

Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 22nd November 2024

Dear Parents,

I don't think any of us were expecting what greeted us on Tuesday morning but the children certainly loved it. There was no football at playtimes, no games boxes out – just children having a blast building snowmen and other sculptures on the field. They set to work straight away, worked in teams and got creative! Take a look at some of the photos further down to see some of their creations!



Sadly, we have had some more instances this week of children making poor choices on mobile phones – this time, it was in the form of sending inappropriate messages and images. Close monitoring of children's devices is essential – please get in touch if you would like to discuss this and need support. The content from my parent session earlier in the term is on the school website [here](#). One parent who attended that session said she had no idea that some of the things I talked about went on so it is definitely worth reading up on this and deciding how you want to monitor and support your child's online choices.

Have a great weekend.

Best Wishes



James Evelyn
Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School

Dates for the Diary

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

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	98.9%
3J	99.3%
4H	94.5%
4M	93.8%
5AC	97.5%
5G	99.4%
6L	98.8%
6M	93.2%
All	96.8%

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



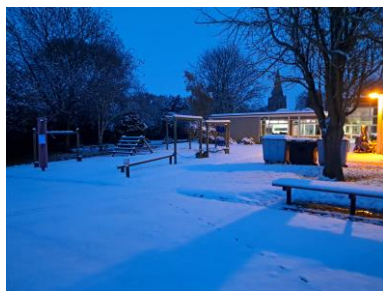
Honours Assembly

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	Stanley Clayton & Kira Gibbs
3B	Roman Wilson & Aiden Ho
4M	Skye Tonelli & Imogen Blackner
4H	Verity Gilfillan & Henry Skinner
5G	Mylo Chapman & Bonnie Pearson
5AC	Elliott Brain & Elethea Sandhu
6M	Florence Lee & Reuben Williams
6L	Emmy Hardie & Jamie Gilbert

Snow!

It has been a bracingly cold week but Tuesday provided a special moment where the children played joyfully with all the snow that had come overnight. It really was a wonderful day.



House Points

Jupiter	978
Mercury	865
Neptune	865
Saturn	817

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



Reverse Advent Calendar

Bingham Methodist Church are once again collecting donations for Grantham Foodbank and we are taking part in their 'Reverse Advent' collection. Please see the information poster included here. We are accepting donations at school next week and we are hoping everyone can do a little bit to help make someone else's Christmas a little more enjoyable. Any donations of non-perishable food and toiletries will be gratefully received and the Foodbank have identified particular shortages of these items: pasta, rice, biscuits, tinned fish, tinned fruit, toothpaste, shower gel, deodorant, bags for life.

Please drop off any donations into the box in reception and they will be collected on Friday 29th November to be distributed amongst vulnerable families. Any further donations can be dropped off at Bingham Methodist Church until 1pm Sunday 1st December. Before we start opening our own chocolate advent calendars, let's take the time to think of others and donate a small item which will mean a lot. Thank you, in advance for your support.

network foodbank CHRISTMAS APPEAL

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/>

Grantham.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales/Scotland/NI (1105874). Your donations will be going to a local food bank - a registered charity or charitable organisation which is part of the Trussell Trust network.

Find us on @BINGHAMFAMILIES

Sports & Outdoor Learning Update

Year 3 Grid References

Even with the snow transforming the school grounds into a frosty landscape, our Year 3 children eagerly embraced the challenge of applying their geographical map skills. Equipped with maps and using four-figure grid references, they navigated the school grounds to locate hidden items. The snow added an extra layer of excitement, turning their activity into an adventurous winter treasure hunt. Their determination to stay on task despite the cold was impressive, and they demonstrated excellent teamwork and problem-solving skills. This hands-on experience not only reinforced their understanding of grid references but also made learning geography an engaging and memorable experience.



