Reception
Rush Common School
2026 - 2027

Mrs Harrison and Miss Johnson

Mrs Cox and Mrs Evans

Slides will be sent out later in the week.

Meet the Teachers and TAs:

- Mrs Harrison and Miss Johnson
- Our teaching assistants: Mrs Cox and Mrs Evans
- Monday afternoon: Mrs Edumunds (music) Mr Sealey (PHSE/circle time)
- Friday morning: Mrs Macintosh (Understanding The World)

Arriving to school

- The gates are opened at 8:30.
- Classroom doors open at 8:30 and close at 8:40. If you are late arriving, please enter via the front office.
- Please be safe and courteous when arriving in the mornings. It is very busy and there are a lot of pedestrians in front of school and at Norman Avenue. This is the same in the afternoons.
- It is not possible to turn in the school drive, park on or opposite the zigzag lines, or park on the grass verges. Please respect the safety of our school community and our neighbours.
- Please ensure that children do not climb on the gate when waiting.
- **Bikes and scooters should be pushed on the playground as it is very busy. This includes younger siblings not yet at school.**



Leaving school

- The gates are opened at 3:00.
- Children in Reception - should be collected at the class doors.
- Children and younger siblings should not play on the adventure playground equipment after school hours.
- When entering or leaving school, please do not let children enter the codes. We have them in place for the safety of the children and security of the school site.

Park and Stride

- Please remember that we participate in Park and Stride.
- Rush Common families can park in the Boundary House car park during drop-off and pick-up times to walk to school.
- This greatly reduces the congestion around the school gates and promotes healthy lifestyles.



Attendance

- Absences must be reported to the school if your child/ren will be absent for any reason. The school will follow-up with any unreported absence, which may include visiting the child's listed address.

- **Parents must not take their children out of school for a holiday, and doing so is against the law. You may receive a penalty notice and fine for taking a term time holiday**. Your child is likely to experience illness in the school year at some point that may keep them off school. It is therefore highly detrimental to add further absence in the form of a holiday on top of unavoidable absence through illness.

Across the whole school year:

Pupil attendance	Time in school lost
95%	9.5 days
90%	19.5 days
85%	28.5 days
75%	47.5 days

Attendance and Lateness

- If your child's attendance falls below 90%, you may be contacted by the school so we can offer support and work together to improve it. The school's attendance procedure can be found on the school website:
  - https://www.rushcommonschool.org/assets/Attendance-procedures.pdf

- Being late also impacts your child's education.

Minutes late per day	Equivalent of missing
5 Minutes	3.4 school days a year
10 Minutes	6.9 school days a year
15 Minutes	10.3 school days a year
20 Minutes	13.8 school days a year
30 Minutes	20.7 school days a year

School Uniform

- Regular school uniform is expected to be worn everyday. On the day that your child has PE, they should wear PE kit. Reception's PE day is on a Friday.
- Waterproof clothing (including wellies and jacket/trousers) can be left at school.
- **A change of clothes are important to have in their bag – this does not need to be school uniform.**

New guidance:

Schools can only require 3 branded items as part of their uniform. At Rush Common, this includes:

- Jumper or cardigan
- PE top
- Tie (Year 1 onwards)

School Uniform

Additional reminders:

- No extreme hairstyles please – unnatural colours, shaved styles, etc
- When wearing summer dresses, it is recommended that shorts are worn underneath.
- **Long hair should be tied back using a scrunchie, hair band or clip.** Hair gel should not be used to style hair.
- Minimal jewellery should be worn. A **wristwatch** and/or single stud earring in each ear lobe are permitted.
- All jewellery should be removed for PE and games. If ears are recently pierced, please provide tape to cover them.
- Nail varnish and make-up are not allowed.

School Uniform



Lost property:

Please label coats, jumpers, cardigans, snack pots and water bottles. We have had a lot of unnamed items that never get returned.

Also check at the start/end of each half term if they are still labelled.

Lunch arrangements

- School meals are available to order through ParentMail. They should be ordered at least three days in advance.
- Reception and KS1 receive free school dinners.
- Reception eat at 11:45
- YR – Y2 have playtime at 12:30;
- If your child is going to have a packed lunch; grapes, large blueberries and small tomatoes must be cut in half.

