

NOVEMBER
2024

Redwood News



WELCOME BACK

It's that busy time of year again with Christmas fast approaching! We have provided some information about the weeks ahead; you can also find lots of useful information on the school website www.redwoodprimary.com

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Good attendance at school is essential if pupils are to do well in both their academic and social development. The Department for Education has recently updated their statutory guidance for all schools to ensure that there are high expectations for attendance and punctuality.

Being punctual is also important for a settled start to the day. **Our gates open at 8:45am and the register is taken at 8:55am.** Anyone arriving after this is marked as LATE and this can affect your child's attendance figures.

At Redwood, we believe in the importance of working together with our families to ensure that any barriers to good attendance and punctuality are addressed quickly.

We expect parents/carers to:

- Bring their child to school **on time** each day.
- Call the office on 01332 767443 or email attendance@redwood.derby.sch.uk to update us on any reasons for absence.
- Keep us up-to-date if your child is going to be absent for more than one day.
- Complete leave of absence forms for any non-urgent requests for time off. NB Term time holidays will not be authorised and fines may be issued from the Local Authority.
- Talk to us about any issues which may be affecting your child's attendance/punctuality.

As a school, we will:

- Call you on the first day of absence if a reason is not provided.
- Conduct home visits where appropriate to see if we can provide any further support.
- Alert you if your child's attendance falls below the expected levels. Children's attendance should be at least 95%. **Attendance below 90% is a cause for concern.**
- Provide support from our Pastoral Team to support good attendance and punctuality.
- Alert the Education Welfare Service if we continue to have concerns over your child's attendance so that we can support you further.

Thank you for your continued support in helping all of our pupils to have great attendance here at Redwood so they can make the most of their education.



MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

Thank you to all those who donated cakes, biscuits and goodies for our MacMillan Cake Sale on Thursday 26th September. **We raised a grand total of £745.39** for MacMillan which is a cause very close to our hearts as a school. Special thanks to Mrs Pullen for organising the event and all those who helped by selling cakes.



DIWALI DISCOS

Later this week, we will be holding Diwali Discos for all pupils. On Thursday 7th November, there will be a family disco for children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 in the junior hall from 4:15pm-5:30pm. Children must come to this one with an adult. There will be a disco for children in Y2-Y6 from 5:45pm-7:00pm in the junior hall. Tickets are available from the office.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

It's that time of year when we remember those who have fought for our freedom and support the Royal British Legion through selling poppies. Items range in price from 20p to £1.50. We know that many children will be taking part in Remembrance Day parades this weekend if they are part of a Beavers, Cubs or Brownies group. As a mark of respect, pupils who are part of these groups may wear their uniforms on Monday 11th November if they wish. Pupils who are not a member of these groups should wear their school uniform as usual.



GOVERNORS

Mrs Lisa Cook has been elected as our new Chair of Governors. Many of our parents will know Mrs Cook from her time teaching at Redwood before retiring at the end of 2021. We are looking forward to continuing working with Mrs Cook in her new role and know she will be spending lots of time in school. We are always looking for parents/carers who are interested in joining our Governing Body. It is really important that Redwood is represented as well as our partner school, Parkview Primary. Please do get in touch with the school office if you are keen to know more about what being a governor entails - they will be able to provide contact details for Mrs Cook.



LOYALTY CARD EVENTS

It has been lovely to see so many families attending events in school over the past half-term. From Nursery to Year 6, there has been everything from Come and Read sessions to grandparent events to crafting activities. We really value our partnerships with our families as it makes such a difference to your child's learning. To recognise this, you can collect loyalty points every time you attend an event in school. We automatically register these using our Class Dojo system and those who collect at least five points over the year will be entered into our prize draw to win an iPad and many other fantastic prizes! Every class will hold at least one parent event each half-term so we look forward to seeing you soon!

DEVICES TO SUPPORT HOME LEARNING

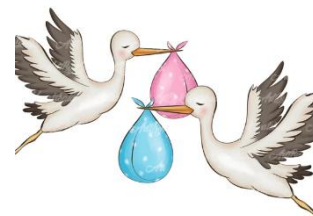
One of the many ways in which we support pupils at Redwood is by loaning out devices to help with home learning. These tablets are offered to all children in Reception - Year 6 who are entitled to Free School Meals so that they can have access to websites such as TT Rockstars and PurpleMash at home. Please note that this is for those entitled to benefits-related FSM rather than the free meals provided to all Infant pupils. Please speak to the office if you do not currently have a device but would like to loan one.



STAFF NEWS

At the end of this term, Mrs Bennett and Mrs Adams will both be starting their maternity leave. Both new arrivals are expected around Christmas time which will make for a very busy festive period! We can't wait to meet Baby Bennett and Baby Adams in the new year!

In other exciting news, Mrs King will be returning to Redwood in January 2025 to take over in The Orchard while Mrs Adams is on maternity leave. We can't wait to have her back with us and we know how much she has missed everyone at Redwood.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT
Thursday 7 th November	Nursery/Reception/Y1 Family Diwali Disco 4:15pm-5:30pm Y2 – Y6 Diwali Disco 5:45pm-7:00pm (pupils only)
w/b Monday 11 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 11 th November	Remembrance Day – children can wear Beavers/Cubs/Brownies uniforms to school if they wish
Tuesday 12 th November	Odd Socks Day – children can wear odd socks with usual school uniform
Thursday 14 th November	FS2 Open Day for those with children starting school in September 2025
Friday 15 th November	Children in Need – non-uniform day for £1 donation
w/b Monday 2 nd December	Visits to St Stephen's Church (Reception – Year 5)
Wednesday 4 th December	Nursery visit to National Forest Adventure Farm
Monday 9 th December	FS2 Christmas performance
Tuesday 10 th December	FS2 Christmas performance 9am Y3 Christmas performance 9am FS2 Theatre visit (pm)
Wednesday 11 th December	Nest visit to Bluebell Farm
Friday 13 th December	Christmas Dinner Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 17 th December	Y1 Christmas parties
Wednesday 18 th December	Nursery/FS2/Y2/Y3/Y5/Y6 Christmas parties Y2 Pantomime (in school)
Thursday 19 th December	Y4 Christmas parties
Friday 20 th December	Y5 Theatre visit Children break up from school
Monday 6 th January 2025	INSET Day
Tuesday 7 th January 2025	Children return to school