



Roose Community Primary School

Newsletter January 2023

'As a Caring Community, we learn and grow'.

Dear Parents/Carers and Roose Families,

We wish you all a very happy new year and a great 2023. We have had a super start back to school after the Christmas break. We hope all the illnesses from before Christmas are behind us now.

Attendance

There has been a significant amount of illness around at the end of last term which may have impacted on your child's attendance at school. We have been asked to share with you a Public Health Update which outlines the importance of keeping children off school if they have a temperature, to avoid spreading illness (see update at the end of the newsletter). Whilst this is the case, we also need to stress the importance of attending school when well. Over the next couple of weeks, I may telephone you regarding your child's attendance in line with our attendance policy – if attendance is below 90%. This will allow us to have a conversation about illness and any other barriers to attending school.

Staffing

We are very sad and sorry to say that Mrs Sharon Carter, our year 6 teacher will be leaving us at the end of the spring term to begin a new opportunity at BAE Systems. Sharon has worked at Roose since 2004 and has been an excellent teacher and member of staff, teaching hundreds of children over the years. Sharon found this a difficult decision to make and I am sure, will miss school life. I know you will join us in thanking Sharon and wishing her the best of luck in her new career and hope she will keep in touch with us and join us for trips and visits when she can. We will be advertising for a new permanent year 6 teacher next week to start after Easter and will keep you updated when appointments have been made.

Reading 'Strive for 5' reward

We are very keen for all our children to practise their reading skills at home 5 or more times a week. This is to consolidate learning which takes place in school. When children are younger they will need to do this with someone but as children get older, they will be able to read to themselves. We ask that an adult signs in their reading record to show that this has taken place. Last half term we ran a competition in school to see which class had achieved the most 'strive for 5s' in the half term – this was won by year 1! Well done Year 1, they have won a PJ and pizza party which will take place next Thursday afternoon. Miss Halligan will send details via Seesaw. We are looking forward to seeing which class wins this half term.

Roose Police Constable Martyn Hayes

Here is an introduction from our local PC Martyn Hayes who is working closely with us on issues in our community.

"I would like to introduce myself as PC 2321 Hayes. I am the new Community Beat Police Officer for the Roose area. Many of you will remember the old style "Bobby on the beat", in essence this is a modern day version of what was once a great aspect within the community. I hope to make myself readily available to work together with the community and the school to combat any



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issues you may have. My role within the school is to be a dedicated point of contact and I will be delivering assemblies and just being generally available to come in and help out when needed. I must say that the school has been very open to this new idea and way of policing and we believe that by working together that we will have a positive impact upon the future of the children. I must also add that I am also very much intending to get to know the parents and staff and be involved in any community events in the local area. If you would like to speak to me personally regarding any issues within the area, please call me on 101. Due to the role I now carry out, I am not often in the office so I will get back to you if you leave me a message. I look forward to working this new role and developing a relationship with the local community.”

Swimming

Swimming starts on Friday 13th January for year 1 and year 5, please see Seesaw for class letter with information. Payments need to be made via Lunchshop for transport, thank you.

Residentials

Please can we remind parents of children in year 4 and 6 to remember to make regular payments towards the residentials planned for the summer term – thank you.

Clubs

Curriculum clubs will begin the week commencing Monday 16th January and will run until the end of term. Please see attached clubs letter.

Public Health Update

Back to school advice issued amid high levels of flu, COVID-19 and scarlet fever

As children, pupils and students return to school and early years settings following the Christmas break, we are reminding people that winter illnesses continue to circulate at high levels.

The Education Infection Prevention and Control (EIPC) team at Cumbria County Council is available to answer any queries and offer support to education and childcare settings in Cumbria – email: EducationIPC@cumbria.gov.uk

The team has also made a range of resources available via the Council’s website, including letter templates, guides and factsheets: [Health Protection and Health Education resources \(including COVID-19\) for Education settings | Cumbria County Council](#)

Press release from UKHSA:

Following simple steps can help protect children, minimise the spread of illness in education and childcare settings and protect wider communities.

Flu and coronavirus (COVID-19) are [currently circulating at high levels](#) and are likely to continue to increase in coming weeks. High numbers of scarlet fever, which is caused by group A streptococcus, also [continue to be reported](#).

Professor Susan Hopkins, Chief Medical Adviser at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), said: It’s important to minimise the spread of infection in schools and other education and childcare settings as much as possible. If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved.



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Helping children to learn about the importance of good hand hygiene is also key, so practice regular handwashing at home with soap and warm water. Catching coughs and sneezes in tissues then binning them is another simple way to help stop illness from spreading.

Adults should also try to stay home when unwell and if you do have to go out, wear a face covering. When unwell don't visit healthcare settings or visit vulnerable people unless urgent.

Remember that flu vaccination is still available for all eligible groups and is the best protection against the virus. We have seen good uptake in older age groups but vaccination among young children remains low.

Flu can be very unpleasant and in some cases can lead to more serious illness. Getting your child vaccinated protects them and others they come into contact with, and it's still not too late.

Eligible children include:

- those aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2022
- all primary school-aged children
- some secondary school-aged children

You can get more information [getting your child vaccinated against flu](#) on NHS.UK.

In addition:

- Maintain good ventilation in indoors areas. If a room feels hot and stuffy, or your carbon dioxide monitor is showing high CO2 levels, increase ventilation levels. See our guide here: [Ventilation - One Minute Guide \(cumbria.gov.uk\)](#)
- A reminder that community pharmacists are highly trained professionals who have the skills to help manage minor illnesses in children. Parents can visit their local pharmacy for advice and medications. However, if a parent or carer thinks their child has scarlet fever, or is concerned about illness symptoms in their children, they should contact their GP or call NHS 111.
- Is my child well enough to attend school or their early years setting? See our quick guide for parents and carers: <https://cumbria.gov.uk/elibrary/Content/Internet/537/38232/38403/4483094729.pdf>

Parking

The council are hopefully coming out soon to re-paint the markings at the front of school correctly over the playground gate. Our local PC Martin Hayes has been supporting school with this and we hope to be able to move forward with additional road safety support in place.

As always, please remember we are always here to help and support our families so please contact us if we can help with anything.

Kind regards,

Jenny Redhead
Head teacher
Roose Community Primary School