##

## **Working together to be the best we can possibly be.**

#### **I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4.13**

15th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

With two weeks left until the end of this half term and Easter, we are seeing definite signs of Spring in our beautiful school grounds which are most welcome.

## **Safeguarding: Smart TV**

Does your child have a TV in their bedroom? Do you have a Smart TV in your home?

Smart TVs connect directly to the internet letting all users access a range of features through the TV set itself from on-demand content, apps to streaming services such as iPlayer and Netflix. as well as connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices.

It is important to consider the online safety aspects of Smart TVs. Please see the attached information leaflet for ways to ensure you child is protected from viewing inappropriate content through the TV.

**Safeguarding: WhatsApp ADDENDUM**

A reminder for parents and carers that from April 2024, the legal age for using WhatsApp is 13 years and older. At present the age rating is 16+. However, the 13+ age restriction relies on the user’s honesty in declaring their age and parents monitoring children’s phones.

**If your child is using WhatsApp, we urge you to monitor the messages they are sending and receiving.**

In group chats, people not in your contacts will be able to see all messages and send you messages. Anybody in the group, even if they’re not one of your phone contacts, will be able to see messages you post, and you will be able to see theirs. If you are added to a group with someone you have blocked, that person will still be able to contact you in the group chat.

You can't always control if you're added to a group chat; but users can always control their own participation within it – they can leave whenever they want to.

To do this, when on the group’s page, tap the three dots in the top right (or the name of the group at the top of the screen on an iPhone), then tap Group info, then EXIT GROUP in the red box at the bottom of the screen (or scroll down to Exit Group on an iPhone). [WhatsApp | Parent Zone | At the heart of digital family life](https://parentzone.org.uk/article/whatsapp)

**Wellbeing and Mental Health:**

The Mind website is an excellent resource: [Home - Mind](https://www.mind.org.uk/)

Here is one page that has helpful links: [Tips for everyday living with a mental health problem - Mind](https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-for-everyday-living/)

**Spare shoes in school:**

Your child may have mentioned we now have activities to use on the field at lunchtime. We will use these activities at all times, even in damp weather.

We would be grateful if families would identify spare footwear for their child that can be named and stored on the shoe racks on the field to save bringing mud into school. Suitable footwear would be wellingtons or trainers.

**Swimming lessons after the Easter holiday:**

We are aiming to start swimming lessons as part of our curriculum during the second week back after Easter. Further details to follow.

**FWR Lottery:**

Please find attached details of the new FWR Lottery and how to join in.

**FWR Doughnut Day:**

FWR’s popular doughnut day fundraiser is on Friday 22nd March – please see the letter that was sent home earlier this week.

**Year 3 Parent meal:**

We would like to invite Year 3 parents and carers to join us for school dinner on Thursday 18th April. The meal will be our extremely popular (and very delicious) roast dinner.

Parents and carers are asked to purchase their school dinner through MCAS under the Products and Trips tab. The meal will cost £3.60

**Meal choice and payment must be made by Friday 22nd March please.**

Please complete this form to book your meal once payment has been made on MCAS:

<https://forms.office.com/e/havEMQ3uKJ>

Unfortunately, we can only offer for one parent or carer to attend. This will be an annual event moving forwards so will be repeated next academic year.

Children in Year 3 who prefer to have a home packed lunch will still have opportunity for their parent or carer to join them. Adults can still order a school dinner or bring a packed lunch from home to sit to eat with their child.

Parents and carers of Year 3 children will arrive for school dinner at 12.20pm for a 12.30pm meal time.

**Collection of children after school:**

We would like to update the details we hold for who is authorised to collect your child from school. Please would you complete this form if your child is Year 4 or younger.

If your child is in Year 5/6 - please complete this form:

If you haven’t yet completed the appropriate form(s) please do so as soon as possible.

**MyHappyMind:**

MyHappyMind have just launched a new podcast series - “The truth about...” You can listen to the first episode here: <https://myhappymind.org/podcast/the-truth-about-prevention-in-mental-health/>

**FREE training for parents and carers: Supporting your Anxious child**

The Local Authority are once again offering three more start dates for one of their newest online course, "Supporting Your Anxious Child." This course is designed to assist parents, carers, and family members in understanding the causes of anxiety in children and providing effective support to help them navigate their challenges.

