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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

19th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We were delighted to welcome back our pupils this week and so very proud of how they have returned to their studies so diligently.

Safeguarding: Keeping your child safe online:

As parents and carers, we should show curiosity about our children's online activity as part of our monitoring to ensure they are safe, in addition to checking all devices they access.

Talking with our children regularly provides a way to monitor their activity to see what conversations are taking place online.

Be curious about your child's world.

Be curious about who is in your child's online world, in the same way you are curious about who they spend time with offline.

Here are some suggestions of how to start that conversation:

- Ask your child about who they are chatting to.
- Who do they feel good after talking to?
- Who leaves them feeling down?
- How do they decide who to talk to and what would they do if they don't want to talk to someone?
- Are they having any problems with friends online that they'd like some advice on.

Wellbeing and Mental Health: Helpful strategies:

As parents and carers, it is helpful to foster resilience in our children by encouraging them to think of their mental health and wellbeing as something that is continually changing, like physical health. Some days we might feel better or worse than others but there are things we can do to improve our overall mental and emotional wellbeing.

Talk to your children about strategies they can use to take care of themselves.

Have you logged into your free My Happy Mind account? All our pupils use My Happy Mind to learn strategies to use to take care of themselves.

Log in link here: [\[Link\]](#) and enter your name, email, and authentication code (110807).

If you log in but do not receive an email with your log in details, then request a password reset and to enable you to log in. If you need any help, please contact school.

Swimming lessons start next week:

We are hugely looking forward to our swimming lessons which will take place every week in our school pool starting next week.

For these sessions, the children will need to wear a one piece swimming costume or swimming trunks. UV swimming t-shirts are allowed. Please do not send your child with a bikini or long (knee-length) baggy swimming shorts as these are not appropriate or practical for learning how to swim.

In line with the Cambridgeshire swimming policy, the children will not wear goggles for their sessions as our focus is on developing water confidence and safety.

Please can we remind you earrings must be removed for swimming. Children with pierced ears must be able to remove earrings themselves.

Please don't forget to also send your child with a named towel. All other swimming aids will be provided by school.

In order to minimise costs for parents and carers, we have purchased some swimming hats which are available to purchase through MCAS at a reduced cost of £1.50.

Please find your child's class swimming day below:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sycamore Elm Hazel	Chestnut Silver Birch	Ash Rowan	Larch Beech	Cedar Oak Willow

Year 2 Parent Meal:

We would like to invite Year 2 parents and carers to join us for school dinner on Thursday 2nd May. 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 26th March please.

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

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 2 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 2 children will arrive for school dinner at 12.20pm for a 12.30pm meal time.

Clubs:

Please see below for details of the clubs running this half term. Clubs that have availability will go live for booking at 6pm today. Clubs begin next week and finish on 24th May.

Day	Lunchtime Club	Afterschool club
Monday	Running – Year 5/6	Art – Year 3/4/5/6 *
Tuesday		Gardening – Year 5/6
Wednesday		
Thursday	Geography Ambassadors – Invitation Only Running – Year 5/6	Choir – Year 3/4/5/6 Netball – Year 3/4 *
Friday	Football – Year 5/6	Football – Year 1/2 - Please see below

*** Art and Netball clubs**

Mrs Hyde and Miss Oliver have offered to assist with Art and Netball to enable us to extend the number of children able to attend. Please check your MCAS account to see if your child has a place. We haven't been able to accommodate all children on the waiting lists at this time.

Football – Year 1/2

Please note this is a new club and is not continuing from last term. Mr Sims has kindly agreed to run the club for this half term to allow the children from the waiting list to have their turn.

If your child no longer wishes to attend a club they are booked into, please let us know so we can offer the place to another pupil if required.

Piano lessons:

Please see the attached information regarding piano lessons. If you would like more information please contact Mr Wheatley directly via his email: lwheatley@rackham.cambs.sch.uk

Funday Sunday:

Preparations are well underway for Funday Sunday on Sunday 30th June. If you have any contacts who may be able to make a donation towards The Grand Prize draw, please email fwr@rackham.cambs.sch.uk Thank you in advance for your support.

Mountain Warehouse – Ely:

Please see the attached poster from Mountain Warehouse in Ely who are offering families from The Rackham a discount of 20% on Friday 26th, Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th April.

Witchford Scarecrow hunt:

Please see the attached poster for this year's Scarecrow hunt.

Family Service at St Andrew’s Church:

Please see the attached information about a Family Service at St Andrew’s Church on Sunday 21st April at 10am.

Education Inclusion Family Advisor:

Please see the attached flier from Emily Norman our Family Advisor with some courses that may be of interest.

St Andrew’s Church: Can you help?

St Andrew’s Church is seeking volunteers to help with a variety of Committee roles. Do you have some spare time to offer to help?

If so, please contact Rosemary Westwell by email for further details: rjwestwell@hotmail.com

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: 94.8%

**ATTEND TODAY
ACHIEVE TOMORROW**

EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT - DON'T MISS OUT



Looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

Best wishes,

Miss Turner
Headteacher

Dates for your diary	
26 – 28.04.2024	Mountain Warehouse Ely – discount weekend
02.05.2024	Year 2 Parent meal
01.06.2024	Year 4 Bikeability
06.05.2024	May Day Bank Holiday
13.05.2024	SATs week Year 6
23.05.2024	Year 1 Parent meal
27 – 31.05.2024	Half term holiday
W/C 03.06.2024	Year 6 Bikeability
13.06.2024	Class photos
30.06.2024	Funday Sunday