



**Rolph C of E Primary School and Nursery
Newsletter
Friday 13th December 2019**



Dear Parents & Carers,

A Message from the Headteacher

Christmas has well and truly arrived at Rolph this week! Nativity plays, Christmas activities day and a pantomime have been enjoyed by all this week. Well done and thank you to all those involved, especially the volunteers and RSA members who have helped to make these such amazing events.

Next week the festivities continue and I am looking forward to seeing Christmas jumpers being worn on Tuesday, whilst eating Christmas dinner. A reminder that we are raising money for Save the Children, so any monetary donation will be gratefully received, although we recommend a minimum of £1 please.

Wednesday morning will see our first Headteacher's Awards Worship and the parents of those children receiving recognition will have now received their invitation to this special event and are hopefully keeping it as much of a secret as we are here in school. Wednesday afternoon will be our Christmas Carol Concert at St Michael's Church, and I look forward to seeing as many families and friends as possible for this event, which is being hosted by the Year 6 children.

Have a great weekend,

Mr Ashley



House Points Results

Due to today's trip to the Pantomime, the results will be added to next week's total.

Attendance



Celebration worship will be held on Monday where classes will be awarded their Mr Potato Head pieces for their attendance covering the period Friday 6th December – Thursday 12th December - see the table below for your child's class.

Class	Attendance (%)
R	93.33
1	96.07
2	94.48
3	93.13
4	88.13
5	92.73
6	90.34
Total	92.5

We are concerned that the attendance over the last couple of weeks has been dropping and leaves us vulnerable to slipping below the national expectation of 96% (we are currently at 96.04%), which may lead to a higher focus from external agencies.

Whilst we appreciate that there are some illnesses around at this time of the year, we would please request parents and carers, that unless the children are seriously ill, they should try to attend school.

In addition, we have recently seen a large increase in requests for holidays during term time. May we please remind you that we cannot authorise holiday requests or other requests for non-attendance, unless in exceptional circumstances, as outlined in our attendance policy.

We thank you for your support in ensuring high levels of attendance.



Absence and Lateness

A reminder that we would ask all parents to inform the school of any absences & lateness, preferably by 9.00 am, on each day of absence (and by 9.20 am at the latest) by calling 01255 861317 and choosing option '1'. This should be the only method for informing us of any absence or lateness. We are legally obliged to report reasons for absence and we are finding a lot of office time is being used chasing up missing children, so please help us by making the call.

We have noticed an increase in lateness recently, and whilst we understand that sometimes things can go a little wrong in the mornings, we would like to remind you of the effect that lateness can have both on your child and others in their class. Children often refer to the 'embarrassment' of having to walk into a classroom when all their peers are already settled and working, and they also comment on being interrupted from their work when others come in late. Could we therefore remind you that we are very happy to welcome the children in from 8.35 am, with the gates closing at 8.50 am.

Parking / Dropping Off Outside School



Can we please remind you that the zigzags outside of school restrict both parking and dropping off during the hours of 8.30 – 9.30 am and 3.00 – 4.00 pm. Please ensure if you are dropping children off in the mornings that you please do so safely and away from the zigzag road markings. Can we also remind you not to park in the staff car park when dropping off to breakfast club and when collecting children from after school clubs.



Aldi Competition Update

Thank you again for all the stickers you sent into school. We have three sports activity packs on their way to us and we are keeping our fingers crossed for the main draw.



Carol Concert / Christmas Story

All parents are invited to join us at St Michael's Church for a Carol Concert and Christmas Story, led by the Year 6 children, **from 1.30 pm**, on Wednesday 18th December (this was originally planned for just KS2, but will now be attended by the whole school). For safety reasons, we will then bring all the children back to school following the service and release them from their classrooms in the usual manner – please do not ask to take your children from the church.



Music Lessons

Please let the office know if your child is interested in learning a new instrument, there are currently spaces for piano lessons.



Breakfast Club

A reminder that the school runs a breakfast club from 7.30am each morning, at a cost of just £3 per session. Places are available, so if this is a service you feel you would like to use, please contact the school office.



Park and Ride 'Name the Bus' Competition

Chelmsford and Colchester Park and Ride centres are looking for names for their buses. Each of the 9 Chelmsford and 5 Colchester buses will have a winning name printed on its side and winners and their families will be invited to see their bus being launched. Final shortlisted names will be chosen by Cllr Kevin Bentley. Please complete the suggestion form and hand in at one of the three P&R sites by Wednesday 1st January 2020. Entrants must be 16 years and under.

Books for Schools



The Sun and The Sun on Sunday will have tokens for the 'Books for Schools' offer which can be collected from Saturday 23rd November 2019 until Saturday 18th January 2020. If we collect 3500 tokens, the school could order over 100 new books. Please send any tokens collected into the school office, we would be so grateful!

Twickenham Trip

On the 12th December 2019 children from Years 5 and 6 went to Twickenham Stadium to watch Oxford University play Cambridge University in their varsity rugby competition. They watched most of the women's match where Cambridge won and the first half of the men's who were winning when they left. Thank you to Mrs Triffitt and Mrs Williamson for planning such an exciting day.



School Sport

The boys' football team had a fantastic result with a 4-2 win at Kirby Primary Academy on Tuesday. Well done boys.

MDA Vacancy



We are currently looking for a Midday Assistant. Duties include setting up and clearing away the dinner hall, playground supervision and dealing with first aid incidents. Hours of work will be 12.05 pm – 1.20 pm each day.

