

★ Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 6th March 2026 ★

Dear Parents,

Another busy week where we moved our attention from celebrating Chinese New Year to focusing on reading. A whole host of activities have taken place promoting and enjoying this vital life skill. I particularly enjoyed seeing the children swapping classes on Thursday morning to read with someone in a different year group. Always a highlight with the children are so kind and caring towards each other. Read on further down the newsletter to find out more about the week of reading.

Year 4 York Residential Parents of Year 4 children should look out for letters coming this week that confirms the final price and other details for the upcoming residential in June. The full amount must be paid by Friday 8th May. **All parents are encouraged to come to the Parent Meeting which is taking place next Thursday 12th March at 5.30pm.** Lots more information will be shared at this meeting.

Have a wonderful weekend and the very best of luck to those of you taking part in the Nottingham 10k on Sunday morning.

Best Wishes

James Evelyn
Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School

Spring Term Dates

9 th March	Wonderful Women Gift Shop
11 th March	Y3 trip to Doncaster
12 th March	Y4 Residential Parent Meeting
19 th March	Y4 Lion Learners Day
16 th & 18 th Mar	Y3, Y4 & Y5 Parents Evening
25 th March	Albert Hall Singing Event

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	92.5%
4H	98.7%
4M	96.6%
5AC	98.6%
5G	92.8%
6L	96.7%
6TM	98.4%
All	96.1%



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

Savate Grading for Beginners

Yesterday, the advanced children took their grading with all of them passing onto their next level. Half received their purple belts with the other half receiving green belts. As well as receiving their belts, it has been lovely to see their confidence building. Next up is the red belt!

These children are all in Year 6. We are hoping they will continue their training after they leave us!



House Points

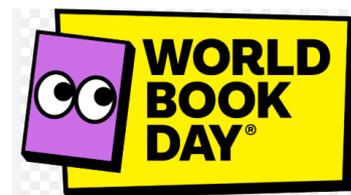
Jupiter	192
Mercury	195
Neptune	250
Saturn	208

These are the first House Points totals so far during the second half of the spring term! A huge well done to every child for every House Point earned.



Book Fair

We have had a wonderful week with many book-themed activities in school. Thank you to those of you who visited our Scholastic Book Fair and used your vouchers to choose new books to read. The school took over £1,400 in total takings. Commission will be calculated and used to buy exciting new books for our classroom shelves. Just a reminder that if you still have a book voucher it is valid until the 15th March so you can still get £1 off a book/audiobook or swap it for a special £1 World Book Day book in bookshops.



Reading Café

Our Reading Café was once again well-attended with the delicious smell of toast floating through the school as we had a gentle start to the day, reading and talking about books with friends. This has become a firm fixture in the Robert Miles calendar and we endeavour to run a Reading Café once every half term. Please come along next time from 8am, in the school hall to enjoy toast and a good book when it is next advertised. Children also took part in a Book Swap and hopefully brought home a pre-loved book to add to their reading shelf at home.



Orienteering and Assembly

The librarians have been very busy this week organising a book-themed orienteering challenge where teams answered questions at various checkpoints round the school grounds and used their answers to unscramble a message about reading. Luckily, we have had some beautiful sunshine to enjoy as the cunning clues were solved. The librarians also did a great job leading a whole-school assembly on Thursday encouraging everyone to make reading a fun hobby with ideas of how to remove some of the barriers which might make reading difficult. Children then enjoyed buddy-reading with children from another class.

'Eggcellent' Egg Characters

The school library was transformed as 'Egg' characters filled the tables during the week. A huge range of bright, colourful and creative character from books such as Tom Gates to Harry Potter, Little Miss Bossy to the Hungry Caterpillar and many more were brought in. A huge well done to all those who took part in our egg competition. The winners are: Betsy in Y3, Stanley in Y4, Scarlett in 5G and Scarlett in 6TM who all received a book as their prize in assembly on Friday.



Pyjama Day

Pyjama-day was thoroughly enjoyed by all...in fact it worked so well that the children of RMJS, along with their teddy friends, could be found snoozing in the sunshine at breaktime! The teachers were wondering why it was so quiet!

Make Reading a Hobby

As we all know, reading is so important for all children. Please enjoy and encourage book time with your child where reading to stories to them is just as valuable as children reading their own books. Reading can and should be a fun hobby for all!

Year 3 Greek Museum

Our Year 3 Greek Museum was a fantastic event and a real highlight for the school. The children worked incredibly hard to create a range of impressive artefacts that truly brought the Ancient Greeks to life. When the rest of the school came to visit, they were amazed by the quality of the work and the knowledge our Year 3 historians were able to share.

