

Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 28th March 2025

Egg Rolling Competition!

It is that time of year again when we embark on the famous Egg Rolling Competition at Robert Miles Junior School. Children will need to bring in one hard-boiled egg on Monday. Please ensure it is hard-boiled as we don't want to make too much of a mess on the playground! In classes, children then compete against each other to see who can roll their egg the closest to our RMJS Easter Egg. The top two winners from each class will then go through to a grand final where we will find the champion egg roller of 2025 and they will win a large, chocolately treat. We are hoping to hold the final on Thursday, weather permitting. We hope all children will take part and enjoy a bit of Easter fun!

Dear Parents,

I often get asked by parents what we are doing to improve safety as children cross the road at the start and end of the school day.

This week I met with some of our local councillors, a representative from Via Highways Maintenance and a local police officer to look at how things are running and discuss options for making things safer. One of the challenges for putting in new measures is the proximity of our turning to the other junctions. We also know the bus pulling onto the curb is far from an ideal arrangement.

Whilst options are being considered, please can parents avoid pulling over in the morning outside the gates to drop off and not pick children up in the road at the end of the day when driving. If you have suggestions for how things could be improved, do get in touch.

Finally, the SEND newsletter for March, written by Mrs Wallace, our SENCO, has been published [here](#).

Best Wishes



James Evelyn
Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School



Dates for the Diary

3rd April

Easter Bake Sale

24th April

Summer Term Dates

Toot Hill – Year 5 Parents Meeting

w/c 19th May

Healthy Lifestyles Week

6th June

Friends of RMJS Father's Day Gift Shop

25th June

Sports Day

27th June

Reserve Sports Day

11th July

Summer BBQ

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	97.1%
3J	98.8%
4H	98.6%
4M	97.9%
5AC	95.9%
5G	97.9%
6L	97.8%
6M	94.1%
All	97.2%



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

House Points

Jupiter	1,267
Mercury	1,412
Neptune	1,092
Saturn	1,103

Children are earning House Points each and every day for making good choices and showing the REACH values. These are the latest totals for Spring 2 – well done to all the children earning all these House Points!



Friends of RMJS News

The Easter Egg Design competition is still running! Children have received a template to use if they want to. Entries should be placed in the boxes outside Miss Horsfield's classroom by the end of Monday. Prefects will be judging the entries later next week.

The final event this term is an Easter Bake Sale which the Friends are kindly running on Thursday. Any donations are very gratefully received to send everyone on their way into the holidays.



Excellent Work in the Spotlight



This week, Year 4 put their taste buds to the test as they explored a variety of ingredients for their 'Super Salads' topic! They sampled couscous, pasta, lettuce, sweetcorn, celery, cucumber, peppers, and carrots—discovering new textures and flavours along the way. There were plenty of adventurous tasters willing to try everything, with sweetcorn coming out as the favourite. The children are now full of ideas for their own delicious and nutritious salad creations next week.



Science & Technology Competition

This year's science and technology competition theme was to design and make a flying machine. All children throughout the school entered the competition with materials supplied in class. Years 3 and 4 were provided with

coloured paper only to complete their design, whilst the Years 5 and 6 needed to include a straw. The competition was close, with some excellent designs flying across the school hall!

The winner of the paper aeroplane competition was Kayden Wong with a flight distance of 668cm and the winners of the straw glider competition were Daisy Stewart and Isla Adcock with a flight distance of 689cm.

There were also prizes for the most artistic design won by Hailey Chan, Katie Wong and Alisa Chan and the most ingenious design won by Jude Maylard-Mason, Henry Tweddle, Jacob Spalding and Oliver Brown.



Next year we will be asking the children to make their design at home and hope this year's event has given the children the confidence to enter and we look forward to many entrants.



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: Lottie, 3J

Most coins earnt: Lottie, 3J

Biggest improvement in accuracy: Luca, 3B

Biggest improvement in speed: Ella, 3B

Weekly Menu w/c 31st March 2025

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 selection of vegetables.
- Quorn grill with gravy, stuffing and roast potatoes with a selection of vegetables.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Chocolate crunch and 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 a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Strawberry mousse.

Friday – School Closed

Term Dates - w/c 31st March 2025

Monday 31st March

- Film club 3.30 - 5.15pm. The film showing this week is A Goofy Movie, there is a £2 compulsory charge for orange squash and biscuits at this Club. Please use our online payment system to pay for this.
- All children to bring in a hard boiled egg for the egg rolling competition
- LAST DAY FOR EASTER EGG POSTER COMPETITION – WIN A CHOCOLATE EGG

Tuesday 1st April

- Last Handball club for years 3&4 group two. 8.15-8.55am in the hall. Please bring PE kit, a drink and any inhalers you may need.
- Year 5 and 6 girls Futsal club. 3.30-4.30pm in the hall. Please wear PE kit, bring a drink and any inhalers you may need.
- Years 3/4 Girls Football festival at SNA. All involved have been informed.
- Year 5 Football match against Carnarvon.
- Year 6 reading booster sessions 3.30-4.30pm, children to bring in a small snack.