RUSH COMMON SCHOOL – AUTUMN MENU

WEEK 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN COURSE	Cheese and Tomato Pasta Bake served with Mixed Leaf Salad	BBQ Turkey Meatballs served with Fluffy Rice	Roast Chicken with Yorkshire Pudding	Baked Spaghetti Bolognaise with Garlic Bread	Battered Fish with Chips
VEGETARIAN DISH	Mediterranean Vegetable Ragu with Gnocchi & Garlic Bread	Cheesy Bean Burrito with Wholegrain Rice	Roasted Quorn Fillet with Yorkshire Pudding	Baked Vegetarian Spaghetti Bolognaise with Garlic Bread	Jacket Potato served with Cheese or Beans
POTATO & VEGETABLES	A Selection of Seasonal Vegetables	A Selection of Seasonal Vegetables	A Selection of Seasonal Vegetables	A Selection of Seasonal Vegetables	A Selection of Seasonal Vegetables
DESSERT OR FRESH FRUIT	Chocolate Mousse Or Fresh Fruit	Fudge Cake Or Fresh Fruit	Mixed Fruit Flapjack Or Fresh Fruit	Chewy Oaty Cookie Or Fresh Fruit	Choc Ice Or Fresh Fruit

Online Safety

- National College online safety posters are shared in each newsletter. They offer advice and information about popular games and apps. There is also a section on the school website.
  - Please let us know if you become aware of new games/apps that children may be playing.

- Monitoring: Our IT provider monitors online activity in line with government guidance.

Online Safety:

- We have regular lessons for pupils throughout the school year across subjects.
- We also address issues as they arise in individual year groups.
- Follow SMART rules (Safe, Meeting, Accepting, Reliable, Tell)
  - https://www.childnet.com/resources/be-smart-online

At home:

- **Ensure the content you child accesses is age-appropriate. Be aware of what older siblings may be watching in their vicinity.**
- Set rules and boundaries together.
- Don’t ban the internet outright. Have an open conversation about it.
- Train your child to know what to do if something makes them uncomfortable. Show them the tools to use to report abuse.
- Visit https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/

Communication

- Please ensure that any communication with teachers is sent through the school office (office@rushcommon.school). For Reception parents, quick messages can be passed on at the door.
- If your child is being collected by someone different, please inform the school either via the office email address, or in-person at the class door in the morning in younger years.

Communication

- Weekly Updates for your year group will be sent out about what your child has learnt in school that week as well as how you can support your child with their learning at home.
- Weekly Updates share important dates and reminders throughout the year.
- Class and year group reminders from teachers are communicated this way.
- Please read carefully, especially at the start and end of each half term for important updates.
- Please let us know if you are unable to login, as this is our main way of communication, it is important that every parent can access the app.

TAPESTRY

Communication

ParentMail

- Any whole-school event or communication will be sent from the office via ParentMail (i.e. Sports Day, class photos).
- All trip information and payments are also through ParentMail.
- Lunches are ordered via ParentMail.
- There is a fortnightly newsletter for all parents from Mr Fawcett.

