

Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 6th September 2024

Dear Parents,

It has been lovely to have the children in school again and to get everything back up and running. The children have quickly got settled into their routines and have hit the ground running. It has also been lovely to welcome our new Year 3s into the school. They too have quickly navigated their way round the school and are doing well. For any of our new parents, I am on the gate every morning and evening so do let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Reading Volunteers We are on the lookout for any parents (or family members/friends) who would like to come and help as a reading volunteer. This would be sitting and hearing a child read followed by adding some notes to their reading record. If you are interested and able to commit to an hour or two at the same time each week please contact your child's teacher. The school is required to complete a DBS check before volunteers can begin.

Fruit Trolley We will no longer be running a breaktime fruit trolley from Monday. There has been limited uptake with the school losing money and fruit becoming mouldy. Whilst we look at alternative options, please can you ensure your child comes to school each day with a healthy snack for morning breaktime.

Have a great weekend.

Best Wishes



James Evelyn

Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School

Dates for the Diary

12 th September	Swimming begins for Y4
19 th September	Parent Session: E-Safety
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

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	99%
3J	100%
4H	96.3%
4M	91.9%
5AC	93.7%
5G	96.9%
6L	100%
6M	100%
All	97.2%

Congratulations to our 100% classes this week. Great start to the term!



Parent Information Session – Mobile Phone Safety (19th September)

This term we are going to start running monthly parent information sessions focussing on important school related subjects which we hope you will find useful.

The first of these takes place on Thursday 19th September at 9.00am and then again at 4.00pm. (We are running the first session twice to see which time works best for parents.)

All parents are welcome but this session is particularly targeted at Year 6 parents or parents who may be considering purchasing a phone for their child.

Future Sessions

Tuesday 8th October (9.00am) – Introduction to SEND

November (exact date tbc) – tbc.

Friday 6th December (9.00am) – Parent Forum

Parent Survey, July 2024

Back in July we ran a parent survey where we asked for your views on the school. Key outcomes below:

My child feels safe at school	92% agree or strongly agree
My child is making good progress at school	93% agree or strongly agree
My child is supported by school staff in their learning	97% agree or strongly agree
I am able to communicate with my child's teacher	82% agree or strongly agree
Behaviour is good at the school	86% agree or strongly agree

- There were many lovely comments about staff and their commitment to ensuring your children are happy and successful at school. Some parents remarked that it can be difficult to get hold of teachers – parents are welcome to email teachers or please phone the office if you would like to schedule a meeting or a call.
- Parents were happy with the school offer and the breadth of the curriculum. A number of parents wanted the school to run more school clubs – we will look into this but also need to ensure that teacher's workload is fair and sustainable. If any parents know of any companies/professional organisations who would be interested in running after school clubs at our school, please contact Mr Evelyn.
- A number of parents were unhappy with the change in residential arrangements. We do understand this – especially in light of the disruption caused by the pandemic - but are trying to balance a number of factors including cost, ensuring that the residentials provide different opportunities for children and are sufficiently spaced out to be meaningful. Last year we added the day at Holme Pierrepont for Year 5s to ensure there was something additional in place for that year group.

As always, please get in touch if you have any questions or concerns. Parents Evening sessions are taking place later this month for our new Year 3 children with other year groups to follow in November. We are running the monthly parent sessions this year to provide further opportunities for information sharing.

Start of Term Admin

A few pieces of information for parents to be aware of:

- Parent Curriculum Overviews have been sent out this week. These contain lots of information about what your child will be learning this term, timings for PE and contacts for the year group. These documents are now on the website under curriculum / termly overviews. Spring and Summer curriculum documents will follow later in the year.

Termly Overviews

Termly Curriculum Overviews are shared with parents and published here. These documents set out what children will be learning and how parents can support.

Autumn Term 2024 Overviews

[Year 3 Autumn Curriculum Overview](#)

[Year 4 Autumn Curriculum Overview](#)

[Year 5 Autumn Curriculum Overview](#)

[Year 6 Autumn Curriculum Overview](#)

- A few reminders:
 - Whilst waiting to collect children at the end of the school day, please do not allow any siblings to play on the playground equipment. This is not covered by the school insurance and is unsafe.
 - Please can we also remind parents that children are welcome to come to/from school by scooter or bike but they must not ride these through the school grounds.

Upcoming Dates - w/c 9th September 2024

Some Sports Clubs will be starting the week after next – timings still to be confirmed. Please look out for school emails relating to these clubs.

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

- Martial Arts Club starts again at 8am. Please return the reply slip in the letter if you would like your child to attend.
- Year 4 swimming starts again. Please ensure you remember your swimming kit (including towel) and any inhalers required.

Friday

Weekly Menu - w/c 9th 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 & tomato pizza served with garlic bread and a selection of daily vegetables & mixed fresh salad.
- Creamy vegetable penne pasta carbonara with a selection of daily vegetables & mixed fresh salad (V)
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna mayo.
- Marble sponge & custard.

