



Rush Common School Newsletter

Friday 9th January 2026



Dream, Aspire, Succeed

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year! As you know, 2026 at Rush Common School started with an Ofsted Inspection. Everyone at the school saw this as an opportunity to demonstrate what a fantastic school we are and really rose to the occasion. As well as the staff, this was also true of the children (whose behaviour and approach to learning was superb) and the parents, who had many great things to say about the school both in person to inspectors on the gate and through the Parent Survey. It was hugely inspiring to see the entire school community step up to demonstrate and celebrate the way children progress and develop throughout our school, and I am hugely grateful to everyone for this. The final report is likely to be ready to be shared publicly in February and I am hopeful this will be before the Half Term break.

On Thursday, Year 1 headed off to Australia on a long haul flight. It was certainly much warmer when they got off the plane! This exciting start to their topic sets them up for the huge amount of learning about Australia this term. In fact, the whole school will be awash with learning from every continent of the world as Reception look at the North and South Pole, Year 2 study Africa, Year 3 develop their understanding of Europe, Year 4 learn about some of the countries and cultures in Asia, Year 5 study South America and Year 6, North America. The opportunity to learn about other parts of the world and make comparisons to the UK is really important for children to understand the world they live in.

Whilst a walk around the school next week will be like a walk around the world, a trip to the library will involve going into Space! This is because the library has been transformed into an 'Out of This World' area for the Prayer and/or Reflection Space. This magical environment will be visited by every year group in the school next week, and they will be able to reflect on themselves and others around them. Everyone has such busy lives and learning the importance of quiet reflection is invaluable.

The reflection space nicely complements the whole school PSHE topic this term of 'Dreams and Goals'. Children had an Assembly on Monday to launch this topic and they will be spending time in PSHE lessons considering their interests and passions, how they would like to develop themselves and their skills, and how to develop resilience to overcome barriers. The topic culminates in Year 6, where children understand their own personal learning goals in and out of school, how to recognise achievement, and make a difference in the world.

Our PSHE topic fits well with our DRME sessions in school, which take place towards the end of January. This is for children in Key Stage 2 to understand the importance of diet, resilience, mind and exercise in terms of their overall health, and we know they always really enjoy the sessions.

Finally, I would like to thank parents for completing our annual Parent Survey and I know many of you will have completed two quite similar surveys with the timing of Ofsted. The survey has now closed and an initial look at the results are really pleasing. I will be able to share some of the headline results from this survey in the next newsletter.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable weekend ahead and hope that 2026 is a happy and successful year for you all.

Kind regards

Kristen Fawcett

Headteacher



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School Dinners

The cost of school dinners this term is **£2.80** per day. Payment for school dinners can be made via ParentMail. Meal choices must be made at least 3 days in advance.



Dates for your diary 2026

Year 5SC Trip to the Planetarium	Friday 16 th January
Year 4 Curriculum Assembly	Thursday 29 th January at 9.00am
Year 5 Curriculum Assembly	Thursday 5 th February at 9.00am
Year 5LB Trip to the Planetarium	Friday 6 th February
Walk to School Week	Week of the 9 th February
End of Term 2a	Friday 13 th February
Start of Term 2b	Monday 23 rd February
Travelling Book Fair	Tuesday 3 rd – 6 th March
World Book Day	Thursday 5 th March
Year 2 Trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park	Wednesday 11 th March
Parents' Evening	Week of the 16 th March (Days and times tbc)
Year 1 Curriculum Assembly	Tuesday 17 th March at 9.00am
Weight and Measure Programme (Reception And Year 6 Children Only)	Wednesday 18 th March
Red Nose Day	Friday 20 th March
Year 2 Curriculum Assembly	Tuesday 24 th March at 2.30pm
Year 3 Curriculum Assembly	Wednesday 25 th March at 9.00am
Science Fair	Thursday 26 th March
End of Term 2b	Friday 27 th March at 1.30pm
Start of Term 3a	Monday 13 th April
Year 5 Liddington Residential	Wednesday 15 th – Friday 17 th April
Year 6 SATs Information Evening	Thursday 16 th April at 5.00pm
May Bank Holiday (children not in school)	Monday 4 th May

