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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*

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a great week in school, our children are enjoying their learning and rising to the challenge of new topics.

### **Safeguarding:**

The NSPCC helpline can listen to any worries you have about looking after your child, or any tough decisions you're facing. Reading the attached guide may have also made you think about other children. Contact the NSPCC if you're worried about any aspect of their safety, and they can help.

Call 0808 800 5000

Email [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

Or talk online at [nspcc.org.uk/help](https://nspcc.org.uk/help)

### **Contacting staff:**

If you need to contact your child's class teacher, please ensure you use official routes via class email or the school office. Parents and carers may know members of The Rackham staff outside of school however any school matters must be raised through official channels. If you are unsure of how to contact your child's class teacher, please speak with the office for advice.

### **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.

This week our attendance figure as a school is: 96.02%

### **MCAS dinner menu:**

The issue with dates on the dinner menu has now been resolved and MCAS should be working correctly. We apologise for any inconvenience.

### **Work Hard, Dream Big:**

Would you be willing to speak to our pupils about your current job, the steps you took and associated work ethic you drew on to attain it?

Please contact the office in the first instance to express your interest: [office@rackham.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@rackham.cambs.sch.uk)

### **Year 5/6 Sewing Club:**

We are delighted that Mrs Paddington has offered to run a sewing club on a Thursday after school for Year 5/6. This will begin after half term and is available to book on MCAs now.

### **Jewellery and nail varnish**

Please be aware, that for safety in school, only one pair of stud earrings is allowed. No other jewellery or dangly earrings. Also please, no nail varnish.

### **FREE National Trust pass:**

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/escape-into-autumn>

### **Wetland's Trust What's on:**

<https://www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/welney/whats-on/drawn-to-water-autumn-9/>

### **Self-regulation in our children:**

There are many things that children can do at school to overcome negative emotions so that they can feel happier and more focused. WholeHearted School Counselling has created this infographic that includes 50 self-regulation tools that children can use at school.

<https://x.com/nuturetweets/status/1703117803354558946?s=48&t=8G9sgCsri66qX4ppzter7g>

### **My Happy Mind:**

Our children are utilising the My Happy Mind resources during one lesson a week.

Accounts for our parents and carers are free. Our children would benefit hugely from accessing the materials when at home as well as in school.

Log in link here: <https://myhappymind.org/parent-resources> and enter your name, email, and authentication code (110807).

### **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 5 parents and carers will be invited to join us for school dinner on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October. 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: **Booking and payment must be made by 12<sup>th</sup> October.**

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 5 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 5 children will arrive for school dinner at 12.20pm for a 12.30pm meal time.

**Emily Norman is our Education Inclusion Family Advisor:**

Emily's role is to offer advice and support for parents and carers on issues that may be affecting their child. These might be things like establishing routines, sibling rivalry, challenging behaviour, worries, sleep issues or aggression.

Parents and carers can contact Emily directly on [earlyintervention@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:earlyintervention@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

Looking forward to seeing you on Monday.

Best wishes,



Miss Turner  
Headteacher

<b>Dates for your diary</b>	
26.09.2023	Open Evening Ely College 5:30pm – 7:30pm tickets can be booked here: <a href="https://ElyCollege2023.eventbrite.co.uk">https://ElyCollege2023.eventbrite.co.uk</a>
26.09.2023	FWR AGM in the school hall 7.45pm start
28.09.2023	Open Evening for Year 6 Soham Village College 6 - 8pm
WE 13.10.2023	Clubs finish
16 – 20.10.2023	Ravenstor residential Year 6
19.10.2023	Year 5 'Invite your parent or carer for school dinner'
20.10.2023	Last school day of half term
Half term	
30.10.2023	Children return to school
WC 06.11.2023	Parent's Evening this week dates TBC
11.12.2023	Flu vaccination day whole school
14.12.2023	Reception and KS1 Christmas lunch
15.12.2023	KS2 Christmas lunch
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