

Autumn 3 Newsletter 20-21

Autumn Half-Term Edition



Dear families...

I hope this newsletter finds you all safe and well. I'd like to start this Autumn 3 edition of our newsletter by thanking you all for your help and support in what is an extremely difficult time. Your flexibility and support is very much appreciated! Despite the difficult situation we find ourselves in, attendance has remained above national and our children have continued to enjoy school and are making good progress.

Face Coverings

The DfE have said that "In schools teaching year 6 and below, there is no change to the existing position. It is not mandatory for staff and visitors to wear face coverings." We have, as a school, decided not to enforce the wearing of face masks on site as we feel social distancing protocols are being adhered to when our families arrive. This doesn't mean that you can't wear a face covering if you feel more comfortable. Our staff will greet children, as we have done throughout this time, without a face mask to promote 'normality', not heighten anxiety and allow for effective communication.

Hometalk

Hometalk chats by 'Dialogue Works' are a different way of learning for everyone in the family! They say "A great way to improve speaking, listening and thinking skills is to have a short, but thoughtful, conversation about an interesting topic." The packs available on our [website \(by clicking here\)](#) contain lots of help and advice for parents to improve these skills.

Christmas Carols

DfE guidance states "there may be an additional risk of infection in environments where singing takes place." On this basis we have decided to postpone the Carols this Christmas. We will however be trying to do something else innovative to make up for this disappointing news. Watch this space!

Children in Need

The non-uniform day on Friday 13th November for 'Children in Need' with a theme of 'Bright and Light' was a great success. Children were encouraged to wear something bright to lighten up everyone's mood at this challenging time, this they certainly did.

Class assemblies

The second of the recorded class assemblies have now been carried out and has been posted on the school website. We will, over the course of the year, build up a bank of these assemblies and all will be available on the school website at: <https://www.rednalhilljuniors.com/parents-information/celebration-assemblies/class-assemblies>

School App

Don't forget the school App is available via the App store on iPhone and Android platforms. Just search for 'School Jotter'. Once downloaded, enter Rednal Hill Junior School and you'll pick up any school newsletters and relevant news.

Parent Planner

'The Parent Planner' is available on the school's website under [Parent/Carer Information & Calendar & Key Events](#). On the same page is the '[Live Calendar](#)', this gives you a live picture of upcoming events. Swimming dates for Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6 are also available on the parent planner.

Rednal's Value Word

Champions

for Autumn 1



At RHJS, we have 6 core values. Each half term, we talk in detail about one of the values and what it means to us. We do this in class discussions, Philosophy for Children Lessons and in assemblies.



Last half term we focused on 'we value being part of a community' and we had many valuable conversations around what this means to us as a school.

At the end of the half term each class selected a 'Value Champion' and this person was selected as they are the perfect role model for this value. They were celebrated during a whole class assembly.



Autumn Term 1 Value Champions – We value being part of a community

3KS – Oscar Cattell	3NC – Archie Dingley-Knowles	3AY – Jack Parker
4EO - Lacey-May Scarfe	4SG – Ben Skelton	4NE – Sophia Garvey
5TH – Freya Taylor	5VR – Lily Fream	5NB – Zackary Hobbis
6LF – Emily Butts	6SM – Connie McCaughey	6SC – Jack Crowley

This half term we are exploring the value 'building relationships' and we will look forward to selecting and celebrating the value champions at the end of term.

Term Dates, Training Days & Special Occasions

Class assemblies will be available to view on our website on the following dates

	3AY	3KS	3NC	4EO	4NE	4SG
Remote	05-05-21	31-03-21	26-05-21	27-01-21	03-03-21	AM 09-12-20
	5NB	5TH	5VR	6LF	6SC	6SM
Remote		10-02-21		PM 06-07-21 & AM 07-07-21 (times to follow)		

<p><u>Test Weeks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> W/B 16 November Y6 Mocks W/B 23 November Y3-4-5 W/B 18 January Y6 Mocks W/B 8 March Y3-4-5 W/B 15 March Y6 Mocks SATs Week W/B 10 May W/B 14 June Y3-4-5 <p><u>Parent conversations, proposed times:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 & 19-01-2021 Y3/4 20 & 21-01-2021 Y5/6 12 & 13-07-2021 (times to fol- 	<p><u>School Photographer in:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday 2nd December <p><u>Carols at Christmas (Remotely)</u> Postponed because of DfE guidance around the possibility of additional risks of infection in environments where singing takes place.</p> <p><u>Sports Days (guidance allowing)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y3 & Y4's sports day 23-06-2021 am Y5 & Y6's sports day 24-06-2021 am <p>Both will start as soon after 9am as possible.</p>	<p><u>Transition day</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30-06-2021 <p><u>Y6 Leavers' Production:</u> There will be 2 shows -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday 06-07-2021 at 2pm Wednesday 07-07-2021 at 9:30am. <p><u>Final live reports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Released on 09-07-2021
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<p>Autumn Term 2020</p> <p>Term Starts: Thursday 3rd September 2020</p> <p>Autumn Half Term: Break-up Friday 23rd October 2020- Off 26th October to 2nd November</p> <p>Back to school Tuesday 3rd November 2020</p> <p>Christmas Holiday Break-up Friday 18th December 2020 - Off 21st December to 4th January 2021</p>	<p>Spring Term 2021</p> <p>Term Starts: Tuesday 5th January 2021</p> <p>Spring Half Term: Break-up Friday 12th February 2021 - Off 15th February to 19th February 2021</p> <p>Back to school Monday 22nd February 2021</p> <p>Easter Holidays Break-up: Thursday 1st April 2021 - Off 2nd April to 16th April 2021</p>	<p>Summer Term 2021</p> <p>Term Starts: Monday 19th April 2021</p> <p>May Day Monday 3rd May</p> <p>Summer Half Term: Break-up Friday 28th May 2021 - Off 31st May to 7th June</p> <p>Back to school Tuesday 8th June 2021</p> <p>Summer Holidays Break-up: Wednesday 21st July 2021</p>
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Training days for next year:

Tuesday 1st of September (Risk Assessment, Home Learning Behaviour & Curriculum)

Wednesday 2nd of September (P4C INSET day 1)

Monday 2nd November (P4C INSET day 2)

Monday 4th January (TBD)

Monday 7th June (TBD)

Message from our school catering provider.

FLORA and FRED'S SCHOOL MEALS ARE GREAT!



Lunch time is an important part of a child's school day, giving pupils a break with friends and the chance to recharge their batteries. But why should you choose a school meal? Take a look at the ten great reasons we have come up with!

1. School meals are delicious, healthy, safe, varied and could be free!
If your child is entitled to free school meals or is in KS1, that's £XX worth of food every month
2. Measures have been taken around staff training, food safety and enhanced cleaning to ensure that all of our dinners are safe.
3. It would save you hours making packed lunches for your child!
4. Children receiving Free School Meals have exactly the same choice as everyone else and no-one will know that your child's meal is free.
5. You can see the menus and choices online so you know exactly what they'll be eating.
6. The school catering team is fully trained and ready to cater for children with allergies or other special diets.
7. School meals help encourage good eating habits from an early age and provide the opportunity to further develop their social skills as they sit down with friends to enjoy their meals.
8. There are plenty of opportunities to try new foods and more fussy eaters are much more likely to try new things if their friends are eating the same meals as they are.
9. It's easy to apply and eligibility has currently been extended due to coronavirus – speak to your school office for details or check your eligibility here:
<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>
10. You'll be supporting the school too. Schools receive extra government grants for every child who is claiming Free School Meals. That can be used to pay for more books, computers, special events and much more.

