



Ropley Church of England Primary School
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Headteacher: Mr D. Mills

Friday 18th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you found the Meet the Teacher sessions useful. We have worked hard to provide more information about what your child will be learning this year, how you can support their learning at home, and important reminders about school expectations and routines.

On our school website, you can find detailed information about the curriculum for each subject. We also encourage you to visit your child's year group page regularly. This year, we will be updating these pages more frequently with photographs of learning, curriculum updates, and key reminders to help you stay informed about life in school.

Today you will have been emailed your child's year group newsletter (Year 1 to 6) for this half term. This is another way to support parents with knowing more about the school's curriculum. For all of our children with a SEND need, you will also receive a 'Pupil Passport' with further information of how we are supporting individual pupils – this should be with you by Tuesday next week at the latest.

Below are some important dates and events to be aware of before half term:

Coffee, Cake and Curriculum	Phonics Workshop	Harvest Service
Have you heard children talking about Sticky Knowledge or Ropley Words? Are you still unsure what these mean? Come along to a workshop led by Mr Mills to hear more about the school's curriculum, what your child is learning and how you can best support them. Tuesday 29th September at 5.30pm in the school hall.	Suitable for parents of children in Year R and Year 1 to find out more about our phonics scheme and how you can support the children at home. Wednesday 30th September at 5pm in the school hall.	Parents and carers are welcome to join us for our Harvest Service held at St. Peter's Church. The children will sing a few songs and a few children in each class will present a reflection or piece of artwork. Friday 16th October at 9.30am
Parents' Evening	PTA AGM	
These will take place on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October. These sessions are predominantly to discuss how the children have settled into the start of the new academic year.	As we start the new school year, our wonderful PTA is looking for enthusiastic parents to join the committee and help shape another great year of events, fundraising and community activities for our school. Our current Co-Chairs are stepping down after several fantastic years, so we'd love to welcome new parents who would like to get involved. Join us for drinks and the AGM. Tuesday 22 September 7:30pm, Three Horseshoes, Bighton	

Punctuality

Our school day officially begins at 8.45am, with the gates opening at 8.35am to allow sufficient time for all children to arrive and settle into school.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind all parents and carers of the importance of punctuality.

Why is punctuality so important?

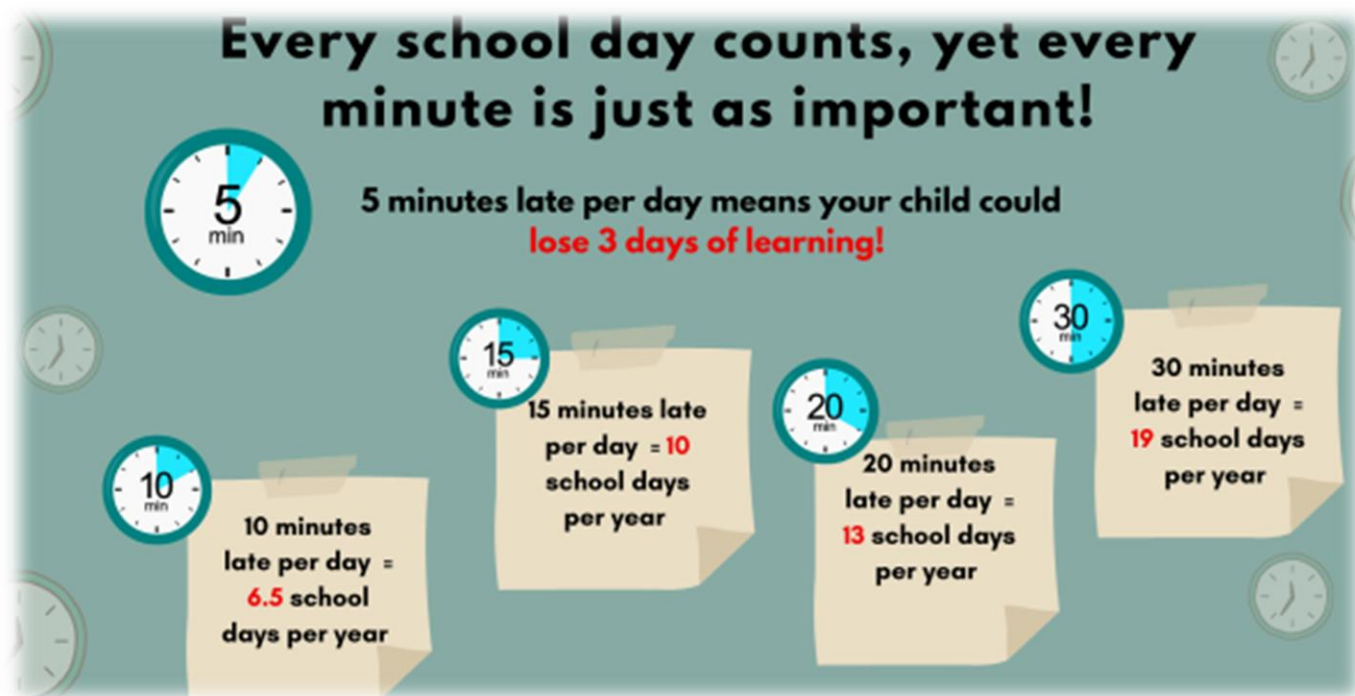
- Knowledge Jogger takes place at the start of every morning. This session revisits previously taught learning, helping children to retain key knowledge and enabling teachers to identify any gaps in understanding. If a child arrives just five minutes late, they miss most of this valuable learning time.
- Following Knowledge Jogger, we come together for our daily Collective Worship. We believe it is important for the whole school community to gather each morning. Children arriving late can delay their participation in worship, as administrative tasks such as recording registers and updating lunch orders must be completed first.
- When children arrive after lessons have begun, staff need to stop teaching to welcome them and explain instructions or activities. This can disrupt learning for the rest of the class and reduce valuable teaching time for all pupils.