RMJS Girls vs Pierrepont Gamston

The Girls' Football Team faced a formidable opponent in Gamston Pierrepont this week, and it was a thrilling match from start to finish. The first half was a closely contested battle, with both teams showing skill and determination, ending 1-0 in Gamston's favour. Our girls showcased incredible teamwork, supporting each other at every turn and maintaining their focus. As the game progressed, they found their rhythm and began to make an impact by pressing the opposing defence, creating opportunities and keeping the pressure on. Although they unfortunately didn't secure a win, the team represented RMJS beautifully, displaying resilience, sportsmanship, and pride throughout the match.

Excellent work in the Spotlight



Reader beware: some scar(ily good) sentences ahead.

This half term, Year 5 has been looking at the powers of mythical creatures and this week they created sentences to show what fairies can, might, must or will possibly do and I can say that certainly they have impressed with their creativity and complex sentence construction. It seems that these fairies are probably not the Tinkerbell type...

Thursday 21st November 2024

Modality

Can

She can fly as quick as a eagle.
She can turn into any animal or object.
She can see the future any time.
She can hypnotise strike her victim with lightning.

Might

Her green eyes might only hypnotise humans.
Her pet dragon might be a evil fairy.
She might be the only evil fairy.
She might secretly be a good fairy.

Will


She will keep her powers safe so she must use it once a year.
She will keep cover so the sunlight must not burn her.
She will be an evil fairy so she must keep her family tradition.

Possibly

Her powers will possibly fade away.
She is possibly the creature who is most afraid of daylight.
She is possibly in every child's nightmare.

Certainly

Not all evil fairies are certainly 100% evil.



Can:


She can hypnotizing people with her eyes.
She can control people with her horns.
She can destroy anything with her hands.

Might:

Her wings might ruin celebrations.
With a stamp her foot she might teleport to rich houses to steal.

Will:

She will have to stay hidden, so humans don't try to find her.
She must stay away from the sun, so she doesn't get burned.



Christmas Card Competition

Times Tables Rockstars



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 earnt: Jasmine, 3J

Biggest improvement in accuracy: Poppy, 4H

Biggest improvement in speed: Laceigh-Mae

Weekly Menu - w/c 25th 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

- Cheesy pasta spirals with pizza style toppings with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Cheese and tomato pizza with tomato pasta salad and a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Lemon cupcake with fruit slices.

Tuesday

- Beef lasagne with garlic & tomato bread with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Vegetable lasagne with garlic & tomato bread with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Chocolate cookie & orange wedges.

Wednesday

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

Thursday

- Beef and potato pie with potato wedges and a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Cheese, onion and potato pie with mash or skin on potato wedges with choice of vegetables or fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Strawberry mousse.

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.
- Lemon drizzle cake with custard.

Upcoming Dates w/c 25th November 2024

Monday 25th November 2024

- Film club 3.30 - 5.15pm. The film showing this week is Inside Out, 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 26th 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) for group two.
- Young Voices rehearsals, 3.30-4.30pm
- Year 5 rowing event 4pm at Southwold school. Leaving RMJS at 3.15pm. Children to wear PE kit, bring a drink and a snack with them.

Wednesday 27th November 2024

- Honours assembly.

- No Bible Explorers this week.
- Year 5 Space Centre trip leaving School at 9.15am, children to wear their school uniform, wear a warm coat and sensible shoes. They will need to bring a packed lunch and drink.

Thursday 28th 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.
- Selected children attending a multi skills event at Nottingham University, Clifton campus 10-12pm. Children to wear PE kit and bring a drink with them.

Friday 29th November 2024

- Bingham Christmas fair. Children taking part in the choir need to be by the stage at 7.30pm to be performing at 7.45pm. Children can wear their festive Christmas jumpers.

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 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 nationalonlinecollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEAL WITH UPSETTING CONTENT

A Guide for Parents and Carers

Raising children in the digital age seems to be getting tougher, with the world currently experiencing so many uncertainties. From climate change to military conflicts around the globe, right now children across the globe can scarcely go online without being exposed to unsettling stories, images and ideas. Reassuring a concerned child can be difficult, especially when bad news feels omnipresent. We've put together some advice to help you in discussing upsetting events with young ones.