IRIS ParentMail

Communication

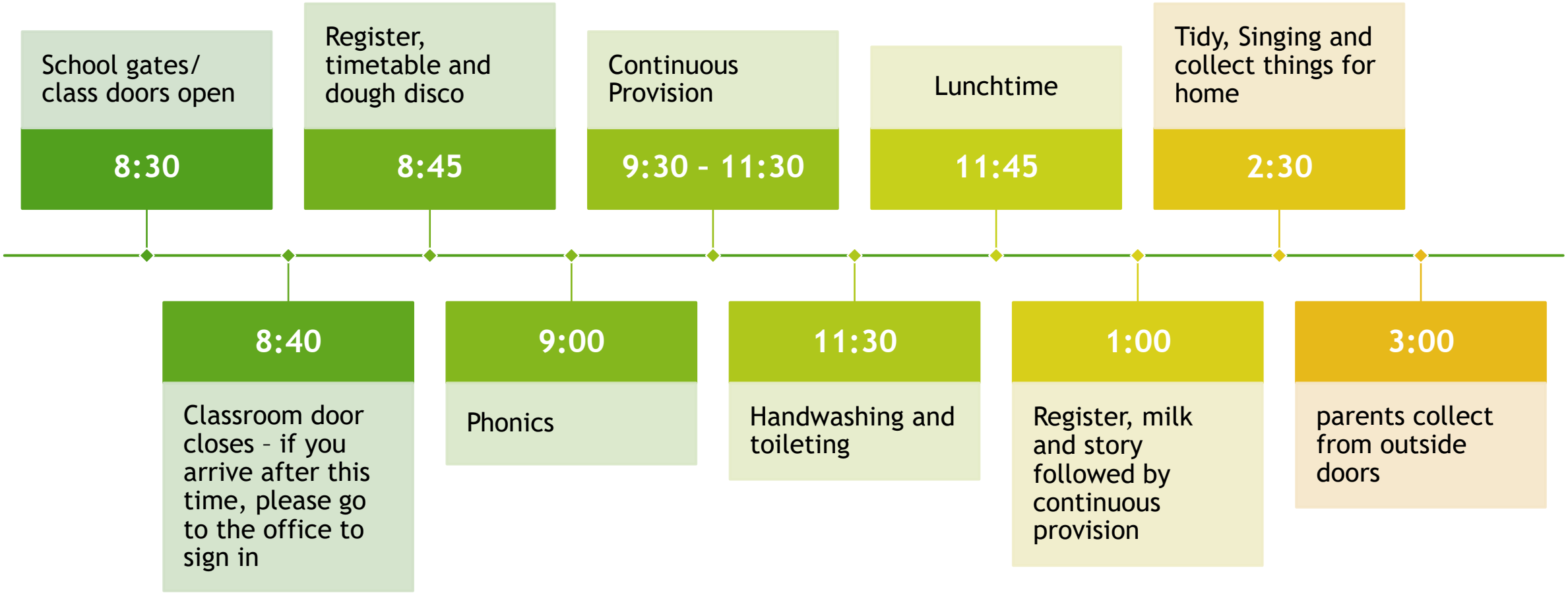
Reporting Progress

- Parents' evenings will be in T1b (wb 9th November) and T2b (wb 15th March). More information about sign-ups will happen closer to the time. We use the Sign-up Genius website.
- **Christmas Craft afternoon (Reception only), Friday 4th December 1:30pm**
- **Christmas Nativity Monday 14th Dec 2:15pm, Tuesday 15th 9:15am**

- Parents' evenings are a vital part of children's education. It is an opportunity to discuss how children are settling into school routines and their academic progress. The school will follow-up with any missed parents' evening appointments.

- End-of-year reports will be sent out 9 July.

The School Day



Curriculum

All about us / Nursery Rhymes
Reading – Starting school books, The Colour Monster, Nursery Rhyme stories.
Writing – name writing, mark making, initial sounds.
Maths – counting, sorting, comparing and exploring up to 5.
Understanding the World – my family, how are we different, cooking, seasons, where we live.
Communication and Language – listening, social phrases, word of the week, I spy.
PSHE – class rules, self-identity, feelings, being gentle, rights and responsibilities.
Physical development – dough disco, using a knife and fork, introduction to PE.
Expressive arts and Design – all about me, feelings jars, role play, singing
Music – listening, signing and exploring percussion instruments.

Curriculum and enrichment

When a Dragon goes to School, The Colour Monster, The best Diwali Ever, Elmer, The Jolly Christmas Postman, Lost and Found, We're going on a Bear Hunt, Supertato, A Superpower like mine, The Three Little Pigs, Building a Home, Jack and the Beanstalk, Bee non-fiction stories.

Trip to the post box, visits from real life superheroes, Superhero dress up day, A trip to Roves Farm (May- approximately £20), Forest School.

World Book Day, Sports Day

Refer to the school calendar on our website.

Curriculum and enrichment



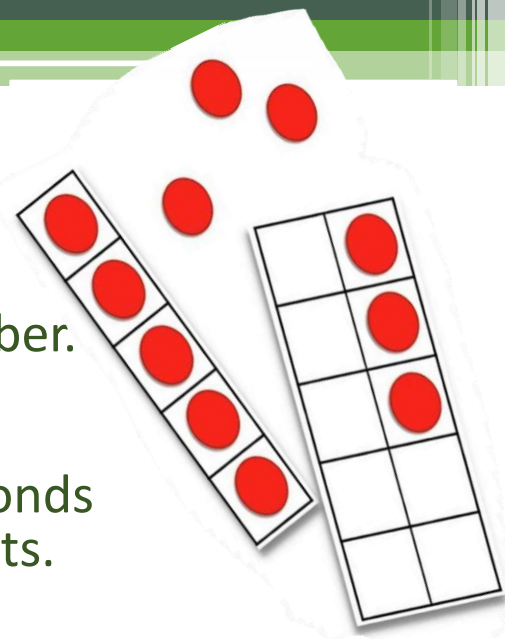








Curriculum and teaching methods



Number

- Have a **deep** understanding of number to 10, including the composition of each number.
- Subitise (recognise quantities without counting) up to 5.
- Automatically recall (without reference to rhymes, counting or other aids) number bonds to 5 (including subtraction facts) and some number bonds to 10, including double facts.

