



*We saw his star in the East and we have come to worship him*

## BEE RECOGNISED

In our Bee Book and in Celebration Worship this week the following children were recognised:

**Bumblebees:** *Millie C and Autumn P* for having a great attitude during all learning this week. They have shown great listening skills and have tried their very best. Well done Millie and Autumn. *Phoebe H* for bee-ing a wonderful friend. She is caring towards others and very helpful too! Well done!

**Honey Bees:** *Oscar L* for bee-ing a brilliant partner in computing. You really helped your partner and listened carefully to instructions. You were kind and respectful and a really lovely friend. *Emily I* for brilliant acting during our role play this week. You listened carefully to instructions and really got into role as you discovered a panda!

**Carpenter Bees:** *George R, Rosie R and McKenna F* for already following our school rules of Ready, Respectful and Safe. You have settled into our class perfectly, already contributing superb ideas in class discussions while always having a smile on your faces. You should feel really proud!

**Year 3:** *Hattie B* for quite simply blowing Miss Richards away this week! She has been focused, hard working and has completed every task she has been asked to do, you are a superstar, Hattie! *Eva McC* for some fantastic English this week, she understood how to use different types of conjunctions and applied them to her own writing. *Katie A* for trying hard to write her own sentences independently, using her phonics to accurately spell different words.

**Year 4:** *James S* for working really hard to improve his presentation and handwriting. James is working each morning with determination to succeed. It is really beginning to pay off James, keep it up. *Sienna J* for having such a 'can do' attitude to all her learning, but this week she has worked especially hard in maths, sticking at challenging multiplication work and getting the correct answers by writing her thinking down step by step. *Micky N* for challenging himself in his writing this week, adding ambitious noun phrases, personification and similes along with the prepositions we were focusing on. That's great, Micky!

**Year 5:** *Ayanna NC, Cecily W, Olivia Y and Jake S* for listening really well and learning fractions.

**Year 6:** *Gabriel C, Jack W and Jeff C* for their excellent English work this week. They have gone above and beyond to extend their sentences and use high level, adventurous vocabulary to describe a fairy tale wolf to great effect.

*Blu B and Claude W* for their fantastic wolf writing, they worked well together to create an amazing, spine chilling and clever description from the wolf's perception of himself.

## WELCOME BACK!

It has been lovely to welcome all of the children back to school, including some new families who have joined us! The children look very smart in their uniform which unites us all together as a Ropley School family. Thank you to everyone for making the effort to ensure your children are wearing the correct uniform.

We do not encourage the wearing of boots as these do not tend to support ankles and feet and are uncomfortable when sitting cross legged. School shoes should be black and well fitting so that children can run around safely at break and lunch times. Sport style school shoes are acceptable, as long as they are all black - including the sole! For full details of our uniform expectations, please see our website here:

## School Uniform

A reminder that the side gate opens at **8.35am** and children should all be in class, ready to learn, by the time the bell rings at **8.45am**. Please make the effort to get your child to school on time as this gives them the right start to the day, allowing them time to put away their belongings, chat to friends and order their lunch!

## MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOL

A reminder that if your child has a mobile phone in school then it must be handed into the school office at the beginning of the day. Please email Miss Vittle with your reasons why your child needs to have a mobile phone in school.



## PARKING ..... again!

A reminder that parents should use the village hall car park for pick up and drop off. Parking in Hale Close is causing difficulties for our parents who genuinely need to use the blue badge holder spaces. Inconsiderate parking in the roads around school cause distress to our neighbours and residents of Ropley.

Please **DO NOT PARK IN HALE CLOSE, IN THE DISABLED BAYS (UNLESS YOU ARE ENTITLED TO) OR IN BETWEEN THE ZIGZAGS!** It is only a couple of minutes to walk to and from the village hall. We are so lucky to have dedicated parking on our doorstep - please use it!



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Happy Birthday** to all the children who have their birthday in this week :

*April H*

*Oliver H*

If you would like to donate a book, or something else, for your child's birthday, the link to our wishlist is:

<https://amzn.eu/bXvpSme>

## NEW FOR 2024!

### CAFE CHURCH

### 1ST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

St Peter's Church is running a new form of family friendly worship on the 1st Sunday of every month at 10 am. Starting with coffee, refreshments and a chance to chat, the informal service will then take place, with children taking part as they wish, and doing craft. Come along and find out more this Sunday. See you there!



## INCLUSION HUB

The next session will be held on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January** at school in the staffroom at 8:50am (straight after drop off). We will be discussing managing homework expectations and supporting healthy sleep habits during the winter. Parents of all children welcome - specifically children with additional needs / parents who wish to seek support.

## THANK YOU

A very big thank you from all the staff for the lovely gifts that we received at the end of term. The chocolates and biscuits were very well received (and needed) in the staff room and the personal gifts were so thoughtful and not expected. We are very lucky to work with such lovely families.



## FROGS Back to School Quiz!

**Friday 2 February 7:15pm**

**St Peter's Church, Ropley**

Tickets go on sale next week for our first evening social. "School Dinner" kindly provided by the Tichborne Arms (included in ticket price) and prizes kindly sponsored by house. Partnership. Team leader to sign up by email with your team name, team members and any food allergies. Alternatively send FROGS an email and we can pair you up and create mixed teams. It's set to be a fun evening, complete with tuck shop and bar so be sure to secure your early bird tickets before **19th January**! Space is limited. Cash and card payments accepted at school morning drop off **Monday 8th January and Friday 12th January** or pay by BACS. And remember no cheating, detention and forfeits will be given!

