

Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 13th February 2025



Inset Day – School Closed Tomorrow

A reminder tomorrow, Friday 14th February, is an Equals Trust Inset Day. School will be closed to all children. School reopens after half term on Monday 24th February.

Dear Parents,

We have reached the end of another busy half term with lots achieved – Christmas feels a very long time ago!

Tomorrow is an Equals Trust inset day meaning the school will be closed. There are many benefits of being part of a small, local primary school trust. Lots of events happen during the year across the different aspects of school life and it is important to come together with colleagues from other schools to discuss practice and work together on our common goals. I know as a Headteacher that I have certainly benefited from working closely alongside other Headteachers in our trust.

Staff I am delighted to be able to let you know that Mr Jennings's wife gave birth to a beautiful baby girl in the early hours of yesterday morning. Baby and mum are both well and I am sure you will join me in sending our very best wishes for the future. I will be writing separately to Year 3 parents confirming the timings/plans for his paternity leave.

Finally, and very sadly, we are today saying goodbye to Mrs Ward. She has worked at the school for a long time in many roles including, most recently, as a Pastoral TA/ELSA Teacher. Amelia is such an advocate and dedicated supporter of our most vulnerable children and does brilliant work supporting them. She will be missed enormously and we wish her all the very best for the future.

Wishing you all an enjoyable and relaxing half term. School reopens on Monday 24th February.

Best Wishes

James Evelyn

Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School

Dates for the Diary

| | |
|---|--|
| 14 th February | Inset Day – School Closed |
| w/c 17 th Feb | Half Term |
| 25 th February | SEND Parents Reading Afternoon |
| 28 th Feb, 4 th & 5 th March | Scholastic Book Fair |
| 5 th March | |
| 5 th March | Y6 Parents Evening |
| 12 th March | Year 4 Residential Parent Meeting |
| 18 th /20 th March | Y3, Y4 & Y5 Parents Evening |
| 21 st March | Friends of RMJS Mother's Day Gift Shop |

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 | 98.6% |
| 3J | 95.5% |
| 4H | 96.5% |
| 4M | 92.6% |
| 5AC | 96.9% |
| 5G | 95.1% |
| 6L | 97.6% |
| 6M | 92.9% |
| All | 95.7% |



Congratulations to 3B for having the best attendance this week!

House Points

| | |
|---------|-------|
| Jupiter | 1,301 |
| Mercury | 1,533 |
| Neptune | 1,357 |
| Saturn | 1,294 |

Children are earning House Points each and every day for making good choices and showing the REACH values. These are the final totals for Spring 1 – huge congratulations to Mercury House who have earned the most points this half term and enjoyed a non-uniform day today!



Times Tables Rock Stars

Times Tables Rockstars

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

Most correct answers: Mia, 4H

Most coins earnt: Mia, 4H

Biggest improvement in accuracy: Poppy, 4H

Biggest improvement in speed: Hedia, 3B

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 | Jasmine Yung & Laceigh-Mae Coulter |
| 3B | Angus Russell & Matthew Nwayor |
| 4M | Rebekah Fisher & Ellie Morris |
| 4H | Dexter Walters & Amber Ball |
| 5G | Indi Carrington & Evie Herrick |
| 5AC | Halia Chan & Anson Chan |
| 6M | Ffion Smart & Joey Cash |
| 6L | Imogen Groom & Archie Amari |

Sports Update

Robert Miles Junior School's Y6 Indoor Athletics teams made the short journey to West Bridgford School for the District Finals. Competing against eight other schools, our squad of 10 athletes were leading lights, recording wins in 6 of the 9 relays. The team had spent some time improving their baton handovers from the qualifiers and this really showed.

In the field, the children chose their own events to specialize in and gave it their all to help steer the team to the silver medal position, coming 2nd overall. As well as sporting prowess, the team also showed real sportsmanship, leading the cheering for an injured relay runner from another school.



It's been a pleasure to see the team compete and improve and to see the smiles on their faces when they received their medals! Well done team.

Rushcliffe Pupil Parliament

Last week, Aden and Florence represented our school at the Rushcliffe Pupil Parliament. (Two children from each primary school in Rushcliffe attend.) The meeting was at County Hall in West Bridgford and one of the hot topics of the afternoon was whether or not all pupils should have access to free school meals, not just at Key Stage 1. There were many thoughtful and interesting contributions during a lively debate with Aden and Florence once again representing our school with interest and maturity.