Numerical Patterns

- Verbally count beyond 20, recognising the pattern of the counting system.
- Compare quantities up to 10 in different contexts, recognising when one quantity is greater than, less than or the same as.
- Explore and represent patterns within numbers to 10, including evens and odds, double facts and how quantities can be distributed evenly.





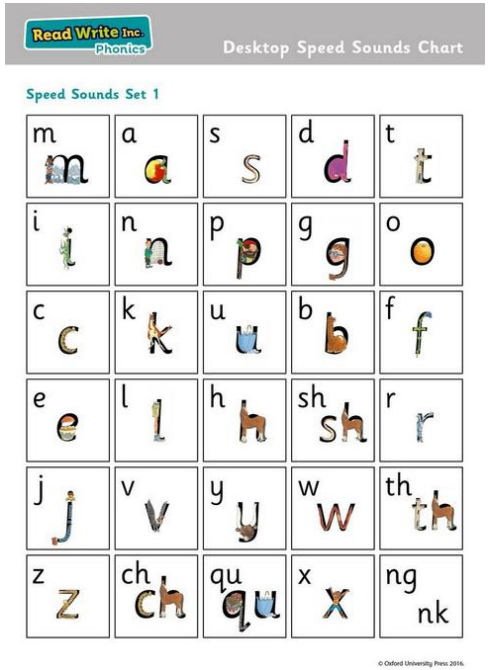
- Please also refer to the calculation policy on the school website.
- A useful site for helping parents understand approaches to teaching Maths:

https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths/maths-with-michael

Curriculum and teaching methods

English

Phonics workshop – Monday 21st September 3:30 in the hall. Children welcome.



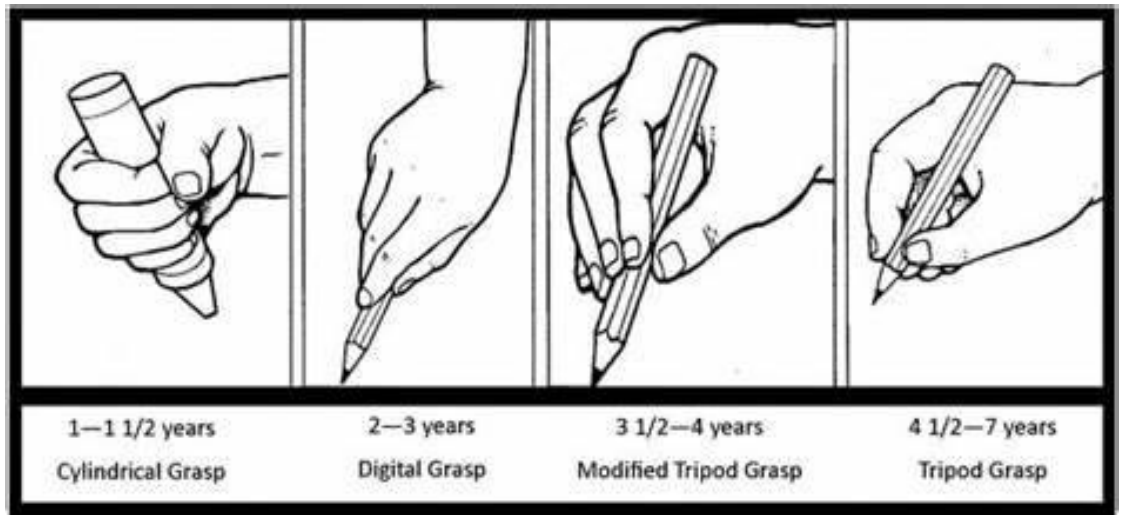
Comprehension
- Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary.
- Anticipate – where appropriate – key events in stories.
- Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role-play.