Tuesday

- All day sausage breakfast served with baked omelette, diced potatoes, bake beans or sweetcorn with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- All day veggie sausage breakfast served with diced potatoes, bake beans or sweetcorn with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Chocolate shortbread biscuits (Ve) and fruit slices.

Wednesday

- Chicken pie, mashed potato with a selection of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Vegetarian mince and vegetable pie (Ve), mashed potato with a selection of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna mayonnaise.
- Iced banana traybake.

Thursday

- Creamy korma style chicken curry served with mixed rice, selection of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Sweet potato, spinach and chickpea korma (Ve) served with mixed rice, selection of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna mayonnaise.
- Oat and raisin cookie (Ve) and fresh watermelon slice.

Friday

- Friday fish fingers served with chips, tomato ketchup and a selection of daily vegetables and fresh salad.
- Homemade cheese flan served with chips and tomato sauce and a selection of daily vegetables and mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna mayonnaise.
- Chocolate ice cream

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.*

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 USING AND REVIEWING PARENTAL CONTROLS

Phones and computers are essential parts of children's lives, but with unfettered internet access comes a multitude of risks. While not foolproof, parental controls can help with this; filtering out inappropriate content, limiting the ability to spend real money, capping screen time and generally making devices safer for young people.

1 KNOW THE TYPES

While parental control software can apply to an entire device, it also pays to know about options on individual apps and websites. TikTok, for example, has Restricted Mode for limiting unsuitable videos, while Snapchat lets you keep an eye on who a child has been talking to. Check the settings of any new app young users want and review your options.

2 COVER ALL DEVICES

Knowing what parental controls cover is crucial, as remaining unaware can run the risk of 'blind spots' in the device's safety measures. Controls on a phone will apply whenever a child's on that device, for instance – but you'll want to ensure that parental controls are set up across any laptops, tablets and potentially other phones, too. Remember, buying a new device may require you to set everything up again.

3 DON'T NEGLECT SHARED TECH

While children often have their own devices, if you have a shared family computer or tablet, for example, you'll need to make sure that's not a weak point in your safety measures. Parental controls for your router, that cover everything connected to your Wi-Fi, are one option – or you can just be thorough with each device and online account. Just ensure that unprotected laptops, phones and tablets are password locked.

4 CONSIDER TIME CONTROLS

Even safe internet content can be harmful if it's viewed in excess. Not only are certain apps addictive enough to distract from other duties, but late-night usage can badly disrupt sleep, which is vital for adolescent brain development. Most parental controls offer some kind of time limit – either blocking access at certain hours or capping the number of minutes it can be used per day – so be sure to consider these.

5 BLOCK APP SPENDING

Seemingly free apps can sometimes include microtransactions: purchases that can be made using real money. While plenty of developers implement these fairly, some companies attempt to manipulate children into paying for additional features or content, which can soon add up to hundreds of pounds if a child gets carried away. Thankfully, iOS and Android's settings allow you to block in-app purchases, preventing any huge bills.

6 NO CONTROLS ARE PERFECT

Parental controls can be very useful, but they're far from infallible. Some unpleasant content can and unfortunately will slip through the net, so remember that setting up these measures isn't a substitute for taking an active interest in young people's digital lives. Talk to them, and make sure they're aware of the risks of the internet as well as its benefits.

7 MIND THE GAPS

There'll undoubtedly be some gaps in parental controls, no matter how thorough you intend to be. For example, if you use router-level parental controls, bear in mind that these won't cover WiFi outside the home. For that reason, it's important to keep an open dialogue with children about the many unpalatable aspects of social media and the web.

8 KEEP THINGS SECURE

Some children can react poorly to parental controls and feel tempted to circumvent them. It's important to ensure that the passwords to these settings remain unknown to children, otherwise they can easily modify the restrictions without you knowing. Similarly, make sure your phone isn't left unlocked and unattended.

9 REVIEW CONTROLS REGULARLY

Parental controls shouldn't be a 'set and forget' deal. Not only can parental summaries provide you with a frequent overview of a child's digital life – to let you spot any warning signs – but companies often add new features, and some of these may be useful to enable (or disable). Regularly checking in ensures that if a child has found a way to wiggle out of the controls, you'll be the first to know.

10 KNOW WHEN TO LET UP

The parental controls you install on a computer for a seven-year-old probably wouldn't be appropriate for a child of 16 – and as young people approach adulthood, bubble wrapping the internet can do more harm than good. Consider relaxing parental controls as children get older, so they can learn to manage the risks of the internet themselves, without so many training wheels.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist and the former deputy editor of technology and internet culture website Alphr. Now freelance, he has contributed articles to publications including the New Statesman, CNET, the Evening Standard, Wired, Rock Paper Shotgun, Gizmodo, Pocket Gamer, Stuff, T3, PC Pro, Macworld, TechRadar and Trusted Reviews.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College