



## Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024



### We are recruiting!

We are currently recruiting for a Teaching Assistant to come and join our staff team from January. Ideally we would like the successful candidate to have experience of working in a school supporting specific children both within the classroom and on a 1:1/small group basis.

Click [here](#) for further details. If you would like to discuss the role, please speak to Mr Evelyn.

### Dates for the Diary

- 27<sup>th</sup> November Y5 Space Centre Trip
- 6<sup>th</sup> December Parent Forum
- 16<sup>th</sup> December Y3/4 Carol Performance (2.45pm)
- 17<sup>th</sup> December Y6 World War One Workshop
- 18<sup>th</sup> December Y5/6 Carol Performance (2.45pm)
- 18<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Lunch

Dear Parents,

This week we ran parents evening session for Years 4, 5 and 6. We hope you found it useful to speak to your child's teacher and to have a look through their books. Please remember that if you ever need to speak to teachers, do contact the office to arrange an appointment or email them directly. A reminder also that on occasions like parents evening, the children are in the care of parents and not the school – we had some incidents this week of children using the sports equipment and also taking photos of others including some parents (please ensure these photos are deleted.)

Coming up at the end of term are the Christmas Carol Performances. We can confirm the start times as follows (details for how to reserve seats will be shared soon):

- 16th December (2.45pm): Y3/4 Carol Performance
- 18th December (2.45pm): Y5/6 Carol Performance

Best Wishes

James Evelyn

Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School

### 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	96.5%
3J	96.3%
4H	97.6%
4M	98.6%
5AC	98.8%
5G	96.1%
6L	96.9%
6M	95.0%
<b>All</b>	<b>96.9%</b>

Congratulations to 5AC for having the best attendance this week!



### 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	Krishan Sharma & Layla Smith
3B	Melissa Towers & Edie Tyers
4M	Otis Lamb & Amber Rawson
4H	Flynn Hall & Esme Sentance
5G	Isaac Amari & Scarlett McGuinness-Smith
5AC	Elizabeth Cook & Henry Tweddle
6M	Madison Bryan & Emily Carter
6L	Michalina Kowalik & Jessica Sanders

## House Points

Jupiter	642
Mercury	617
Neptune	476
Saturn	504

Children are earning House Points each and every day for showing the REACH values, making good choices and doing their very best. Each Wednesday in Honours Assembly, we announce the latest scores.



## 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:** Daisy, 3J

**Most coins earned:** Jasmine, 3J

**Biggest improvement in accuracy:** Roman, 3B

**Biggest improvement in speed:** Darius, 3B

## Art Competition

Huge thank you to Bella, our Art Prefect, who ran a 'Colours of Autumn' Art Competition over half term. The children were tasked with making art using nature and we received lots of lovely entries. This week, Bella and the other prefects, judged the entries and decided on the following winners from each year group:

Lucy Norton (Year 3)



Lauren Jones (Year 4)



Lydia Loft (Year 5)



Ella Potter (Year 6)



Here are some of the other entries in the competition – entries are now displayed on the wall in the library.





## 5 / 6 / 20 Reading

An exciting reading project has been launched this week called 5-6-20. This is being run for some of our children across all year groups whose reading needs a little bit of a boost. The name 5 - 6 - 20 relates to the target to: read 5 times per week for 6 weeks for 20 minutes each time. Many of you will have had a phone call about it this week and your child will come home next week with a pack containing bookmarks and stickers. We will keep them motivated and excited in school, praising and rewarding them for all the wonderful reading they are going to be doing with an adult at home. We look forward to hearing about it and seeing the progress they will no doubt make!



## Remembrance Day

On Monday, all of Year 6 children joined local residents, veterans and others at 11am for the traditional Remembrance Day ceremony including the two minute silence. It was lovely for them to have the opportunity to speak to some of the veterans and those in the Armed Forces. The experience will also provide some real life context to their current topic.



## Sports Update

**Equals Trust Boccia** Four of our amazing students attended the Equals Trust Boccia Event on Wednesday and had a fantastic experience! They demonstrated incredible teamwork and enthusiasm, supporting each other and building friendships along the way. Mrs Fisher and Mrs Wallace were very proud of them. The event provided a wonderful opportunity for everyone to socialise, make new connections and cheer each other on. It was inspiring to see their confidence grow with each match, as they celebrated every success together. A huge well done to all involved – they truly embodied the spirit of inclusion and sportsmanship!



**Year 6 Dodgeball** On Thursday, our Year 6 students attended an exciting dodgeball festival alongside ten other schools. They had a fantastic time competing, winning, drawing, and losing games, but what stood out most was their sportsmanship. After every match, our students initiated handshakes with the other teams, showing respect and friendship. They even volunteered to play on other teams to help even out numbers, making sure everyone could join in.



Throughout the day, they picked up new skills, worked together brilliantly, and supported each other as a team. With smiles all around, it was clear they made the most of this memorable experience!

**Sports Ambassador Activity** Our playground lunch activity, led by the sports ambassadors, has been full of energy and teamwork! Last week, the children took on a fun team-building challenge where they had to

transport hula hoops of various sizes around their circle—all while keeping hold of each other's hands. It was a brilliant exercise in teamwork, as they strategised and supported one another to succeed. This week, the focus shifted to relay races, building on the athletic skills we're working on this half term. The races added a competitive element, giving children a taste of what's to come for sports day later in the year. It's been wonderful to see them growing in confidence and cooperation as they cheer each other on! The playground truly is an inclusive environment and provides all children with equal opportunities.



### Excellent work in the Spotlight



As part of our topic on the First World War, the children were tasked with half-term homework to research and build a model of the trenches. We have been blown away by the creativity used: trenches have been constructed from cardboard, wood, lego and even cake! In order to build these models the children have very clearly carried out a great deal of research and had support from home. Thank you to all of you who have been involved - the results are outstanding!



### Weekly Menu - w/c 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024

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 and tomato pizza with tomato pasta salad and a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Vegetable meatballs, tomato sauce with mixed rice and a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Apple and sultana crumble bar with custard.

#### **Tuesday**

- Pork sausage with mashed potato, gravy and a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Plant based sausage with mashed potato, gravy and a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Iced carrot cake and orange slices.

### **Wednesday**

- Roast chicken with gravy, Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Quorn grill with gravy, Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Chocolate shortbread/pinwheels with chocolate sauce.

### **Thursday**

- Garlic and tomato chicken pasta spirals with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Garlic and tomato vegetable pasta spirals with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Toffee cream tart.

### **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.
- Chocolate oaty slice.

## Upcoming Dates w/c 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024

### **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

- Film club 3.30 - 5.15pm. The film showing this week is Brave, 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 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

- Handball club for years 5 & 6. 8.15-8.55am in the hall. Please bring PE kit, a drink and any inhalers you may need. (This club is now full)
- Young Voices rehearsals, 3.30-4.30pm

### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

- Honours assembly.
- Bible Explorers 12.45pm – 1.15pm in Year 6 shared area.

### **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024**

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

### **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024**

- No afterschool activities today.

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



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 The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

## 1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

## 2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

## 3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

## 4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel ..." or "I think ..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

## 5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on critiquing and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

## 6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

## 7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

## 8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

## 9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

## 10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

## Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.

ANTI-BULLYING  
ALLIANCE

#WakeUp  
Wednesday

The  
National  
College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/choose-respect>

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