

## Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Caring for your... Christmas Tree**

Our Christmas trees have been cut as late as possible to ensure their freshness

- If you are not going to put your tree up straight away, store it in a cool, dry, wind-sheltered spot. Place it in a bucket of water so that the tree can drink.
- Just before bringing your tree inside, saw about 3cm (1 inch) off the bottom of the trunk. This will open up the pores in the bark to allow water to be taken up.
- Stand the tree in plain water (not soil or sand) as soon as possible after sawing. Place your tree in a water-holding stand, away from direct heat such as radiators and keep it watered regularly. Christmas trees may drink up to 2-3 pints of water per day. It is very important to keep the water level topped up.

Save this card for £5 off your next premium christmas tree with us.  
Can be used in 2024 or 2025

**Fresh Cut & Pot Grown Christmas Trees Wreaths & Stands**

Tractor & Trailer Rides:  
Sat 30th November  
Sun 1st December  
Sun 8th December  
Sat 14th December  
Sun 15th December

**Open 7 days a week**  
Saturday 23rd November - Sunday 15th December\*  
After 15th By Appointment  
Monday-Weds 09:00-17:00  
Thursday-Sun 09:00-18:00  
Farm Eco Screveton  
NG13 8JL

### Dates for the Diary

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 6 <sup>th</sup> December  | Parent Forum                           |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> December  | Non-Uniform Day - Christmas Fundraiser |
| 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                        |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> December | Last Day of Term                       |

### 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         | 96.2%        |
| 3J         | 97.5%        |
| 4H         | 87.6%        |
| 4M         | 94.5%        |
| 5AC        | 96.0%        |
| 5G         | 96.9%        |
| 6L         | 94.7%        |
| 6M         | 90.6%        |
| <b>All</b> | <b>94.2%</b> |



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

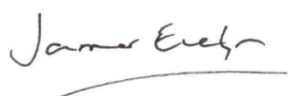
Dear Parents,

We are heading into the busy run up to Christmas and kicked things off with the Christmas tree going up. This year, the tree has been kindly donated by Farm Eco in Screveton – thank you!

Next Friday (6<sup>th</sup> December at 9.00am) I will be hosting a Parent Forum. All parents are warmly invited – I will be talking about the school, how things are running, what we are working on and, of course, answering any questions you may have. Do come along!

Have a great weekend.

Best Wishes



James Evelyn  
Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School



### Children in Need

A couple of weeks ago, we marked the annual Children in Need event with a non-uniform day and a bake sale which also included some children selling items to raise money for this important cause. The day raised a brilliant £619.19 – this is well above our previous figures so a huge thank you to everyone for their generosity.

We finished the day with an assembly and the spinner stopped on Harrison (3J) who went home with the Pudsey!



## House Points

|         |       |
|---------|-------|
| Jupiter | 1,317 |
| Mercury | 1,254 |
| Neptune | 1,059 |
| Saturn  | 1,088 |

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 totals!



