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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*

19<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This afternoon we bring to a close our time together as a school for 2023.

Thank you to all our parents, friends, families, carers, the Church, volunteers, Governors, FWR and all staff who work inside The Rackham supporting and educating our incredible pupils.

### **Safeguarding: How to set up your child's devices safely**

While your child might be super excited to explore their first devices, you might be a bit worried about their safety. Correct set up can help to keep your child and their device safe.

The BBC have worked with **Internet Matters** to come up with a few pointers to help you with parental controls; location services; in app purchases. Link here: [Setting up devices for kids: Parental controls, avoiding in-app purchases and online safety - Own It - BBC](#)

Internet Matters have a helpful checklist for safely setting up our child's tech as well as further advice on parental controls on smartphones and other devices.

### **Wellbeing and mental health: Young Minds**

Young Minds is a mental health platform specifically designed for young people and their parents. Link here: [YoungMinds | Mental Health Charity For Children And Young People | YoungMinds](#)

### **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 Reception class at 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.

### **Welcome to Mrs Wilding:**

Miss Tod is preparing to start her Masters degree in Education and so will be moving to part time in January 2024. We are delighted to welcome Mrs Wilding to The Rackham to work alongside Miss Tod with shared responsibility for Larch class from the first day back for our pupils on 8th January 2024.

### **The Salvation Army: Amount raised from cash collection at the end of performances**

Thank you to all our parents, carers and families. This year we collected £305.50 for The Salvation Army to support those who find themselves homeless at Christmas.

**The Rackham school hats:**

School hats are now available to purchase from Sigma. The hats come in four different styles at varying price points: peaked cap; bucket sun hat; winter hat with a bobble; winter hat without a bobble. Please see the pictures below. These are not part of the uniform policy but if you wish to order, please order them through Sigma’s website: [https://www.sigmaembroidery.co.uk/clubs-groups-shop?filter\\_catid=172](https://www.sigmaembroidery.co.uk/clubs-groups-shop?filter_catid=172)



**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: 91.4%

**ATTEND TODAY  
ACHIEVE TOMORROW**

EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT - DON'T MISS OUT



Wishing all our families and friends the joy and peace of Christmas.

Looking forward to seeing you all in 2024.

Best wishes,

Miss Turner

<b>Dates for your diary</b>	
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