

## Working together to be the best we can possibly be.

*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4.13*

18<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all our pupils for a great week in school where very many pro-social green behaviours have been demonstrated, seen and logged on Trackit Lights.

### Safeguarding:

Screen addiction is a very real challenge. You may have heard the phrase ‘doom scrolling’ this week on the news. This is where children (and adults) who spend hours each day on smartphones become at risk of widespread harm. This poster identifies reasons why children and adults should be aware of the negative implications of spending too much time on devices. If you need any help supporting your child with screen addiction, please contact the office in the first instance.



### Wellbeing and Mental Health:



We have just come to the end of the first module - ‘Meet Your Brain’ in the myHappyMind programme.

We have learnt:

- The different parts of our brain and how they help us.
- How to use Happy Breathing to help us when we feel sad, stressed or worried.
- What happens in our brain when we learn something new and how we can look after our brain.

**Why not ask your children to tell you what they have learnt? Here are some questions to help you:**

Who is Team H-A-P?  
Can you tell me about the Team in your brain?

Can you tell me what Neuroplasticity means?  
When has your brain grown?

Why does Happy Breathing help you and when could you use it?

myHappyMind for Parents  
Exclusively for parents with children at a myHappyMind School or Nursery.

Educate yourself  
Learn all about what your children are learning in school

SCAN ME

Download the My Happy Mind parent app. **Our number is: 110807.** Please contact the office in the first instance if you require any further information.

**Promoting Pro-Social Behaviour Policy and Suspension and Exclusion Policy:**

As part of our ongoing review of school policies, we are pleased to share with parents and carers our Promoting Pro-Social Behaviour Policy also Suspensions and Exclusions Policy: [Policy Library | The Rackham C of E \(VC\) Primary School \(rackhamprimaryschool.com\)](https://www.rackhamprimaryschool.com/policy-library)

These policies clearly set out how we uphold a therapeutic approach to behaviour management as adopted by Cambridgeshire County Council and Cambridgeshire Therapeutic Thinking (CTT).

The Promoting Pro-Social Behaviour Policy outlines how we proactively educate our pupils at The Rackham C of E Primary School on how to recognise and regulate their emotions along with upholding our school’s vision and values to enable everyone to work together to be the best they can possibly be. This academic year we have introduced a new platform specifically to monitor behaviour, your child may have mentioned it to you, it is called Trackit Lights.

All members of staff have a log in for Trackit Lights and so can recognise pro-social behaviours with a green Trackit Light. The list of green pro-social behaviours has been shared with all pupils and adults. We would like to invite all parents to download and log into the Trackit Light app to share your child’s pro-social behaviours in our school. [Trackit Lights Parent App on the App Store \(apple.com\)](https://www.apple.com/trackitlights/) or [Trackit Lights ParentApp\(Beta\) - Apps on Google Play](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.trackitlights)



The Trackit Light platform also logs where pupils are demonstrating anti-social behaviours and gives opportunity for pupils to receive two warnings enabling pupils to reflect on their decision making, utilise their learnt self-regulation techniques and return to pro-social behaviours once more.

Where a pupil, despite two warnings, continues with an anti-social behaviour, a red Trackit Light is given. Red Trackit Lights are also given for an identified list of anti-social behaviours requiring no warning. This list can be found in the policy.

As a school, we have identified a system for parent and carer communication where a red Trackit Light has been given. Red Trackit Lights are not visible on the app as anti-social behaviours must be followed up with parents by The Rackham C of E Primary School Senior Leadership Team.

This process is explained in the flow diagram below:



### **Curriculum and assessment review launched**

On Wednesday 25th September, the DfE launched its curriculum and assessment review: [What is the national curriculum and why is it being reviewed?](#) The review is being chaired by Professor Becky Francis CBE and will be open for 8 weeks.

The review is seeking evidence from young people and parents, teachers and lecturers, leaders, experts and employers on how the curriculum and assessment system can ensure all young people are prepared for life and work including, for example, an excellent foundation in core subjects of reading, writing and maths; a curriculum that reflects the issues and diversities of our society, ensuring all children and young people are represented. Please respond to the call for evidence by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November: [Improving the curriculum and assessment system](#). The review panel will also host a series of regional roadshows and we'll share more information on these as it becomes available.

### **Year 5 Parent meal:**

We will contact the parents of children in year 5 next week to confirm the new date for their parent meal.

**Anti-bullying Week and Children in Need:**

The week beginning the 11<sup>th</sup> November is Anti-bullying Week. The theme this year is, 'Choose Respect'. Our teachers are busy planning activities to empower children to not resort to bullying when we disagree and to always value others. Children seeing adults showing respectful behaviour is the best way for them to learn these skills.

