



# Rufford Church of England Primary School



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Headteacher: Mrs R.H. Elleray  
*'Together in Faith and Learning'*

22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a very long and busy term I would like to thank you all, on behalf of everyone in school, for your cooperation and support.

The children have enjoyed many successes this term and we would like to congratulate them on embracing the opportunities offered to them so positively and on their support and care for one another. We are very lucky to work with them all.

Thank you to our Governors, to Father Mark and Danny and to all the volunteers in school whose support we continue to value greatly.

I would like to thank 'The Friends' for their fantastic fundraising efforts this term, their continued support for school is very much appreciated.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to the staff. Their enthusiasm, commitment, dedication, professionalism and drive ensures the children remain settled, happy, safe and able to learn and shine. It is a joy and a privilege to work with the whole staff team.

The past couple of weeks have been extremely festive as we have enjoyed Christmas Lunch, our Carol Service, Christmas Activity Day, Christmas sing-a-long with Mr Clare and Nativity Plays. Today the Nursery and Reception children were able to visit our very own Winter Wonderland where they met Father Christmas and Mrs Claus, thank you to Mr and Mrs Hoban for making this possible!.



It has been a very happy time and lovely to see the children and staff enjoying themselves and having the opportunity to share in so many different experiences.

## **Miss Tearne**

Today we say goodbye for a while to Miss Tearne as she starts her maternity leave in January. We would like to wish her and her partner Ryan lots of luck and we look forward to meeting their baby in 2024! Mrs Victoria Whitehead will join the team to cover Miss Tearne's maternity leave from 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**Our Worship theme for the first week of the spring term is: 'New Year and Epiphany'.** We will be thinking about new beginnings, the start of a new term and new year resolutions. We will explore the feast of Epiphany whilst thanking people for gifts we have received. We will reflect on the gifts and donations we gave to make a difference to people at Christmastime.

*'Let your light shine in the world' (Matthew 5:16)*

### St Mary's Church

The School Choir will be taking part in the Village Carol Service next Wednesday evening 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7pm.

**Christmas Services - Christmas Eve** 10am Eucharist, 3.15pm Christingle and Crib Service, 11.30pm Midnight Mass **Christmas Day** 9.15am Eucharist and Carols.

### School Meals

Payment details (via Parent Pay) for school meals for the first half of the spring term 2024 are as follows:  
Spring Half Term 8/1/24 - 9/2/24, 5 weeks, £12.50 per week, £62.50 for the half term.

Please ensure that any outstanding ParentPay balances are cleared as soon as possible, thank you.

### Admission to Primary School

Do you have a child who has a 4th birthday between 1st September 2023 and 31st August 2024? Then for Lancashire resident families you need to apply for a school place, even if an older brother or sister is already attending your preferred school/academy. The means of application is via Lancashire's on-line system [www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools) It is quick and easy to use and offers an e-mail receipt of all submitted applications. Please ensure that you hit the "submit" button when you are ready to send in your completed on-line application. If you live in Lancashire you can include out of area preferences on your on-line application. The closing date for applications for September 2024 is at 11-59 pm on **15th January 2024**. If you are applying to our school and would like your application to be considered on faith grounds then you will need to complete the supplementary form, available through the school office and return this directly to us.

### Christmas Holiday

Please note school will close, for the Christmas holiday today, **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 2pm; there will be no Tree House Club after school today.**

School will re-open for the spring term on **Monday 8th January 2023 at 8:45am**

On behalf of everyone at School I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peace filled new year.



Barney says Happy Christmas too!

Yours sincerely

Mrs Rachel Elleray,  
Headteacher



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