



Rowley Lane Newsletter

New Academic Year Updates

It has been lovely to see so many parents at the various information evenings over the last few weeks. All information packs have been sent home to those who could not make it and the information shared, including the PowerPoint presentation will remain on the Year Group page of the website throughout the year. This can be found [here](#).

Staffing Updates: I'm pleased to say that Mrs Vatani gave birth to a baby boy just shortly after we broke up for summer and is now enjoying her maternity leave.

On Friday 15th October, Amanda from REACH our breakfast, after school and holiday club, will be leaving us to take on new challenges elsewhere. She has worked at REACH for many, many years and we wish her all the best in her new venture.

Also at half term, Miss Emily McCauley—SEN Support assistant and Mrs Sue Castle—Lunchtime Supervisor will both be leaving for a new role and early retirement respectively. Again, we wish them all the best with their next chapter.

COVID Updates: As we announced in July, NHS track and trace are now responsible for contact tracing—this will not be carried out by school unless we are asked by NHS to support with this. We have had a number of positive cases within school since September. We will not be writing to families each time there is a positive case. We are monitoring these closely in order to spot where there may be potential links through mixing. If we believe there are 5 or more cases within 10 days that are likely to be linked through school we have a number of short term, additional measures we can put in place to help limit the spread. For example these may include remaining in class groups rather than mixing as a year group and not coming into assembly. We recognise that a lot of families are using regular lateral flow tests to help limit the spread by checking for asymptomatic cases and we are grateful for this. If a pupil has any of the listed symptoms of a new persistent cough, a high temperature or a loss or change in sense of taste or smell then a full PCR test should be taken as these are far more reliable.

Changes from mid August mean that pupils or fully vaccinated adults no longer need to self-isolate if there is a positive case in their household, however they are advised to have a PCR test.

Important Dates: On the back page there is an overview of some upcoming dates. Please also check the upcoming events on the home page of our website. If you haven't done so already, download the 'School Jotter App'. [Link to download to Android here.](#)
[Link to download to ios \(Apple/Iphone\) here.](#)

P.T.A

There is a P.T.A. meeting tomorrow, Thursday 7th October at 7pm at school. Please do come along to help us plan some of the upcoming events. We have already started this with the 'Fund Raising' challenge—thank you to all who took part. Some of our P.T.A. members were busy counting the money this week and the winning class will be announced in our Star of the Week assembly this Friday. The children have been designing Christmas cards in class. Once the sample arrives back we will send them home for you to see. We have also put some provisional dates in for future events for pupils in addition to our regular big events such as the Christmas Shopping Evening and our Christmas Fair.

School Lunches, packed lunches and snacks

School Lunches: We now have a 'Meal Selector' programme in school that allows all children to select and order their school meal when they arrive in the morning. Where these need to be paid for, the programme automatically links to your ParentPay account. This means that for children in Key Stage Two, they do not have to stick to any particular pattern of school lunches, they can choose a school meal or a packed lunch on a daily basis. Just make sure you have agreed with your child in advance.

Packed Lunches: Packed lunches need to follow our packed lunch guidelines which were devised by our school council a few years ago. These are: **No nuts allowed due to severe allergies in school;** a healthy savoury item (e.g. sandwich, pasta salad); Fresh fruit or vegetables (e.g. carrot sticks. Please ensure grapes are chopped in half for young children); a dairy item (e.g. a yoghurt or cheese); a small treat (e.g. a biscuit, a small piece of cake, bag of crisps—**no sweets allowed**); a drink—water or juice **no fizzy pop allowed**.

Snacks: KS1 are provided with fresh fruit free of charge funded by the government. If there is a surplus, these are offered to KS2 children. KS2 are encouraged to bring their own piece of fruit to have as a snack at morning break. **We only allow fruit or vegetables as a breaktime snack. No cereal bars, biscuits or other items.**

Flu Vaccinations

An email was sent to parents a couple of weeks ago about the Flu vaccination (nasal spray) which is being offered to all children from Reception to Year 11 as part of a National Health Campaign to protect vulnerable people, including young children, from Flu this Autumn and Winter.

If you have not done so already please complete the online consent form as soon as possible, you will need the following code for Rowley Lane: **107677**

<https://www.locala.org.uk/services/immunisation-service/flu-vaccination-south-kirklees>

When asked for your child's class, please select 'all classes'.

It is important that you complete the online form so your child can either be included in the session or removed from Locala's list to ensure no further follow up is made. If you do not want your child to receive the vaccine you can indicate this when completing the form.

If you have any issues when completing the form please contact Locala directly:

Tel: 0303 003 4488

Email: LCP.localchildhealth@nhs.net

The vaccinations will be administered in school on Friday 12th November.

Arriving at school & Collecting from school

We would encourage as many families as possible to walk to school. Where this is not possible we ask that you travel and park carefully.

The **drop off zone** is available between **8:30am-8:45am**. **The car park barrier will be closed at 8:45am. The car park should only be used during this time for the official Drop Off Zone, staff or registered Blue Badge Holders. Taxis or other parents or carers should not use the car park to wait.**

As a reminder and for new parents, the drop off zone is for older children who you can drop off and leave. They need to be responsible to wait at their cloakroom door unsupervised, however there is a member of staff on duty at the point of drop off. Younger children can also be dropped off with an adult or older sibling who can supervise them until they go into school but the car dropping off must leave the car park immediately after drop off. Please ensure children have their things ready in the car, so they can exit from the pavement side promptly to help the smooth flow of traffic. Always pull up to the highest space available when you arrive and always apply your handbrake when stationary. If baby seats block your child from exiting on the pavement side, please stay in the drivers seat and wait for a member of staff to safely let your child out of the car.