This week will end with Children in Need day, so we thought we would tie the two together. We would like to invite all children to dress up as something beginning with 'R' on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November. 'R' stands for respect and will help us all to keep respect at the forefront of our minds. If your child would prefer to wear non-uniform this is also o.k.

We will have buckets on the gate to collect your coin donations as the children arrive to school in the morning.

Here are a few ideas to get you thinking about some great 'R' outfits:

Robber	Robin Hood	Rock Star	Rapper
Red Riding Hood	Rabbit	Referee	Robot

**Football Academy:**

We are delighted to let you know that we have the opportunity to set up an after-school football academy led by an external football coach. The cost would be around £5.00 per week (paid half termly). If your child would be interested in joining, please complete this form by Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October so we can see if it is viable to start this after half term: <https://forms.office.com/e/JFS4BeJua2>

**After-school Clubs:**

As a school we are looking into ways that we can extend our after-school clubs and talking to external providers who would be able to offer different activities. These would be paid for on a half termly/termly basis. We would be grateful if you could complete this form so we can gauge the amount of interest there is in paid for activities: <https://forms.office.com/e/SjB4jZK5E6>

**Uniform orders:**

Uniform items for school and pre-school pupils are now available from Sigma. [Clubs & Groups - Sigma Embroidery & Printing](#)

Orders must be placed by parents and carers and can be collected from Sigma Embroidery on Sedgeway.

**FWR Film Night:**

We would like to remind you that if you wish for your child to attend Film Night on Wednesday next week, payment must be made on MCAS by 9am on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

**Half term events at Ely Museum:**

There's a chill in the air and the days are getting darker. Come along to Ely Museum for some spooktacular fun and creepy crafts this October half-term. Join us for Twilight at the Museum, a special late opening on Tuesday 29 October 2024, 5pm – 7.30pm for families to explore the museum galleries after dark. There will be spooky stories from renowned storyteller, Marion Leeper, crafts to create and you can follow the cryptic clues of our Twilight trail. Just don't forget to bring your torch! On Halloween itself you can drop in for Creepy Crafts between 10.30am and 1pm. Learn how to make a ghoulish ghost or pumpkin to decorate your own spooky display at home.

**Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal:**

We will have poppies and other related merchandise available after half term (cash only please) at both the pre-school and primary school. Children will be able to purchase items from Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

### **FWR Lottery:**

Your School Lottery is an exciting weekly lottery that raises money for schools in the UK. All schools supported by the lottery will benefit the UK and its residents.

Play the lottery, support your school – it's that simple!

Tickets for the lottery cost just £1 per week, with a top prize of £25,000!

Each ticket will consist of 6 numbers and each number will be between 0 and 9. There will be a draw every Saturday night when a 6 digit winning combination will be picked. Match all 6 and you win the JACKPOT!

There is also a guaranteed winner for each school every Saturday which is drawn on a raffle basis, so there are two chances to win a prize.

For more information and details of how to sign up, please use the QR code below:



### **FWR Christmas jumper swap:**

Children will be able to wear a Christmas jumper if they wish on their Christmas Dinner day this year. FWR have kindly offered to organise a jumper swap where parents will be able to purchase a jumper for a suggested donation of £2.00. If you have any Christmas jumpers you would like to donate, please drop them into the office between now and 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

The jumper swap will take place on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 3.15pm

### **Happy Birthday to us!**

The Rackham C of E Primary School was founded in 1844, we are 180 years old this year.



**To mark this phenomenal birthday, we would like all pupils and adults working at school (and parents too if they wish) to dress in Victorian style clothes for the last day of this half term, Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024.** Do you have any memories of The Rackham? We would love to share them. Please jot down your memories and hand in at the school office or email [office@rackham.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@rackham.cambs.sch.uk)

Thank you.

### **Attendance:**

The Rackham has an updated policy on Attendance. Please follow this [link](#) to read the policy on the school website.

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 of absence.

This week's attendance: 96.3%

Looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

Best wishes,

Miss Turner

**Dates for your diary:**

21 <sup>st</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Year 1 parents - classroom phonics session 8.30 - 9.15am (booking required)
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	FWR Film Night (booking required by 9am Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October)
25 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 1 Phonics parent meeting 8.30am (booking required)
25 <sup>th</sup> October	Dress in Victorian style clothes
	HALF TERM
4 <sup>th</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Reception parents – Phonics stay and play sessions 8.30am (booking required)
8 <sup>th</sup> November	Reception parents – Phonics meeting 8.30am (booking required)
11 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent's Evening Week
	Anti-Bullying Week
15 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need
20 <sup>th</sup> November	Y4 Burwell information evening
20 <sup>th</sup> November	Vision screening for Reception children
27 <sup>th</sup> November	FWR Christmas jumper swap - 3.15pm
28 <sup>th</sup> November	Y4 Parent or carer school dinner invitation
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Christmas performances this week
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner – Reception and KS1
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner – KS2
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term