

RIBBLETON AVENUE METHODIST JUNIOR SCHOOL

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www.ramjs.lancs.sch.uk

27.09.2024

Message from Mrs Nickson

Here we are at the end of our first month of this academic year and wow, it's been a busy 4 weeks. We have launched our new writing curriculum, Ready Steady Write, and have been blown away by the amazing writing that has been created throughout school. We believe in being ambitious for our pupils and these units of work have really uplevelled our vocabulary and sentence structure in just 4 weeks!

We are continuing our focus on reading throughout school, especially phonics, the study of words and their origin and Reading for Pleasure. You might be wondering why this is important to our pupils. Research has shown that 56% of children don't enjoy reading in their spare time.

In line with the National Literacy Trust, it is our hope that *we can give RAMJS pupils every opportunity possible to fall in love with reading, whilst giving families the support they need to put reading for enjoyment at the heart of every child and home.*

If you need any advice on how to support with reading at home please speak to your child's class teacher.

As mathematicians, our RAMJS pupils will be having a big push on mental maths (arithmetic) and problem solving/reasoning. This is to give our children every success when independently applying mathematical principles. We use White Rose Maths to support with the teaching of maths and we appreciate that supporting children with maths at home can be challenging so please do speak to the RAMJS team if you need any support.

We recognise that as the children get older, more ownership is put on them to access and gather learning, including homework. As a school we would love to promote a stronger link between home and school and would like to request that parents are active in prioritising homework.

At home if parents and carers could ensure that children complete the following:

- Daily Reading for 10-20 minutes (please record in reading records)
- Timetable practice:
 - Year 3 - 2xs, 3xs, 4xs, 5xs, 8xs, 10xs
 - Year 4 - 2xs, 3xs, 4xs, 5xs, 6xs, 7xs, 8xs, 9xs, 10xs, 11xs, 12xs (In preparation for the end of Year 4 national Multiplication Test Check)
 - Year 5 and Year 6 - regular practice of all timetables to support with mental maths

Weekly spelling practice

As always, the RAMJS team are on hand to help with any questions and happy to offer support to ensure that our pupils can thrive, building the 'brighter futures' we know they achieve.

I hope you enjoy a wonderful autumnal weekend and enjoy some time together with your loved ones.

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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.

Autumn Term Diary Dates

09.10.2024	6R Farm Trip
16.10.2024	6M Farm Trip
18.10.2024	Jack and the Beanstalk performance in school
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/>



Stars of the Week

Year	Stars
	The Hive— Harper The Nest— Mohammad A
3	3M— Marcus 3R— Zoya
4	4M— Ibrahim 4R— Julia P
5	5M— Summer 5R— Gurraj
6	6M— Madalina 6R— Lily-Mae

Appreciation Award & Healthy Eating Award

Appreciation Award

Maarya N 4R - For being kind during the bake sale when her friend had not brought any money to buy a cake. So Maarya bought her one.

Mrs H Tipton - For providing valuable ICT help to Mrs Tugwell on a daily basis (including sharing chocolate!!!!)

Healthy Choices Award

Mason H 3M - For bringing a variety of fruit and vegetables for snack.

Harvey M 6R - For choosing healthy snacks.

Attendance and Punctuality

“Moments Matter, Attendance Counts”

Attendance Class Winners – 3M 98.7%

Punctuality Winners – 3M/5M 2 lates

Whole School – 93.7%

Wkly 100% Attendance Raffle winners: Mason B 4R & Aaliyah DW 5M

We’re on Target – 1 Class was above 97% - 3M 98.7%

Attendance since Sept 2024 – 94.4%

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance			Punctuality		
Class	Last Wk	This Wk	Class	Last Wk	This Wk
3M	96.8%	98.7% ↑	3M	1 late	2 lates ↓
3R	93.5%	96.1% ↑	3R	8 lates	7 lates ↑
4M	96.4%	91.5% ↓	4M	7 lates	7 lates →
4R	95%	92.5% ↓	4R	2 lates	6 lates ↓
5M	96.7%	92.9% ↓	5M	7 lates	2 lates ↑
5R	96.2%	92.9% ↓	5R	4 lates	5 lates ↓
6M	96.8%	94.8% ↓	6M	6 lates	3 lates ↑
6R	94%	91.1% ↓	6R	2 lates	3 lates ↓
Overall	95.7%	93.7% ↓	Overall	37 lates	35 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



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
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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	4th	2nd	3rd
Total Points	3337	2995	2902	2445
Running Total	9	4	8	9

Class	Winner	Points	House
The Hive	Jack	70	Huty
3M	Irina	72	Rashford
3R	Poppy	86	Huty
4M	Alexander	268	Rashford
4R	Aysha	78	Yousafzai
5M	Abdullah	195	Yousafzai
5R	Ibrahim	70	Yousafzai
6M	Madalina	32	Wiltshire
6R	Vanessa	106	Yousafzai