

Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 20th September 2024

Secondary School Admissions – Deadline Approaching

Year 6 parents are reminded that the window for secondary school applications closes on 31st October 2024. It is absolutely essential that parents complete and submit the application for their child by this date.

Further information can be found here: <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-admissions/applying-for-a-school-place-september>

Factsheet: <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/hltpitb4/primarytosecondaryinitialfactsheet2025.pdf>

Nottinghamshire School Admissions Portal (where you make the application): <https://notts.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/SynergyWeb/Enquiries/Citizen/citizen.aspx/admissions-signin>

Dear Parents,

I spoke to a few parents this week about mobile phones and social media. I know from speaking to other Headteachers and also from the media, just what a challenging area this has become and a tricky one for parents to navigate too.

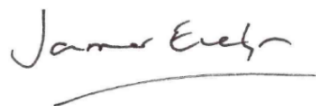
In the session I spoke about what the school does in the curriculum and elsewhere to help support children to learn important computing skills and how to safely navigate the online world. I also shared information about some of the research relating to the detrimental effects of social media and mobile phone use particularly among teenagers. Finally we looked at some of the options available to parents around controls and the purchasing of suitable devices.

There are some excellent websites available with lots of information to support parents including www.internetmatters.org and the grassroots movement set up by a couple of mums, called www.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk.

I am very happy to discuss any of this with parents as I want to do all I can to support you in keeping your child safe when using their phone or on social media. The slides I shared with parents are [here](#).

Have a great weekend.

Best Wishes



James Evelyn
Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School

Dates for the Diary

24 th September	Y6 Duke's Barn Parent Meeting
25 th September	Y3 Parents Evening
2 nd October	Children's Photos
8 th October:	Parent Session: SEND Intro
w/c 14 th Oct	Duke's Barn Residential
23 rd October	School Disco
w/c 28 th Oct	Half Term Week
8 th November	Parent Session: Notts Mental Health Services
11 th & 13 th Nov	Y4, Y5 & Y6 Parents Evening

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	92.2%
3J	97.3%
4H	96.1%
4M	96.5%
5AC	98.2%
5G	99.4%
6L	96.9%
6M	97.2%
All	96.8%



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

Duke's Barn Parent Meeting At 6pm on Tuesday 24th September, Mrs Melhuish and Miss Lanagan will be running the Duke's Barn information session for parents. They will share more information about the upcoming residential and answer any questions. This meeting is just for parents and not for children.

House Points

Jupiter	129
Mercury	100
Neptune	153
Saturn	108

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. These are the latest figures for the first half of the summer term.



Honours Assembly

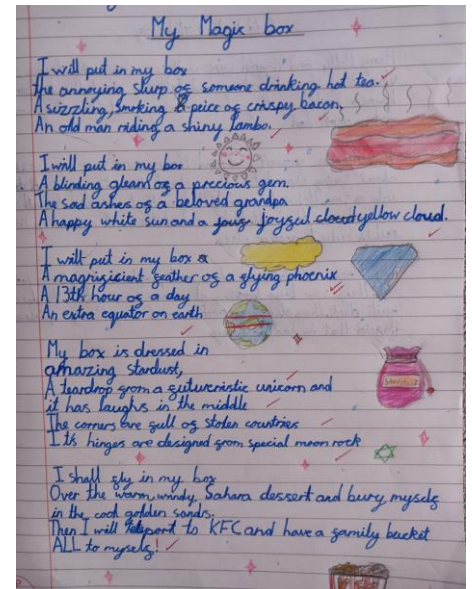
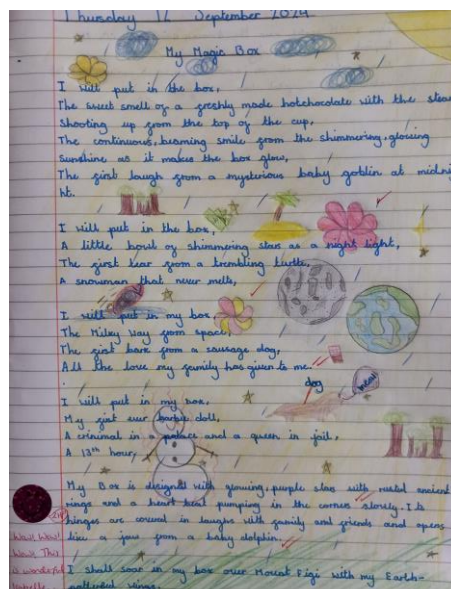
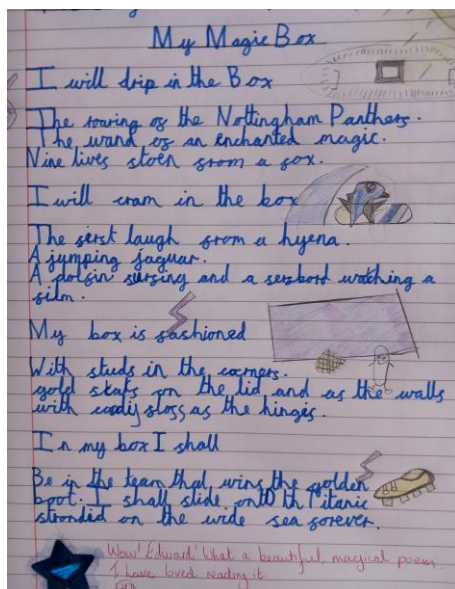
Congratulations to these children whose success was celebrated at Honours Assembly this week and some of their work was shared with all the children in the school.

