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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

26th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are almost at the end of January and the mornings are noticeably lighter.

Safeguarding: Are your child's devices safe to use?

Last week we shared information by Vodafone about setting up phones safely. This week I wished to share that EE have the same type of advice found here: [EE Learn | Education for all, bringing learning to life | EE](#)

Safeguarding: A reminder:

At The Rackham, pupils keep their mobile phones at home.

Safeguarding: Parent View:

We would be pleased to have your views on safeguarding at The Rackham.

Please follow this link to complete:

Thank you for your help.

Wellbeing:

At [Feelings and behaviour - Support for Parents from Action For Children](#) parents and carers can find some advice on how to protect their own mental health.

Gender Questioning Children:

You would have seen from my previous updates that the government's draft guidance on [Gender Questioning Children](#) was published on 19th December. The consultation period to open until 12th March 2024. The aim of this document is to provide guidance and practical support for schools and colleges, including:

- supporting children who are questioning their gender
- protecting children from bullying or abuse
- maintaining child safety and wellbeing

If you would like to complete it, the consultation document can be accessed [here](#).

Reading volunteers:

Do you have time to volunteer to hear our pupils read? Please contact the office if you would like to find out more. Thank you.

Book chat:

Please see the second week of information about reading from Mrs Deery.

New school menu:

After consultation with our pupils, please find attached our new school menu. Members of the School Council have spoken with each class to identify our pupils' preferences. We think our pupils have done a super job identifying healthy and popular meals. Well done everyone!

Pre-loved school uniform:

FWR have regular sales of school uniform however if you cannot wait for the sale, please contact the school office.

Meals for a fiver: Would you be interested in sharing recipes?

During the cost-of-living crisis, would you be interested in a recipe share of reasonably priced and healthy meal ideas? We think this sounds a good idea and are keen to know your thoughts.

RSPB: Garden Birdwatch:

Enjoy watching our beautiful, feathered friends for an hour this weekend to help the RSPB with their Big Garden Birdwatch. Link here: [Big Garden Birdwatch \(rspb.org.uk\)](https://www.rspb.org.uk)

Year 4 - Join your child for a school dinner:

Each year group will have their turn to invite one parent or carer over the course of this academic year to join them for a school dinner. Year 4 parents and carers will be invited to join us for school dinner on Thursday 15th February. The meal will be our extremely popular (and very delicious) roast dinner.

Parents and carers are asked to purchase their school dinner at the same cost as a child's school dinner, £2.40 through MCAS under the Products and Trips tab.

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

Meal choice and payment must be made by Thursday 8th February please .

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 4 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 4 children will arrive for school dinner at 12.20pm for a 12.30pm meal time.

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: 92.63%

Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Best wishes,

Miss Turner

Dates for your diary	
31.01.2024	Babylon Art exhibition with some submissions from The Rackham
05.02.2024 - 07.02.2024	Burwell House residential Year 4
15.02.2024	Bring your parent or carer to school for school dinner Year 4
19.02.2024 - 23.02.2024	Half Term holiday
01.03.2024	Year 4/5/6 Girls Play Football event
04.03.2024	Parent's Evening days and times tbc
22.03.2024	Height and weight Reception and Year 6 only Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 Netball Tournament morning
25.03.2024	Rocksteady concert time tbc
28.03.2024	Last day of school for pupils and staff
29.03.2024	Good Friday Start of Easter holiday
15.04.2024	First day of summer term Pupils return to school