Wednesday 2nd April

- Honours assembly.
- Bible Explorers lunch time 12.45-1.15pm
- Equal Trust choir at Albert Hall, Nottingham. Children to bring 2 x packed lunches (1 for dinner time) and plenty to drink. Children leaving school at 9.15am. Performance starts at 5.30pm.

Thursday 3rd April

- 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.
- Year 6 maths booster sessions 3.30-4.30pm, children to bring in a small snack.
- Egg rolling competition final
- **Easter Bake Sale – all donations gratefully received. Children to bring in a maximum of £1 to buy cakes**

Friday 4th April 2025

- **INSET DAY – School re-opens on Tuesday 22nd April 2025**

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.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about BLUESKY SOCIAL APP

AGE RESTRICTION
13+
With an App Store rating of 17+ & Google Play rating Mature

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

While Bluesky has been around since 2019, it's suddenly taken off in a big way thanks to a significant exodus from X (formerly Twitter). Indeed, it looks and behaves a lot like Twitter before Elon Musk bought the platform. Bluesky has been touted in recent months as a safer, more open-minded alternative to X – but like any social media site, it still has its share of risks.

NO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS

While most social networks allow accounts to be private, at the time of writing, all Bluesky accounts must be public. The development team has indicated this might change in the future, but the app is built on a public-first protocol. If private accounts are ever introduced, it may only be in a limited way – such as through the implementation of group chats.

INTERACTIONS WITH STRANGERS

Every account being public means that anyone can be contacted by anyone else. While users don't have to respond and can easily block people and move on, it does mean that youngsters are at particular risk of being conned by scammers, messaged by predatory adults or exposed to others with ill intentions. These hazards can be compounded by the fact that Bluesky doesn't require its users to provide their real name.

TROLLING AND BULLYING

While Bluesky currently feels a lot friendlier than X seems to have become, its lack of private accounts means that there's nothing to stop users from trolling and cyberbullying younger people. While accounts can be blocked and reported, a persistent bully could simply create a new profile, potentially making their victims feel unsafe in continuing to use the app.

DANGEROUS MISINFORMATION

Established news organisations have fact-checking and editing processes, but social networks have no such controls and can often serve as breeding grounds for misinformation and disinformation. Bluesky will possibly be no different once it reaches a certain size, and children may not have the critical thinking skills to tell fact from fiction – or to discern an informative, honest user from a malicious one.

ADULT TARGET AUDIENCE

Bluesky isn't designed with children in mind, and there aren't many parental controls on the platform. In an interview with the BBC, Bluesky's CEO originally said that the app would only allow users aged 18 and above to sign up, but a spokesperson later clarified its age restriction as 13+. This could imply the app was originally meant for an adult audience and suggests that making the platform more child-friendly might not currently be a priority.

RAPID GROWTH

At the time of writing, Bluesky seems calm in comparison with other social networks where moderation is lax and the atmosphere toxic – but that's due at least in part to its smaller community. The app has recently been adding as many as a million users per day, and if that continues, there'll be more unpleasant users to handle, and moderators could struggle to maintain the pleasant environment Bluesky is currently known for.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE THE ADULT CONTENT FILTER

Bluesky doesn't have much in the way of parental controls, but there are content filters which can hide sexual and graphic imagery. These are enabled by default for underage accounts but can be manually turned on in the 'Moderation' section of the app's settings. The 'advanced' Bluesky Moderation Service lets you restrict content even further, hiding – for example – self-harm content, extremist rhetoric, and even rude posts.

LOOK OUT FOR FAKES

Impersonation is a problem on all social networks. While the consequences are usually benign, imposters sometimes attempt to scam or groom children by pretending to be a popular influencer or online personality. Bluesky is unique in that it can be connected to official domains, with users' handles linking to other sites; while this isn't widely used right now, it could be a reliable way to verify celebrities and public figures in future.

ENCOURAGE BLOCKING AND REPORTING

Another tool that Bluesky uses to ensure a decent experience is muting and blocking accounts. The former prevents you from seeing a specific user's content, while the latter stops them from seeing yours. If a child is encountering trolls or bullies on the platform, encourage them to use this function, while also reporting the offenders to help make the platform a nicer place for everyone.

KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

As with all social media platforms, moderation and content filters can only do so much; it's highly likely that a child will eventually face something unsavoury. For that reason, it's important to make sure that young people are aware of the risks and know how to handle the technology if anything they see on the app makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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

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