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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*

27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

The momentum of the term is up and running. We are extremely proud of all our pupils from pre-school to Year 6 and the positive way they are engaging at The Rackham.

### Safeguarding:



When considering online safety and understanding the challenges for our children being on social media platforms or chat functions, this video explains the risk very clearly: [TALK Checklist pby Internet Watch Foundation | Home \(iwf.org.uk\)](https://www.iwf.org.uk)

### Wellbeing and Mental Health:



What are your thoughts on the impact of smart phones and social media? You may remember I mentioned in our Meet the Teachers information morning about a

pressure group that is made up of parents called 'Smartphone Free Childhood'.

If you are interested in finding out more, link here: [Smartphone Free Childhood](https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org)

### Harvest Festival:

This year our Harvest Festival will be on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October.

We will be collecting donations of tins and dried foods such as rice and pasta to pass to Ely Food Bank.



Thank you in anticipation of your support.

### FWR Doughnut Day fundraiser:

A letter regarding FWR Doughnut Day is attached. Please ensure your child has £1 on the day if you would like them to have a doughnut. Doughnuts will also be on sale after school.

**New intake Open Evening Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2025:**

Are you or someone you know, looking for a school place in September 2025? Please come along to our Open Evening on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024.



**2024/25 Reception Intake**

# **Open Evening**

**The Rackham C of E Primary School**  
**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024**  
**7.00pm**

**Is your child due to start school in September 2024? Parent meeting plus a tour of our beautiful school.**

Working together to be the best we can possibly be.

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



**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 will then be delivered to school and given to the children to bring home.

**The Rackham C of E Pre-School contact details:**



If parents or carers wish to contact the pre-school, please use The Rackham Primary School phone number 01353 662436 to speak to the office who will take your message. Alternatively, please email either the school office: [office@rackham.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@rackham.cambs.sch.uk) or [pre-school@rackham.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:pre-school@rackham.cambs.sch.uk)

**Reception and KS1 lunch on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October:**

We will be offering all children in Reception and Key stage 1 the chance to have a school meal on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. If you would still prefer to send in a packed lunch, please do so. If you think your child would prefer to try a school packed lunch instead of the main meal, please select this option on MCAS.

## 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.

## Review of the curriculum: consultation document: Curriculum and Assessment Review

Spanning from Key Stage 1 through to Key Stage 5, the [Curriculum and Assessment Review](#) will look closely at the key challenges to attainment for young people, and the barriers which hold children back from the opportunities and life chances they deserve – in particular those who are socioeconomically disadvantaged, or with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND).

The review is seeking the views of young people, parents, teachers and leaders, education experts and employers on the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and how it can be improved.

## School photos:

School photos are now available to order via the slip that your child should have brought home. If you don't have a copy, please email the school office who will be able to provide it for you. Photos must be ordered by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October for free delivery to school. You can still order after this date but will need to pay for home delivery.

## FWR School Lottery:

Please see below for details of FWR's lottery which guarantees a local prize each week



**YOUR SCHOOL LOTTERY**

**FWR**  
FUNDRAISING WITH RESULTS

**WE'VE LAUNCHED A LOTTERY**

Buy your tickets now to help our fundraising

- Tickets cost just £1
- All profits go to our school
- Local cash prize every week
- Chance to win the £25,000 jackpot!

To start supporting, visit:  
**[yourschoollottery.co.uk](https://yourschoollottery.co.uk)**  
and search for: Rackham

GambleAware 18+

### **Staff presence on the playground before and after school**

We are currently trialling having a greater number of members of staff on the playground to aid with getting messages into school, both before and after school. Having more staff out enables us to be outside the gates too, helping with the ongoing parking issues.

Apologies for the gate being shut this morning at drop off, we had a blocked drain and the drain clearing company had said they would be here at 8-8.30am, so we needed to keep the area clear. When we realised they were running late we opened up the gate.

### **FWR AGM 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 7pm**



### **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: 96.45%

# ATTEND TODAY ACHIEVE TOMORROW

EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT - DON'T MISS OUT



Looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

Best wishes,

Miss Turner

## Dates for your diary – please note more dates may be added

2 <sup>nd</sup> October	New intake evening for The Rackham 7pm (we apologise - the time for this showed incorrectly last week)
3 <sup>rd</sup> October	FWR AGM at 7pm in the school hall
4 <sup>th</sup> October	FWR Doughnut Day
4 <sup>th</sup> October	SEND Coffee and catch up
W/c 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Scholastic Book Fair – Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October in the school hall. 3.20 - 4.15pm
11 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Festival
14 <sup>th</sup> October	Y6 Ravenstor depart 14.10.2024; return 18.10.2024
17 <sup>th</sup> October	Y5 Parent or carer school dinner invitation
25 <sup>th</sup> October	Dress in Victorian style clothes
	HALF TERM
4 <sup>th</sup> November	
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
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
	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY 23.12.2024 – 03.01.2025