

Robert Miles Junior School Newsletter – 23rd October 2026

Dear Parents,

The half term comes to an end today. I hope your children have enjoyed it and you have a relaxing, half term week ahead.

Winner Congratulations to Edie Castell (4H) who was a winner in the Long Acre Arts Christmas Card Competition. Well done Edie! Her entry is on display at Long Acre Arts and will be made into Christmas cards in the coming weeks.



Christmas Appeal Sarah Hobbs, from the Methodist Church, was with us for assembly on Tuesday and launched the annual reverse advent calendar. See below. Children should bring their donations to the classroom and put them in the box. Thank you for your generosity. Have a lovely half term.

James Evelyn

James Evelyn
Headteacher, Robert Miles Junior School



Have you considered a **reverse advent** this year? It's simple! Start with an empty box, add an item every day, drop off the box; we do the rest!

Bring your donations into a participating school, or to Bingham Methodist Church, and our Church members will take it to Grantham Foodbank.

Final day for school donations - Friday **27th Nov**

Final day for church donations - Sunday **29th Nov**

Donations will be sorted and given in time for Christmas

As a community if we work together we can make a real difference this winter.

If you are a family in need of support, please seek referral through the Children's Centre or see <https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/emergency-food/food-vouchers/>

Day 1 Baked Beans / Spaghetti	Day 2 Tinned Soup	Day 3 Toilet Rolls	Day 4 Tinned Tomatoes	Day 5 Rice 500g Packets	Day 6 Mince Pies
Day 7 Packet Biscuits	Day 8 Shower Gel Shampoo/Toothpaste etc	Day 9 Tinned Fish	Day 10 Coffee	Day 11 Jam	Day 12 Breakfast Cereal
Day 13 Tea Bags	Day 14 Selection Boxes	Day 15 Bottles Squash	Day 16 Pasta 500g packets	Day 17 Tinned Vegetables	Day 18 Pasta Sauces
Day 19 Tom Ketchup Brown Sauce	Day 20 Tinned Meat	Day 21 Christmas Pudding (non-alcoholic)	Day 22 Rice Pudding	Day 23 UHT Long-life Milk	Day 24 Tinned Fruit

School Photos

School Photos are taking place on 4th November. If you want your child to have their photo taken with their sibling, the photographer will be in school to start at 8am.

Autumn Term Dates

w/c 26 th Oct	Half Term
4 th November	School Photos
5 th November	Flu Vaccinations
11 th November	Remembrance Day
13 th November	Children in Need Day
w/c 16 th Nov	Anti Bullying Week
25 th November	Reading Café
27 th November	Bingham Christmas Fair
2 nd December	Christmas Pantomime
9 th December	Y5 Space Centre Trip
10 th December	Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
14 th December	Y3/4 Carol Concert (2.30pm)
15 th December	Y5/6 Carol Concert (2.30pm)
17 th December	Last Day of Term
18 th December	Inset Day – School Closed

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	93.8%
4H	97.2%
4J	96.9%
5AT	93.1%
5G	97.4%
6L	97.1%
6TM	98.0%
All	96.2%



Congratulations to 6TM for having the best attendance this week!

Remembrance Wreaths

Last week, we shared pictures of the Year 3 and Year 4 children's wreath making workshop with the Royal British Legion and Neighbourhood Studio ahead of the period of Remembrance next month. These wreaths will be on display at Bingham Methodist Centre next month – see below.



Presented by
NBH STUDIO CIC

Bingham Remembers
永誌不忘

Heritage Partner
Royal British Legion

Threads of Memories

Youth Tribute 學生創作

Robert Miles Junior School

BEHIND THE MEMORIES | Young Hands, New Perspectives

Robert Miles Junior School Year 3 and Year 4 children got creative! 🎨 Using dried flowers, they designed their own unique remembrance artworks on wooden log slices.

Each child also wrote a personal message, and many even challenged themselves to write "Lest We Forget" in Chinese – 永誌不忘! 🇨🇳 We were so impressed by their creativity, thoughtfulness and willingness to try something new. Every piece tells its own story!

♥ The children's artworks will be used for fundraising at school, with donations going to the Royal British Legion, supporting their important work.

Thank you

Two World Wars. A shared history. A new perspective.

3 Nov - 8 Nov 2026
Bingham Methodist Centre
Opening Hours: 9AM - 5PM (Closed 1PM - 2PM)

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BINGHAM METHODIST CENTRE

Lego – Donations Needed!

We are launching a Lego Club after half term but need your donations to help. If you have any unwanted Lego that needs a new home, please bring it to the School Office.



LEGO DONATIONS PLEASE!