It was especially lovely to see older pupils reminiscing about when they created their own museums during their time in Year 3. The pride, effort and enthusiasm shown by the children made this a very special occasion, and we are incredibly proud of the commitment they showed in becoming such brilliant historians. 🏛️ ✨



Times Table 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: Isabella, 4H

Most coins earned: Violet, 4H

Biggest improvement in accuracy: Lottie, 3J

Biggest improvement in speed: Scarlett, 3J

Sports Update

This week it was the turn of the Year 3/4 Indoor Athletics team to travel to South Nottinghamshire Academy to compete in a mini-track and field festival.

Although this event is fun and participation based, as opposed to the Year 5/6 competitions, the team did superbly with our girls winning every single relay race, including some very impressive handovers!

The team also tried some field events; standing jump, triple jump, javelin and chest push and performed superbly with one of our year 3s recording a distance of over 13 metres with the javelin.

Well done everyone, the future is bright!



Weekly Menu w/c 9th March 2026

Monday

- Pork sausage and mash with gravy and a choice of vegetables.
- Veggie sausage and mash with gravy and a choice of vegetables.
- Jacket potato with a choice of cheesy beans, tuna mayo or cheese or beans.
- Shortbread pin wheels & fruit slices

Tuesday

- Red tractor beef pasta bolognese and garlic bread with a choice of vegetables
- Plant based pasta bolognese and garlic bread with a choice of vegetables.
- Jacket potato with a choice of cheesy beans, tuna mayo or cheese or beans.
- Apple crumble and custard

Wednesday

- Roast chicken with gravy, Yorkshire pudding and roast potatoes with a choice of vegetables.
- Quorn grill with gravy, Yorkshire pudding and roast potatoes with a choice of vegetables.
- Jacket potato with a choice of cheesy beans, tuna mayo or cheese or beans.
- Chocolate fudge cake

Thursday

- Wholemeal Margherita pizza with home baked potato wedges with a choice of vegetables.
- Macaroni cheese and a choice of vegetables.
- Jacket potato with a choice of cheesy beans, tuna mayo or cheese or beans.
- Flapjack.

Friday

- Battered pollock and chips with a choice of vegetables.
- Cheese flan and chips with a choice of vegetables.
- Jacket potato with cheesy beans, tuna mayo cheese, salmon mayo or beans.
- Jelly

Upcoming Dates w/c 9th March 2026

Monday 9th March 2026

- Dodgeball Club for years 3 & 4. 08.15-8.55am. (Class full) Children need to bring their PE kit, a drink and any inhalers they may use.
- Art Club 3.30- 4.30pm. There is a £2.00 compulsory charge for art supplies. Please use our online payment system to pay for this. Payment needs to be made in advance.
- Mothers Day shop

Tuesday 10th March 2026

- EQT choir rehearsal 3.30 - 4.45 pm
- Booster sessions 3.30pm - 4.30pm. All children involved are aware.

Wednesday 11th March 2026

- Honours Assembly
- Yr 3 trip to Danum Gallery Library & Museum, Doncaster. Children need to arrive at school at 08.30 for departure at 08.45 and will return to school by 3.30pm. School uniform and sensible shoes are to be worn. Please bring a coat, a packed lunch and plenty to drink. Remember any inhalers and medication required
- Girls Futsal Club years 4 & 5. 3.30pm - 4.30pm. (Class full) Children need to bring their PE kit, a drink and any inhalers they may use. The club will be in the school hall.
- Booster sessions 3.30pm - 4.30pm. All children involved are aware.

Thursday 12th March 2026

- Martial arts club (with Mr Dexter) for years 4,5 and 6. 08.00am to 08.45am.
- Booster sessions 3.30pm - 4.30pm. All children involved are aware.
- York Residential Parent Meeting 5.30 - 6pm. Children cannot attend.

Friday 13th March 2026

- Indoor athletics club for years 5 & 6. 08.15 - 08.55am. (Class full) Children need to bring their PE kit, a drink and any inhalers they may use.
- Cross-country Club for years 5 and 6. As this is a lunchtime club the children must bring a packed lunch. Children need their PE kit plus extra layers in case it is cold or raining a carrier bag and any inhalers required
- Yr3/4 Football event. 09.00am - 1pm. Selected children. Please bring a packed lunch, football kit, a drink and any medication required.

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.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK

97

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🌟 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat 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.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. 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.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

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.



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



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