The course covers essential topics to equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to support your child through their anxious moments. Whether you're dealing with separation anxiety, social anxiety, or general worries, our course will provide valuable insights and practical strategies to help your child thrive.

If you would like to book a place you can either do so by applying online here: [Course Details | ontrack: Learner Hub (tribal-ebs.com)](https://ebsontrackprospect-ccc.tribal-ebs.com/Page/Prospectus_CourseOverview?uio_id=2037) or by emailing cambsals@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or calling 01353 613013.

**FWR Bingo:**

FWR are holding their Easter Family Bingo a week today, on Friday 22nd March. Doors open at 7.00pm. We hope to see you there!

**World Down Syndrome Day:**

Just a reminder that it’s World Down Syndrome Day on Thursday 21st March. We are looking forward to seeing lots of odd socks!

**Sutton Beast Colour Blast for 2024:**

After a successful and fun event last year, raising nearly £1,000 for the Breast Cancer Now charity, preparations are underway for the Sutton Beast Colour Blast 2024.

Please see the attached flier which offers everyone at The Rackham 15% off entry for this year's event. All the details are on the flier and website, just use the code XXXX at checkout.

**Education Inclusion Family Advisor Newsletter:**

Please follow the link for the monthly newsletter from Emily Norman our EIFA: [Community Notice Board | The Rackham C of E (VC) Primary School (rackhamprimaryschool.com)](https://rackhamprimaryschool.com/community/notice-board)

**St Andrew’s Flower Festival:**

Our beautiful village church will host its Flower Festival on 4th, 5th and 6th May 2024. The Rackham will be preparing a display for the festival.

This year the theme is inspired by The Wind in the Willows written by Kenneth Grahame.

**SATs information evening for parent and carers of pupils in Year 6:**

The information evening will take place online on Tuesday 19th March. The email to book has now gone home to Year 6 parents. If you did not receive your invitation, please contact the school office directly.

**Phonics Screening information evening for parents and carers of pupils in Year 1:**

The information evening will take place online on Tuesday 26th March. More details to follow.

[**The Cambridge Club:**](https://thecambridgeclub-dot-yamm-track.appspot.com/2oTmej8p2LxeUoZJc4qV6kjxU1LRiqrTpkdMG1kx6L-CWZFAzjgHX_NFcvf5f6isaMXGANengNNDwUmoTjfHPo8ZmgNaMOpBxG-IOegxW0LCSfljD_dYCJVuN1PAZX7n-u-IB7oTM7ALATz7mAy3Vd7Bs1A8WWWTyJ1eXyPl4BtkvJrVpfrhTgJA535FA255-cl0mm7tOKPc) **Discounted Tickets**

The Cambridge Club is offering teachers & parents **20% off general adult tickets** (either 3-day weekend or 1-day) – plus 20% off their children's tickets too (under 5s go free).

The Cambridge Club Festival plays host to a whole range of big names including **Chaka Khan, Jessie Ware, Earth Wind & Fire Experience** & many more across 3 days of music (7-9th June). [Full line up is here](https://thecambridgeclub-dot-yamm-track.appspot.com/29FdyuCypDCNr12hlFmsowVVMiW0j5lY7Q0BNeBJz4IyZZFAzjgFyFpYL7COXXHr2cvwARk-vTdQ4QJa8PmQkBiKAer0Nyn8Hm6GcNZDU4lpnR7tYN8r-PonFc9yYs6fKf9rpsbMlEFIrRZ6t9N8XDb9OwmfUzg3Qwa6iOaTuwo5BB3JbQHPdtxLpzSYYmqXB66SdnvqbwA5JNHHdYi_xP8fB),

**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: 94.06%



Looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

Best wishes,

Miss Turner

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| **Dates for your diary** |
| 19.03.2024 | Year 6 SATs information evening (online) 6pm.  |
| 21.03.2024 | World Down Syndrome Day  |
| 22.03.2024 | Height and weight check - Reception and Year 6 onlyFWR Doughnut DayFWR Family Bingo – Doors open 7pm |
| 25.03.2024 | Rocksteady concert |
| 26.03.2024 | Year 1 Phonics Screening Check information evening (online) 6pm. |
| 27.03.2024 | FWR Disco |
| 28.03.2024 | Last day of school for pupils and staff |
| 29.03.2024 | Good FridayStart of Easter holiday |
| 15.04.2024 | First day of summer termPupils return to school |
| 18.04.2024 | Year 3 Parent meal |