



Headteacher's Weekly Update: Friday 3rd May

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy Friday everybody. I hope you have had a great week. Welcome to May 2024, a month that feels like it was eagerly waiting to take the baton from April and has burst into action with a joyful sprint.

PTFA Marathon Challenge: Speaking of batons and running, we are well into the 26 days of the Marathon Challenge. It has been great to see children running regularly on the track each day, clocking up those miles. I have started a Thursday lunchtime Running Club which all children are welcome to join in with. I have been very impressed by a number of very determined children in Year 1 and Year 3 in particular who have got involved so enthusiastically. The challenge concludes at the Barratt Home Romsey Relay Marathon at Broadlands on Sunday 19th May. Do come and join us at Broadlands that day. Here's the Sign up form for the challenge: <https://forms.gle/JuCiYdkDxdrvE3PfA> and the JustGiving Page for those sponsorship donations: <https://justgiving.com/campaign/RAPSMARATHONCHALLENGE2024>

Habits of Mind: Collaboration: We are focusing this half term on what it means to **work together as a team so everyone can flourish**. In our Shared Language of High Expectations; Deep Empathy, there are a number of really helpful questions to be asking the children (and each other) to build that sense of taking individual responsibility in a collaborative way:

"**How can I help you?**" - a wonderful question to ask and be asked but also puts responsibility on the one to whom you are asking this to think through what specific help they would benefit from, rather than encouraging a learned helplessness.

"**Please can you help me...?**" - It fills our bucket to help others and gives us a sense of purpose and achievement even on those bad days. This is the same for our children, build them up, fill their bucket up by asking them to help you, drawing out their empathy and kindness. We are using this language in and around school in all manner of contexts and we invite you to do the same.

Gate Reminder: The school gate **closes at 8:50am** each morning. Please ensure your child is in school on time every day so they can start the day positively and make the most of the opportunities in school.

Term Time Holidays: Please do not book term time holidays. Good attendance is very clearly linked to better progress and achievement in school. We know very well the cost implications of holidays in the school holidays but the children's education must be the priority; affordable holidays do not justify the absence from school. Fixed Penalty Notices of £60 per parent per child will be issued for 5 unauthorised absences within a 100 school day period. Thank you.



We are walking in the Footsteps of Jesus with Love Trust and Forgiveness

Romsey Abbey Primary School, Church Lane, Romsey. SO51 8EP 01794 512047 adminoffice@romseyabbey.hants.sch.uk

If you have an encouragement or suggestion to share please do take a quick moment to complete our **Friendly Feedback Form**.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd072Mv_gmGhe18XhWtTK36Ev-uMBtzG1SachpqjDJ3McUNAw/viewform

Thank you to those who have done so already. We do look carefully at these and are already taking action on a number of your helpful suggestions (including my Thursday lunchtime running club). We are also very grateful for your kind encouragements.

Dates for your Diary: Don't forget to check the dates for your diary for all the upcoming events with lots of things happening over the exciting summer term:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/10-Qagv3rcTOhllGpgLuw5Jpz_roi8-UQP-67qL45jBc/edit

Prayer:

Dear God,

We thank you for our school and pray that it is a place where kindness and love overflow and shape all our actions, reactions and words. We pray that all our school family and wider community would have a restful and refreshing Bank Holiday weekend.

Amen

Have a great bank holiday weekend everybody.

Kind Regards

Mr Harris

Mr Mark Harris

Headteacher

Romsey Abbey Church of England Primary School

01794 512047

"Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus with Love, Trust and Forgiveness"