

Newsletter – September 2019

What a lovely start it has been to the new school year so far. The children have launched into the term and it has been really pleasing to see everyone engaging in every aspect of school life.

We welcome the new children in Rosen Class who have all settled in well, and it is really nice to see all of them helping Mrs. Berry settle in too. Welcome to Mrs. Berry as she joins our teaching staff this year in Rosen Class alongside Miss Lee.

Parent Welcome Meetings

Thank you to everyone who managed to come along to the parent welcome meetings at the start of term. We appreciate that not everyone is able to make the time due to work commitments but please remember that if you have any questions about anything to do with school, your child's class teacher will be happy to talk to you. Contact the school to make an appointment or speak to them on the playground at the end of the day.

Class Assemblies

We're all looking forward to seeing the Class Assemblies this term. These assemblies are an alternative way for the children to share their learning with you as well as the work showing sessions that we have.

You are invited to come along to your child's class assembly. The assemblies will also help the children develop self-confidence as well as hopefully being an enjoyable activity for the class to put together. The table below will remind you of the dates for each class. These assemblies begin at 2.45pm on the dates shown.

Rosen Class	Thursday 28 th November
Potter Class	Thursday 17 th October
Dahl Class	Thursday 21 st November
Morpurgo Class	Thursday 14 th November

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival celebration service in the church will be at 9.45am on Thursday 3rd October. We would like to invite you to come along and join us if you are able to.



We will also be very grateful for food contributions that the children can bring on the day and these will be added to the Church Harvest collection which will then be distributed to local people.

Uniform

A plea from every staff member!

Please can you make sure that all school uniform is clearly labelled. We can save so much time, (especially after a PE lesson), if we can quickly match clothing to the right child.

Can we also remind you that children need to have their PE kits in school every day.



With the beginning of the Autumn season, we are also getting more rain and yet we are still having children coming to school without their coats. Can we ask you to make sure they have coats too.

Many thanks



Mrs. Kay

Everyone at school is delighted for Mr. and Mrs. Kay with the news that they are expecting a baby in the new year. We wish them both all the best as they begin the preparations for their new arrival.



We are currently in the process of looking for a new member of staff who will replace Mrs. Kay during her maternity leave.

Dog Waste on Playground

As I reported on Facebook last week, we had another incident of dog waste on the school playground which meant that we had to stop the children using the play equipment at playtime whilst it was sorted out. Dog waste can be a serious health issue and whilst we were lucky this time that it wasn't brought into the school building, it is something that we are keen to prevent in and around school.

I will be writing to the Parish Council again to ask for their help in making the rest of the community aware of the issue and the impact that it can have on the school.

Eco Group



Our new Eco Group in school has started their work. They represent their classes at meetings to help direct the school in its attempts to improve, especially in the area of eco awareness. Their first job was to create a new Eco Code. Here is that new Eco Code.

1. Turn off the lights when your class leaves the classroom.

2. Turn off all electronic devices when they are not being used. This includes the interactive whiteboards.

3. Don't throw litter ANYWHERE around the school.

PUT IT IN THE CORRECT BIN.

4. Try not to use single use plastics in your lunchbox. Recycle your plastic.

5. Don't waste paper. Use both sides of scrap paper and throw away waste paper in the paper recycling bins. Make sure you recycle the paper towels too.

6. Avoid wasting water. Always turn off the taps when they are not being used. Use any waste water to water the plants.

7. Keep the doors and windows closed during the winter.

8. Don't waste food.

9. Try not to use plastic bags to bring things into school.

10. Look after our school and look after our planet.

We hope that you too may be able to help the school by following the Eco Code. Why not try some of these things at home too.

Clubs – new online booking

Thank you for your support with our new online booking system for the clubs this term. Mrs. Rundle has worked tirelessly with the ParentPay facility to ensure that we can do as much of the organisation for things like these as an online booking system. Not only does this save time but as the Eco Group would agree, it saves the planet too by saving lots of paper.

