G

Biggest improvement in speed: Liam, 3B

Year 5 at the Space Centre

As part of our Science theme of Earth and Space, Year 5 'blasted off' to the National Space Centre in Leicester on Wednesday. We had a packed day which included The Great Rocket Challenge where, in teams, children battled it out to build an effective rocket to launch to the moon. In groups, we explored all the fascinating exhibitions which revealed the hidden secrets of the universe, solar system, our precious Earth and the other fascinating planets. We saw real rockets that had returned from their space missions, learnt about the history of the Space Race, saw actual rock from the moon, went inside a space capsule to discover what life was really like for astronauts and much more. Finally, we entered the planetarium where we saw what it was really like to train to be an astronaut and enter the world of zero gravity. Year 5 were wonderful throughout the day and were complimented by Space Centre staff for their polite manners, keen listening and responsible, sensible behaviour. All the children were enthusiastic, keen to learn and made the most of their day. A huge thank you to all the adults that helped out.



Year 6 at Toot Hill

Year 6 had a wonderful afternoon that really put us into the Christmas spirit. A group of year 12 students organised and ran a Christmas Party for us, with a whole range of activities: giant Jenga, cake decorating, Pin the Nose on Rudolph, a Christmas photo booth and even snacks and treats to eat. The afternoon finished with a good old sing-song and then Santa handed out goody bags to each child as we left. A good time with had by all!



Digital Leaders



Yesterday, four children from Robert Miles Junior School spent the morning at Heymann Primary School in West Bridgford taking part in the Equals Trust's Digital Leaders project. This is where children from all schools in the trust come together to talk about all things digital with the end product being a newsletter which is sent to all families in the trust along with an assembly they then deliver in their own school. Well done to Riley (6L), Henry (6M), Isabelle (4G) and Joshua (4H) – we will update parents when the newsletters are published.

Digital Leaders Newsletters from last year are on the school website here (scroll to the bottom):

<https://www.robertmiles.co.uk/page/?title=E%2DSafety&pid=24>

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.


Nottinghamshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

Healthy Family Team: 0 - 19 Public Health Nursing Service



Welcome to Primary School

We just wanted to say hello and introduce ourselves. We are your local Healthy Family Team. It is our job to support you and your family with any health and wellbeing needs.



This is how we can support you and your family:



Appointment Line

You can access support from your local Healthy Family team through a range of appointment-based health sessions for parents, children and young people.

www.nottinghamshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/healthy-families-additional-support





Advice Line

This is for parents, carers and healthcare professionals who want to speak to the Healthy Family team for advice or support.

Monday to Friday, from 9am to 4.30pm

Telephone
0300 123 5436





Parentline

This is a confidential text messaging service delivered by the Healthy Family team for parents and carers.

Monday to Friday, from 9am to 4.30pm

Text
07520 619919





Health For Kids

This website offers a fun, engaging and interactive way for children to learn about health. It links parents and children to appropriate health and wellbeing services.

www.healthforkids.co.uk





Making a Difference
Trust Honesty Respect Compassion Teamwork



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 devices which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalonlinecollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.

INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.

REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.

UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.

A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.

SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.

CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.

CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.

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

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 Cheese & Tomato pizza, garlic bread, sweetcorn and peas.
- Loaded cheesy bean hot pitta parcel. (V)
- Jacket potato with tuna mayonnaise or cheese or beans.
- Apple & sultana crumble bar

Tuesday

- Hearty pasta Bolognese with peppers, green beans and carrots.
- Plant based Bolognese pasta with lentils, peppers and basil. (V)
- Jacket potato with tuna mayonnaise or cheese or beans.
- Homemade lemon cake with custard.

Wednesday

- Toad in the hole, roast potatoes, gravy, cauliflower and seasonal greens.
- Quorn sausage toad in the hole, roast potatoes and gravy. (V)
- Jacket potato with tuna mayonnaise or cheese or beans.
- Banana cake and fruit slices

Thursday

- Mexican style chicken, bean and sweetcorn burrito, mixed vegetables and sweetcorn.
- Homemade macaroni cheese. (V)
- Jacket potato with tuna mayonnaise or cheese or beans.
- Chocolate cookie

Friday

- Cod fish fingers, chips, baked beans or peas.
- Cheese & onion pastry roll and chips.(V)
- Jacket potato with tuna mayonnaise or cheese or beans.
- Fruity strawberry jelly

Upcoming Dates w/c 11th December

Monday 11th December 2023

- Film club 3.30 - 5.15pm. The film showing this week is K9 Christmas: Scoot & Kassie's Christmas adventure. £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 12th December 2023

- 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 13th December 2023

- Basketball club 7.45 – 8.45am.

- 3B at Brackenhurst for the day. No school uniform, sensible shoes (can be muddy!) Packed lunch and a drink.
- Bible explorers at lunch time.

Thursday 14th December 2023

- Martial arts club for years 4 and 5 8-8.45am. Please bring PE kit, a water bottle and any inhalers needed.
- 3J at Brackenhurst for the day. No school uniform, sensible shoes (can be muddy!) Packed lunch and a drink.
- Year 4 swimming. Please ensure you remember your swimming kit and any inhalers required.
- Basketball club 3.30-4.30pm.

Friday 15th December 2023

- Honours assembly.
- Christmas accessory day. Children to wear school uniform but can wear a Christmas jumper, festive headwear, Christmas socks or anything seasonally related. Parents welcome to make a voluntary donation to Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day.