

RIBBLETON AVENUE METHODIST JUNIOR SCHOOL

Address: Emerson Road, Ribbleton, Preston, PR1 5SN
01772 792083

Headteacher: Mrs F Nickson BA Hons PGCE
www.ramjs.lancs.sch.uk

01.11.2024

Message from Mrs Nickson

Welcome back! It's been wonderful to see the children return after half term with such enthusiasm and focus. They've settled back into their routines brilliantly and are already diving into their learning with a fantastic attitude.

A special thank you to everyone who helped make the Halloween disco a night to remember! The children had an incredible time, with so many wonderful costumes, smiling faces and some great dance moves! It was a delight to see them enjoy themselves so much.

We're excited to welcome you to Parents' Evening next Tuesday and Wednesday. This is a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress and celebrate their hard work and achievements so far this term. We look forward to seeing you there and working together to support their continued success.

Mrs Tipton will also be hosting an online safety workshop for parents. This is a great chance to learn more about keeping your children safe online at home. Please visit the computing suite to participate before or after your child's appointment.

Thank you for your ongoing support and here's to a fantastic half term ahead!

At RAMJS, we are committed to fostering a positive and respectful environment for pupils, staff and parents. Recently, however, we have noticed a significant increase in the number of instances where members of our staff have been spoken to in a manner that is less than respectful, both in person and over the phone.

We understand that parenting and supporting your child's education can sometimes be challenging, and we are here to work with you to ensure the best outcomes for your children. However, we kindly ask that all conversations with staff, whether in person, over the phone or via email are conducted in a polite and respectful manner. Our staff work hard every day to support your children and they deserve to be treated with the same respect that we expect our pupils to demonstrate.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we work together to maintain a positive and supportive atmosphere within our school community.

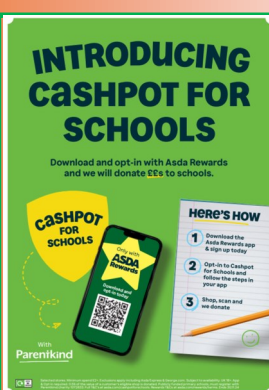
Can we also please ask that parents be mindful when driving up and down Emerson Road that they respect other road users and are aware of children and adults walking on the path. Tesco have kindly agreed to parents parking on their car park, so please could all parents park there, thank you.

Autumn Term Diary Dates

01.11.2024	Non-Uniform Day in Exchange for Chocolate for Raffle
05.11.2024	Parents Evening
06.11.2024	Parents Evening
08.11.2024	Diwali Celebration
12.11.2024	4R Farm Trip
15.11.2024	Children in Need Day
18.11.2024- 29.11.2024	5M Swimming Lessons
19.11.2024	4M Farm Trip
02.12.2024- 13.12.2024	5R Swimming Lessons
11.12.2024	Christmas Jumper Day
12.12.2024	Family Festive Fun Night
17.12.2024	Carol Singing
18.12.2024	Christmas Dinner
19.12.2024	a.m. Pantomime Trip p.m. Christmas Raffle
20.12.2024	Christmas Party Day

Outdoor Education: Next week's Outdoor Education is Monday 5M, Tuesday 4M, Wednesday 6M, Thursday 3M, Friday Hive & Nest.

P.E.: All children will be doing Gymnastics as part of the PE curriculum this half term. The lessons will require children to take part in bare feet for safety reasons. Alternatively, grip socks can be worn if your child owns a pair. In addition, Earrings must be removed for all PE lessons, if your child is unable to do this, please can they be removed at home before school.



Parentkind – the charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative – all you have to do is, opt in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our primary school and shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com, between 2nd September and 30th November 2024.

Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to our Primary school. Also, every time somebody opts in, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Plus, it doesn't stop there – Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started.