If you EVER have an issue with any of the features of this system, please contact Mrs. Rundle so that we can iron out any problems as they arise. No system is



perfect, but this won't stop Mrs. Rundle going for perfection!

Football Team

Well done to the Y5&6 football team who took part in a very wet football competition at Ivybridge Community College last week. The whole team played really well during their 4 matches and team spirit was definitely in abundance despite the weather!

Rights Respecting

Early this term you will have received a letter informing you that we are becoming a Unicef Rights Respecting School. We aim to be a school where children's rights are at the heart of our ethos and culture, to improve well-being and to develop every child's talents and abilities to their full potential. As part of this we are working towards recognition as a 'Rights Respecting School', an award given to schools on behalf of Unicef UK.



Our pupils will learn about their rights by putting them into practice every day. We will keep you up to date with all of the work we are doing in this although you can visit the 'Rights Respecting Blog' on the school website to see what we are working on in school.

Early Birds and After School Club

Thank you to everyone who has so far taken advantage of our new before and after school clubs. Following the consultation last year, we started these two clubs this September.

Please feel free to contact the school office if you would like to book any sessions. These can be regular

bookings or ad hoc sessions. Mrs. Rundle will be happy to help you should you need any assistance. Our aim is to make sure that this new venture is a success and this will only happen if it is supported regularly.

TT Rock Stars

Times Tables Rock Stars is a package that we use in school to support the rapid recall of times tables facts in a fun way. The package can be accessed through mobile devices and the children have their own login details. This is primarily a package used from children in KS2.



Since we started TT Rock Stars last year the children have continued to develop their skills, with many children climbing the ladder towards 'Rock Hero' status. To become a Rock Hero demands that you can answer questions in less than 1 second. Why not have a go and see how difficult that actually is!

Your support in encouraging your child to work hard to increase their own personal speed and accuracy will be greatly appreciated. If your child has lost their login details, please make sure you let us know.

Photos – 4th October



Our school photographer will be in school on Friday 4th October. This will be for family groups and individual photos.



Attendance

Thank you for your continued efforts with school attendance. As I have said on many occasions, good school attendance is vital, and we appreciate everyone's efforts with this. If you have any concerns regarding your child's attendance, please make sure you speak to their class teacher.



Children In Need 2019

This year, Children in Need Day will be on Friday 15th November. For now, save the date in your diary. We'll let you know more nearer the time.

#HelloYellow



Say **#HelloYellow** and support children and young people's mental health on World Mental Health Day.

Mental health is such an important issue that we need become a lot more aware of in the world today. In school, we like to think about mental health by helping children understand that it is something they need to be aware of and encouraging them to follow the simple steps to keep a healthy mind. These '10-a-day' tips are an ideal starting point.

For more information about the #HelloYellow campaign you can visit

<https://youngminds.org.uk>



In support of World Mental Health Day on Thursday 10th October, we would like to see as much Yellow on display around the school as possible. What yellow outfits could the children wear? What yellow accessories have they got? Does anyone even own a pair of yellow shoes?

We look forward to seeing how creative you can be in making it a #HelloYellow day. We will also be doing some additional activities to increase children's understanding the importance of having a healthy mind and different ways that they can all help themselves and each other.

Dates

October	
Thurs 3 rd Oct	Harvest Festival 9.45am
Friday 4 th Oct	School Photos
Thurs 17 th Oct	Potter Class Assembly 2.45pm
Thurs 10 th Oct	#HelloYellow Day
21st Oct – 1st Nov	
HALF TERM	
November	
Thurs 7 th Nov	Work Showing 3.30-4.30pm
Thurs 14 th Nov	Morpurgo Class Assembly 2.45pm
Fri 15 th Nov	Children In Need Day
Thurs 21 st Nov	Dahl Class Assembly 2.45pm
Thurs 28 th Nov	Rosen Class Assembly 2.45pm

Rights Respecting

UNICEF Article 12 (respect for the views of the child)

Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.