

How lucky are we to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK

Thank you to all the parents who joined us at the Church today to say goodbye to Miss Vittle and to watch the fantastic performance of the Easter story from our Year 3 children. A big thank you, also, to FROGS who supplied their usual delicious refreshments and toasted hot cross buns during our Open Afternoon today!

We would also like to wish **Katie Nicholson-Best** and **Freya Baldwin** every success in their future teaching career. Both of them have been on their final teaching practice placement with us this term, and they have been an absolute blessing to our staffing team, fitting in from day one. The children in Honey Bee and Beekeeper Classes will miss them, as will the staff.

We hope everyone has a lovely Easter break and we look forward to welcoming you back for the summer term on Monday 15th April.

INSET DAYS

Inset days for the academic year 2024-25 have now been agreed with Governors as follows:

Monday 2nd September 2024
Tuesday 3rd September 2024
Monday 18th November 2024
Monday 24th February 2025
Monday 2nd June 2025

A new School Term and Holiday Dates for Academic Year 2024-25 has been uploaded to our website here:

[Approved Term Dates for 2024-25](#)

Please scroll down to the bottom of the page and, if you wish, download and print out. We will not be issuing hard copies to parents this year. The new calendar will be uploaded to the main page once this academic year has closed. A copy can also be found on page 4 of this newsletter.

HAMPSHIRE APPROVED SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2024-25

SEPTEMBER 2024	OCTOBER 2024	NOVEMBER 2024
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	3	3
4	4	4
5	5	5
6	6	6
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31	31	31

A MESSAGE FROM MISS VITTLE

It is with a heavy heart that I write a final message to you all at Ropley. Simply put, I have loved my time here as your Headteacher.

Along the way there have been difficult times and challenges (who can forget Covid?!) but these have always been superseded by so many positives.

The children at Ropley are the school's shining light. They are reflective, responsive and full of joy. I love how keen they are to sweep me into their learning by sharing facts and top tips when I visit classrooms. Reading their work, listening to their insights and watching compassion flourish before my eyes has left a clear imprint on my Ropley memories.

The team of adults supporting and teaching the children are a pleasure to work alongside. They are a highly skilled and compassionate team who regularly go the extra mile for the children and each other. I can't imagine a better team!

As parents you are overwhelmingly supportive, honest and engaged. Hearing, 'I've heard great things about Ropley,' from visitors, new parents and sometimes strangers on the street fills me with pride. You're the best advocates for the school!

I will miss Ropley more than I can say. I would like to thank each and every one of you, children, staff, parents and governors for giving me the opportunity to grow and develop as a leader in such a wonderfully unique and caring school. I am confident that I am leaving you in Miss Kirby's capable hands and the intrinsic values and ethos of the school will continue to radiate. With my best wishes to you all.

Miss Vittle



END OF TERM ROUNDUP

What a fabulous end to the term. Thankfully the rain did not stop play and we were able to welcome many of you to the church to see the Year 3 children perform 'Three Trees'. What absolute stars they were, their lines were remembered and delivered beautifully and their singing was

amazing, especially the duets! What talent we have in our school.



We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. Lots of photos on our website here: [Easter Performance](#)

Thank you to everyone who braved the wind and rain to come to our Open Afternoon and see the amazing work that is happening in the classrooms. There is so much that we just aren't able to share, it is wonderful to see the children proudly showing off their work. The children who made Easter bonnets took part in a parade in the hall. There were

so many brilliant bonnets, it was almost impossible to choose a winner but Miss Vittle decided that the winning entry was one that showcased the child's personality in their own unique way. Congratulations to **WILLOW S** for her



winning entry! An album of all the entries is on our website here [Easter Bonnet Parade](#)

We look forward to a summer term of better weather along with more learning and fun!

NORMA'S GARDEN

Huge thanks to **Garthowen Garden Centre** who supplied the landscaping materials for Norma's Garden at favourable rates as well as donating lots of seeds to the school garden, and to **Mark Saban of South Downs Oak** who very generously donated the smartest 50m hosepipe any of us have seen. Thanks to parents **Cherry and Cat**, our garden designer **Dilys**, and our Governor **Jo Rodgers and her daughters (ex-students) Emily and Hannah**, who helped with the Groundforce afternoon to prepare the ground and lay stepping stones. We can't wait to see Norma's colorful flower garden take shape over the next few weeks as planting begins!