The car park is for staff, visitors and blue badge holders from 8:15-3:45pm. Parents who are collecting children for an appointment or illness are also able to use the car park during the school day. We ask all Blue Badge holders to show their badge to the office. Blue badge holders can only access the car park if they are the **sole person who is responsible for picking up a young child (a child too young to be able to walk to meet you elsewhere)**. We also ask that if there are other spaces available, you use these if possible and try to keep the designated disabled parking for our disabled registered pupils in school.

For parents parking on the highway, **please avoid parking on both sides of the road** as this makes it very difficult and dangerous for passing traffic **and double yellow lined and hatched areas must not be used**. We urge that you **do not block driveways** or park in a way that leaves pavements impassable with pushchairs (including double pushchairs). We have put in a request for the Highways Enforcement van to visit and monitor the parking situation around school at drop off and pick up.

The School Bus, run by WYMetro MyBus runs a service from Rowley Lane school to Almondbury that runs down Wakefield road and along part of Penistone Road before going on to Almondbury. Children are supervised from the end of school until 3:30pm when the bus arrives, there is an escort on the bus which is only for primary age children who attend either Rowley Lane or Lepton CofE school. They will always ensure there is a nominated adult to collect the child off the bus, (unless with older children there is a written agreement in place) Many parents have found it more useful to arrange pick up from a location closer to home or on your way back from work rather than rushing to school and struggling to park. Please see <https://www.wymetro.com/buses/school-transport/my-bus/> for more information.

Medicines

Kirklees policy is that we should only administer medication that is prescribed 4 times a day or for a specific time within the school day. For this, a medication form needs to be completed. If you feel that your child needs medication that does not fall into this category, please contact us and we will assess each situation separately. Children should not bring any medication to school themselves, this includes cough sweets.

If your child needs an asthma inhaler, make sure we have two named inhalers in school; the same applies to auto-injector pens for allergies. As a school we hold some emergency use inhalers and emergency use auto-injector pens that are for emergency use only.

As we have a number of pupils in school with severe allergies, please remember to not send any products containing nuts into school - this includes packed lunches.

Uniform & Mobile Phones



The uniform guidelines are consistent and updates are sent out about this regularly, the large majority wear the correct uniform; thank you for this. Long hair should be tied back.

Please remember the school uniform is for **plain black footwear**. This can include plain black trainers for those children who prefer these for running around. Children continue to come to school in PE kits on PE days, this helps us to get better quality active time in lessons. **Please make sure that this follows our PE uniform guidelines on the website of: plain navy bottoms (joggers, leggings, shorts, skorts), plain white t-shirt; navy hoodie or a school sweatshirt and dark coloured trainers.**

Please also remember to put names in all items of clothing.

We would urge parents to consider using Uniform Exchange. Uniform arrives like brand new. Although it is a service aimed at families struggling to afford uniform, we are reliably informed that there is a large excess stock of our uniform so we would urge families to use this service in the interest of sustainability <https://www.uniform-exchange.org/free-school-uniform/>

Pupils are **not allowed** to bring **mobile phones** to school, or any watch or device that has messaging or photography facilities. This is for safeguarding reasons. Where there are rare occasions that it may be necessary for older children to have a mobile phone on their way to or from school, parents must write to the class teacher to explain which days and why. Mobile phones should then be handed into staff for the duration of the day so they can be kept locked away.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding Concerns about children need to be reported to Jenny Shore, Andrea Haigh or Georgia Heaton. Children's safety is of paramount importance and any information is recorded and followed up accordingly. This may involve gaining support from the Early Help Team in Kirklees or from Social Services. Any member of the public can also report safeguarding concerns about children to the Kirklees Safeguarding Children's Board via 01484 456848 or if out of office hours and if you have an immediate concern for safety call the police on 999.

Kirklees Council are working together with West Yorkshire Police now in order to support children who are resident in households where there are incidents of domestic violence and abuse. The notification project has been designed to provide confidential notification to schools on any domestic violence and abuse that occur within a child's household that might impact on a child whilst they are in school. The project will ensure that information is shared in confidence and that the school make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children or their families. We are keen to offer the best support possible. If you would like any further information about domestic violence and abuse please go to: <http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/domestic-abuse/index.aspx>

Governor Information

Our first Full Governors meeting of the year took place in September. Our Governing Body is made up of both independent Governors, parents and staff representation who together bring a whole range of skills to the meetings. Sara Edmundson remains our Chair of Governors and Neil Favager remains our Vice Chair. Our other Governors are: Lindsey Crossland; Bev Drury, Andrew Berry, Angela Cashin, Richard Searby, Leah Pejica; Debbie Bee, Georgia Heaton and myself, Jenny Shore as Head Teacher. Safeguarding is a standard agenda item at all Governing Body meetings.

Important Dates (full calendar to follow)

October Dates		November Dates	
Tues 12th Oct	Year 6 Outdoor Learning	Mon 1st Nov	School reopens
	Year 2 Yorkshire Sculpture Park Trip	Fri 5th Nov	Individual & Family Photographs
Wed 13th Oct	Y5RS Cliffe House Residential (until Friday 15th Oct)	Mon 8th Nov	Y6 Robinwood Residential until Wed 10th Nov
Thurs 14th Oct	Y4 Italy Day	Fri 12th Nov	Flu Vaccines Rec—Y6 (see p2 for detail) Children in Need—Non uniform Fundraising Day
Tues 19th & Wed 20th Oct	Parents Evening—Year Group Letters will go out next week with more detail and dates	Mon 15th Nov	Y3LD/LM Bagshaw Museum Trip
Thurs 21st Oct	Last day for pupils	Tues 16th Nov	Y3CR Bagshaw Museum Trip
Fri 22nd Oct	INSET—School closed to pupils	Thurs 18th Nov	P.T.A. Christmas Shopping Evening