If you are interested or know anyone that would like to join our small friendly team of MDA's, please pick up an application form from the School office.



RSA News

Rolph Recycling - we have been emptying the wheelie bin at the front of the school on a regular basis and are really pleased with the response so far, keep up the good work and don't forget to flatten your crisp packets!

Thorpe Festival Night stalls raised £180, thank you to everyone who came down to the WI Hall to see Santa.

The Christmas Raffle raised £810. Well done to all the winners, thank you to everyone who bought tickets and special thanks to those who donated gifts including Access Automation, The Lifehouse Spa, Matt and Kelly Crowe, Richard Burton Jewellery, the Rose and Crown and Girl's Wardrobe for donating the big prizes. The Raffle winners are listed below:

Fenwicks Voucher – Mrs Crowe
Lifehouse Spa Day – Mrs Hazelton
Amazon Alexa Echo – O. Hyde
£50 Richard Burton Jewellery Voucher – Mrs Hall
Afternoon Tea at the Rose & Crown – D. Wilby
Girls Wardrobe Voucher – Mrs Starling
Hamper 7 – Mrs Humpreys
Hamper 8 – Mrs Ansell
Hamper 9 – Jackie Healey
Hamper 10 – Mrs Harrison
Hamper 11 – Mrs Newman
Hamper 12 – Ms Moules
Hamper 13 – Mrs Goodfellow
Hamper 14 – Mrs Pallett
Hamper 15 – Ms Moules
Hamper 16 – Mrs Dempster
Hamper 17 – Mr Wayne
Hamper 18 – R. Goldsmith
Hamper 19 – Mr Humpreys
Hamper 20 – Mrs Pallett
Hamper 21 – Mrs Clark
Hamper 22 – Mrs Harrison
Hamper 23 – Mrs Medway
Hamper 24 – Mr Fenn

If you haven't already done so, please collect your prize from the school office.

And final mention to the Lifehouse Spa who have kindly donated the crackers for all the children Christmas lunch on Tuesday.

Next meeting will be on Thursday 19th December at 9am in the Rose & Crown. Everyone is welcome!

Reception 2020 Admissions



A reminder to all parents that admissions are now open for the 2020 Reception intake and will close on 15th January 2020. Full details and the application form are available at www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. Please complete and return to the school office, a completed supplementary information form to support your admission application. Details of our admissions policy and a copy of the supplementary information form can be found on the school website.



LEGO Group #BuildtoGive Campaign

The LEGO Group has recently launched the 2019 #BuildtoGive Campaign with the aim of donating 1 million LEGO® sets to children who find themselves in difficult circumstances during Christmas. LEGO fans of all ages are being called on to unleash their creativity for good by building fun, festive ornaments with LEGO bricks and sharing them on social media with #BuildtoGive or in participating stores. For every ornament built and shared, the LEGO Group will donate a LEGO set to a child in need of play.

Dates for your Diary:



December

17th – Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day
18th – Headteacher's Awards Assembly
18th – Whole School Carol Concert / Christmas Story at St Michael's Church 1.30pm
19th – RSA Meeting 9am
19th – Last day of term
20/12/2019 – 3/1/2020 – Christmas Holidays

January

6th – Non-Pupil Day
24th – Parent Meeting 2.30pm
28th – Parent Workshop - How to Help your Child with Reading in KS2 2pm
28th – Year 5 Parent Meeting for Kingswood Residential October 2020 3.15pm

February

4th – Parent Workshop - How to Help your Child Learn to Read using Phonics (KS1 focus) 2pm
11th – Parent Workshop - How to Keep your Child safe Online 2pm
17-21/2 – Half Term Holidays

March

4th – World Maths Day
5th – World Book Day
6th – Parent Meeting / Forum
10th – Parents Evening 3.30 – 5.00pm
11th – Parents Evening 3.30 – 5.00 / 5.30 – 7.00pm

April

2nd – Headteacher's Awards Assembly

3rd – Last day of term

6/4 – 17/4 Easter Holidays

20th – Non-Pupil Day

May

8th – Bank Holiday (moved from 4/5)

w/c 11th - Year 6 SATs Week

22nd – Parent Meeting

25/5 – 29/5 – Half Term Holidays

June

8th (3-week window opens) Year 4 Times Tables Check

8th (week of) Phonics Screening Checks

26th – Sports Day

July

3rd – Parent Meeting

11th – Tending Show

20th – Headteacher's Awards Assembly

22nd – Non-Pupil Day

Rolph Church of England Primary
School Lunch Menu
AUTUMN 2019 – WEEK 3

School lunch choices	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1 (Main)	Tuna and Sweetcorn Pizza	Christmas Dinner	Chicken Tikka Wrap	Spaghetti Bolognese	
Option 2 (Vegetarian)	Cheese and Tomato Pizza		Quorn Tikka Wrap	Spaghetti Napolitaine	
Option 3	Oven baked jacket potato with tuna & beans		Oven baked jacket potato with cheese	Deli roll filled with ham	
Accompaniments	Coleslaw Baked beans		Potato wedges	Garlic bread	
Dessert or Pudding	Jam Sponge with custard		Pancakes with squirty cream	Fruit Lolly	
Also available	Muller or Yeo Valley yoghurts Fresh fruit Serve yourself salad bar Fresh water or milk		Muller or Yeo Valley yoghurts Fresh fruit Serve yourself salad bar Fresh water or milk	Muller or Yeo Valley yoghurts Fresh fruit Serve yourself salad bar Fresh water or milk	