Recording lateness

Schools have a legal duty to record all instances of lateness. If your child arrives after 8.45am, even by one minute, they must be signed in through the school office. As part of this process, you will be asked to provide a reason for the lateness, which we are required to record.

We kindly ask all families to make a conscious effort to ensure children arrive at school on time each day. Improving punctuality helps every child make the most of their education and ensures a positive start to the school day for all.

Thank you for your continued support.



Gate after school

To help maintain the security of our site during after-school activities, the side gate will be closed at 3:30pm each day.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to leave the school site promptly after collecting their children so that the gate can be secured. This allows our wraparound care and after-school club children to make full use of the outdoor facilities safely. Please also ensure that the gate is closed securely behind you whenever you enter or leave the site.

From 4:30pm, the gate will be locked and access will be managed via the intercom system. If you are collecting your child after this time, please use the intercom and a member of staff will arrange for your child to be brought to the gate.

The school is required to implement these arrangements to ensure compliance with updated safeguarding requirements, including Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a safe and secure environment for all members of our school community.

PTA AGM

Join us for drinks and the AGM. Tuesday 22 September 7:30pm, Three Horseshoes, Bighton

As we start the new school year, our wonderful PTA is looking for enthusiastic parents to join the committee and help shape another great year of events, fundraising and community activities for our school. Come along to the AGM to hear from Mr Mills about our impactful year and have a say on shaping future events and projects.

Our current Co-Chairs are stepping down after several fantastic years, so we'd love to welcome new parents who would like to get involved.

Roles available for nomination for 26/27:

- **2 x Co-Chair** – Lead the PTA alongside the other Co-Chair and help set priorities.
- **Treasurer** – Manage the PTA's finances, including budgets, payments and reporting. Matt Dalton has nominated.
- **Secretary** – Coordinate agendas, minutes, communications and administration. Bex Charlton has nominated.
- **General Member** - help with event planning, take the lead on a project e.g. claiming Gift Aid, IT improvements, payment systems, grant applications, salary matching, Charities Commission reporting, a new slick FROGS website?
- **Class Representatives** – class reps have already been nominated and will be formally appointed at the AGM (no requirement to attend though we would love to see you). Reps are technically part of the PTA however have their own WhatsApp group. Our brilliant reps connect class parents with the PTA and share key information.

To nominate for a role you don't need any previous PTA experience — just enthusiasm, ideas and a willingness to help. There are flexible ways to contribute, depending on the time you have available. We all have competing priorities to balance so we understand the juggle.

We'd like to think we're different from the average PTA. Does it feel like being in an episode of Motherland? Yes, sometimes, though being part of the PTA is a meaningful way to support the school community and make a real difference to the children's experience. There are funding gaps every year and the money raised has immediate and direct impact to the education experience of our children making involvement especially rewarding.

If you'd like to put yourself forward or find out more, please contact Cat D'Alton on 07961 582702 or any of the current PTA.

We'd love to hear from you — new faces, fresh ideas and anyone happy to get stuck in are always very welcome!

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D. Mills', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr Daniel Mills