ONE STOP SHOP

A monthly drop in where families

can access free advice & support

Pathway Navigator-ASD-ADHD & More

School Nurse - Bed wetting Sleep Hygiene & More

Housing - Preston City Council - Gateway

Citizen Advice

Benefit Advice - DWP

Emotional Health and Wellbeing

Debt Advice/Support

Employment advice - DWP

Relationship advice

Home safety - Lancs Fire & Rescue

Free Funded Nursery Places

Lancashire Women

Find out about:

Mental health support

Accessing Food Banks

Household living support

No
Appointment
Needed

Last
Tuesday of
the month,
2pm 'until
4pm

RIBBLETON
FAMILY
HUB
PRESTON

Ribbleton Family Hub,
Ribbleton Hall Drive,
Ribbleton,
Preston,
PR2 6EE



Stars of the Week

Year	Stars
	 The Hive— Jack The Nest— Zayan
3	 3M— Abdullah M 3R— Harley
4	4M— Kylan 4R— Janavi
	 5M— Jaya 5R— Xavier
6	6M— Humaira 6R— Ayyan

Appreciation Award & Healthy Eating Award

Appreciation Award

Courage Love Respect - Janavi M 4R - For creating a puppet show which included a “rap”. She rehearsed it at home and performed to her peers, ending with treats for the whole class.

Healthy Choices Award

Harper A 5M - For bringing in a healthy snack.

Attendance and Punctuality

“Moments Matter, Attendance Counts”

Attendance Class Winners – 3M 99.7%

Punctuality Winners – 3M/4R 2 lates

Whole School – 93.6%

Wkly 100% Attendance Raffle winners: Sulaiman H 4M & Azaan M 6M

½ Termly 100% Attendance Raffle winners: Aribah A 6R, Sadiya D 5M, Asuda H 5M, Violet K 3M, Hayyan M 3R, Muhammad P 4M, Maxim P 3R, Hamza S 6M, Armaan S 3M, Lily-Mae W 6R

We’re on Target – 1 Class was above 97% - 3M 99.7%

Attendance since Sept 2024 – 94.9%

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance			Punctuality		
Class	Last Wk	This Wk	Class	Last Wk	This Wk
3M	97.3%	99.7% ↑	3M	3 lates	2 lates ↑
3R	95.5%	96.7% ↑	3R	2 lates	3 lates ↓
4M	92.5%	90.9% ↓	4M	9 lates	9 lates →
4R	91.7%	88.6% ↓	4R	4 lates	2 lates ↑
5M	96.2%	91.5% ↓	5M	1 late	4 lates ↓
5R	96.8%	95.3% ↓	5R	9 lates	11 lates ↓
6M	97.2%	96.9% ↓	6M	7 lates	4 lates ↑
6R	92.4%	89.1% ↓	6R	9 lates	6 lates ↑
Overall	94.9%	93.6% ↓	Overall	44 lates	41 lates ↑

Attendance Matters – facts:

If your child has 90% attendance, they will have the equivalent of:-

- ◆ ½ day off per week
- ◆ 19 days off per year
- ◆ 247 days off over their school career of 13 Academic years – equivalent to over 1 year of lost learning.

Every Day Counts:

- ◆ 10 days absence equals 95% attendance – 2 weeks off
- ◆ 20 days absence equals 89% attendance – 4 weeks off
- ◆ 29 days absence equals 85% attendance – 6 weeks off

Government class 90% or lower as being persistent absence

Days off add up to periods of lost learning:-

- ◆ **190 school days** – children should be in school
- ◆ **175 non-school days** – these days can be spent and used for holidays, days out, family time, medical appointments etc



RIBBLETON AVENUE METHODIST JUNIOR SCHOOL

10 Unauthorised sessions in a 10-week period



As you are aware, we informed you all before the Summer holidays that changes were being made by the DfE around unauthorised absences in regard to Penalty notices (Please see the next page) The main changes are *“a child has 10 unauthorised sessions for any reason (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period”* This means that if a child has a 5-day term time holiday a Penalty notice will be issued but also if the child’s absences meet the threshold from any other unauthorised absences, a penalty notice may be considered.

Due to these thresholds, there have been several absences where parents have taken their child/ren on holiday during term time and have not put in a leave of absence request form as per our policy and have stated their child is unwell/ill instead.