Half Term Competition



Rail Safety Art Competition 2025

Winners will have their artwork displayed at Bingham train station!

Theme: Rail Safety – How Can We Stay Safe Around Trains?

What to create: A poster no bigger than A3 paper. Felt Tip Pens will work best. Make your poster bright and colourful. Be creative and teach important messages about rail safety.

Entry Limit: One entry per person. Please put your name and class on the back of your poster

Deadline:
Friday 28th February 2025
Find your year box in the Year 4 shared area.

Judging:
Your poster will be judged on creativity, originality, colour and rail safety, by the school prefects.

Don't Forget:
Think about key rail safety rules like staying behind the yellow line, using crossings safely, and avoiding distractions near train tracks.

Get Creative & Good Luck!

Miss Horsfield (Year 4 teacher/Art lead) and Bella (Art Prefect)

SEND Parent Coffee Afternoon



SEND Parent Coffee Afternoon

25th February 2025 2:45pm

Book and a Biscuit!

Why is reading important?
Tips for reading at home
Come along and share a book
and a biscuit with your child

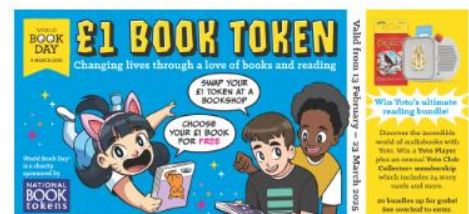
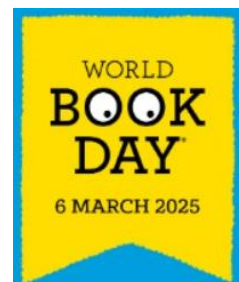
**Please email Mrs Wallace (SENCO) at
JEMMA.WALLACE@ROBERTMILES.NOTTS.SCH.UK
for more information**

World Book Day – Thursday 6th March

Please see the letter your child has brought home today about World Book Day. Everyone has received their £1 voucher and we would love you to save it and spend it at our Scholastic Book Fair after school on Friday 28th February, Tuesday 4th March and Wednesday 5th March. School will receive commission on all the books bought which will help to stock up our reading shelves.

The school librarians have come up with lots of great ideas to help get the school buzzing about reading that week – please see letter for more details.

If any parent would like to come into school to read with a child or to read to a class, please do get in touch with your child's class teacher to arrange a suitable time. Happy Reading!



Upcoming Dates w/c 24th February 2025

Monday 24th February 2025

- Year 5 group two bikeability session. Children to wear comfortable clothing and appropriate outdoor wear as well as bringing in their bike and helmet to school.
- Selected children attending swimming gala at Newark Sports & Fitness Centre, parents to take their children for 8.45am.
- Film club 3.30 - 5.15pm. The film showing this week is Annie, there is a £2 compulsory charge for orange squash and biscuits at this Club. Please use our online payment system to pay for this.

Tuesday 25th February 2025

- Handball club for years 3&4 group two. 8.15-8.55am in the hall. Please bring PE kit, a drink and any inhalers you may need.
- Year 5 group two bikeability session. Children to wear comfortable clothing and appropriate outdoor wear as well as bringing in their bike and helmet to school.
- Year 5 and 6 girls Futsal club. 3.30-4.30pm in the hall. Please wear PE kit, bring a drink and any inhalers you may need.
- Year 6 booster sessions 3.30-4.30pm, children to bring in a small snack.
- Year 6 height and weight.
- SEND coffee afternoon, please arrive at school for 2.45pm. Please contact Jemma Wallace for more information.

Wednesday 26th February 2025

- Bible Explorers.

Thursday 27th February 2025

- Year 3 swimming. Please ensure you remember your swimming kit (including towel and a bag to put wet items in) and any inhalers required.
- Martial arts club, 8 – 8.45am. Please wear PE kit, bring a drink and any inhalers required. (This club is now full).

Friday 28th February 2025

- Scholastic Book Fair starts in the school hall. Please come along to choose a lovely new book for your child and help support the school at the same time!

A reminder that all children need to be collected from their afterschool clubs by family member/friend who are over the age of 16.

Weekly Menu - w/c 24th February 2025

Monday

- Cheese and tomato pizza with tomato pasta salad and a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Bean vegetable wrap with a side of sunny vegetable rice and a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Chocolate mousse and orange smiles.

Tuesday

- Pork sausage roll with skin on baked potato wedges and a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Cheese and onion pastry roll with skin on baked wedges and a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Homemade jam buns and custard.