We now need your plant donations so that the garden is ready to encourage the insects and wildlife over the summer. There is a list in the village shop and also in the school entrance lobby of the plants that we need. If you have any in your garden that you are willing to split and donate, please sign your name on the list so we know what is coming in. Plants can be dropped into school after Easter and left behind Bess, the sheep for Mrs Hilder and Mrs Godfrey who will plant them with Gardening Club. Any financial donations are also gratefully received so that any gaps can be bought from the garden centre. Just pop an envelope into the secure letter box in the entrance lobby.



Blu B

Sofia M

Juliet B

Vinnie U

Ellie N

Olivia Y

Ewan C

Olly B

Fraser McD

Jago M

Micky N

Finley G

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>

This week's theme in Worship was about the Last Supper. The children considered why Jesus and his disciples arrived in Jerusalem and that Jesus rode on a donkey. They also learnt about how Jesus washed his disciples feet and why. Jesus said 'You say that I am your teacher and your Lord, and that is true, but now I have become like a servant by washing your feet. I am setting an example to all of you'. He wanted them to show love and respect for each other, even when he wasn't around. This is a lesson that is still needed today. We should all show love and respect for others.



NEWS FROM THE HIVE



We have been taking advantage of some of the dry weather we've had over the last couple of weeks, and been spending a bit more playtime outside.

It has been a busy few weeks at Breakfast Bees and Extended Day, there have been allsorts of craft, games and even baking!

Some of the children have made pom poms using wool, coloured some Easter and spring pictures, made Easter cards and painted daffodils, tulips and trees with blossom, which are displayed on our board in The Hive, please do come in and have a look. The children are always so proud of what they have created. This week the children also made some delicious chocolate Easter nests to take home (which seemed to be a favourite activity!!)



We have made good use of the hall when we have been really busy and the weather hasn't been too good. We've played Twister, badminton, football, dodgeball, hide and seek, as well as other games.

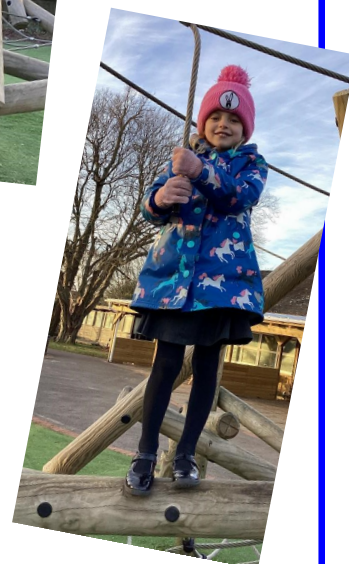
There are always lots of different activities set out daily, such as, soldiers with the wooden castle, dragon Lego, Loom bands and Hama beads, as well as lots of board games. Monopoly and football Top Trumps have been popular recently! The children always get to choose what they would like to get out and play with whatever their interests are.

REMINDERS

Please ensure that you collect your children at **6pm Monday-Thursday** and **Friday at 4.30pm**. **You will be charged a late pick up fee if you collect your child late.** If for any reason you are going to be late, we would appreciate a phone call.

A reminder that if your child arrives at breakfast club between **8.15am and 8.30am**, they will only be offered toast or cereal. This allows the children time to eat and also the staff time to clear up and put everything away as the Hive is also used as a classroom every morning. Although we do offer a variety of options at breakfast club, such as porridge, bacon sandwiches, fresh fruit, yoghurt etc, it is simply not possible to offer this variety after 8.15am. Children arriving after 8.30am will not be offered food.

Thank you for your continued support.
The Extended Day Team



SPRING TERM 2

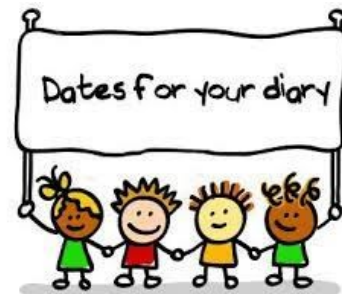
Sat 30th March

Crafty Easter - 10am, St Peter's Church

Sun 7th April

Café Church - 10am, St Peter's Church, All Welcome

Join us for a more informal way of worship, with good coffee and pastries / cake served.