In most of these cases, where this happens, if school has identified and become aware that the child is in fact on holiday, these absences will be recorded as unauthorised and a penalty notice will be requested. School are unable to authorise any leave during term time unless it is an exceptional circumstance and school would need proof and supporting evidence to see if this absence does fit into an exceptional circumstance.

Please Note: The DfE does not consider a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation to be an exceptional circumstance.

Here at RAMJS we pride ourselves in promoting good communication between school and home and is based on trust. We would urge that all parents and carers are honest with school about leave requests.

By law, all children of compulsory school age (between 5 and 16) must get a suitable full-time education. The Department for Education states that pupils need to attend regularly. Ribbleton Avenue Methodist Junior School are committed to enabling all our children to achieve and sustain outstanding attendance and punctuality. Our school target is 97%.

We recognise that attending school regularly has a positive impact on learning, progress and therefore the best life chances for children.

Absence request procedure:-

Parents are asked to make requests 6 weeks in advance and fill in an application form. You will need to provide proof of dates you booked the holiday/leave and outbound/return flights and any other supporting evidence with the request form. School ask that you come and speak to the Attendance Manager Mrs Tattersall before making any absence request. You will then be notified by letter of school’s decision.



Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing!

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes came into force on **19th August 2024**.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

5 consecutive days of term time leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days.

10 Sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

**(AM mark = 1 session & PM mark = 1 session)
(1 school day = 2 sessions)**

Penalty notice fines will be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period which may span different terms or school years. Absences may also include lates after the register closes.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Second Offence

(within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period. The third time an offence, or subsequent offences are committed for Term Time leave or Irregular Attendance, another course of action will need to be considered such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions.

Prosecution may result in a fine of up to £2500. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on a parent's future DBS certificate.

Please Note: The DfE does not consider a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation to be an exceptional circumstance.



MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.



DfE have launched a national campaign about the importance of school attendance. “Moments Matter, Attendance Counts”. You will see posters in and around school promoting good attendance. School will continue to work with parents to promote good attendance & punctuality.

“From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make a real difference to your child #AttendanceCounts”

Attendance Matters - the top facts:

The link between attendance and attainment is clear:

- In 2018/2019, Just 40% of persistently absent (PA) children in KS2 achieved expected KS2 standards, compared with 84% of pupils who were regular attenders.
- and 36% of PA children in KS4 got 9 to 4 in their English and Maths GCSEs, also compared with 84% of regular attenders. (1)

And it's never too late to benefit from good attendance:

- More than half (54%) of pupils who were PA in Year 10 and then rarely absent in Year 11, passed at least 5 GCSEs, compared to 36% of pupils who were persistently absent in both years. (2)

But attendance is important for more than just attainment:

- Regular school attendance can facilitate positive peer relationships, which is a protective factor for mental health and wellbeing. (3)

1. [The link between absence and attainment at KS2 and KS4, Academic year 2018/2019 - Explore education statistics - GOV.UK \(explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk\)](https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk)

2. [Missing Children, Missing Grades / Children's Commissioner for England \(childrenscommissioner.gov.uk\)](https://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)

3. [Mental Health and Attendance at School \(Chapter 1\) - Mental Health and Attendance at School \(cambridge.org\)](https://cambridge.org)



**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

"Moments Matter, Attendance Counts" Attendance Information & Monitoring

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
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Nationally, as you may be aware from the news, attendance is a concern as attendance rates have dropped significantly since the pandemic. As a school we strive to be above national average attendance but this is below what it should be and will disadvantage many young people if their attendance falls below around 95% (the equivalent of missing more than 10 days in school).

Please remember that there is clear evidence that poor attendance leads to poorer outcomes and ensure your child/ren are in school unless absolutely unavoidable. Government guidance on sickness absence is also outlined in the newsletter.

Where attendance falls below our target of 97% students will be monitored by the Attendance Manager (See Attendance and Punctuality Monitoring below) who will work closely with their class teacher and other school staff to support your child.

Please note: By law, all children of compulsory school age (between 5 and 16) must get a suitable full time education.

Ribbleton Avenue Methodist Junior School are committed to enabling all our children to achieve and sustain outstanding attendance and punctuality. We work in partnership with you to ensure this does happen. Effective partnership between school and home are essential to ensuring good attendance and punctuality.

