



# Rednal Hill Junior School

## Newsletter December 2018



### Dear Families,

We can't believe how quickly the term has gone! Many thanks for your continued support and encouragement. We'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and happy new year!

### Information for Parents

We break up for Christmas on Friday 21st December and return to school on Tuesday 8th January. Parents' evening is on Wednesday 23rd January between 4pm and 8pm.

### School External Teaching & Learning Review

The school recently organised an external review of its progress since our previous OFSTED inspection. Colmore Partnership Teaching School Alliance (CPTSA) performed the review. The review went very well and was further ratification of the great progress since our inspection of 2017. Here's a few extracts from the report. CPTSA said :

- There is a consistent approach to teaching and learning based on high quality CPD. Both Maths and English has improved and so too has the quality of outcomes and experiences, as evidenced in books from Years 3 to 6.
- There is an impressive culture of shared accountability across the whole team. Leadership should be proud of their achievements in this area. They are constantly striving to improve and are receptive to new ideas and expect this of their team.
- Learning behaviour was exceptional. There has been a significant improvement in how the children behave in lessons and the levels of engagement. We saw no examples of low level behaviour problems.
- Conduct behaviour was also excellent. The outdoor environment was calm and organised and we saw impressive examples of children organising younger children in monitor roles.

The school works collaboratively with a number of schools and organisations and is constantly striving to improve.

OFSTED recognised the journey the school had been on when they wrote: 'Since his appointment, the headteacher has been unwavering in his determination to secure a quality standard of education for pupils in this school. He has been supported by very capable deputy headteachers and governors. Leaders and the whole staff team are focused on improving the quality of teaching and the rates of progress that pupils make in their learning. The impact of the team's work is beginning to emerge.'

At RHJS we know that effective, long term school improvement is not a quick fix. We'd like to assure all parents and carers that we remain unwavering in our desire to improve outcomes for children at our school.

Mr. R. Jones

### School Dinners

If you pay for your child's school dinners, please note that it is £11.50 per week or if you prefer to pay for the whole term it is £66.70.

### Absences

If your child is absent from school, please call the school office on 0121 453 2520 before 10am to leave a voice message (option 1) or to speak to someone to inform us why your child is absent from school.

If you are booking medical or dental appointments, please could we request that these appointments are booked for after 3.20pm so that children's lessons and attendance are not adversely affected.

### Attendance

The school is committed to improving its attendance. We have a target of 98% and need to improve on last year. Your support in getting children to school on time and ready to learn is vital if we are to improve standards. If you have any questions, please feel free to get in touch with Miss Ellis. Details available on our website.

### **Congratulations to 4HD! They are our attendance champions so far this academic year 2018-19.**

6LBC	95.9%	6LF	96.1%	6SP	97.7%
5RH	96.7%	5SC	92.2%	5VR	96.1%
4CT	95.5%	4HD	98.1%	4JB	96.8%
3CF	96.7%	3DE	97.0%	3NE	96.9%

Don't forget all children with 98%+ attendance are entered into a raffle to win one of the two bikes on offer.

### Updated Special Education Needs & Disabilities (SEND)

#### Policy & SEND Information Report

During the Autumn term, Mrs Jones (SENDCo), Charlotte Bull (SEND Governor) and three randomly selected parents of SEND children from school, met to review and evaluate the school's existing SEND Policy and SEND Information Report. Our aim was to make the policy and report more concise, easier to understand and easier to access for all. The revised and updated policy and report was recently adopted by the Governing Body and is now available to view on the school's website: <http://www.rednalhilljuniors.com/our-school/policies-and-statements/send-policy-report>

This document will be reviewed and co-produced on an annual basis in consultation with randomly selected parents of SEND children in school. We plan to do this to ensure that it reflects the needs of our children, and the policies and practice of our school. Mrs Jones & Charlotte Bull would like to thank the parents who supported them with this process this year, and hope that everyone is pleased with the results of this work.

### Autism Parents Meeting

Autism Parents' Meeting on Tuesday 22nd January 2019 at 2:15p.m. Refreshments available.

We would like to start-up our parent group again this year, and this is our first meeting date after the completion of the Parent Autism Awareness Workshop Course that ran during the Autumn term 2018. Please come along to have an informal chat with other parents, Mrs Jones (SENDCo), Mrs Hayes (Inclusion TA) and Mrs Warden (SENDCo from the Infant School) and help us to decide upon how we can plan to make meetings helpful to parents for the remainder of the school year. Please note: your child doesn't have to have a diagnosis of Autism to attend this meeting; everyone is welcome!

### Choir—Singing for a Christmas Tree

Rednal Hill Junior School Choir were invited to Burcot Garden Centre's 'sing for a tree' event.



The Children sang Christmas carols beautifully and chose a tree which they proudly decorated. Well done everyone!



### Soft Opening at Start of the Day

From 8th January 2019, the children will be allowed into school from 8:40 am. The register will be taken at our normal time of 9:00 am. You will still be able to drop off the children at the time you are used to, if this is more convenient, but children can come straight in when they arrive, rather than waiting and lining up. **Children can enter from any door.**

If you would like to speak to a member of your child's year group team, they will be positioned at the following points:

- Staff from Year 3 and Year 4 will be at the hall doors
- Staff from Year 5 and Year 6 will be at the small playground middle door

**Children will be released at the end of the day in the same way as they have always been.**

### Computer Blog

There is now an active computing blog on the school website where you can find out what your child is learning in their weekly computing lessons.

