



Rowlands Gill Primary School

30.04.21 Newsletter

Summer Term Begins

I hope you all had a lovely Easter break and that the children (and staff) have all re-charged their batteries for our Summer term, which we hope may see some return to normality for us all.

A Moment in Time

As most of you will have noticed, new housing is being built by Linden Homes on our former infant school site. We are very excited to announce that we have been selected to work alongside the developers in order to create a time capsule which will be buried there. Head Boy and Head Girl are already geared up to assist us leading this very important project.

I am sure you all agree that this pandemic will mark a significant time in our history. As a school community, we would like tell our own story. We will be creating a Bayeux Tapestry-style memory in which all staff and pupils of Rowlands Gill Primary School will create their own piece of artwork. Children will work in class on a variety of pieces which will celebrate the darkness finally beginning to lift and normality returning to our lives. By the end we will have our very own, very long, paper 'tapestry' which will combine the work from every child.



The time capsule will include a video of the children working on the tapestry over several weeks. It will also contain photographs and memorable items that remind us of the challenges we have faced to safeguard ourselves during the pandemic e.g. facemasks, hand gel etc. A press release is due to be published shortly to inform the wider community of our exciting project.

By now you should have received a consent form via eSchools which will permit us to use your child's image in a variety of publications in relation to this project. Please return it to school as soon as possible.

Goodbye and Thank You

We are saying a sad goodbye and big thank you to our lunchtime supervisor, Mrs Agnew who leaves us at the end of next week to start a full time job. We wish her well in her new role.



Parents' Evenings

The booking system for Parents' Evening has now closed, however, if you would still like to arrange a parent evening telephone appointment then please contact your child's class teacher using the class email address to make arrangements.

Welcome to the Team!

We'd like to welcome 3 new members to our team. Miss Begum is supporting classes 1/2M and 2W and Mrs Titterton is working with Year 5 as part of our Covid intervention recovery programme.

Mrs Richardson will also be joining our team on the 10th May as a lunchtime supervisor. Many of you may already know her, as she is a parent too!

Health and Safety Reminder

Recently we have a couple of accidents where children have been quite badly scratched. This has happened accidentally during play when children have overly long finger nails.

I would really appreciate it if you could ensure children's finger nails are kept short.



Dates for Your Diary:



3rd May—School Closed; May Day Bank Holiday
6th May—Election day (main entrance closed)
14th May—3L Pedestrian Training Session
21st May—3L Pedestrian Training Session
28th May—3L Pedestrian Training Session
31st May—4th June—Summer Half Term Holiday
2nd July—School Closed; Occasional Day holiday
12th July—Sports Week
15th July—School Sports Day
23rd July—End of Term

PE Kit

Please remember that our PE kit consists of a white top and black shorts, with the option of a black / dark coloured tracksuit or joggers and hoodie.

Crop tops are not suitable for PE.

I do understand that with the children wearing PE kit for two full days, that it may not always be possible for them to wear the exact PE kit, however your support to adhere to this as much as possible is appreciated.

We are currently looking into continuing the system of children wearing PE kit for the whole day as a permanent change. We are currently looking into the options of an official school PE kit with our uniform supplier. More details will follow soon.



6th May Local Elections

Our school is being used a Polling Station for the local elections but will remain **OPEN FOR ALL CHILDREN** because the only area of school which is affected is the front reception.

To allow for Covid safety the **front office and main entrance will NOT be open to staff, parents or children**. Therefore, if you arrive late and miss your gate please ring school and we will arrange a different entry point with you.

7B children will still arrive / leave via the car park and Miss Wood will escort the children into / out of school via the MUGA.

Parent Governor Thank You

I'd like to say a huge thank you to Jill Burrell, our parent governor who has recently come to the end of her term of office after 4 years.

I'm sure you will agree that during the last 4 years, the school has seen some huge and very positive changes and Jill has played a big part in the decisions made by the Governing Body and the monitoring activities which they undertake.

She has also been an active volunteer in school; part of the PTA and during Covid lockdowns delivered free school meals and work packs to families.

Thank you Jill!



Parent Governor Election

Please remember to return your ballot paper to vote for our next parent governor **by noon on Wednesday, 5th May**.

Ballot boxes are available at both gates every morning for you to post your ballot papers in.



Sunny Weather is Coming (I Hope)

Please remember to send in a sun hat to keep in school this term and sun cream (clearly labelled with your child's name).

Please ensure your child has sun cream on before they come to school and that they are able to re-apply sun cream to their exposed areas if needed. This will be done at lunchtime.

We acknowledge that for some of the Early Years children this may not be possible. In these cases, staff will help children, or apply sun cream for them on exposed skin using the sun cream which the child has in school.

If your child is in KS1 or KS2 and is unable to re-apply sun cream to themselves, please contact the school office.



3 Pages Today - Please Keep Reading!



Safer Internet Competition Finalists

During lockdown, the children were invited to enter the SafeToNet Safer Internet Day competition. The KS1 children were asked to create a storyboard to teach children with how to be safe online. In KS2, children were asked to design technology that made the internet safer for children.

I am proud to announce that we had two highly commended finalists from KS1 and KS2. In KS1 Leah has received her highly commended certificate for her creativity in her storyboard and Lily in KS2 has received her certificate for her artistic work.

Well done to both finalists and thank you to everyone who took part.

Mrs Mitchell



Friends of Rowlands Gill Primary School

As you will know, FORGPS is formed of a small group of volunteers. Due to a long-standing committee member stepping down, we now have a vacancy for secretary on our committee. The role of secretary supports effective communication links between us and the school and maintains accurate records. It's important to be organised and efficient and to be a good listener who is friendly and approachable. As we hope to be moving towards a point where we will be able to hold public events again, we are always looking for more volunteers to support us. As well as helping at events, we have many small "behind the scenes" roles that can be done from home. As a group we have achieved a lot in the last few years and we would love to see some new faces so we can continue to thrive. Please get in touch via our Facebook page or by emailing friendsofrg@outlook.com if you are interested in supporting us.

While we all hope that restrictions keep easing, we have had to make the difficult decision not to hold a summer fair this year. In similar circumstances, our Christmas raffle was a huge success and so we hope to be able to run a summer raffle but for a great raffle we need great prizes! We appreciate the last year has been a challenging time for businesses but if any members of our school community work for, or know of, any local businesses that may be able to offer us a prize, please get in touch with us. Many thanks, in advance, for your support.

Don't forget we have lots of pre-loved uniform and many items have been lightly used due to the lockdowns. If you need anything for the warmer weather, or want to be really organised for next year while we have most items in most sizes in stock, please get in touch!

Enjoy the May Day Bank holiday - see you Tuesday 4th May!

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