We are looking for any unwanted LEGO® sets, bricks or pieces to help us start a LEGO Club next half term.

ANY LEGO WELCOME!
We would be grateful for any unwanted LEGO® sets, bricks or individual pieces.

ALL KINDS
Complete sets, part sets, bricks, baseplates, figures and accessories are all very welcome.

HELP US CREATE
Your donations will help us provide a fun and creative LEGO Club for our Year 3 and 4 pupils next half term.

Any donations, please be brought to the School Office or to Mr Jennings.

Thank you for your support!

School Council

Introducing our School Council for academic year 26/27. These children have been chosen by their peers to represent them on the School Council.

- 6L: Verity Gilfillan and Camille Bee
- 6TM: Albie Gascoigne and Keona Urughu-Stone
- 5G: Fraser Nursey and Annabel Moskwa
- 5AT: Lucy Norton and Rory Humphreys
- 4J: Emre Bekic and Marcella Leung
- 4H: Bobbie Heap and Theo Newman
- 3B: Alanis Mak and Freddie Cooper



The children have quickly got to work getting feedback from children on how the school is running and ideas for assembly guests. They have also looked at potential designs for the new Trim Trail and given their feedback. Next up, they will be supporting the Headteacher with an assembly to mark Anti Bullying Week.

House Points

Jupiter	1,243
Mercury	1,393
Neptune	1,332
Saturn	1,283

Children are showing our REACH Values every day. They are also earning House Points as they work towards earning a non uniform day at the end of term.

Here are the latest totals!



Year 6 Leavers Hoodies

The hoodies will have a large '27' design on the back, containing the first name of all the children in the year group. It will also feature the school logo on the front as well as your child's initials. Children can pick from two styles of hoodie, an overhead hoodie or a zip hoodie.

- The cost for a children's standard over-the-head hoodie will be £24.50, the cost for a zip up hoodie will be £27.50.
- If your child requires an adult size, then the prices will be £27.50 for an over the head and £30.50 for a zip hoodie.

We have samples of each hoodie in a range of sizes in the office. Please pop into school and confirm the size which is best for your child. These hoodies will be personalised, so if the sizing is incorrect than these cannot be exchanged or refunded. **The final day for orders and payment will be Friday 6th November**

Weekly Menu w/c 2nd November 2026

Monday

- Pork Sausages, Mash, Broccoli, Sweetcorn & Gravy
- Quorn Sausage, Mash, Broccoli, Sweetcorn & Gravy
- Jacket potato with a choice of Cheesy Beans, Tuna Mayo or Cheese or Beans.
- Chocolatey Cookie

Tuesday

- Mince Beef and Onion Shortcrust Pastry Pie with Homemade Potato Wedges, Carrots & Garden Peas
- Macaroni Cheese with Carrots, Garden Peas & Salad
- Jacket potato with a choice of Cheesy Beans, Tuna Mayo or Cheese or Beans.
- Apple Sponge & Custard

Wednesday

- Roast Chicken, Roast Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Seasonal Greens, Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy Seasonal Greens & Carrots
- Quorn Grill, Roast Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Seasonal Greens, Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy
- Jacket potato with a choice of Cheesy Beans, Tuna Mayo or Cheese or Beans.
- Raspberry Jelly.

Thursday

- Vegetable Pasta Carbonara with Carrots & Sweetcorn
- Margherita Pizza with Pasta Salad, Carrots & Sweetcorn
- Jacket potato with a choice of Cheesy Beans, Tuna Mayo or Cheese or Beans.
- Marble sponge and custard

Friday

- Battered Fish with & Chips with Garden Peas & Baked Beans Beans
- Crispy vegetable Fingers with Chips , Garden Peas & Baked Beans
- Jacket potato with Cheesy Beans, Tuna Mayo or Cheese or Beans.
- Iced Sponge Cake

Upcoming Dates w/c 2nd November 2026

Monday 2nd November 2026

- 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.

Tuesday 3rd November 2026

- Young Voices Rehearsals 3.30 - 4.45 pm

Wednesday 4th November 2026

- School Photos. Between 08.00 to 08.45am we welcome families who would like a photo taken with a child not at RMJS. Siblings in school will be photographed together during the school day.
- Girls Cricket Club: 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Thursday 5th November 2026

- Martial arts club (with Mr Dexter) for years 4,5 and 6. 08.00am to 08.45am. (This club is fully booked)
- Flu Vaccinations – Please consent or decline if you have not already done so.
- Football match RMJS Girls v Lady Bay 3pm. Children need to bring their football kit, a drink and any inhalers they may use.

