

## **Rack House Newsletter Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

### **School Nativity**

I would like to thank our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children for such a magnificent performance of The Nativity on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. All of our children worked hard to ensure the performance was as good as it was. I know that everyone who attended was delighted to see their children perform and our children have really made us all feel that Christmas has arrived!

I would also like to thank all the staff who worked so hard on costumes, displays and learning lines! A lot of work has gone on behind the scenes to ensure the performance was so good.

### **School League Tables**

The government has just published the Primary school League Tables for 2017 which shows that 88% of our children achieved Age Related Expectations in Year 6 for Reading, Writing and Maths. This places the school second in all Manchester primary schools for attainment in these subjects. Also, for the more able, the school's attainment was 20% for Reading, Writing and Maths which places us 4<sup>th</sup> in Manchester primary schools. I am sure you can celebrate the success of our pupils knowing that your children will achieve well at Rack House. These results cannot be achieved without incredible dedication by the staff, pupils and parents. It is essential we continue to work as a team to ensure that our children enjoy the best education they can and continue to achieve fantastic results. Below is the link to find the website to compare all schools.

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=phase&region=352&geographic=la&phase=primary&for=primary&basedon=%25%20meeting%20expected%20standard%20in%20reading%2C%20writing%20%26%20maths&show=All%20pupils>

### **Holidays**

The holiday list for 2018-2019 is out on the school website. If anyone wishes a hard copy please ask at the front desk. Attendance is hugely important to a child's progress and attainment in school.

Please book your holidays during holiday time as school cannot authorise holidays in term time.

### **School Lunches**

More and more children are not eating healthily in school which will cause problems for our children later in life. At Rack House we have taken advice from the Healthy Schools team in Manchester and as a result, we have decided that only healthy options for desserts will be offered in school. The school will offer options like fruit or low sugar choices to ensure our children are eating healthily. If you provide your children with packed lunches, please do not send in chocolate, crisps pastries etc. as we need your support, so that together, we can ensure our children's healthy lifestyles.

### **Coats in school**

Can I ask that all parents send their children into school with a warm coat as some children are coming to school without coats! We cannot let children out at break times when it is cold without coats and would ask that we ensure children have coats on when they leave your house.

### **Christmas Fayre**

Our Christmas Fayre was a huge success and many thanks once again for your support. Over £600 was raised for funds which will be spent directly on the children. Many thanks for all the gifts and for spending your time and money in supporting the school.

### **Lunchtime Organiser Vacancies**

There are currently vacancies in school for Lunch Time Organisers. If you are interested in this role, please contact school and request to see Mrs. Nilan. Thank you.

### **School Reading Books**

Parents, we are having an amnesty for any reading books which you have at home! Can you please check your houses and return any books to school. From January, all children will change their books once a week on set days. These are as follows:

Monday - Y5/6

Wednesday - Year 2

Friday - Reception

Tuesday - Y3/4

Thursday - Year 1

Each child will take TWO books, and change them the following week.

From January, a £2 donation will be asked for books which are lost or not returned.

**Parking in the area**

I place this on the newsletter every week, however we really must start to think of our local community. Local residents have once again contacted the school to complain that some parents are parking across driveways and blocking residents in when picking up and dropping off their children for school. If vehicles are parked dangerously, not only is it inconvenient for residents, it also puts our children and parents walking to school at risk. Police will be patrolling the area as residents have made official complaints to the school and local police. Can we please be mindful that we are all entitled to get in and out of our driveways freely so please respect our neighbours to encourage goodwill within our community. I do not wish any person to be injured because a child or adult cannot be seen by other road users due to inconsiderate parking. Walking to and away from school is a much healthier option for the children and would solve these problems.

**After School Care Club**

Can I remind all parents that they should contact the school office if they wish their children to attend the After School Care Club: cost, £8 per session. We invite you to take advantage of this service.

**Your child's belongings**

Please ensure that your child's school bag, uniform items, PE kit, water bottle and lunch boxes etc. are clearly labelled with your child's name and class. There are lost items collected from around school every day and this will help us to identify which children items belong to. Lost property is placed in respective red bins along the corridors of KS1 and KS2 each half term and items will be donated to charity if uncollected. Thank you for your support. Red bins are currently overflowing!

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**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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