

NEWSLETTER 02

13th September 2019

rodeandnortonschoolfederation.co.uk

Rode Early Bird and Stay and Play Team

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OFSTED Registration: EY489041

GRUFFALO & ELMER PHONIC WORKSHOPS

We are looking forward to seeing all Gruffalo Class parents (who have not attended this workshop before) on **Wednesday 25th September at 7pm** for a Phonics Workshop where we will outline important pre-phonics skills, how we teach phonics, how you can support this at home and our approach to the teaching of reading. Refreshments will be provided.

Elmer Class parents are invited to a similar workshop on **Thursday 3rd October at 7pm** where we will explain the next stage, Phase 5 of our phonics programme and the requirements of the Year One Phonics Screening Check. We look forward to seeing you. Mrs Muxworthy and Mrs Phillips.

LINES OF COMMUNICATION WITH TEACHERS

If you choose to email teachers, we request that you comply with the following protocols: -

Parents will

- Always be respectful, measured and cordial
- Not expect an immediate reply (see below)
- In an emergency, where an immediate response is needed, contact the school office by telephone.
- If your child is in Gruffalo, Wild Things or Paddington Class always copy your email to both class teachers.

Teachers will

- Always reply in a professional manner.
- Only read emails after 8am and before 6pm on working days (unless they choose to do otherwise)
- Send a reply within one working day (24 hours) of receipt. This may be a holding email, a request for a meeting or a full reply. (Please note that not all staff work all week and they will only be expected to reply on one of their working days).
- For a more complicated email a full response must be received by the parents within five working days.
- Copy the Headteacher into all more complicated replies, concerns or complaints.
- Where applicable copy job-share into all emails to and from parents.
- Forward any disrespectful emails to the Headteacher for response.
- Copy the school office team and Headteacher into all whole class organisational emails.

For those of you who would rather not use email to communicate with teachers please drop in to speak to your child's teachers or call the school office to make alternative contact arrangements.

MUFTI DAY FOR NSPCC

I'm pleased to tell you that we will be working with the NSPCC, the UK's leading children's charity, on **Monday 30th September**, when they'll be delivering their ***Speak out. Stay safe.*** programme to Paddington, Wild Things and BFG Classes at Rode. This is a nationwide programme for primary-school-aged child in the UK and Channel Islands. With the help of their friendly mascot Buddy, they'll be presenting an assembly to the children to make sure our pupils at Rode have the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe from abuse.

In order to raise funds for this worthwhile charity we will be asking the children to come to school on Monday 30th September dressed in mufti and to donate £1. Although the assemblies are just for the older children, we would love all our Elmer and Gruffalo children to join in, wearing mufti and donating £1 each to this worthwhile cause.

What is the Speak out. Stay safe. programme?

Through child-friendly and interactive assemblies specially trained staff and volunteers will give our children information about how to keep themselves safe from harm and how to get help if they have any worries, sensitively discussing issues like bullying and sexual abuse, without using scary words or adult language.

We have studied the content of the materials and heard from other schools who have participated, and we are confident that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children. By the end of their visit, we anticipate children will feel empowered – knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

If you would like any more information about the Speak out. Stay safe. programme you can come in to speak to me or visit the NSPCC website nspcc.org.uk/buddy

Talking PANTS with your children

The NSPCC's work in schools will help encourage conversations about staying safe – and they have a number of child-friendly materials to help you carry on the conversation afterwards. That includes 'Talk PANTS', a simple way for parents to help keep children safe from sexual abuse – without using scary words or even mentioning sex. The guide uses the rules of PANTS to teach children that their body belongs to them and them alone. You can find out more and download the free resources at nspcc.org.uk/pants

If you'd like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their [website](#).

PADDINGTON - BIF CLUB

Paddington Class are invited to a **free club** on a Monday after they have finished their lunch. It will take place in the Rainbow Room next door to their classroom. It is called 'The Bif Club' and Sue (our Parish Children and Family Worker) will lead it with help from Bif the puppet.

Each week Sue will explore a different Bible story with Bif's help and make something linked to the story or play a game. The club will finish with a prayer and then outside for 15 minutes play before afternoon class begins. If you would like your child to join 'The 'Bif Club' please return a consent form to Paddington Class teachers or the school office asap. The club will start **Monday 23rd September** and run all the academic year.

CLIMBING FRAME

In order to keep all Stay & Play children safe please would parents and their children vacate both our school sites as quickly as possible at the end of the day and refrain from playing on our play equipment or in our grounds.

FLU VACCINATIONS

All children within the Federation will be offered flu vaccinations this year. You will receive an information pack and consent form this week. Please return the consent form, in the envelope provided, to the school office by **Monday 23rd September**. If you do not wish your child to receive the vaccination, it is equally important to return the form clearly indicating that you do not give consent.

'THE MCPHERSON SQUAD' MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

The McPherson Squad are holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning on **Saturday 28th September**. It will be at the cricket pavilion on The Mead in Norton St Philip from 10am-12pm. Everyone is welcome and there will be extra activities including a tombola and face painting.

Anyone who is unable to make it but would still like to donate can use the link below <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/becky-mcpherson1> or text to donate £5 using the code YUM GNE2 to 70550.

Many thanks, Becky McPherson

EV5 – PARENT/CARER CONSENT FORM FOR AN EXTERNAL VISIT

Pupils in Years 1 – 4 have received a hard copy of the **annual consent** form for all activities, trips and visits which take place during school hours e.g. Sports tournaments, music events and festivals, museum visits and local places of interest.

To enable your child to participate in visits/activities this year it is essential that you complete & return this form asap.

INSET DAYS – School closed to pupils

25th October 2019

6th January 2020

17th July 2020 & 20th July 2020

HARVEST DATES

Paddington, Wild Things & BFG- 23rd October @9.30am - Rode School

Elmer & Gruffalo- 23rd October @ 2.30pm - NSP School

2019/2020 TERM DATES

Our 2019/20 term dates are [here](#) on our website.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Please find information on the following community events on our Community page on the website

Our community page [here](#).

- [Frome Youth Choir](#)'s new term is about to start on Thursday 19 September - come along and be part of something amazing! More information [here](#)
- Freshford United Y.F C- Players wanted – More information [here](#)
- [Lemonlightning](#) Performing Arts Club: Lightning Bolts: Seniors - starting Friday 20th September 4:30 - 5:30 - Rode Memorial Hall - Sign up information [here](#)