SUMMER TERM 1

Mon 15th April

Return to School Summer 1

Wed 17th April

Inclusion Hub Meeting, 8.45am

Wed 1st May

Wear Any Shoes of Your Choice for Wacky Wednesday

Tues 7th May

Yr R Summer born - School Nurse - Height, Weight and Vision

Wed 22nd May

Year 6 to Archaeological Dig, Colemore, for afternoon

Wear Any Top of Your Choice for Wacky Wednesday

Year 4 & 5 Dress Rehearsal

Thur 23rd May

Founders Day

Year 4 & 5 Performance, 6.15pm

Fri 24th May

INSET Day

Break for Half Term



SUMMER TERM 2

Mon 3rd June

Return to School Summer 2

Mon 3rd June

Bikeability for Year 6

Tues 4th June

Bikeability for Year 6

Fri 14th June

Class Photos and Individual Year 6 Photos

Mon 17th June

INSET Day

Wed 19th June

Wear Any Bottom of Your Choice for Wacky Wednesday

New Year R Parents Meeting, 6pm

Tues 25th June

Move On Morning No 1

Fri 28th June

Sports Day, 2pm

Wed 3rd July

Move On Morning No 2

Fri 5th July

Mufti Day for Wacky Wednesday

(Even though it's a Friday!)



Tues 9th July

Move On Morning No 3 (New Yr R)

Wed 10th July

Year 6 Leavers Performance (TBC)

Fri 12th July

Thank You Tea Party, 2pm

Fri 19th July

Year 6 Leavers Service, St Peters, 9.30am

Tue 23rd July

Break for Summer



WINTER TERM 2024/25

Mon 2nd Sept

INSET Day

Tue 3rd Sept

INSET Day

Wed 4th Sept

Return to School for 2024/25

Fri 27th Sept

Individual Photos

Mon 30th Sept

Year 6 to Avon Tyrrell





27th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

WHAT A SHOW!

The Drama Beast is so proud of all our 'Ropley Beasties' who gave performances of a lifetime in last Tuesday's showcase. We have adored watching their confidence and creativity grow this term and we loved seeing the smiles on their faces and hilarious characters as they performed. The whole school had the opportunity to watch their Drama Beast friends in action and they were such a supportive audience, with lots of cheering and applause. The Drama Beast has many exciting, dramatic activities planned for drama club next term and we have a few spaces remaining, so do get in touch if you'd like to enrol your child. We always welcome new Drama Beasts!



Drama Club Details

Ropley CofE Primary drama club runs for one hour each Tuesday afternoon by our very experienced Drama Coach, Jack Shaw-Downie. The sessions are straight after school in the Ropley Coffee Rooms from 3.15pm to 4.15pm. The children are collected from school and walked to the Coffee Rooms by Jack and Anneliese. We ask that children are collected from the Coffee Rooms at 4.15pm. The cost of each drama session is £7 per child. Sign-up is per term, but you can join at any point throughout the term (assuming there are spaces) and fees will be altered accordingly. Fees for the term are payable in advance direct to *The Drama Beast*.



The Drama Beast / 4 Windermere Gardens, Alresford, SO24 9NL
admin@dramabeasts.com / 07787 537083

What we do in Ropley Drama Club

The weekly drama sessions are part of school's Enrichment Programme, giving the children an opportunity to **be creative, improvise and rehearse together**, perform short plays, **build confidence** and develop their **communication and other life skills** through drama activities and games. Drama Beast clubs are not just for 'drama queens and kings', but also for those children who require support coming out of their shell. Some of our most experienced Drama Beasts started with us extremely shy and anxious, but with support in a nurturing, inspiring, creative environment, they have turned into the most confident and motivated individuals.



Additional benefits your children might experience by participating in our drama classes:

- Improved social skills, concentration and coordination
- Ability to work as a team, as well as perform individually
- Improved self-esteem and reduction in shyness
- Opportunity to let imagination run free



Should you have any queries regarding drama club, or if you wish to register your interest and enrol your child, please contact us on admin@dramabeasts.com quoting your child's name, age and school.

