



18<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have had a good half term break. We look forward to the next six weeks in school, and below are some key updates ahead of Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

### **OFSTED**

We would like to thank the whole parental community for their wonderful support following the publication of our OFSTED report; especially at the evening parent meeting. Your kindness and faith have strengthened staff collectively and we are immensely grateful. As a school we are now pushing hard and working efficiently to address our key actions for improvement. Governors have approved the publication of our action plan which can be found on our website; and via this link [https://rusperprimary.eschools.co.uk/cms\\_manage/edit\\_page/34729](https://rusperprimary.eschools.co.uk/cms_manage/edit_page/34729)

### **Mrs Rodgers**

On 1<sup>st</sup> March, Mrs Rodgers begins her maternity leave. We are pleased to announce that Gruffalo class will be taught by Mrs Katie Parford throughout Mrs Rodgers' absence. Mrs Parford has a strong experience working in Reception classes, and has recently completed another temporary role where she was greatly appreciated by the school. Mrs Parford and Mrs Rodgers will be working together on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February to facilitate a strong handover. We wish Mrs Rodgers and her husband all the best for the birth of their first child.

### **Winter Sickness Virus**

Over half term, the school received a further report of sickness virus symptoms in a Gruffalo pupil. Parents across the school will be aware that before half term a sickness bug spread very quickly among our youngest children just before half term. In order to help us track and manage school responses to any current or future sickness incidents, please could we ask all parents to complete the online form via the link below if your child is unable to attend school for sickness reasons.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=C3X-](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=C3X-6XRERUqgG8mddgWLRktfCzBrZMZPhIEh9zrClb1UNUxDREhRRFpZN1IEUzJUTzZPNTczTk8zUCQIQCNjPTEu)

[6XRERUqgG8mddgWLRktfCzBrZMZPhIEh9zrClb1UNUxDREhRRFpZN1IEUzJUTzZPNTczTk8zUCQIQCNjPTEu](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=C3X-6XRERUqgG8mddgWLRktfCzBrZMZPhIEh9zrClb1UNUxDREhRRFpZN1IEUzJUTzZPNTczTk8zUCQIQCNjPTEu)

Please note, in the event of sickness absence, parents will also still need to contact the school to report absence as usual.

### **Spring 2 Events**

- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March is **World Book Day**. As always, RPS will be celebrating our love of children's literature with a themed dress up day. All pupils are invited to choose a book character to dress up as for the day.
- The half termly **cake sale** organised by FORPS was postponed from Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February. It will be rescheduled for an upcoming Friday soon. Details to follow.
- Dates of all further events can be found on the calendar on the school website. Class specific and sporting events details will be sent in separate letters as appropriate.

### **Uniform**

Please can we remind all parents to support our uniform policy with their children attending school.

Key points to note on non- PE days are

- Black trainers or school shoes only
- Hair longer than shoulder length to be tied back in a single ponytail with a plain hair band. Bows and decorative hair clips are not permitted
- Ear jewellery is only permitted for the post-piercing period. In this case, studs should be covered with tape before entering school.

Key points to note on PE days

- Additional warm layer tops ie sweatshirts or hoodies, should be house colour.
- Tracksuit bottoms should be black or grey

Please read on...



**PE Days**

...this term are as follows. On these days, please can children come in school PE kit and house-coloured hoodies or joggers.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	<b>Gruffalo PE</b> <b>Unicorn PE</b>	<b>Pegasus PE</b> <b>Hobbit PE</b>	<b>Unicorn PE/Forest Schools</b>	<b>Hobbit PE/</b> Swimming <b>Pegasus PE</b>

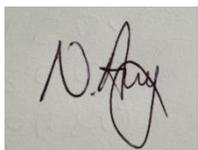
Because there are some additional Horsham Sport coaching sessions for Hobbit and Pegasus on certain Fridays this term, arrangements become complex for Hobbit pupils when swimming is factored in on the same day. Please ensure the following dates and arrangements are followed for **Hobbit** pupils.

22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	8 <sup>th</sup> Mar	10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	15 <sup>th</sup> Mar	17 <sup>th</sup> Mar
Come in PE kit	Come in school uniform Bring swimming kit in a bag	Come in school uniform	Come in PE Kit Bring swimming kit in a bag	Come in school uniform	Come in PE Kit Bring swimming kit in a bag	Come in PE kit	Come in school uniform Bring swimming kit in a bag
22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	31 <sup>st</sup> Mar				
Come in school uniform	Come in PE Kit Bring swimming kit in a bag	Come in PE kit	Come in school uniform				

**Forest Schools** will be for **Unicorn** pupils this term. Please see the dates below and corresponding year groups to know when to organise which kit. If your child has forest schools, they should come in outdoor clothes with a change of shoes. If they don't have Forest Schools, your child should come in PE kit.

23 <sup>rd</sup> February	2 <sup>nd</sup> March	9 <sup>th</sup> March	16 <sup>th</sup> March		
Y1	Y2	Y1	Y2		

Many thanks for all your support



Nick Avey, Headteacher, Rusper Primary School