3J	Aimee Wilson & Freddie Green
3B	Aurora Tonelli & Caleb Crunkhorn
4M	Autumn Miller & Carson Lam
4H	Mia Ruggles & Koey Yiu
5G	Lydia Loft & Evie Herrick
5AC	George Taylor & Phoebe Camidge
6M	Daisy Stewart & Rory Wholey
6L	Leo Tonelli & Ethel Chan

Excellent work in the Spotlight



Year 5 have made a fantastic start to their English work this year by beginning with some exciting drama in the hall with Mrs Tang. On Monday, the children eagerly entered a dark hall where a table was lit up with a magic box. After hearing 'The Magic Box' poem by Kit Wright read out, the children got into groups and imagined what they would put into their magic box including sights, sounds, magical aromas and even a thirteenth month or a fifth season. They discussed what incredible things the box could be made from such as whispers on the lid, secrets in the corners and hopes and dreams filling the inside. Bursting with ideas, Year 5 then went back to class to draft, write and illustrate their own magic box poems. Some of my personal favourites were: a snowman that never melts, the love of my family, the last slice of my grandma's chocolate cake, a second Saturday of the week, the happiness of a new born puppy and a tear of a wizard casting his last spell. They have all done a brilliant job and the Year 5 teachers are really impressed with the children's creative ideas and beautiful presentation. A great start to the year!



*** Sponsorship Opportunity ***

As parents will be aware, we try and participate in lots of different sports both competitively and just for enjoyment. The newsletter is filled each week with information about the children's sporting achievements and central to this are our boys and girls football teams.

Our teams are in need of a new kit! A fair few of the old ones have gone missing and we need a new set for our boys and girls. Sadly, school finances are extremely tight at the moment and we are looking for some support with meeting this cost.

If any parents or local businesses are interested in providing financial support, we are happy for their company logo to appear on the front. We anticipate a full set of shirts would cost around £400. If you are interested in supporting the school with this, please contact Mr Evelyn or Mr Jennings.



Times Table Rock Stars

Times Tables Rockstars

Knowing their times tables inside out is one of the most valuable skills your child can have to support their maths learning. 5/10 minutes a day on TTRS is a brilliant way to help support this. The more they practice, the better they will get!

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

Most correct answers: Lottie, 3J

Most coins earned: Violet, 3J

Biggest improvement in speed: Poppy, 3J

Weekly Menu - w/c 23rd September 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 served with garlic bread, a selection of daily vegetables and mixed fresh salad.
- Mildly spiced vegetable chilli and rice with a selection of daily vegetables and mixed fresh salad. (Ve)
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna mayonnaise.
- Baked apple sponge served with custard.

Tuesday

- Farm assured pork sausage roll with baked potato wedges, selection of daily vegetables and mixed fresh salad.
- Cheese and onion puff pastry roll served with baked potato wedges, selection of daily vegetables and mixed fresh salad. (V)

- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna mayonnaise.
- Tutti frutti jelly and mandarins (Ve)

Wednesday

- Chicken tagine served with summer vegetable rainbow cous cous, selection of daily vegetables and mixed fresh salad.
- Savoury vegetable mince and gravy served with a Yorkshire pudding and skin on roast potatoes and a selection of daily vegetables and mixed fresh salad. (V)
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna mayonnaise.
- Freshly baked vanilla cookie (Ve)

Thursday

- Korean BBQ chicken and vegetables served with noodles and a selection of daily vegetables and mixed fresh salad.
- Korean style sticky BBQ Quorn, vegetables and noodles and a selection of daily vegetables and mixed fresh salad. (V)
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna mayonnaise.
- Zesty lemon and blueberry yogurt cake.

Friday

- Friday fish fingers served with chips, tomato ketchup and a selection of daily vegetables and mixed fresh salad.
- Homemade cheese and tomato pizza whirls and chips ketchup and a selection of daily vegetables and mixed fresh salad. (V)
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna mayonnaise.
- Homemade flapjack (Ve)

Upcoming Dates w/c 23rd September 2024

Monday 23rd September 2024

- Film club 3.30 - 5.15pm. The film showing this week is Lilo and Stitch, £2 charge for this club. Please pay for this using the Arbor app. Soft drink and biscuit provided. No sweets or chocolate please.

Tuesday 24th September 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.
- Tag rugby club for years 5 & 6. 3.30-4.30pm. Please bring PE kit, a drink and any inhalers you may need.
- Year 6 Duke's Barn parents information meeting 6pm. No children to attend.

Wednesday 25th September 2024

- Honours assembly.
- Year 3 Parent's evening.