With thanks,

Nicky Gower

Nicky Gower
The Drama Beast Principal



The Drama Beast / 4 Windermere Gardens, Alresford, SO24 9NL
admin@dramabeasts.com / 07787 537083

SEPTEMBER 2024					
M	26		9	16	23
T	27		10	17	24
W	28	4	11	18	25
T	29	5	12	19	26
F	30	6	13	20	27
S	31	7	14	21	28
S	1	8	15	22	29

OCTOBER 2024					
M	30	7	14	21	28
T		1	8	15	22
W		2	9	16	23
T		3	10	17	24
F		4	11	18	25
S		5	12	19	26
S		6	13	20	27

NOVEMBER 2024					
M		4	11		25
T		5	12	19	26
W		6	13	20	27
T		7	14	21	28
F	1	8	15	22	29
S	2	9	16	23	30
S	3	10	17	24	

DECEMBER 2024					
M		2	9	16	23
T		3	10	17	24
W		4	11	18	25
T		5	12	19	26
F		6	13	20*	27
S		7	14	21	28
S	1	8	15	22	29

JANUARY 2025					
M	30	6*	13	20	27
T	31	7	14	21	28
W		1	8	15	22
T		2	9	16	23
F		3	10	17	24
S		4	11	18	25
S		5	12	19	26

FEBRUARY 2025					
M		3	10	17	
T		4	11	18	25
W		5	12	19	26
T		6	13	20	27
F		7	14	21	28
S	1	8	15	22	
S	2	9	16	23	

MARCH 2025					
M		3	10	17	24
T		4	11	18	25
W		5	12	19	26
T		6	13	20	27
F		7	14	21	28
S	1	8	15	22	29
S	2	9	16	23	30

APRIL 2025					
M	31	7	14	21	28
T		1	8	15	22*
W		2	9	16	23
T		3	10	17	24
F		4*	11	18	25
S		5	12	19	26
S		6	13	20	27

MAY 2025					
M		5	12	19	26
T		6	13	20	27
W		7	14	21	28
T	1	8	15	22	29
F	2	9	16	23	30
S	3	10	17	24	31
S	4	11	18	25	

JUNE 2025					
M			9	16	23
T		3	10	17	24
W		4	11	18	25
T		5	12	19	26
F		6	13	20	27
S		7	14	21	28
S	1	8	15	22	29

JULY 2025					
M	30	7	14	21	28
T		1	8	15	22*
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T		3	10	17	24
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AUGUST 2025					
M		4	11	18	25
T		5	12	19	26
W		6	13	20	27
T		7	14	21	28
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 INSET Day

**Ropley CC Womens & Girls
Cricket Taster Session**
Tuesday 9th April 2024
18:30 to 20:00
@Ropley Cricket Club

Free Event



- 'The Ashes' BBQ
- Bar
- Music
- Raffle
- Serious Cricket
- CoppaFeel
- H&EH Mind
- Cake Stall for Indatwa
- Alresford Beauty
- History Heroes
- Hampshire Cricket Board
- We've got game / Period Dignity

**Pavilion
Events**



**#WE GOT
GAME.**

www.cookstars.co.uk



@CookStarsMidHants



@jocookstars

FUN COOKING CLASSES

Spaces available for the Summer term ages 5-11yrs
Please email jo@cookstars.co.uk



**Tuesday's we collect from
school, pick up at village
hall 4.45pm**
**Delicious recipes brought
home every week for the
family to enjoy**

All ingredients included!
plus a craft activity & a recipe card to keep



Call / Text Jo: 07735 832 282

Email: jo@cookstars.co.uk

Book Online: <https://cook-stars-mid-hants.class4kids.co.uk>

29th April 7-8pm

Come and join us online, we're talking about

Helping kids back into school



FREE

Book online facefamilyadvice.co.uk
go to the PARENT page



Happy Easter...summer term bookings
happening now!

April 2024
Newsletter



The CPD Standards Office
CPD PROVIDER 22640
2024-2025
www.cpdstandards.co.uk

Approved CPD training for anyone who works with
children or teenagers.
**National Standards CPD accredited
with certificate**



Helping kids back into school
School refusal is a growing concern.
This session looks at why it is occurring
and offers supportive ideas to assist
parents.



Cannabis Awareness
Still on the increase, are you able to
talk to young people about this drug?
Get the facts and the confidence to be
able to have the conversation.



**Understanding Addictive
Behaviour**
Screens, gaming, social media.
What is happening to the brain and
body and how can we control it.

Thursday
18 April
19:00 - 21:00
£24

facefamilyadvice.co.uk.

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

A Parent's Guide to Cyberbullying



Many young people who are victims of cyberbullying suffer in silence.