Authorised Absences – Under the provisions of the Education Act 1993 **only the school and not the parents** can authorise the absence.

Attendance & Punctuality Monitoring

As part of our attendance monitoring, school monitor every child's attendance, if your child falls at any point during the Academic Year below our 97% target (regardless of the absence being authorised or unauthorised) Parents are notified by a "courtesy" text informing them when their child 1st falls below school's target of 97% and/or their punctuality starts to be an issue. This attendance is then monitored on a 4wkly cycle until their child rises above 97%. 4wkly texts/letters will be issued to parents during their child's monitoring periods. (Improvement and deterioration or request for meetings) School uses several different monitoring systems, e.g texts home, Parent meetings, Attendance Agreements and Penalty Notices (unauthorised holidays and non attendance)

However, should your child's attendance cause further concern during this monitoring period, school may put in further initiatives. If this happens parents will be invited to speak to the Attendance Manager and Family Support Worker to discuss supporting your child's attendance. This also includes punctuality issues. Children's individual absences both authorised and unauthorised will be taken into consideration when monitoring further. Medical evidence maybe requested for illness periods. School works closely with the Local authority Attendance Team.

Please ensure you notify school when your child is not going to be attending. This can be done by either contacting the office and speaking to staff or leaving a message on the absence line. Any medical appointments need to be made outside school if and where possible. Proof of appointments will be required.

Please refer to our Attendance policies on our Website.

Attendance Email address: Attendance@ramjs.lancs.sch.uk

Is My Child too ill to be in school ?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](#). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day. Let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason. **School will follow up on every absence, every time.**

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.

Other illness:

Follow this advice for illnesses:-

Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor [cough](#) or [common cold](#). But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

High temperature

If your child has a [high temperature](#), keep them off school until it goes away.

Chickenpox

If your child has [chickenpox](#), keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over.

This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

Cold sores

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have a [cold sore](#).

Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.

Conjunctivitis

You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have [conjunctivitis](#). **But School recommend you seek medical advice and get eye drops before coming to school if conjunctivitis is suspected.**

Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.

COVID-19

If your child has mild symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, and feels well enough, they can go to school.

Your child should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people if they have [symptoms of COVID-19](#) and they either:

- have a high temperature
- do not feel well enough to go to school or do their normal activities

Ear infection

If your child has an [ear infection](#) and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.

Hand, foot and mouth disease

If your child has [hand, foot and mouth disease](#) but seems well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.

Head lice and nits

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice.

You can treat [head lice and nits](#) without seeing a GP.

Impetigo

If your child has [impetigo](#), they'll need treatment from a GP, often with antibiotics.

Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment.

Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school.

Ringworm

If your child has [ringworm](#), see your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP.

It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.

Scarlet fever

If your child has [scarlet fever](#), they'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks.

Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

Slapped cheek syndrome (fifth disease)

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have [slapped cheek syndrome](#) because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious.

But let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.

Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a [sore throat](#). But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.

A sore throat and a high temperature can be symptoms of [tonsillitis](#).

Threadworms

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have [threadworms](#).

Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.

Vomiting and diarrhoea

Children with [diarrhoea or vomiting](#) should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).

Please ensure you contact school if your child is going to be absent.

"Moments Matter, Attendance Counts"

House Points

House Point Teams



Team Yousafzai



Team Huty



Team Rashford



Team Wiltshire

House Captain	Mrs Bleasdale	Mrs Nickson	Mrs Bloor	Mr Smith
Weekly Winner	3rd	1st	2nd	4th
Total Points	2828	2998	2985	2688
Running Total	19	15	21	14

Class	Winner	Points	House
The Hive	Ashlie	40	Wiltshire
3M	Aayan	52	Huty
3R	Hayyan	118	Rashford
4M	Janulya	246	Yousafzai
4R	Keaton	45	Rashford
5M	Ibraheem	110	Wiltshire
5R	Gurraj	120	Rashford
6M	Regan	42	Rashford
6R	Vanessa	Kaiden	Olivia
		45	Y
			R
			R

Scholastic Book Fair

It's almost time for the Ribbleton Reader's Scholastic Book Fair.