Thursday 26th September 2024

- Martial arts club, 8 – 8.45am. Please wear PE kit, bring a drink and any inhalers required.
- Year 4 swimming. Please ensure you remember your swimming kit (including towel) and any inhalers required.
- Basketball club for year 3 & 4. 3.30-4.30pm in the hall. Please bring PE kit, a drink and any inhalers you may need.

Friday 27th September 2024

- No clubs taking place today

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO MANAGE CONFLICT EFFECTIVELY

Disagreement is a natural part of human interaction. This can seem particularly true when dealing with the sensitive issues that arise for secondary-aged pupils. This guide brings you 10 top tips which can help prevent conflicts arising or mitigate their impacts when they do.

1 INSPIRE RESPONSIBILITY

The best approaches to conflict resolution are restorative. This means that rather than adults imposing their own solutions on children who have had a disagreement, they should work with them. Allowing them to handle it can feel empowering to young people and will hopefully teach them to manage their own disputes as they move towards adult life.

2 ACTIVELY LISTEN

Remember to give every child the opportunity to voice their opinion, regardless of their age, stage of development, special educational needs, or other individual requirements. This can be done using a variety of different communication methods. For example, some children find it easier to express how they're feeling using pictures and drawings, while some prefer to write their ideas down.

3 BE CURIOUS

Demonstrating how to approach conflicts with a mature and empathetic mindset can set a good example to children, which can prove a useful skill for them later in life. Model this by asking inquisitive-yet-respectful questions about the issue at hand. Really try to understand where all parties are coming from, and share information between them when and where appropriate. This should encourage young people to mirror your behaviour, teaching them to be curious about the other sides of a conflict, and thus being more willing to hear them out.

4 PROMOTE DIFFERENCES

Children and young people may come from a range of different backgrounds and cultures or have protected characteristics which may cause them to see things from various angles. Having a school and community culture which celebrates and embraces diversity in all things – including diversity of opinion – means people are more likely to feel heard and understood.

5 BE SUPPORTIVE

Discussions may be sensitive or, in some cases, even trigger negative emotions. Pupils may have mixed feelings about the issue at hand. They could be nervous or anxious before even coming to the table to talk about it. Try and create a space where all parties feel safe, welcome and comfortable. Allow breaks and time-outs if the conversation gets heated, to prevent anyone from saying something they might later regret.

6 MENTALLY PREPARE

Think of how you can approach the conflict in a calm and regulated manner. Consider taking some extra time to prepare beforehand and finding somewhere quiet to relax. Even if you're not directly involved with the conflict, mediating can be a stressful experience in its own right. Make sure you're hydrated, fed and comfortable, and do the same for the young people involved. These may seem like insignificant factors, but it's important to remember that physical discomfort can trigger dysregulation, which can make it much harder to have a calm, productive conversation.

7 GET YOUR FACTS STRAIGHT

Make sure you have all the facts, figures and timelines of the situation prior to the discussion. This should be done as objectively as possible with the aim of resolving the ongoing issue. You may want to risk assess any problems that may arise and look for possible solutions during your preparation time.

8 STICK TO THE POINT

Make the reason for, and purpose of, any meetings or communications clear prior to setting them up. Provide an agenda. Act as a neutral chairperson who can keep all parties on track. Make sure everyone has a chance to air their concerns about the issue being discussed and try to avoid talking about unrelated incidents. Close off with some action points, detailing what everyone can do to resolve the conflict.

9 BE SOLUTION FOCUSED

It's often said that the art of diplomacy is about giving others ladders to climb down. This means the main aim of any meeting or correspondence should be finding mutually acceptable and amicable solutions. Parents, carers, teachers and pupils should be aware there may need to be a compromise for the common good – and, most importantly, the good of the children you're supporting.

10 DON'T IGNORE OR AVOID CONFLICT

No one benefits from allowing concerns and grievances to fester, as this can lead to further division and mistrust, and ultimately doesn't help the children involved. Use our tips to open meaningful lines of communication. These should help you find a suitable resolution and minimise the number of conflicts you're faced with mediating overall.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a neurodivergent former SENCO and advisory teacher. She founded her company, Neuroteachers, to improve inclusion for neurodivergent people. She works with nurseries, schools, colleges and businesses providing consultancy, training and mentoring to create belonging and understanding for people with the full range of neurotypes.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/supporting-children-to-manage-conflict-effectively>

Robert Miles Infant School will be hosting open days in the coming months for children joining them in Reception in September 2025. If you know any families looking for a Reception place for next September 2025, please encourage them to attend.



Robert Miles
Infant School

School Tours

for parents/carers looking for a
Reception school place for

September 2025

Everyone welcome. Please contact
the school office to book a date.

01949 837422

office@rmischool.co.uk

Safe, nurturing
environment

Strong links with
Robert Miles
Junior School

Weekly Forest
School sessions

Wrap-around
care available
(7.30-6pm)



Kelly Ryan
Head Teacher

Dates:

Tuesday 8th October: 5-6pm

Friday 18th October: 10-11am

Tuesday 12th November: 5-6pm

Friday 22nd November: 2-3pm*

**On Friday 22nd November, James Evelyn, Head Teacher at Robert Miles Junior School, will also be joining us.*