

## Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025



### Reading Volunteers

We are hugely grateful to all the parents who volunteered last year to hear children read on a 1:1 basis.

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 or the school office. The school is required to complete a DBS check before volunteers can begin.

### Autumn Term Dates

19<sup>th</sup> September Headteacher Parent Forum  
 23<sup>rd</sup> September Year 3 Parents Evening  
 25<sup>th</sup> September Dukes Barn Parent Info Meeting  
 1<sup>st</sup> October School Photos  
 w/c 13<sup>th</sup> Oct Year 6 Dukes Barn Residential  
 w/c 27<sup>th</sup> Oct Half Term  
 6<sup>th</sup> November Halloween Disco  
 17<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> 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	98.8%
3J	100%
4H	100%
4M	96.4%
5AC	96.6%
5G	96.1%
6L	98.9%
6TM	94.8%
<b>All</b>	<b>97.7%</b>



Congratulations to 3J and 4H for having the best attendance this week!

Dear Parents,

I hope your child has enjoyed their first week back with us in their new year group. It is always such a busy time getting everything back up and running again but it has been lovely to observe how quickly things start up and to enjoy the nice atmosphere around school even if the weather has very quickly turned autumnal.

A few reminders for parents:

- We know that family circumstances can change. If you have moved house or have any new contact details, please let the office know so they are systems are fully up to date.
- Similarly, if your child has any new medicine or medical information, please inform the office as soon as possible so our records are accurate.
- A reminder to our Year 3 parents that Free School Meals are means tested from Year 3 onwards. To apply for Free School Meals, please contact the local authority via [this](#) link. Please note that eligibility for Free School Meals starts from the moment you are accepted; parents are therefore required to pay for school meals up to this point. If you have any questions about this, please contact the office.

Finally, I will be hosting a Parent Forum at 9.10am on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September in the School Hall. I will be updating parents on school life, our priorities this year and answering any questions you may have. All parents are invited but, especially our new parents, whom I am keen to meet and get to know.

Have a great weekend.

Best Wishes

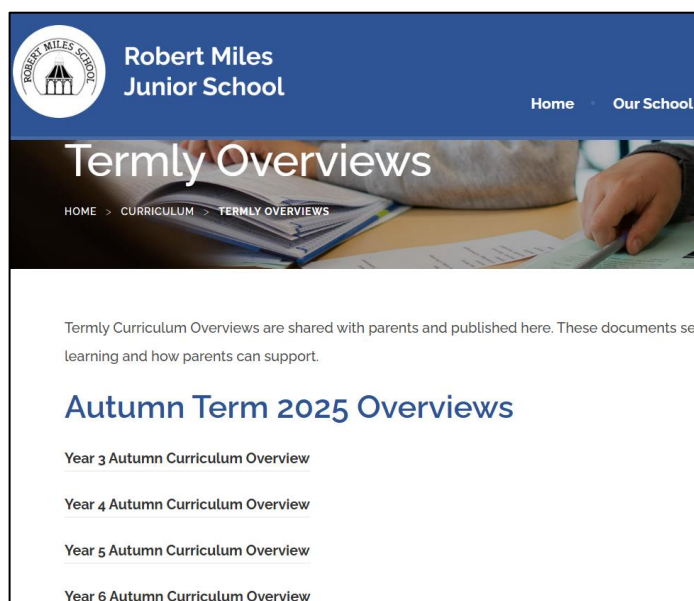
James Evelyn  
 Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School

## Parent Curriculum Overviews

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.

If you have any questions about what your child is learning this term (or this year), please contact their teacher.



## RMJS Home/School Agreement

### Robert Miles Junior School Home School Agreement



Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's class: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Our Core Purpose

*'Every talent discovered, nurtured and celebrated.'*

Our REACH Values are central to our school ethos and run through everything we do. Every year, we revisit them at the start of the year and then talk about them in assemblies and elsewhere – including behaviour and how they guide the choices we want to support children in making.

Today, your child will be bringing home this Home School Agreement which is centred around our REACH Values. Please discuss it with your child, help them fill it in and ensure it is returned to school next week.

There is more information about our REACH Values on the school website [here](#).

## Year 3 Swimming

Year 3 swimming starts next Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September. All parents should have received 3 relevant letters. The consent form for goggles should be returned to school by Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all of the parents who have offered to help.

Girls need to wear a one-piece swimming costume and boys must wear fitted swimming trunks with no pockets. All children must bring a coat as we go swimming even when it's raining.

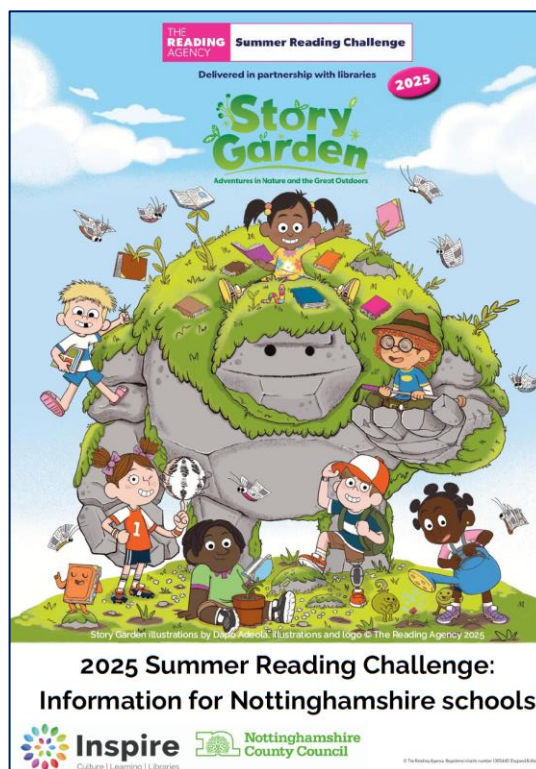


## \*\*\* Summer Reading Challenge \*\*\*

A reminder that the Summer Reading Challenge closes tomorrow (Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September.) It is still not too late to complete the challenge!