1 FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD KNOWS

There are many ways that children are exposed to upsetting content in the media, both online and offline. Before swamping your child with information, find out what they know already. Show them you're interested in what they have to say, practice active listening and try to gauge how much your child has been impacted by what they've seen.



2 RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE

Starting a conversation about upsetting content probably isn't the best idea when your child is studying for an exam or about to go to bed. Choose a time when they're relaxed and open to talking, to make sure you have their full attention. Remember, these conversations can become emotional, so choose somewhere your child feels safe and comfortable.



3 KEEP IT AGE APPROPRIATE

With younger children, try and keep the conversation more general and avoid leading questions and complex detail. You can go slightly deeper into the specifics with young teenagers but keep monitoring their emotional response. With older teens, you can be more open about the realities and consequences of what's happening – but again, do stay aware of their emotional state.



4 EMPHASISE HOPE

Upsetting content can make anyone feel angry, scared, sad or overwhelmed. Try to find stories of hope, generosity and strength related to the content you're discussing. Children often feel reassured when they know they can do something to help, so encourage your child's sense of control through activities which make them feel they're positively impacting the events they're concerned about.



5 MONITOR REACTIONS

All children react differently, of course, and young people might not directly say that they're scared, angry, anxious, confused or uncomfortable. Emotional reactions are natural when discussing upsetting topics, so take note of your child's body language and reactions. Allow them to express their feelings in a non-judgmental space and try to stay mindful of how they might be feeling.



6 CONSIDER YOUR OWN EMOTIONS

It's not only young people who find upsetting news difficult to process: adults also have to deal with strong emotions in moments of stress. Children develop coping strategies by mirroring those around them, so staying on top of how you appear to be regulating your emotion on the outside is important for supporting your child through worrying times.



7 SET LIMITS

Managing screen-time and content can be difficult even in normal circumstances, but especially in unusual or stressful periods (at the start of the pandemic, for example). It's virtually impossible to keep children away from upsetting content completely, but it's important to try to limit exposure by using parental controls, talking about the dangers of harmful content and enforcing screen-time limits.



8 TAKE THINGS SLOWLY

Try not to overwhelm your child with information all at once; instead, take the discussion one step at a time. You could make the first conversation a simple introduction to a potentially upsetting subject and then wait until your child is ready to talk again. Opening the door to the conversation and demonstrating that your child can talk to you about this type of issue is a vital first step.



9 ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS

Online, troubling images, posts, videos and stories are shared across multiple platforms, many of which your child might access. Even if the content is actually inappropriate, encourage your child to discuss what they saw instead of being angry at them for seeing it. Children are still learning that not everything online is accurate – you want to be their ultimate source of information, not their device.



10 FIND A BALANCE

There's often a tremendous compulsion to stay right up to date with events. Our phones frequently send us push notifications urging us to read the latest article or view the most recent video on social media. It's essential to remind your child that it's healthy to take regular breaks, and to focus on positive events instead of 'doomscrolling' and risking becoming overwhelmed by bad news.



11 BUILD RESILIENCE

News has never been more accessible. While our instinct may be to shield children from upsetting stories, it's important that they're equipped with the tools to manage this content when they are exposed to it. Talk about upsetting content more generally with your child and emphasise that they can always tell you or a trusted adult if something they see makes them feel uneasy.



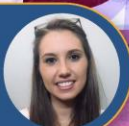
12 IDENTIFY HELP

It's hugely important that children know where to find support if they encounter upsetting content online. Encourage them to open up to an adult that they trust, and make sure they're aware of who their trusted adults are. It is essential that children understand that they're not alone, and that help is available if and when they need it.



Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is the director of FaceUp South Africa, which is a reporting system that is currently being used by schools and companies to fight bullying around the world. FaceUp helps give a voice to bystanders by encouraging them to speak up and get the help they not only want but need.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-5047806> | <https://www.childnet.com/blog/supporting-your-child-with-upsetting-content/> | <https://www.unicef.org/parenting/how-talk-your-children-about-conflict-and-war>



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