If you have a smart phone, you can take a picture of the code below and this will bring you directly to our website.



### Money collected for Charity

We are delighted to inform you that we have raised the following amounts for these charities.

- Meningitis—£185.29
- Children in Need—£200.85
- Mental Health—£200
- Women's Aid—£200

Thank you all for your generosity for these worthy causes.

### Rubery Schools Community Swap Shop

Rubery School Community Swap Shop is a Facebook group who collect and store uniforms from schools within the area. Please donate any uniforms that you don't need as this will help families who are experiencing difficult times. The facebook email address is:

<https://www.facebook.com/RuberySwapShop>

### Swimming lessons Year 3 and 5

Just to remind you, children attending swimming lessons must now wear a swimming hat and a costume (no bikinis) or trunks (provided they are above knee length). Children need to bring a suitably sized towel. Long hair needs to be tied back and earrings must not be worn.

### Snow Days

Love it or loathe it, snow can be part and parcel of life in the UK during winter months. Children love it and long for snow days off school to go sledging with friends. Parents generally could do without it as it can disrupt life and routines! Wherever you sit on the 'loving snow' scale, one thing is certain, when the white flakes come down it's essential that we are able to inform parents of updates regarding school closures, or other safety information, at quick and regular intervals. Please can you ensure that you let us know if you change your telephone number.

### Foodbank Collection

Our children and families have generously donated a huge amount of food and other essentials for local food banks and homeless charities. Some of our school council representatives took some of the donations down to The Project, a local charity working to prevent homelessness and to improve lives. We were overwhelmed by the amount we managed to collect. These donations will make a huge difference to many families over the Christmas period.



### Children with Asthma

As the cold weather can effect children with Asthma, can parents please ensure that all asthmatic children have an up-to-date inhaler in school.

### Lost Property

Please can you ensure that you write your child's name on all items (clothing, lunch boxes etc) so we can easily locate the owner of any lost property.

### Before and After School Sports Clubs

Letters will be sent out in our first week back informing parents about clubs running in the spring term.

### PE Kit for winter

During the cold weather, children can wear plain black/grey or blue jogging bottoms.

### The Big Sleep

Thank you to everyone who supported with this term's Big Sleep Project. It was fascinating to learn so much about the importance of sleep and really pleasing to talk to many children who reported that they had improved their sleeping habits as a result of what they had learned. Huge congratulations to Olamide in Y3 who won the amazing bunkbeds in our lucky dip and to Mahalakshmi in Y4 whose Powerpoint was chosen as the winner of our homework project.

### Choir singing at Beaumont Park Residential Home

Our choir visited Beaumont Park Residential Home this week and sang for the residents. The children sang beautifully and the residents were completely charmed.



The children then joined the residents for soft drinks and a chat. We would like to thank all of the residents who have raised £150.00 for our school fund.



**Finally, a very Merry Christmas from everyone at RHJS!**





# Term Dates, Training Days & Special Occasions

Class assemblies (2:50pm start) & INSPIRE Workshops (9:10am to 10:30 am approx.) for 2018-2019

	3DE	3CF	3NE	4CT	4HD	4JB
<b>INSPIRE</b>	18/03/2019	19/03/2019	21/03/2019	05/03/2019	06/03/2019	04/03/2019
<b>Assembly</b>	03/04/2019	22/05/2019	12/06/2019	27/02/2019	13/02/2019	23/01/2019
	5RH	5SC	5VR	6LBC	6LF	6SP
<b>INSPIRE</b>	12/03/2019	13/03/2019	11/03/2019	12/02/2019	11/02/2019	13/02/2019

<b>Parents Evenings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>23/01/2019 (4pm-8pm)</li> <li>08/05/2019 (4pm-8pm)</li> <li>15/07/2019 (3:30pm-5:30pm)</li> <li>16/07/2019 (3:30pm-4:00pm)</li> </ul> <b>Parent breakfast &amp; chat:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>26/02/2019 (9:00am-9:45am)</li> <li>11/06/2019 (9:00am-9:45am)</li> </ul>	<b>Sports Day:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y3/4—26/06/2019 &amp; Y5/6—27/06/2019</li> </ul>	<b>Transition day 03/07/2019</b>  <b>Y6 Leavers' Production:</b> There will be 2 shows - Tuesday 9th July at 2pm & Wednesday 10th July at 9:30am.  <b>Final live reports</b> released on 12/07/2019, these will include SATs Results.
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## Term dates 2018-2019

<b>Autumn Term 2018</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Term Starts: Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018 Autumn Half Term: Break-up Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018 - <b>Off 29th October to 2nd November</b></li> <li>Back to school Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018 Christmas Holiday Break-up Friday 21st December 2018 - <b>Off 24th December to 7th January</b></li> </ul>	<b>Spring Term 2019</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Term Starts: Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 Spring Half Term: Break-up Friday 15th February 2019 - <b>Off 18th February to 22nd February</b></li> <li>Back to school Monday 25th February 2019 Easter Holidays Break-up: Friday 12th April 2019 - <b>Off 15th April to 26th April</b></li> </ul>	<b>Summer Term 2019</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Term Starts: Monday 29th April 2019 Summer Half Term: Break-up Friday 24th May 2019 - <b>Off 27th May to 31st May</b></li> <li>Back to school Tuesday 4th June 2019 Summer Holidays Break-up: Friday 19th July 2019</li> </ul>
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## School Year 2018 – 2019

School will be closed on the following days:

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January – Staff Training

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019 – Bank Holiday

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019 – Staff Training

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 – Staff Training

