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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*

8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have welcomed representatives from Arthur Rank Hospice to our school and pupils have completed the Rudolph Run. Christmas has also arrived, thanks to our wonderful FWR who have decorated a beautiful tree for us all to share in the school hall.

### **Safeguarding: Need-to-know: how to set boundaries and build positive relationships**

Balancing the various demands parents have to cope with isn't easy and all parents can come under pressure or stress from time to time.

This guide shares practical advice and tips for positive parenting techniques that work well for children - from babies to teenagers. These techniques encourage better behaviour and help parents find out what works for them and their child.

The guide is also a valuable resource for services and professionals offering parenting advice to new parents and those caring for young children or teenagers.

Please find attached some additional information about this.

### **Safeguarding: New devices for Christmas and how to ensure they are secure:**

**With the Christmas festivities** just around the corner, children are looking forward to receiving gifts. For many, this may be devices that allow you to go online. Even with the best intentions, many parents have a false sense of how to keep their child secure, or think their child is more secure than they actually are. Please find attached a reminder of the key Safety Net messages on keeping children safe online this Christmas.

### **Mental Health: How to get urgent support for children and young people:**

Life can be really difficult, and you might sometimes feel completely overwhelmed. This kind of crisis situation can be triggered by many things, including bereavement, stress and social isolation, and may require an immediate response.

If you feel extremely distressed and worried that you might not be able to keep yourself safe, there is lots of urgent support available, including 24/7 NHS mental health helplines. If you're in immediate danger and it's a medical emergency, call 999 straight away.

Link here: [Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Children & Young People Mental Health Support - "Need Help Now" \(keep-your-head.com\)](https://www.keep-your-head.com)

**Pupil place for Reception at The Rackham in September 2024: deadline 15<sup>th</sup> January**

If you have not already submitted an application for your child for entry into The Rackham C of E Primary School for September 2024, please note that applications must be completed and returned to the Admissions Team by the closing date of 15 January 2024.

Please see the attached letter for further information.

**Rudolph Run update:**

We are so incredibly proud of each and every pupil in our school for the fantastic effort they demonstrated during the Rudolph Run.

Before each run began, the children were asked 'Are you ready to raise some money?!' and the enormous shouts of 'YES!' said it all - what a fabulous team spirit demonstrated for such an important local cause.

A huge thank you must also go to each and every parent, carer, grandparent, aunt, uncle and family member. We have raised over £3,500 and it wouldn't have been possible without you!

**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: 92.9%

**ATTEND TODAY  
ACHIEVE TOMORROW**

EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT - DON'T MISS OUT



**Christmas jumpers:**

Children are invited to wear their Christmas jumper with their usual school uniform, on the day of their Christmas meal.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Best wishes,

Miss Turner

<b>Dates for your diary</b>	
11.12.2023	Flu vaccination day whole school Key Stage One Christmas 9.30am performance Reception Christmas 2pm performance
WC 11.12.2023	Christmas Treat for pupils thanks to our wonderful FWR.
12.12.2023	Reception Christmas 9.30am performance Key Stage One 2pm performance
13.12.2023	FWR Film Night
14.12.2023	Reception and KS1 Christmas dinner Year 3/4 9.30am performance Year 5/6 2pm performance
15.12.2023	KS2 Christmas dinner FWR Family Quiz Night tbc
16.12.2023	Christingle at St Andrew's Church, Witchford 4pm
18.12.2023	Year 5/6 - 9.30am performance Year 3/4 - 2pm performance
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
<b>Christmas Holiday</b>	
04.01.2024	Professional Development Day for staff
05.01.2024	Professional Development Day for staff
08.01.2024	Children return to school