



Dear Parents,

The Spring term continues to be a very chilly one and we thank you for making sure the children have been wrapped up against the elements! Please do make sure you have subscribed to the Everbridge notification system which is the system by which parents would receive notification that the school were closed in the event of snow – details of how to register are below.

On Wednesday, we welcomed the Governing Board into school for a visit day, where members of the GB spent time talking to members of staff and visited classrooms talking to the pupils about their learning. These visits are always welcome as it provides an opportunity for Governors to see the school in action in order that they may best support the school in its continual strive for improvement.

Last week saw the children take part in a Hindu workshop, more details follow in the Newsletter. It was wonderful to hear from the leaders of the workshop how attentive the children were to the sessions and the thoughtful and respectful questions they asked. We are always very proud of our pupils but particularly when they demonstrate respect and courtesy to visitors to our school.

Kind regards,

Suzanne Webb

### Top Bananas

These children received Bananas Awards last week for 'Showing an interest in their new topic'

C1	Hamish	C12	James	C2	Jessica and Joe
C3	Fara, Beatrice	C34	Matilda	C4	Chris
C5	Was not in Assembly	C56	Maddie	C6	Sophie and Caitlin

These children received Bananas Awards today for 'Showing respect'

C1	Tegan-Rose	C12	Tommie	C2	Sahjan
C3	Isla	C34	Henri	C4	Ben and Lucas
C5	Was not in Assembly	C56	Abi	C6	Charlie and Stefano

## Bananas Themes this term

Date	Top Banana Theme	How to support this theme at home
30/1/17	Being tolerant and understanding	Being respectful of differences and understanding and tolerating the needs, opinions and ideas of others is really important and one of our key school values. Discuss the importance of rules and how they keep us safe. Think about the ways in which people can be different and help your child to value the differences of others.
6/2/17	Active Listening	How do you show you are listening? What does good listening look like? Encourage your child to make eye contact and ask questions to show they have been attentive. When you are reading a book together or watching a tv programme, ask questions about what you have shared.

## Chess Tournament



Thirty-two keen chess players came into school on a cold but bright Saturday in January to take part in the annual Roundwood Primary chess tournament. Mr Kumar was really impressed with how well all the children played, and we were all impressed at how much cake the parents baked/the children managed to eat! The children also had a blast playing outside in between matches (more on that below). After five rounds, Will B, Stuart M and Daniel W were declared winners of their groups - well done. Thanks go to all the helpers, especially Tara/Olivia who ran the tuck shop all afternoon (we raised over £100 for Friends) and the two parents who mopped the corridors at the end of the day! *Mrs Martin*

## Hindu Workshop

On Monday the children participated in a Hindu workshop. This involved a variety of activities including dressing up in saris, dancing using Hindu dancing sticks, storytelling and witnessing a Hindu shrine first hand. The day was an interesting and informative insight into the Hindu religion and the children were very positive about their sessions:

*'I enjoyed playing with all the artefacts and dressing up in Hindu clothes. I loved how they displayed everything.'* Kirsten (Year 6).

Thank you once again to the parents who helped on the day.

Please note that the cost of £1.30 per child for this workshop will be added to the cost of future trips. *Mrs Cirillo*



## Sports Premium

As part of spending our sports premium, Years 5 & 6 have been having an additional 40 mins of PE a week with a specialist Tag Rugby coach from Harpenden Rugby Club. We look forward to arranging other sporting experiences for the rest of the school. *Mrs Wakeman*

## Uniform reminders

It would seem to a pertinent time to remind you of a few points regarding uniform. Long hair should be tied up at all times and hair bands or bobbles should be plain and simple and in school colours (navy blue) or black. Nail varnish and makeup should not be worn. Thank you for your support in ensuring our children are neatly presented. All pupils should have a change of shoes for inside; this is particularly important at this time of year. In addition to their school PE kit, children should have track suit trousers and a warm sweatshirt for outdoor PE.



