



Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we head into a new school year we are excited for the learning journeys we are setting up in each class. This year we aim to maximise exciting and meaningful experiences for all our pupils; building on the great successes of last year.

### **Supporting families with school-related cost pressures**

We are very aware that all our families are facing increasing financial burdens as the cost of living pushes us all. We are keen to share with parents that we will be mindful of this in all school event planning moving forward.

As part of cutting costs this year, we aim to

- minimise school trips out, and prioritise visitors in – saving on transport overheads
- subsidise the coach hire costs for swimming lessons
- minimise charges for clubs as far as possible, with staff-led sports clubs being free.

With fundraising, Mr A and Kate Cousins (our chair of FORPS) have agreed that we need to re-focus our aims this year. (Last year the fundraising efforts were phenomenal – together we raised nearly £10,000 for Rusper school funds; which will be put to re-development of a new exciting school library area). This year we aim to adapt our approach by significantly reducing fundraising pressures, whilst maintaining and strengthening the community cohesion that school events can bring. Ideas so far are

- remove expected contributions for non-uniform / dress up days
- reduce school drive pop up sales to only uniform / clothing recycling
- run one school fund-raising event per term e.g. Christmas Bazaar, Easter Egg Hunt and Summer Show. Attendance would be optional, sales would be low-cost items and include practical activities for children e.g. running the Christmas shop at the Bazaar.

Hopefully you will agree that maintaining school events to bring us all together is important (think about the Rusper 150 Anniversary). If so, we need to keep FORPS going as an official charity organisation. We currently only have two official members among the parental community; with approximately seven parent volunteers to act as reps and helping hands. We will need to have a minimum of three official members to keep going legally; with an ideal number of members being six.

The annual general meeting for FORPS is due before the end of September (date tbc). All parents are welcome to come along (with their children) and hear about fundraising details from last year and about further ideas for this year.

We are keen to hear your comments on reducing fundraising ideas and stating if you would like more information about becoming a member of FORPS. Please could you complete the questionnaire via this [link](#), thank you.



Rusper Primary School, Rusper, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4PR

Telephone: 01293 871272 Fax: 01293 871135

[office@rusper.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@rusper.w-sussex.sch.uk)

[www.rusperprimary.eschools.co.uk](http://www.rusperprimary.eschools.co.uk)

Headteacher: Nick Avey (BEd Hons)

**Together we learn, together we succeed**

### School Calendar Dates

Please do check with the school calendar on our website for event/date information this term. Key dates to be aware of are.

<b>19<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Bank Holiday – School closed for Bank Holiday to mark state funeral of Queen Elizabeth II
<b>30<sup>th</sup> September</b>	9:30am Harvest Festival at Church (parents invited)
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Hobbit residential trip
<b>17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Y1 – Y6 Parents Evenings
<b>31<sup>st</sup> October</b>	School Closed for INSET
<b>14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Anti-Bulling Week
<b>18<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Children In Need day
<b>30<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Gruffalo Parents Eve
<b>7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	KS1 Nativity in Village Hall (parents invited)
<b>16<sup>th</sup> December</b>	last day of term + Carols in Church 2:30pm (parents invited)

More dates e.g. sporting events will be added in due course

### Curriculum

From Tuesday, this week all parents will be able to access learning overviews for the term ahead for their child's class. Find them on our school website, in 'Curriculum', 'This Term's Overviews'

### Homework

We have now re-set our classes on the RPS Microsoft Teams for this year. For all parents with previous experience, nothing has changed for your access to it. For Y1 parents and parents of pupils new to school in Y1-Y6 there will be an individual letter coming to you today with more details and instructions for how to access and use Teams (this includes specially created tutorial videos on our school website). [http://www.rusper.w-sussex.sch.uk/website/online\\_learning\\_support/471905](http://www.rusper.w-sussex.sch.uk/website/online_learning_support/471905)

### Clubs

Our clubs offer for this term is now out with you all. Please do take advantage of the extra-curricular learning we can offer your children; and sign up quickly.

If you have any questions about any elements of this letter, please don't hesitate to contact us directly.

Many thanks for your support,

Nick Avey, Headteacher, Rusper Primary School