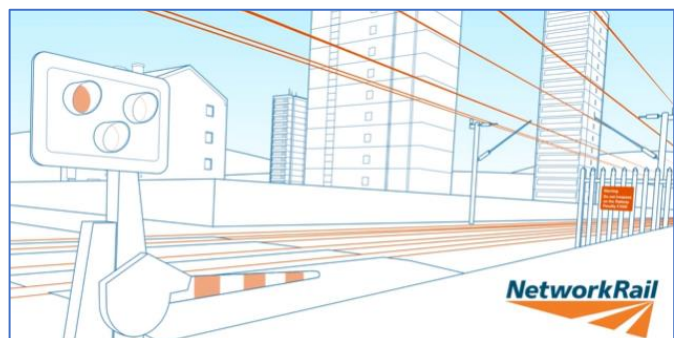
## Year 5 at the Space Centre

Year 5 had an out of this world experience this week as, on Wednesday, we launched off to the National Space Centre in Leicestershire. We all had a fantastic day there exploring the wonders of our vast universe, examining space shuttles and modules up close, learning the history of the Space Race and finding out just what it takes to become a real astronaut. Who knew that astronaut training actually begins underwater to provide a zero-gravity environment? The children also completed a rocket-building challenge which harnessed their competitive nature as they went head-to-head (or rather group to group) in our very own space race - designing and building aerodynamic structures in order to get their astronauts to the moon! Our children were beautifully behaved in a busy, exciting, stimulating environment and, as teachers, we are always proud to take our children offsite because we know we can rely on them to behave sensibly and make the most of all the opportunities around them. A huge thank you to all our lovely parent helpers, without which the day would not be possible. We are excited to continue our learning about Earth and Space back in school as we complete our missions closer to home!



## Railway Safety

In assembly this week we looked at how we stay safe on the railway – a matter particularly important to our school not just because of our proximity to the railway but also because we have been made aware of incidents of children in Bingham trespassing on the railway. We watched a film produced by Network Rail which talked about the speed of the trains, the dangers of electricity cables and how to cross safely at crossings. If you want to watch the film with your child, click [here](#).





## Sports Update

**Rowing Year 5** A group of Year 5 children recently attended a rowing festival, where they demonstrated incredible teamwork and determination. Throughout the event, they worked together in teams of four, supporting and motivating each other every step of the way. Their efforts paid off as they surpassed the score they had initially set for themselves, showing impressive improvement as the event progressed. The children cheered each other on, creating an encouraging and positive atmosphere that helped them push through challenges and grow stronger as a team. Their spirit and progress were a true reflection of their hard work and enthusiasm. It was so lovely to see children stepping out of their comfort zone and trying something completely new.



**KS2 Multi Skills Festival** A group of KS2 children from Years 3 and 4 attended a multi-skills festival at Nottingham Trent University yesterday, joining pupils from several other schools in an exciting day of activity and learning. The festival focused on developing fundamental skills, with the children practising and building on their coordination, balance, and teamwork. Through engaging activities and games, they made noticeable progress, boosting their confidence and improving their basic skills along the way. The event also encouraged increased activity levels, leaving the children energised and inspired. They should be very proud of themselves for their hard work, enthusiasm, and achievements throughout the day!



## 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 earnt:** Lottie, 3J

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

**Biggest improvement in speed:** Dexter G-J, 4H

## Christmas Card Competition



## Weekly Menu - w/c 2<sup>nd</sup> December 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.
- 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.

**Monday 2nd December 2024**

- Film club 3.30 - 5.15pm. The film showing this week is 101 Dalmatians, 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 3rd December 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

**Wednesday 4th December 2024**

- Honours assembly.
- Bible Explorers 12.45-1.15pm in the year 6 shared area.
- Winter flu vaccinations.

**Thursday 5th December 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 6th December 2024**

- 9am Headteacher Parent Forum (Hall)
- Non uniform day, children to bring in a nonperishable item for the Christmas hampers.

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).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SN@PCHAT

**AGE RESTRICTION 13+**

**SNAP STREAK 97 DAYS**

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

WhatsApp is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

### SCREEN TIME ADDICTION

Snapchat prioritises user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

### PREDATORS AND SCAMS

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this – on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by 'SnapMaps' – a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

### MY EYES ONLY

Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Teens can conceal sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can check for this by clicking on the icon which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Memories' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

### ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Snapchat's 'Family Centre' lets you view the details of the child's account – their friends list and who they've spoken to in the last week – and report any concerns. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. To keep the child's location hidden on the app, go into settings and turn on 'Ghost Mode' and 'Hide Live Location', and ensure they know not to share their location with anyone.

### FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

Before you allow a child to download Snapchat, download it yourself and familiarise yourself with the app. Snapchat has produced a parents' guide to the app to help you understand how it works and any protections they have in place. A link for this can be found in the sources below.

### BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger does connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user – such as annoying or malicious messages, spam or masquerading as someone else.

### ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and how reliable they are. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

**#WakeUpWednesday**

**The National College**

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2021>

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