



Rufford Church of England Primary School



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'Together in Faith and Learning'

22nd September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Yesterday our Year 2 and Year 6 pupils enjoyed a visit from Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service who delivered Child Safe workshops. The Year 2 children focused on Fire Safety. The children learned what to do and what not to do in the event of a fire through quizzes, discussion and role play.



Voting has taken place this week to elect School Council representatives for each class. The children really enjoyed placing their votes at the ballot box, thank you to Miss Bell for organising this. Those elected will be announced on Monday with the first meeting of the School Council taking place next Wednesday lunchtime with Miss Bell and Mrs Newsham.



Today saw the start of Miss Tearne's Construction Club for infant children at lunchtime, their challenge this week was to build the tallest tower!



Our Worship theme next week will be... 'Family'. We will be asking the questions 'What is a family?' and 'What is it like to belong to a family?' We will consider especially the family of the church and our school family and how we sustain it. We will think about our own families, how they differ from one another and how we all need a form of family in our lives. Father Mark and Danny will lead our whole school worship on Wednesday morning focusing on one of our School Christian Values, Trust.

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

Harvest

Harvest in School - On Friday 6th October Maple Class will be presenting their Harvest worship time. The whole school will share this worship on Thursday morning, allowing the Friday morning to be accessible to parents/carers/governors and visitors. We look forward to welcoming everyone at 9am.

Harvest at St. Mary's - The Harvest Festival at St Mary's Rufford will be held on Sunday 8th October and the children from Maple Class will be taking part in the service at 9:15am.

Oak Class and Little Squirrels will be creating scarecrows to decorate church.

Harvest donations- We will be collecting **tins and packets of non- perishable food items** as our harvest thanksgiving gifts. These will be taken to church to support the work of the **Trussell Trust Food Bank**. If you are able to donate any foodstuffs (long dated if possible) then please send into school between **Monday 25th September and Thursday 5th October**, or place them in the food bank collection box which is always available for donations by the school garden at the main gates on Flash Lane.

Faith References – Year 5 Pupils

A message from Father Mark Soady for any parent of children in Year 5 thinking of sending their children to Bishop Rawstorne school: 'The faith reference I am asked to complete is very specific, I have to state that one of the child's parents has worshipped in church twice a month in the preceding 12 months, including Summer holidays . If you are likely to want a faith reference please email me on rector@rsmtht.church and make yourself known to me. Blessings. Mark.'

School photographs

Have you ordered your school photos yet? A polite reminder that the closing date for **free delivery** back to school is **Sunday 1st October 2023**. Order through the Tempest website using your unique link or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).

Governing Board

Mr Stuart Lawton's term of office as elected parent governor is due to end on 12th November 2023, therefore, there will be a place for one parent governor on the governing board of our school. Parent governors are elected by the parents of pupils at this school to serve a four year term of office. On Monday, nomination forms will be sent out to all parents/carers. If you are interested in becoming a parent governor at school please arrange for your nomination to be submitted in line with the instructions on the form, thank you.

'Flu Vaccinations'

Families with children in Reception to Year 6, should have received an email notification about immunisations against 'Flu, earlier this week.

Please complete the 'flu immunisation consent form to arrange for your child to be immunised in school by clicking this link <https://nhsimms.azurewebsites.net/session/f72daa4d> Please complete this as soon as possible. The link will close on Thursday 5th October 2023 and the 'flu immunisations will take place on Tuesday 17th October 2023.

If your child has their immunisation at the GP, if any details change after form completion or you have any queries, please contact Intrahealth on 0333 358 3397, Option 2 – Option 1.

Parent Consultation Appointments

There will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher, on **Monday 9th October** from **3.30pm – 5pm**, or **Wednesday 18th October** from **4pm – 7pm**. You will receive an appointment request form with your child early next week.

To make an appointment, please complete it, stating your preferred time and date, and return it to your child's class teacher by Monday 2nd October at the latest.

A slip will be returned to you by Friday 6th October, with your allocated time. We try to make these times mutually convenient, bearing in mind families who may need to see more than one teacher.

Appointments last five minutes, however if you need a longer appointment to discuss a specific issue, please contact your child's teacher who will be happy to make alternative arrangements.

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Admission to Primary and Secondary School

If your child is in their last year of pre-school/nursery you can now apply for their primary school place at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools

It's quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of your application.

You must apply even if you already have siblings in school. If you live in Lancashire you can include out of area preferences on your online application.

The closing date for primary applications for September 2024 is 23:59 on **15 January 2024**.

Secondary school admissions: If your child is in Year 6 you can now apply for their secondary school place at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools

The closing date for secondary applications for September 2024 is 23:59 on **31 October 2023**.

For guidance on school transport see: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/school-transport/>.

Open Afternoon/Morning

Our annual Open Afternoon takes place on **Wednesday 1st November between 1:15 and 3pm**. The afternoon is an ideal opportunity for you to see what makes our school so special. You are welcome to drop in on the day from 1:15pm to take a guided tour with one of our Year 6 pupils. Visitors will have the opportunity to explore school facilities, meet the pupils and staff and get a feel for the Vision and Values that set us apart.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you and anyone you know, who has a child due to start school next September, to come and see our school in action.

We will also be offering tours of school on **Saturday 4th November between 9am and 12 noon**.

St Mary's Church

A **Harvest Ceilidh** will take place in the village hall on Friday 6th October at 7pm. Tickets are priced at £12.50 per adult £3.50 per child (11 years and under), further details are available through Jim Whittingham 01704 822878/07711 047082.

Fundraising Appeal Sadly, the church spire and tower at St Mary's Church are in need of urgent repair. Early estimates put the cost of repair at between a quarter and a third of a million pounds. Members of the local community are invited to contribute towards the cost, either online [here](#) or by calling in to church to see the Wardens and Father Mark on Saturday October 14th between 10am and 3.30pm. Contributions will be added to church monies in reserve and will go towards match funding for grants which will be applied for.

Friends of Rufford School, PTFA

Pre-loved Uniform Pre-loved uniform items, including cardigans, jumpers and summer dresses are available to purchase by contacting Abi Williamson on 07739 566821.

Veg Boxes Orders for October's Veg. Boxes need to be placed by **Monday 2nd October** for local delivery or collection on **Wednesday 4th October**. Please use the following link to order:

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofruffordschool>

Friends of Rufford School, Account number: 61064851, Sort Code: 40-24-14, Ref: Veg

Wishing everyone a pleasant weekend.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Rachel Elleray
Headteacher



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