Friday 6th November 2026

- Year 3/4 Handball Club 8.15am – 8.55am
- Cross Country Club at lunchtime. Children must wear PE kit and trainers.

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.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI COMPANIONS

Powered by generative AI models like ChatGPT and Google Gemini, AI companion apps and virtual chatbots such as Character.ai, Snapchat My AI, Replika and Talkie, allow users to create, customise, and chat to synthetic avatars around the clock. While many young people use them for harmless entertainment, creative writing or homework help, these tools are designed to simulate genuine human empathy, emotional bonding and deep friendship.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EMOTIONAL DEPENDENCY

AI companions are programmed to be endlessly agreeable, attentive, and available 24/7. Unlike human friendships, an AI companion never disagrees, sets personal boundaries, or gets tired. Young people (especially those experiencing loneliness, social anxiety, or low self-esteem) can quickly develop an unhealthy emotional attachment, viewing synthetic software as their 'best friend' or a surrogate romantic partner.

DISTORTED SOCIAL SKILLS

Navigating real-world friendships can be messy, involving dealing with conflict, compromise, boredom, and awkwardness. If a teenager spends hours interacting with an AI that is tailored specifically to validate and flatter them, they may become impatient with real-world relationships. Over time, this can lead to social withdrawal, heightened anxiety in peer groups, and isolation: a vicious circle of growing online dependency coupled with a heightened sense that relationships in the 'real world' are too challenging to maintain.

DANGEROUS MENTAL HEALTH ADVICE

AI chatbots possess no genuine empathy, professional clinical knowledge, or moral reasoning. While developers state these tools are not therapists, vulnerable teenagers often turn to them in crisis. Chatbots have previously hallucinated unsafe medical guidance, validated depressive spirals, and failed to safely escalate disclosures of self-harm or suicidal ideation to real-world protective services.

INAPPROPRIATE OR EXPLICIT CONTENT

While most mainstream platforms feature safety filters and guardrails, young people frequently discover 'jailbreak' prompts to bypass them. Some companion platforms subtly nudge users towards mature themes, romantic roleplay, or sexually suggestive conversations. In worse cases, third-party apps with weak safety checks have been found to generate sexually explicit text or intimate images.

DATA HARVESTING & OVERSHARING

Because conversational bots simulate warmth and understanding, children often lower their guard and treat the chatbot as a trusted friend. They may disclose sensitive personal information, including full names, school details, private family problems, or secrets, unaware that their conversations are being logged, may be analysed by third parties (including advertisers), or used to train future AI models.

'FREEMIUM' UPSells & SUBSCRIPTIONS

Many companion platforms operate on a freemium model. While basic chat is free, features like voice calls, uncensored responses, custom avatars, or 'deeper bonding' tiers are locked behind expensive monthly recurring subscriptions or in-app token purchases. This can lead to significant hidden costs and pressure on young people to spend money to maintain the 'friendship'.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALK OPENLY ABOUT FAKE RELATIONSHIPS

Demystify how these tools work. Explain to young people that an AI companion has no feelings, memories, or consciousness; it is simply calculating the next most mathematically probable word based on its training data. It is helpful to explain to them the mechanics of large language models so that they understand how they are trained and how they are designed to always flatter and be helpful.

ENCOURAGE REAL-WORLD CONNECTION

Ensure technology habits do not replace face-to-face peer socialisation, sports, hobbies, and family time. Create healthy boundaries at home (such as keeping phones and tablets out of bedrooms overnight) to prevent late-night, unmonitored attachment loops with conversational chatbots when young people are at their most vulnerable.

AUDIT PRIVACY SETTINGS & AGE LIMITS

Check which companion apps are installed on your child's phone or tablet. Many dedicated companion apps carry an App Store rating of 17+, while platforms like Character.ai set a minimum age of 13+ (or 16+ in the UK/EU). Review the privacy settings together; turn off data-sharing toggles, disable model training where possible, and ensure location permissions are blocked.

REINFORCE WHERE TO GET REAL HELP

Make sure young people know that a machine can never replace professional pastoral or mental health care. Remind them of the trusted adults they can turn to at school – such as their Form Tutor, Head of Year, or the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) – as well as dedicated youth support services like Childline (0800 1111) or Shout (text 85258).

Meet Our Expert

Darren Coxon is the Founder and Executive Director of Kompass Education, a consultancy specialising in supporting educators, students and parents in making wise choices with AI. His book *Ethical AI and Education*, co-authored with Clara Hawking, will be released later in 2026 by Taylor and Francis.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

[@wake_up_weds](#) [/www.thenationalcollege](#) [@wake.up.wednesday](#) [@wake.up.weds](#)

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