### How it works:

- Children can sign up at any Nottinghamshire Inspire library, where they will receive a special collector's sticker booklet.
- Children borrow and read 6 library books of their choice – logging their reading to earn stickers to complete the sticker booklet.
- Library staff and volunteers are on hand to talk to children about the books they have read.
- Children who complete the Challenge in libraries receive a certificate and a medal.



## Weekly Menu w/c 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025

### Monday

- Pork Sausage toad in the hole and home-baked potato wedges with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad
- Veggie sausage toad in the hole and home-baked potato wedges with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Banana Mousse.

### Tuesday

- Red Tractor mild chicken curry, mixed wholegrain and white rice with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Vegetarian curry mixed wholegrain and white rice with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Marble sponge and custard.

### Wednesday

- Roast chicken with gravy, stuffing and mash potato or 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.
- Strawberry jelly.

### Thursday

- Wholemeal margherita pizza and pasta salad with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Macaroni cheese with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Vanilla cookie.

## **Friday**

- Fish fingers and chips with a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Cheese flan with chips, ketchup and a choice of vegetables or mixed fresh salad.
- Jacket potato with a choice of baked beans, cheese or tuna.
- Iced sponge cake with sprinkles.

### Upcoming Dates w/c 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025

## **Monday 8th September 2025**

- Film and tabletop activity club 3.30-5.15pm. The film showing this week is Alice in Wonderland, there is a £3.50 compulsory charge for orange squash and biscuits at this Club. Please use our online payment system to pay for this. Payment needs to be made in advance.

## **Tuesday 9th September 2025**

- No activities.

## **Wednesday 10th September 2025**

- Girls cricket club 3.30-4.30pm. (Now full) Children need to have their PE kit, a drink and any inhalers they may need.

## **Thursday 11 September 2025**

- Martial arts club with Mr Dexter 08.00am to 08.45am.
- Year 3 swimming. Please remember your swimming kit (including towel and a bag to put wet items in) and any inhalers required.

## **Friday 12th September 2025**

- Handball club for years 3 and 4. 8.15-8.55am. (Now full) Children need to bring their PE kit, a drink and any inhalers they may use. The club will be in the school hall.

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 VPNs

VPN use among UK teens is on the rise – with a noticeable uptick following the introduction of the Online Safety Act's age-verification rules. A VPN – or virtual private network – can boost online privacy by hiding internet activity and masking the user's location. But while this technology has legitimate uses, it can also allow children to bypass safety filters and access inappropriate content. This guide covers what parents and educators need to know about VPNs and how to keep young people safe.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS

VPNs are commonly used by young people to get around blocks on school networks or parental controls. This could include accessing social media, gaming sites or adult content that would otherwise be filtered out.

### ACCESSING INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

When a VPN is active, content filters can no longer see which sites a child is visiting. This means they could access inappropriate content without detection. This also makes it harder to intervene when a child is engaging in risky behaviour, as it may be difficult to detect it's happening.

### REDUCED TRANSPARENCY

VPNs may make parental monitoring software ineffective, stopping parents from monitoring their child's activities, including their ability to identify potentially harmful or inappropriate content or online contact. This in turn may prevent parents from protecting their children from attempted sextortion or other online threats.

### FALSE SENSE OF ANONYMITY

Children believing that VPNs make them 'invisible' online may seek to explore unsuitable internet content, including content which might otherwise be blocked. This may result in them seeking and accessing increasingly inappropriate – or even harmful – content.

### INCREASED EXPOSURE TO MALWARE

Many free VPN apps are poorly regulated and may carry hidden malware. Young people installing unverified software could unknowingly open up their device (and home network) to spying, data theft, computer viruses, or even remote access by criminals.

### RISK OF MALICIOUS VPN PROVIDERS

Although VPNs may increase privacy from network or service provider filtering and monitoring, this results in providing user and usage data to VPN providers. Some VPN providers may track user activity and sell that data to advertisers – or worse, malicious third parties. Not all VPNs are trustworthy.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### EXPLAIN THE POSSIBLE BENEFITS OF VPNs

Explain how VPNs can help protect user data and therefore may be appropriate when using public or other unsecured Wi-Fi, or while dealing with sensitive corporate or personal data.

### EXPLAIN THE RISKS OF VPNs

Discuss online risks, including harmful, disturbing, and criminal content, inform children about criminal contact, such as sextortion, and how VPNs may restrict adults from monitoring children's internet use and helping them avoid these risks.

### FREE ISN'T FREE

Discuss the risk of 'free' VPNs and how they may sell or use people's data, which adds privacy risks. Additionally, discuss the potential for added malware in VPN downloads, and how these compromise devices and apps, leading to potential fraud or theft.

### CHECK DEVICES FOR VPNs

VPNs can be installed as both apps and browser extensions, so regularly check these on the devices used by the young people in your care. If they have been using VPNs, discuss it, listen to their reasoning, and inform them of the associated risks. In some cases, it may be appropriate to block VPN use via parental controls and other settings.

### DISCUSS ONLINE BOUNDARIES

Reinforce the importance of keeping safe online and how filtering and monitoring helps keep young people safe – explain this to them rather than just 'being strict'. Encourage an open conversation around what they're accessing and why.

### Meet Our Expert

This guide has been created in collaboration with Gary Henderson, director of IT at a large independent school in the UK, an ambassador for the Association of Network Managers in Education and the Vice Chair of the Independent Schools Council Digital Advisory Group.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College