



Rowley Lane Newsletter

Latest Updates

As the Autumn term is flying by, within this newsletter you will find some important updates and reminders; information about recent activities in school and also about upcoming events. On the back page is an update on all of the upcoming events for the Spring Term in January.

Staffing: Charlotte Frankland will be returning to work in REACH after Christmas on slightly reduced hours—5 mornings 2 evenings. Gemma will be the lead person when Charlotte is not working. Mrs Emily Henman (SEN team ETA) will be leaving us at Christmas to pursue her own Arts & Crafts activity business. Laura Sanderson has been appointed to our SEN ETA team from January.

Governors: Grace Pearson and Shane Howson have been co-opted onto the Governing body following our appeal for volunteers in our September newsletter. We have a parent governor position that is up for renewal in January. An email with a letter and nomination form will be emailed out to parents on our email list. Please can you make sure that both parents are aware of this if you receive this email. Nomination forms should be submitted prior to us breaking up for Christmas. These should be either emailed directly to the office email with the subject 'Parent Governor Nomination Form' or handed directly to a member of office staff or Leadership Team to ensure receipt (please do not leave in main entrance or send in with a pupil). Should there be more than one person, we will hold a ballot immediately after the Christmas holidays.

School Development: Our development plan objectives for this year include: developing oracy skills; developing a spelling program that continues on from phonics; focus on quality first teaching; improving attendance; developing social & play interaction at breaktimes; continuing to develop the curriculum; improving pupil wellbeing through the wellbeing warriors; planning to develop the outdoor area for EYFS; providing more onsite support and signposting for parents supporting their child's wellbeing and sharing our development information with all stakeholders.

Parking—Please respect our neighbours by parking considerately and being polite. On narrow roads, please consider whether it is possible for residents to be able to get out of their driveway by being mindful of both the cars at either side of the driveway *and* any cars parked opposite the driveway. Please also make sure that parking does not block paths for parents using pushchairs or make roads too narrow for larger vehicles to pass through.

Recent Events

Our **PTA** have organised a Key Stage Two Disco that was enjoyed by many and the fantastic shopping evening that took place last week. They have also held the new and incredibly popular Doughnut Fridays.

Our cooking curriculum is underway with KS2 year groups all having a cooking session already this term.

Cross Country events have taken place, the first round being held on our grounds where over 80 of our KS2 pupils took part. Many progressed to the area final in Newsome and of those, 41 qualified for the Kirklees Finals which are now scheduled to take place on the 11th January (new date following a postponement due to the weather).

Remembrance—Many classes have been creative and worked together to create a beautiful display of poppies in the main entrance and the hall.

Fundraising our Poppy Appeal items raised a total of £658.13.

Our School Council were in charge of selling the items each day to the rest of the school.



On **Children in Need** day, the children's excellent entrepreneurial skills together with donations for coming in non-uniform resulted in us raising an amazing £1388.80. Thank you to everyone for your support with this.

Thank you to all those who came to the work sharing session or one of the stay and play sessions for Early Years. It was lovely for the children to be able to proudly share their work with family members and also for parents and teachers to have an informal catch up. We received some really positive feedback about this new event.

A large group of KS2 pupils went to sing at the **Lepton Light Switch On** event. They were all amazing and it was lovely to be out in the community to perform.

Our **Wellbeing Warriors** in Y5 & 6 set other pupils the challenge of making cards and gifts for the local care home, Valley View. This was to link in with one of the 5 ways to wellbeing with the focus of connect—connecting with our local community. Thank you to all of those who took the time to make such wonderful items—they were delivered to the care home this weekend and I am sure that they will bring a lot of joy. To see some of the items that were sent, please see the new page on our website that can be found by clicking [here](#).



Christmas Jumper Day— Thursday 7th December

This is the National Christmas Jumper day for Save the Children. All pupils can come in non-uniform this day with the theme of Christmas a suggestion. We ask that pupils bring a donation of a chocolate item for our chocolate tombola stall at the Christmas Fair for coming in non-uniform.

If you wish to donate to Save the Children, please do so directly via their website page using the code **34655**. The link is [here](#). Thank you in advance.

Christmas Performances

The dates for the Christmas Performances are on the annual calendar, the website and also within this newsletter. Every child in the play will be allowed two places for audience members to watch them. Only very young children who can sit on their parents knee will be allowed in, unless an older child is taking up one of the allocated seats. This is the maximum we can allow due to the capacity within the hall when the seating and stage is in place. Pupils in school will have seen their siblings in their dress rehearsal. We will not issue tickets but will highlight people off as they arrive and swapping of allocated seats is not allowed. In the case of split families, there will be one place allocated to each parent unless you mutually agree otherwise. The doors will open 15 minutes before the advertised start time and seating will be allocated on a first come first served basis. In the performances, we intend to allow audience members to record and/or photograph with the condition that these will be kept private and will not be shared on social media or the internet if they contain anyone other than your child (including in the background). It is important that this is adhered to for safeguarding reasons. We have used this policy for many years and by everyone agreeing to it, it means that parents are able to have photos or videos as a keepsake and also share them in person with other family members who are not able to see the actual show. Should you have any concerns about this please let us know in writing via the office email address.

At each Christmas performance there will be a Uniform Exchange stall for you to pick up some pre-loved uniform.