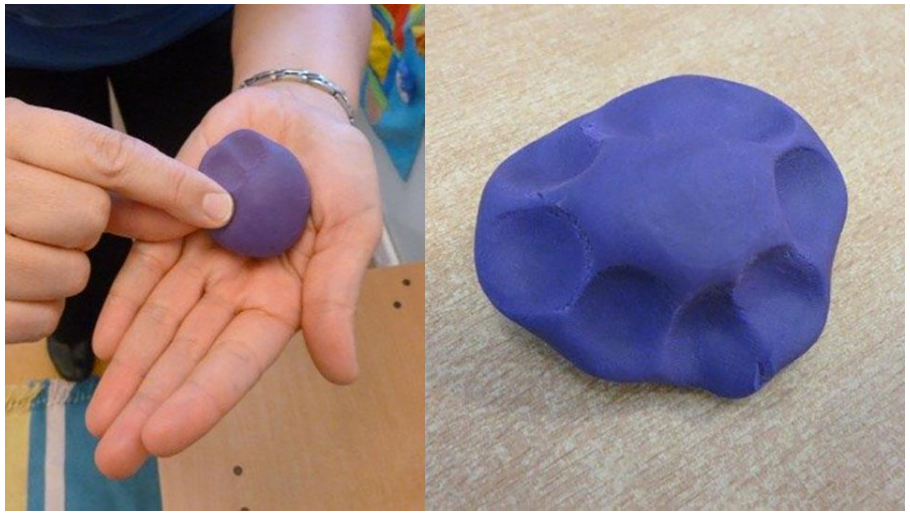
Word Reading
- Say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs (special friends)
- Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending.
- Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words.

Writing
- Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.
- Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters.
- Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.



Curriculum and teaching methods









Other ways to support your child

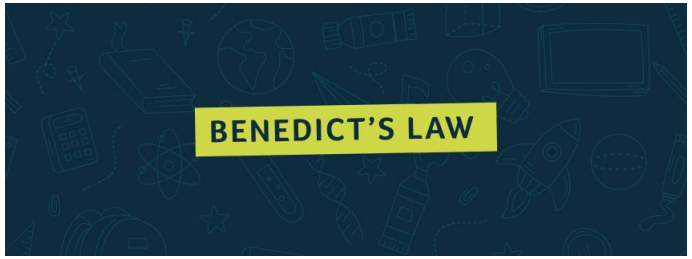
- Daily reading – listen to your child read but also read to them. It helps them to hear and understand rhythm and fluency. Please also write in your child's reading record (these will be given out at the Phonics workshop).
- Conversation – talking about current events, plans, what you or they are reading. This will help build their vocabulary.
- Practise Maths – mental maths, counting, adding, baking, shopping, etc.
- Help them learn social skills by encouraging them to say hello to known people or order their own food.
- Encourage independence to make simple snacks, pair up socks, tie laces or help around the house. This will build their resilience.

Pupil Welfare

- Keep the school up-to-date on any medical conditions. We will need to see a letter from a medical professional.
- Only prescription medication required more than 3 times daily can be administered. This will need to be signed in by a First Aider. Requests for any exceptions to this must be made to Mr Fawcett.
- It is parents' and carers' responsibility to ensure medication/inhalers are in date.
- Please ensure that your child/ren are equipped appropriately for the weather. (i.e. sunscreen/hats in summer, coats in winter and raincoats as necessary).
- Please communicate any significant bumps or injuries to class teachers.

Allergy Aware

- Bottles, other drinks and lunch boxes should be clearly labelled with the name of the child for whom they are intended. This minimises cross-contamination.
- Please encourage your child not to share food during break or lunch as they may not be aware of others' allergies or dietary requirements.
- We are still a nut-free school but want to highlight the importance of being allergy-aware of the range of allergies.



Wellbeing and Mental Health

At school we:

- have a mindful approach to PSHE lessons with built-in mindfulness practice. This is reinforced in assemblies and a new programme, Jigsaw Resilience.
- promote secure relationships.
- mark World Mental Health Day and Children's Mental Health Week.
- have calm spaces and regulation stations.





Behaviour and pupil welfare
Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Respectful

- Our behaviour management is based on a restorative approach.
- We create a positive environment throughout the school and model our three school rules.
- Recognition of positive behaviour through stickers, marbles/pasta in the jar, House Points, Recognition Award and Sporting Champions.
- Bullying: when someone is deliberately hurtful to someone over a period of time.

At school we:

- have anti-bullying ambassadors
- raise awareness through assemblies, presentations, forums, nurture groups, PSHE lessons and pupil leadership

How you can support the school

- Support social and fundraising events.
- Join Friends of Rush Common (FoRC).
- Become a Governor.
- Volunteering your skills and talents – gardening, crafts, resources, class trips.
- Become a reading volunteer or help in forest school – please contact the school office.
- Follow us on social media and share our news.

Questions