Reception Trip to Roves Farm	Wednesday 6th May
KS2 SATs Week	Week of the 11th May
Walk to School Week	Week of the 18th May
Whole School Picnic and Open Afternoon	Friday 22nd May
End of Term 3a	Friday 22nd May
Inset Day (Children Not in School)	Monday 1st June
Start of Term 3b	Tuesday 2nd June
Class Photos	Thursday 4th June
Phonics Screening	Week of the 8th June
Vision Screening (Reception Children Only)	Thursday 18th June
Reception and KS1 Sports Day	Friday 19th June 9.00am – 12.00pm
Reception and KS1 Back Up Sports Day	Tuesday 23rd June 9.00am - 12.00pm
Year 6 Call of the Wild Residential	Monday 29th June – Friday 3rd July
Reception Curriculum Assembly	Wednesday 1st July at 2.15pm
Move Up Morning	Wednesday 8th July
KS2 Sports Day Tilsley Park	Friday 10th July 9.00am - 2.00pm
KS2 Back Up Sports Day Tilsley Park	Thursday 16th July 9.00am - 2.00pm
End of Term 3b	Friday 17th July at 1.30pm

Local Community News

Please note items and events detailed below are for information purposes only. Rush Common School do not endorse or make recommendation

The after school football run by Premier Soccer Centres is restarting Tuesday 13th January. There are still a couple of places left, if interested please email Mark Jones at mark@premiersoccercentres.co.uk If Tuesday's are not convenient they also run a session indoors at John Mason School on Thursday's 5-6pm, again if interested contact Mark ASAP to grab a space.'

Abingdon School in Partnership



HELPING YOUR CHILD'S SLEEP

Abingdon School in Partnership presents a special webinar with Dr Dimitri Gavriloff, exploring the science behind quality sleep in children and adolescents and offering practical advice on supporting your child with sleep difficulties.



Date

Wednesday 28th January



Time

7:00pm - 8:00pm

Speaker

Dr Dimitri Gavriloff

Dr Dimitri Gavriloff is a Clinical Psychologist and Sleep Medicine Specialist based in Oxford. He has extensive clinical experience, having previously led an NHS sleep medicine service, and also works in an academic capacity at the Sleep and Circadian Neuroscience Institute at the University of Oxford, where he is actively involved in teaching and research.

**Open to parents/carers of children
in schools in the Abingdon area**

REGISTER NOW



To sign up for this webinar, please complete this google form so that a webinar link can be emailed to you. Please note, this webinar will not be recorded.





Menstrual Health and
Period Education Advocates

January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

All Yours Period Boxes

In December we celebrated our 5th birthday and are delighted to be able to offer period boxes again in 2026 to anyone who is struggling to access period products, for whatever reason. We are happy to support both adults and young people through this service.

You can request a free, confidential All Yours Box here:

<https://www.allyoursbox.co.uk/request>

Please note: If you are requesting boxes for more than one person (for example, multiple family members), please indicate the number of boxes needed and any specific product requirements in the comments box on the request form. This helps us make sure everyone receives what they need.

Boxes are prepared and delivered by volunteers, so please allow up to 21 days (though most arrive much sooner).

If we can't deliver to you directly, we'll let you know how to find your nearest collection point.

Period Pants

Unfortunately, we cannot deliver period pants to individual addresses, but we hope to be hosting more Period Pants Parties at locations across South Oxfordshire in 2026 so please keep an eye on our social media for more details. We are @allyoursmonthly on both Facebook and Instagram.

With best wishes,

All Yours

All Yours Period Box CIC – www.allyoursbox.co.uk
Facebook & Instagram - @allyoursmonthly

CHORISTERS

AT RADLEY COLLEGE

Passionate about music?

Love to sing?

Could you be a Chorister?

Come along to one of our free open events to find out more...



RADLEY



Choristerships are available for boys aged 7-12, and we are currently holding open events for boys in Year 2.

AS A CHORISTER YOU WOULD...

- Meet new friends!
- Sing in regular concerts and services
- Receive free weekly singing, theory and instrumental lessons
- Receive excellent care and choral training from world-class music staff
- Have the opportunity to join international music tours
- Share supper each week with your fellow Choristers
- Earn some pocket-money!

FIND OUT MORE...

Come to a Sunday service

Join us at 10am on Sunday 18 January, 1 February, 8 February or 8 March in Radley College Chapel. There will be refreshments after the service, as well as an opportunity to chat to current parents.

'Be a chorister' evening

Join the Radley Choristers on one of the following dates:
Thursday 5 February, 26 February, 5 March or 12 March.

Meet members of the chorister team, then join in with warm ups, singing games and part of a rehearsal before enjoying supper with the other boys.

For info or to register for an event scan QR or email
musicadmin@radley.org.uk

