

RIBBLETON AVENUE METHODIST JUNIOR SCHOOL

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

18.10.2024

Message from Mrs Nickson

Another fun-packed week has flown by and it's hard to believe the entire half term has too!

6M had a wonderful time on their trip to Laund Farm. The children were a real credit to the school, displaying excellent behaviour throughout. Despite the rainy weather, they thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

A huge thank you to all parents who contributed to our Harvest Assembly last Thursday. Your generous donations have been given to Ashton Food Aid and the staff there would like to extend their heartfelt thanks for your kindness. As always, RAMJS deeply appreciates your continued support.

We are also delighted to celebrate Naaila in Year 6, who recently attended an open evening at Moor Park High School. She participated in a treasure hunt with many other children and impressively won, taking home a £50 Smyths voucher. Well done Naaila!

As we approach half-term, we hope you all enjoy the break and some quality time together. With the nights drawing in, please remind your children to stay safe.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back on the 28th October.

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.



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.

We would like to thank all our parents who donated to our Harvest Assembly last Thursday. These have now been donated to Ashton Food Aid and Ruby would like to say a very big thank you for your kindness and generosity. As always, RAMJS appreciates the support and help that you give. 😊



Autumn Term Diary Dates

21.10.2024- 25.10.2024	Half Term
31.10.2024	Halloween Disco
05.11.2024	Parents Evening
06.11.2024	Parents Evening
01.11.2024	Non-Uniform Day in Exchange for Chocolate for Raffle
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

To all Year 6 Parents/Carers

It is coming up to the time of year where your high school applications have to be submitted by 31st October. You can apply online via Lancashire County Council however if you are struggling online there is a paper application form to download in the advice and support tab in the link below. You can also pop into school and Louise our family support worker has lots of paper copies.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-online-for-a-school-place/>

Halloween Disco

Halloween Disco will take place Thursday 31st October 3.30-4.30 p.m. Tickets are £2 each and include a drink and snack. Tickets go on sale Monday 14th October 2024 on ParentPay. Costumes to be sent to school on the day, but please no toy weapons.



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— Ashlie The Nest— Harvey & Amelia
3	 3M— Megan 3R— Asiya
4	4M— Gracie 4R— Alice
	 5M— CJ 5R— Junaid
6	6M— Isbah 6R— Kaiden

Appreciation Award & Healthy Eating Award

Appreciation Award

Maryam N & Naaila H 6M - For always being a nice friend and making sure others are ok especially if they have no one to play with or are alone.

Healthy Choices Award

Mrs S Bradshaw 5R - For bringing in a healthy snack.

Attendance and Punctuality

“Moments Matter, Attendance Counts”

Attendance Class Winners – 3M 97.3%

Punctuality Winners – 5R 1 late

Whole School – 94.9%

Wkly 100% Attendance Raffle winners: Shang I 4R & Aiza A 6M

We’re on Target – 2 Classes were above 97% - 3M 97.3% & 6M 97.2%

Attendance since Sept 2024 – 95.2%

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance			Punctuality		
Class	Last Wk	This Wk	Class	Last Wk	This Wk
3M	97.9%	97.3% ↓	3M	3 lates	3 lates →
3R	97.3%	95.5% ↓	3R	6 lates	2 lates ↑
4M	94.7%	92.5% ↓	4M	5 lates	9 lates ↓
4R	96.4%	91.7% ↓	4R	1 late	4 lates ↓
5M	94.7%	96.2% ↑	5M	1 late	1 late →
5R	94.4%	96.8% ↑	5R	4 lates	9 lates ↓
6M	98.1%	97.2% ↓	6M	2 lates	7 lates ↓
6R	93.7%	92.4% ↓	6R	6 lates	9 lates ↓
Overall	95.9%	94.9% ↓	Overall	28 lates	44 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



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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)

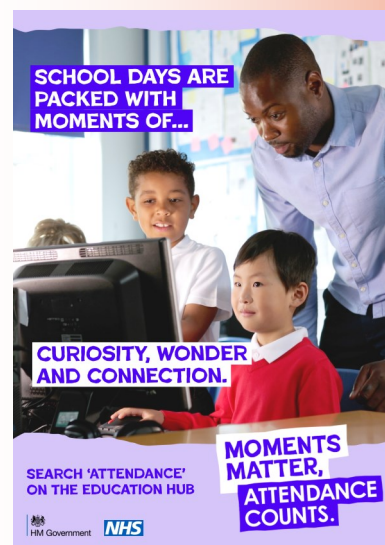
But attendance is important for more than just attainment:

- 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://www.cambridge.org/core)



**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

"Moments Matter, Attendance Counts" Attendance Information & Monitoring

**MOMENTS
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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	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Total Points	3270	2856	2821	2801
Running Total	17	11	18	14

Class	Winner	Points	House	
The Hive	Sophia-Rose Harper	75	Huty	Yousafzai
3M	Mokshitha	74	Rashford	
3R	Harley	118	Huty	
4M	Muhammad P	243	Huty	
4R	Zakiyya	184	Wiltshire	
5M	Saara	59	Huty	
5R	Fatima Seher	115	Rashford	
6M	Hamza	48	Wiltshire	
6R	Brooke	45	Wiltshire	

Outdoor Education Timetable

Week Commencing.	Class.	Day.
30 th September.	5M 4M 6M 3M	Mon Tuesday Wed Thurs
7 th October.	5R 4R 6R 3R Hive/Nest	Mon Tuesday Wed Thurs Fri
14 th October.	5M 4M 6M 3M Hive/Nest	Mon Tuesday Wed Thurs Fri
28 th October.	5R 4R 6R 3R	Mon Tuesday Wed Thurs
4 th November.	5M 4M 6M 3M	Mon Tuesday Wed Thurs
11 th November.	5R 4R 6R 3R	Mon Tuesday Wed Thurs
18 th November.	5M 4M 6M 3M	Mon Tuesday Wed Thurs
25 th November.	5R 4R 6R 3R	Mon Tuesday Wed Thurs
2 nd December.	5M 4M 6M 3M	Mon Tuesday Wed Thurs
9 th December.	5R 4R 6R 3R	Mon Tuesday Wed Thurs