Join us after school between 3:20 and 4:00 every evening from the **1st of November until the 11th of November**.

We would love to show you the amazing books we have on offer this term. There are books for littles and big ones so bring the family. There are even books for just £2.99!

Even more exciting is that every book purchase you make, earns your school money off books for our library so we can purchase some exciting books for use in school.

This is a cashless event and payment can be made online prior to the event, by purchasing vouchers or by scanning a QR code using a device at the event and paying online. Our RAMJS Reading Team, Mrs Child and Miss France will be on hand to help you make the perfect selection.

FREE books for your school when you buy at the Book Fair!

SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

COME to the BOOK FAIR

A pop-up book-store with hundreds of books from just £2.99

DOG MAN by Dav Pilkey. Save £3. £12.99 £9.99

WHEN JELLY HAD A WOBBLE by Julia Donaldson. JUST £2.99. £6.99 £2.99

TOM GATES FIVE STAR STORIES by Liz Pichon. £7.99

COBWEB by Michael Morpurgo. Paperback exclusive to Scholastic. £7.99

Jonty Gentoo by Peter Jackson. Available from 12th September. Save £5. £12.99 £7.99

LEGO NINJAGO IMPERIUM WARRIOR by Greg Fiftal. £8.99

MY BIG FAT SMELLY POO DIARY by The Cat in the Hat. A work of staggering importance. £8.99

THE LOST LEOPARD by Nizrana Farook. Save £3. £7.99 £4.99

LAST YEAR YOUR SUPPORT HELPED DONATE £5.3M IN FREE BOOKS TO SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE

Ages 2+

BUCY by Bad Mood. £7.99

The Baddies by Lauren Child. £4.99

MI'S BRAVE MOVE by Lauren Child. Save £2. £6.99 £4.99

NOT ANOTHER UNICORN BOOK by Lauren Child. £6.99

PETER ANDRE BABY RESCUE by Richard Price. Save £2. £7.99 £5.99

LOVE PUPPIES by Lauren Child. £6.99

READY! TO READ! by Lauren Child. £8.99

BOOK PUPPIES by Lauren Child. 4 for only £9.99. £23.96 £9.99

Ages 6+

Tom Gates THE BOOK OF EVERYTHING! by David Walliams. Save £5. £12.99 £7.99

ROALD DAHL THE TWITS by Roald Dahl. GREAT DEAL. £7.99 £3.99

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My new journal with stories, doodle tips, makes and more!

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HIDDEN GEMMES by David Walliams. £9.99

Tom Gates ESSENTIAL HANDBOOK by David Walliams. Save £4. £14.99 £10.99

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Ages 8+

The first book in the epic Skandar series

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Katy's Pony Friends by Katy Gold. 3 for only £9.99. £20.97 £9.99

ALAN GRATZ REFUGEE by Alan Gratz. £22.97 £9.99

ALAN GRATZ ALLIES by Alan Gratz. 3 for only £9.99. £22.97 £9.99

FREE necklace included

For fans of Loki!

Payment at our Book Fair

Please check with your school for the best way to pay for your books

- You may pay by card at the Fair via card reader machines, if your school has one or by using the online payment link at www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay and simply selecting your school from the drop down menu.
- Pre-paid gift vouchers are available in £5, £10, £15, £20 and £25. Go to www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers to buy vouchers for your child before the Fair.
- If you can't attend the Fair in person, your child can order books via a Wish List - please ask your school for details.

HELP EARN FREE BOOKS

Scholastic is one of the largest providers of free books to schools via our Reward scheme which helps to ensure that as many children as possible have access to books that support reading for pleasure. Every time you buy from the Book Fair, you help to make a difference by supporting literacy in your child's setting. Last year, with your help, we gave over £5.3M worth of free books to schools nationwide, which stocked school libraries and classrooms.

*Free books are subject to terms and conditions. Please contact your Book Fair Organiser or Scholastic Book Fairs for details. All books subject to availability. Book range may vary. Warning: Not suitable for children under 3. Small parts.