**See the poster on Page 3!**



## DIARY DATES

**New dates or changes in bold**

Mon 8th Jan	Inclusion Hub with Mrs Hayes 9am at school
Mon 8th Jan	KS2 Football Club starts, 3.15-4.15pm
Mon 15th Jan	Yr R 2024 Applications Portal Closes
<b>Tues 18th Jan</b>	<b>Mindfulness Club starts, 3.15-4.00pm</b>
Wed 17th Jan	Phonics & Reading Workshop for Parents, 9am
<b>Thur 18th Jan</b>	<b>Computing and STEM Clubs start 3.15pm to 4pm</b>
Tues 23rd Jan	KS2 Maths Workshop for Parents 9am
Mon 29th Jan	KS1 Maths Workshop for Parents 9am
Wed 31st Jan	Runways End Activity Day, Yrs 3, 4 & 5 Year 6 Height & Weight
<b>Fri 2nd Feb</b>	<b>FROGS Evening Social and Quiz</b>
Tues 6th Feb	Safer Internet Day
Wed 7th Feb	Year 6 Flight Simulator Experience
Fri 9th Feb	Pancake Races Break for Half Term
Mon 19th Feb	INSET Day
Tues 20th Feb	Return to School Spring 2
Thur 29th Feb	Last Teacher Led Club Session
Fri 1st Mar	House Cross Country, 2pm
Thur 7th Mar	World Book Day
Wed 13th Mar	Parents Evening 3.30pm-6.30pm
Thur 14th Mar	Parents Evening 3.30pm-6.30pm
Fri 15th Mar	Comic Relief Day
Wed 20th mar	Full Governing Body Meeting
Thur 28th Mar	Easter Performance to Parents at St Peter's, 9.30am Open Afternoon for parents to view Children's books, 2pm
Thur 28th Mar	Break for Easter
Mon 15th Apr	Return to School Summer 1
Fri 24th May	INSET Day Break for Half Term

## DONATIONS TO SCHOOL

A very big thank you to those parents who have made donations to school following our report on how funding is made by Central Government and how it is used in our budget, particularly the **shortfall of 46p per Universal Infant Free School Meal** which all children in Years R, 1 and 2 are entitled to.

These donations, no matter the size, will make a significant difference to the provision that we can make for each and every child and we cannot thank you enough for your support. If you would like to make a donation, either a one off or a regular amount, please take a look in your Scopay Account where you will find 'Donations To School'. The amount is entirely up to you - every penny makes a difference!





# FROGS QUIZ NIGHT



## BACK TO SCHOOL!



Teams max 6 (we can find you team mates if needed)

Submit team name, members & food allergies by email

Tickets by email or morning drop off 8 & 12 Jan (other sales dates will be released)


Early bird tickets £12 per person/£72 per team - cash & card

No cheating! Detentions/forfeits will be given!





Friday 2 February 2024, 7:15pm

St Peter's Church, Ropley



TUCK SHOP & BAR OPENS 7:15PM

QUIZ 8PM



"SCHOOL DINNER" INCLUDED, KINDLY

PROVIDED BY THE TICHBORNE ARMS

PRIZES SPONSORED BY house. Partnership



Early bird tickets 8-19 Jan

£15 pp regular price



## Top Tips for...

# MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

BUY  
MILK

### GET OUT AND ABOUT

If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Even a stroll to the local shop would do: the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

### TRY A TIMED TRIAL

When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

### GO DIGITAL DETOX

Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

### LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

### AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES

Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

### HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY

As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

### BE MINDFUL OF TIME

Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

### 'PARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT

Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

### SWITCH ON DND

Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

### TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK

Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

### SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS

When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

### WIND DOWN PROPERLY

Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

## Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



DEVICE  
BOX

The  
National  
College



National  
Online  
Safety

#WakeUpWednesday





## **PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING**

Every year, the Government allocates funding to schools to help address the national trend that disadvantaged students do not attain as highly as non-disadvantaged students. This valuable extra money is allocated to schools to provide additional or enhanced provision, so that no child is left behind in their education as a result of financial circumstances. This can include subsidising after school clubs and trips as well as providing additional learning support or resources in class, for example.

### **Eligibility criteria**

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Parents and carers can check eligibility simply and easily by visiting:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants/>

and clicking on 'New Application'. Once you have input your details it will return an instant result and notify the school office electronically of your eligibility. If you would prefer us to check on your behalf, please email Mrs Burr with YOUR name, YOUR date of birth and YOUR national insurance number. We would like to reassure you that all applications made are confidential and no child is identified as a Pupil Premium child in any way in their day to day school life. Equally being entitled to free school meals does not mean your child has to eat a meal every day!

**Even if your child is in Year R, 1 or 2 and already entitled to Universal Free School Meals, if you think you might be entitled to this benefit please complete the form. This valuable extra funding ensures that we can offer many different types of support throughout the years your child is at our school and will ensure they continue to receive free school meals as they move into KS2.**

**Just one day of qualifying entitlement = 6 years of funding!  
Current funding = £1455 per child per academic year**