Christmas Fair & Party Day

Our PTA Christmas Fair for children is on Friday 15th December. This is a very exciting day: Pupils can come to school wearing non-uniform. This could be wearing clothes of a Christmas theme or it could be wearing their party clothes. In the morning we will wait to hopefully be able to welcome our special guests, Mother and Father Christmas. After that the day will be filled with a timetable of exciting activities:

Shopping at the stalls—each year group will have an allocated shopping slot. Pupils can bring a small amount of spending money to buy second hand toys, books, games, sweets and other items. It helps if your child brings a carrier bag to bring their shopping home and a named purse or wallet with their money in.

Going to see Father and Mother Christmas—please pre-book this visit (PTA letter to follow). Mother and Father Christmas leave a small gift for ALL pupils, however if you book the visit, there will also be a photograph.

In between these exciting events, the classes will be playing some party games, having a small party treat of some juice, crisps and a biscuit and also doing some other Christmas work activities.

To help prepare for this event, if you have any GOOD QUALITY second hand books, toys, games, cuddly toys etc, please leave these in a bag at the main office. It is a great chance for a clear out before Christmas.



Christmas Raffle—Children's & Adults

Each year we run a Christmas Raffle for children and adults. We always make sure that all pupils have one ticket in the children's raffle so every child has a chance of winning. There will be a selection of around 130 prizes and this will be drawn with the children on the last week of term. Additional tickets are 50p each.

For the adult raffle, we make up hampers and a star prize of a trolley full of food and drink. We also take other donations of prizes for the raffle, but only those that are in brand new condition,

To make up the hampers, we ask that all who can, contribute an item towards a hamper. Lists of suggested items will be displayed on classroom doors and windows. Items such as tins of food, crisps, biscuits, bottles of pop, mixers or alcohol (these must be handed in by an adult directly to the school office please), cereal, pasta, napkins, Christmas crackers, chocolates, mince pies—or any other cupboard items that would make a nice addition to a hamper. As we receive these items, as well as making up hampers for prizes, we also make up hampers for the local food bank. Please donate if you can.



Selection of prizes on offer for the Children's Christmas Raffle

Important Dates as in full calendar

| December Dates | | Spring Term Dates | |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------|---|
| 05.12.23 | Y6 Sportshall Athletics Event 4:00-5:30pm at Newsome Academy | 08.01.24 | Term begins Y4 Cooking this week |
| 06.12.23 | Y2 Christmas Visit to Lepton Methodist Church | 09.01.24 | MHST Scaffolding Self Esteem Parent Workshop 9am—11am in the Bungalow |
| 07.12.23 | Christmas Jumper Day—see more information in Newsletter | 11.01.24 | Kirklees KS2 Cross Country Finals (qualifying runners from a previous event) |
| 11.12.23 | Y2 Christmas Performance 2:15pm | 15.01.24 | Y5 & Y6 Cooking this week |
| 12.12.23 | Reception Pantomime Trip to Lawrence Batley Theatre Y1 Christmas Performance 2:15pm Y6 Christmas Performance 6pm | 16.01.24 | Y6 Sportshall Athletics Area Final—for qualifying teams 4:00-5:30pm |
| 13.12.23 | Nursery Christmas singing 11:15am & 2:45pm Y3 Christmas Performance 2:15pm Y4 Christmas Performance 6pm | 17.01.24 – 19.01.24 | Y1 Balanceability Training |
| 14.12.23 | Reception Christmas Performance 2:15pm Y5 Christmas Performance 6pm | 23.01.24 | TT Rockstars Day |
| 15.12.23 | Christmas Fair and Christmas Party Day | 25.01.24 | Y5 Trip to Jodrell Bank |
| 19.12.23 | Group Singing at Lepton Methodist Church | 30.01.24 | Parents' Evening 3:30-6:15pm |
| 20.12.23 | Children's Christmas Raffle Draw in school time Adult's Christmas Raffle Draw—3:25pm | 01.02.24 | Parents' Evening 3:30-6:15pm |
| 21.12.23 | School Christmas Lunch | 05.02.24 | Y3 Cooking this week |
| 22.12.23 | Last Day of Term | 07.02.24 | Nursery 'Drop In' Event for Parents considering Rowley Lane Nursery for Sept 2024 start 4:00-5:00pm |
| 23.12.23— 07.01.24 | Christmas Holiday | 08.02.24 | Y6 French Theme Day |
| | | 09.02.24 | Last day of Half Term |

Most of the dates above are on the calendar document that can be found on the home page of the school website. All dates highlighted in yellow are additions or changes. Further information about some of the upcoming events is contained within this newsletter

Please check the live calendar section of the school website for the most up to date information.

Updated information on Website

Please see the front page of the website for direct links to updated information—this is updated weekly so keep checking.

Recent new information is a link to our adverse weather information—please make yourself familiar with this.

It is also worth noting that in very wet weather, we may open the doors 5 minutes early but we are not in a position to let pupils into the building any earlier than this due to staffing.

Please see the new webpage showcasing the work of our wellbeing warriors and playground pals.

Also there there are a number of updated policies on the policies and documents page including: Safeguarding; Child on Child Abuse and Online Safety. There is also a newly adopted Parent Code of Conduct that is taken directly from the Local Authority recommended document for all maintained schools.

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Out of Hours Contact: Out of hours emergency contact should be made by emailing head@rowleylane.co.uk. This email is checked regularly out of school hours.