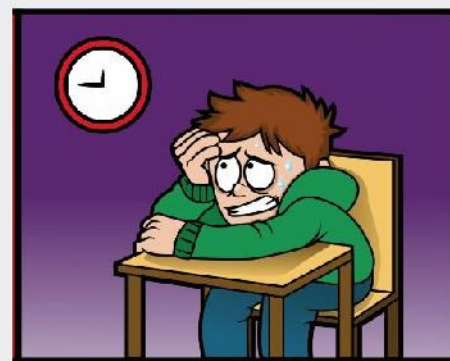
They feel they can't turn to parents or a trusted adult for support as they fear they may get in trouble or have their devices taken away from them. It can carry on all day, all evening and all weekend for the world to see, causing a lot of emotional stress to the victim and their family.



scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online



It can very quickly lead to the victim feeling trapped, scared and vulnerable to grooming and blackmail.



Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipssed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CLICKBAIT

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Clickbait is a controversial online marketing strategy which uses sensationalist (and frequently misleading) headlines to encourage engagement with an article, image or video – often playing on users' emotions and curiosity, while much of the actual content is of questionable accuracy. Clickbait is also sometimes used to disguise scams, phishing sites and malware.

HARMFUL MISINFORMATION

Clickbait tends to play fast and loose with the truth, opting for eye-catching content over objectivity. This is particularly dangerous for younger internet users, who are generally more susceptible to that type of material. A child could be presented with fake news, misleading articles and – in some cases – outright lies without fully understanding what they're viewing and why it's harmful.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Due to the misleading nature of many examples of clickbait, what may seem to be innocuous and child friendly could actually contain age-inappropriate material such as extremist political views or violent, pornographic or sexually explicit content. This is clearly a hazard for young people, who could be upset, disturbed or influenced by exposure to such subject matter.

HIDDEN MALWARE

While most clickbait is simply trying to promote engagement to earn companies additional revenue, some of it does redirect to dubious sites with the potential to infect devices with viruses or malware. This could put a child's sensitive data – such as their name, their location and their date of birth – at risk of being accessed and exploited by malicious hackers.

PRIVACY PROBLEMS

Some clickbait leads to sites which could coax a child into volunteering their personal data – using pop-ups to ask them for their email address and phone number, for example, in exchange for accessing additional content or subscribing to various services. Normally, this harvested information is then sold to third parties, who often utilise it for targeted adverts and other sales schemes.

A DRAINING DISTRACTION

Clickbait encourages spiralling consumption of online content, which could easily result in a young person spending hours scrolling aimlessly instead of doing something productive or interacting with family and friends. This can leave them tired, disocial and lacking focus – and, in the long term, can negatively impact their social skills, education and mental wellbeing.

IMPACT ON BEHAVIOUR

Depending on the type of clickbait a child is interacting with, you might notice negative changes in their behaviour. Weight loss scams, for example, are common among clickbait and have the potential to influence eating habits and body image – while deliberately inflammatory 'rage bait' articles can leave impressionable young people feeling irritable, restless or argumentative.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START A CONVERSATION

The sheer volume of clickbait can make protecting children against it quite challenging. It's vital to talk to young people regularly about the types of content they encounter online, so that they understand the risks of engaging with clickbait. If you're still concerned, it may also be wise to keep an eye on children's online activity to ensure they're not being tempted by clickbait headlines.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Encouraging children to question the legitimacy of sensational headlines and too-good-to-be-true promises will help them to become savvier online – and far less likely to be drawn in by clickbait content. These critical thinking skills will also serve to protect them in other areas of the digital world where misinformation is becoming increasingly common.

SPOT THE TELLTALE SIGNS

There are certain common elements in clickbait, including headlines and images that use shock and outrage to grab people's attention – as well as numbered lists, such as '8 Facts You Won't Believe Are True'. Some clickbait combines several of these tactics to snag users' interest. Learn to recognise these techniques for yourself so you can teach children to notice them as well.

TAKE CONTROL

Many parents opt to place limits on how long their children can spend online each day, which obviously reduces the chance of exposure to clickbait. Alternatively, most internet-enabled devices have built-in controls that allow parents to manage what sort of online content their child can access – including filtering by age, which can screen out a percentage of inappropriate material.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology writer with more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, she is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant who writes for Forbes, TechRadar and Wired, among others.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



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**