Wednesday

- Roast gammon with gravy, stuffing and roast potatoes with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Quorn grill with gravy, stuffing and roast potatoes with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Chocolate brownie.

Thursday

- Beef pasta, Bolognese and garlic bread with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Plant based pasta Bolognese with garlic bread and a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Fruity strawberry jelly and mandarin segments.

Friday

- Fish fingers and chips with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Crispy vegetable fingers with chips and a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Vanilla & cherry cookie cup and custard.

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Currently, children are growing up in an immediate and throwaway culture when it comes to content that's consumed online. So much material is now deliberately created to be shorter in nature – and may often contain hidden elements such as advertising, or extreme political and cultural views. With complex algorithms built to keep people on their phones and engaging with social media content, it's becoming increasingly difficult to reduce time spent on these platforms.

1 REDUCE DOOMSCROLLING

It's concerning how common for young people to spend hours 'doomscrolling': trawling through social media and aimlessly viewing every post they see, many of which might make them feel sad or anxious. Social media can be useful for keeping in touch with friends and family, as well as staying up to date on current events. However, it's important to use it with a clear purpose, instead of endlessly scrolling through content, which could lead to young people accidentally discovering harmful material.

2 TALK ABOUT THE CONTENT

It's important to keep apprised of the kind of content that a young person is being exposed to. Discussing what they're watching online can help you understand why they're using social media in the first place. Furthermore, ensure that children are aware of hidden content, such as advertising of a product – and that they know how to spot that the creator is being paid to talk about it.

3 FIND POSITIVE ASPECTS

Despite all the concerns, there's plenty of wholesome content on social media. It's worth spending time with children to help them find something suitable and enjoyable. Perhaps you'll even discover a joint interest, and you can enjoy the content alongside the child. As part of this, you should also point out why certain things shouldn't be given attention, explaining why it isn't suitable and why it's been created in the first place.

4 REDUCE SCREENTIME

Young people can sometimes be unaware of the exact amount of time they spend looking at social media. Smart phones don't just have the capacity to monitor screentime; they also record how much time is spent on each app. Consider setting targets to reduce this and support children to meet these goals, gradually reducing the amount of time spent on different apps.

5 FILL THE VOID

Monitoring and reducing screentime can create a lot of free time to fill, and young people can even face withdrawal symptoms when made to step away from their phones. To mitigate this, consider what offline activities you could introduce the child to, and what they would enjoy. This can ensure that young users will permanently cut down on their screentime, rather than temporarily doing so while they know it's being monitored.

6 REDUCE NOTIFICATIONS

One way in which social media platforms keep people coming back is through notifications. The algorithms behind these apps track people's daily habits, including the times of the day where they're most likely to engage with the platform. This data is then used to deliver specifically timed notifications to draw them back in. To avoid young users being exposed to this tactic, simply turn off notifications for the app in their phone's settings.

7 LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD

Overexposure to social media can distort someone's perception of the real world – from body norms to social conventions. This filtered environment can make it hard for young people to distinguish reality from online content, which is now becoming even more difficult with the rise of AI. To mitigate this concern, take time to teach young people how to discern truth from fiction, both on and off social media.

8 DIGITAL DETOX

Encouraging young people to take a 'digital detox', from even just a couple of the apps that they use, can result in an overall reduction of screentime and less exposure to potentially harmful content. Alternatively, rather than avoiding the app entirely, encourage children to take a 'digital detox' from content creators and influencers, and instead, keep in touch with friends and family – which is generally a far healthier use of these platforms.

9 MODEL GOOD BEHAVIOUR

Consider the habits that you're demonstrating to your children. How much time do you spend on your phone? How much do you 'doomscroll'? Comparing your own usage with the child's could put things into perspective for them – or if it turns out that you're also overusing social media, it can turn screentime reduction into a joint mission, which you and the child can work on together.

10 BE CLEAR ON THE "WHY"

Research shows that young people can become addicted to social media. There are many schools that are moving towards being 'phone free' due to the negative impacts of using social media and phones continuously. It's important to explain to young people why managing screentime is important. Set out the benefits and ensure they have all the relevant information, so it's not just seen as a punishment.

Meet Our Expert

John Insley is a senior leader in a Birmingham secondary school and has vast experience in leading schools over the past 15 years – including the development of computing curriculums across primary and secondary schools, writing e-safety policies and supporting schools with computing and e-safety advice.



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