## **Lost property**

Could you spare an hour or so to sort through the lost property boxes? If so please let the office know. Despite our best efforts to reunite children and their belongings, the alarming regularity with which children misplace items and then seem to forget they had them in the first place creates a steady stream of unclaimed items!

## **Music**

We are looking forward to welcoming you next Thursday (2.00 till 3.00 pm) for an Afternoon at the Musicals where the Choir, Orchestra, Cellos and Recorders will be entertaining you with a variety of well known Musical Hits.

## **Governor Surgery**

Please come along to our inaugural "Governors' Surgery" on Friday 3 February (2-3pm). Mrs Webb will be on hand, along with Anna and Hannah (the current Chair and Vice Chair of the Governing Board respectively) to gather your school-related feedback and ideas. You can visit us in person during this hour (either talking to us as a group or on a one-on-one basis) or can "dial in" on a number to be provided nearer the time. Like you, the Governing Board want Roundwood Primary School to be the best it can be. We know that gathering your feedback - and acting on it - is key to making this happen, so do come along if you have something to say.

## **Parent consultations**

This week you should have received an email regarding this term's consultations. If you haven't yet received the information, please make contact with the school office.

## **Staffing update**

Mrs Crisp, C3 teacher, will be leaving school at half term as she and her husband are becoming adoptive parents and will shortly be welcoming their new family to their home. Although we will be very sorry to lose Mrs Crisp, even temporarily, I am sure you will wish her and her husband well in their new role as parents. Miss Barltrop has agreed to return to school to take the class between half term and Easter. Miss Barltrop is known to the children and is obviously very familiar with the school and she and Mrs Crisp will ensure as smooth a transition as possible.

Mrs Shore, school SENDCo, will be leaving at the end of the Spring term to return to teaching at a school closer to home. Mrs Shore has worked tirelessly to support pupils and parents and she will be greatly missed by us all.

Mrs Douglas, who has been a long standing volunteer at the school has also decided the time has come to devote all her time to her leisure activities and she will be doing her final school stint just before half term. On behalf of all the children and staff I would like to thank her for all the time and energies she has given the school, not least with the props and scenery for the KS2 plays over the years, and we wish her a relaxing time free from duct tape, paint and the laminator!

Over the next few weeks we will be welcoming two new members of staff to the Learning Support team. Jo Miller and Lisa Alway will take up their posts over the coming weeks to support our pupils in Key Stage Two and I am sure you will make them feel very welcome.

## **Reminders**

- Please note that the deadline for payment for KS2 lunches at Roundwood Park is 1<sup>st</sup> February
- Parent Consultations, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> February. Please remember to return the invitation form.
- We are now collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. Please send your children in with them.
- There will not be School Patrol until 6<sup>th</sup> February. Please could you take extra care when crossing the road outside school

## **School Closures**

In exceptional circumstances it may be necessary to close the school during normal hours. In these instances i.e. due to severe weather conditions, we shall inform parents by the following means:

BBC Three Counties Radio            92.1 FM or 630 AM  
Mercury FM                                97.5 - 102.7FM

Website

[www.roundwoodprimary.herts.sch.uk](http://www.roundwoodprimary.herts.sch.uk)

Twitter

<https://twitter.com/RoundwoodPS>

Herts County Council's website

<https://www.imodus.com/summary.aspx?company=99>

### **Schools Closure Notification System - Parental Sign Up**

Parents can now sign up to receive messages by SMS and email sent directly from school about closures. To sign up, use the following link:

<http://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489>

This link will direct you to the 'Sign Up' page where you should click on the 'sign up' button located at the top right hand side of the page on the grey strip and from there follow the instructions. It should take no more than 5 minutes to register and you can edit your information at any time should you change your mobile number or email address.

If you have children at more than one school you can register for those schools too in a single registration process by selecting all schools you have children at.

#### **E-Safety Tip:**

Keep up-to-date with your child's development online. Children grow up fast and they will be growing in confidence and learning new skills daily. It's important that as your child learns more, so do you.

