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Working together to be the best we can possibly be.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. [Philippians 4.13](#)

10th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Safeguarding:

Following the revised DFE document, Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023, Cambridgeshire Local Authority Safeguarding training is now including Online safety as an additional safeguarding area where potential abuse may occur.

Please check your child's devices and the settings on your own devices if your child uses them. Do the settings protect your child from accessing inappropriate content?

Advice on how to check here: [Internet connected devices | NSPCC](#)

Mental Health and Wellbeing:

At Parent's Evening this week, information was made available to families advising on how to contact school if you require support from our Pastoral Team.

Do please contact the office in the first instance. If you missed picking up our booklet, you will be able to find a copy our website under the Mental Health and Wellbeing tab.

Poppy Appeal 2023:

Thank you to all families and carers plus pupils at The Rackham for your generous donations to the Royal British Legion by purchasing poppies last week.

Our pupils were a total credit to themselves and our school this morning during our silence and respect paid to mark Remembrance at The Rackham.

Learning about Remembrance:

Some families may find the information on this website particularly interesting and pertinent to their own life experience.

[Teaching Remembrance | Learning Resources | Royal British Legion](#)

The Rudolph Run is coming to The Rackham!

The Rackham is booked to take part in the Rudolph Run on Monday 4th December. Arthur Bear has been booked too and our pupils will take part in an assembly led by the organisers on the day. More details to follow soon.

Anti-bullying Week and Children in Need:

The week beginning 13th November is Anti-bullying Week, with the theme 'Make a Noise about Bullying'. Each class will take part in a range of activities to support the children understand what bullying means, what can make children bully and, this year, we have a focus on asking for help and everyone playing a part in addressing bullying.

This week ends with the BBC charity campaign Children in Need on **Friday 17th November**. To tie the two things together, we would like to ask the children to come to school dressed as a musician or a member of a music band, to be ready to make lots of noise! If you would like to make a donation to the charity please do send your donation into school to be collected in buckets on the gate, or alternatively, follow this link:

[Donate to BBC Children in Need](#)

Reception Stay and Play:

On Friday 17th November we will be inviting the parents of Reception children to come into school for a drink and a chat about phonics and early reading in The Foundation Stage. This will take place from 8:30-9:00 in the school hall. Throughout the week of 20th November, one parent per Reception child will have the opportunity to book a morning session between 8:45 and 9:45 when they can join their child's class for their phonics session and then have some time to play together.

Reception parents and carers only please

Links to book here:

Rowan class

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/rowan-class-stay-and-play-tickets-740806751937?aff=oddtcreator>

Ash class:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ash-class-stay-and-play-tickets-740822649487?aff=oddtcreator>

PSHE Questionnaire for Parents:

As promised, here is the link to follow to complete a short questionnaire about PSHE, Relationships Education, Health Education and Sex Education. We value your views and opinions and would love as many of you as possible to complete the questionnaire to help us as we review our policies and develop our PSHE curriculum. The questionnaire can be completed anonymously, but equally, please do get in touch if you would like to discuss further any questions or thoughts you may have on this area of learning. With many thanks for your continued support.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Pd4-cbwFekeUPvAe4nFjFwjVquRdEtImMx9rrGJm5NUNDIGNkIWQIJMSTBRRkNNVTFUT05CNkZUTy4u>

Attendance:

Thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting our drive for improved attendance. The Government has identified a child's attendance of 96% and above is the key figure to give best chance of academic progress. Please can we remind you that absence must be reported to the office by 9am on each day.

This week our attendance figure as a school is: 96.67%

ATTEND TODAY ACHIEVE TOMORROW

EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT - DON'T MISS OUT



Collecting stamps for 1st Witchford Brownies:

The Brownies have been completing the Hedgehog Challenge badge this term and as part of it, they would like to ask for your help. The British Hedgehog Preservation Society raise money by collecting used stamps and the Brownies would like to ask you to bring in any used stamps you have between now and the end of January. Stamps can be placed in the collection box in the office. Thank you

Booking dinners:

Please can you ensure you book your child's lunch in advance. It makes things very tricky for the kitchen to prepare the right amount of food when bookings aren't made in advance.

WADs High School Musical Production:

Please see the attached poster for the WAD's High School Musical In production that several children from The Rackham are involved in. Tickets are going fast!

Seahorse swim school:

Please see the attached leaflet from Seahorse swim school who are now offering lessons in Little Thetford.

My Child's Art Christmas cards:

If your child completed a Christmas card, please don't forget that the 10% discount is only available until Wednesday 15th November. Orders can be placed on www.mychildart.co.uk/order Please contact the office if you need the username or access code.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Best wishes,

Miss Turner

Dates for your diary	
WC 13.11.2023	Anti-bullying week
15.11.2023	FWR Disco – Bookings to be made by Monday 13 th November
17.11.2023	Children in Need Reception Phonics Information Morning
WC 20.11.2023	Phonics Stay and Play Open Mornings for Reception children
11.12.2023	Flu vaccination day whole school
WC 11.12.2023	Christmas Treat for pupils thanks to our wonderful FWR.
13.12.2023	FWR Film Night
14.12.2023	Reception and KS1 Christmas dinner
15.12.2023	KS2 Christmas dinner FWR Family Quiz Night
19.12.2023	Last school day for children before the Christmas holidays commence
20.12.2023	Professional Development Day for staff
21.12.2023	Christmas holiday commences for staff
Christmas Holiday	
04.01.2024	Professional Development Day for staff
05.01.2024	Professional Development Day for staff
08.01.2024	Children return to school