

## **Rack House Newsletter Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

### **End of term!**

It doesn't seem that long ago that we were welcoming everyone back to the start of the new 2017 year! We finished the Spring Term today at our usual time and re-open on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 8.55 am. All the children have worked hard this term and I know that they, and staff, are ready for a well-earned break. May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a peaceful Easter break when you can enjoy family life and hopefully have good weather which always make a difference to holidays!

From the beginning of next term, Mrs Holt will be off for a short while. Mrs Smith, will be in the office for the next half term to ensure the administration side of the school continues to run smoothly. She is a face you will know as both her children attend Rack House.

### **Champions!**

Last week, our Year 5/6 football team became champions of South Wythenshawe by winning their league which was a great achievement. This week, we played the champions of North Manchester, St Anthony's, and beat them 4-1! This is a great achievement for our team and I am delighted that we have continued to ensure sport is a vital factor in the children's education and life. A huge thank you must go to Mrs Nilan and Mr O'Neil who constantly attend the football matches encouraging the children to be successful. We have had no transfer enquires for our players yet but I expect to see scouts from our two local teams!!!

### **Year 4 Performance at MHA**

Our Year 4 children performed at MHA on Wednesday. They worked hard all term to learn lines for acting, choreographed dance moves and learnt 'Thriller' as their song. Whilst working with teachers from MHA, Rack House, together with other children in our local cluster of schools, performed magnificently. I was very proud of their performance, conduct and attitude throughout the production. Well done Year 4!

### **Red Nose Day**

Red Nose Day proved to be a huge success with children enjoying wearing their own clothes for the day and a cake sale where all the children had an opportunity to buy cakes. The total amount of money raised by the school was £389. Much thanks for your continued generosity; all the money raised will be sent to the charity.

### **Here are the important dates for next term for parents**

#### **April**

18<sup>th</sup> School Re-Opens  
21<sup>st</sup> St George's Day Assembly (Year 2 AW)

#### **May**

1<sup>st</sup> Bank Holiday (May Day)  
4<sup>th</sup> INSET day – School closed  
8<sup>th</sup> **SATS Week**

### **Key stage 2: Tests**

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> May - English reading test  
Tue 9<sup>th</sup> May - English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 1: spelling; English grammar, punctuation and spelling Paper 2: questions  
Wed 10<sup>th</sup> May - mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic; mathematics Paper 2: reasoning  
Thu 11 May - mathematics Paper 3: reasoning

26<sup>th</sup> School Closes

## June

5<sup>th</sup> School Opens  
8<sup>th</sup> Poet, Ian Bland for KS1  
9<sup>th</sup> Queen's Official Birthday Assembly (Year 4 JW)

12<sup>th</sup> Phonic Screening Test week  
14<sup>th</sup> Sports Day KS2 9.30 am, KS1.30 pm  
21<sup>st</sup> Summer Solstice Assembly (Year 6 AT)  
22<sup>nd</sup> Reserve Sports Day KS2 9.30am, KS1.30pm  
30<sup>th</sup> Summer Fayre 2pm – 5pm

## July

5<sup>th</sup> 'Lion King Performance' (AT)  
6<sup>th</sup> 'Lion King' Performance (AT)  
7<sup>th</sup> World Culture Day - Pakistan  
21<sup>st</sup> School Closes, Year 6 Leavers Performance & Assembly

## Parent Pay

You should have all received your child's Activation Letter to set up an account on Parent Pay. Please register over the break so that you can pay securely online for events at school using debit or credit card. Paying online gives you peace of mind that comes with knowing that your money reaches the school safely. Paying on line is easy:

**Step 1:** Have your activation letter ready

**Step 2:** Login at [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)

**Step 3:** Follow instruction to activate account

**Step 4:** Select 'Pay for Items'

We will be ready to take online payments after 5th April 2017. Any questions, please speak to the Office.

## Attendance

I would like to thank the vast majority of our parents for getting their children to school on time regularly. It is so important that children attend school punctually on a regular basis as it sets their values for life at an early stage. Also, if children are not in school they may fall behind their peers in classes.

## Match Attack Stickers

As part of a competition for free training we are asking that any empty Match Attack wrappers are handed into school. We will collect the code numbers on the back and if we obtain enough numbers, we can apply for various school awards. I am not expecting you to go out and buy *extra* packets for the children, though!

## After School Club

A gentle reminder to any of our parents that the school now provides After School Care until 5.45 pm each day. The cost is £8.00 per day per child and we still have spare places for any parents who wish to use this facility. If you require further details, please contact the school office. Booking forms for After School Club for the Half Term 5 and Half Term 6 can be found on the school website and must be completed in advance to reserve your place in the club. Payments for After School Club should be made in advance. There is the option to also pay for the club with Childcare Vouchers. Please speak to the office if you have any queries.

## Parking on Newall Drive

Rack House has a good relationship with residents in the surrounding community. Can we therefore request that parents and carers be mindful and courteous about where they park on Newall Drive and Yarmouth Drive when dropping off or collecting children, so as to not block driveways or park inappropriately where there are road markings. This is respectfully requested to preserve the ongoing relationship that Rack House has with its neighbours and to ensure maximum safety for our children.

## **Parent Comments and Suggestions**

### **Disability Equality**

Please state any way in which you feel we could improve our provision to cater for people with disabilities of any kind.

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### **Safeguarding**

As you are aware, we consider the safeguarding of our pupils to be of the utmost importance. If you wish to make a suggestion as to how we can improve our existing safeguarding arrangements, please let us know.

**My safeguarding suggestion is:**

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### **Parents' Suggestion/Comment Slip**

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