



# **Bumblebee Class Newsletter**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2026



Dear Parents,

Welcome to Bumblebee Class newsletters. It has been so lovely getting to know the children this week, as they begin their journey in school. A BIG well done to Bumblebees for trying their best this week.

## **School Lunches**

We have enjoyed our first few school lunches. Spaghetti Bolognese and Fish Finger Friday were very popular and today there were lots of clean plates by the end! We have been talking about good table manners and how it is polite to use our knives and forks to eat our food, as well sitting at the table nicely. Please can you support your child with learning how to use a knife and fork with their food. Lots of children needed help with these important skills this week. We try our best but with only two adults and twenty-six children, it can take us some time to get round to everyone. Thank you in advance for your help with this.

## **Phonics**

Since starting school, we have learnt our first six sounds; m, a, s, d, t and i. Today, we read our very first words too – the children were so excited! We read the words; am, Sam, mat, mad, sat and sad.

Today, your child has brought home their yellow 'Home Reading' record and the first six sounds to practise. Here at Ropley, we expect all children to practise their reading skills at home five times a week. In Reception class, this will look very different to the rest of the school, as we are at the very beginning stages of reading. Each day you hear your child read, please date and initial in their reading record. Reading in Bumblebee class could include any of the following during the autumn term;

- Practising the sounds of the week
- Going on a sound hunt
- Listening to a bedtime story
- Completing school reading tasks (when I have assessed your child to be ready)
- Spotting sounds or words on street signs or in shops.

Please leave your child's yellow home reading record in their book bag every day, thank you.

## Maths

In maths this week, numberblock one, two and three have been helping us to learn a new skill called subitising. Subitising is when you see a group of objects and know the number without counting them individually. This week we were focusing on the numbers one, two and three and how we can represent them in many different ways, shapes and patterns. We have also practised counting to five using our fingers.

## Child sickness and Medical Appointments

If your child is unwell, please phone the school and leave a message on the absence line. The phone is checked first thing each morning by Mrs Bullock. Please do not email the office if your child is unwell, as the message might not be picked up until later in the day.

If your child has a doctor's appointment, dentist or hospital appointment, please let the school office know. You may notify them via email in advance or by telephone. Thank you.

## Class Snack

Thank you so much for sending in an additional snack or two for your child. Please could I politely remind you that children are not allowed to have crisps or chocolate for their snack, it must be healthy. If you have any questions on this, please do ask.

## Toys, money and stationery

At school, we kindly ask that children do not bring into school any toys, money or coins (book bags or pockets) and stationery from home. The reason for this is we do not have space for them, I worry they will get lost or broken and we have all the resources here to support the children's learning. Several children have had toys on their book bags and a few have had money in their pockets as well.

The only time children can bring in **one, small toy** is when it is 'Show and Tell' day. I will let you know in our class newsletter when this will be. Thank you for your support and understanding with this.

## A message from the school office – Tucasi and Scopay

All Bumblebee parents should now have received an email containing a link to register for Tucasi/SCOPAY. Once you have registered your child, we strongly recommend downloading the SCOPAY app for easy access to school payments and bookings.

The SCOPAY app can be used to book our wraparound care provision:

- Breakfast Bees (morning childcare) from 7.30am
- The Hive (afternoon childcare) until 6.00pm

Further information about our wraparound care provision can be found on the school website under the Parents section, 'Extended Day'.

### Ropley CofE Primary School - Extended Day

Once you have logged into Tucasi, you can download the app, which will appear as SCOPAY on your phone. SCOPAY is used for booking wraparound care, school trips and from Year 3 onwards, school lunches.

Children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals. However, as Mr Mills explained during the initial parents' meeting, there is currently a funding shortfall of approximately 37p per meal, which schools are required to meet from their own budgets.

For families who would like to support the school with this additional cost, voluntary donations can be made via SCOPAY. A contribution of £1.85 per week, (£25 per term, per child) would greatly help us offset this funding gap and support the continued provision of high-quality resources and opportunities for all children. This can be paid via the **School Meal Shortfall** section on SCOPAY. We now have two separate donation pages on SCOPAY/Tucasi: **Donations to School** and **School Meal Shortfall**. Please do email the school office if you wish to discuss this further.

We thank you for your continued support of our school community.

### Dates for Next Week

#### **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

Bumblebee Class Library Slot. Today your child will get to choose their first library book of the year to bring home and share with you.

#### **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September**

PE with Miss Fisher-Smith – Please make sure long hair is tied up and any earrings are either removed or covered with tape.

#### **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September**

PE with Miss Fisher-Smith – Please make sure long hair is tied up and any earrings are either removed or covered with tape.

**Key dates to be aware of:**

- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September PTA AGM at Three Horseshoes at 7pm
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September Individual Photographs
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October Harvest Service at 9.30am
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October Parents Evening
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October Parents Evening
- Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Half Term

Have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you all again on Monday.

Kind regards,

Miss Fisher-Smith  
Bumblebee Class Teacher