Year 6
Rush Common School
2026 - 2027

Mrs Panchal and Mrs Neal

Slides will be sent out later in the week.

Meet the Teachers and TAs:

- Class teachers – Mrs Panchal (6EP) and Mrs Neal (6JN)
- Year 6 TA – Mrs Atyeo
- Miss Roberts will teach Art in 6EP on Friday afternoons
- PPA cover (Thursday afternoons)
  - Mrs Barnes – PE
  - Mrs Edmunds – Music
  - Mrs Tang – Mandarin

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 – Year 3 should be collected at the class doors.
- Children in Year 4 are released independently from their classrooms but should be met at an agreed location on the playground or at the school gate.
- Children in Years 5 & 6 are allowed to walk home independently if parents deem the journey safe for their child.
- 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 Mondays and Wednesday, they should wear PE kit.
- At times, you may need spare shoes for outdoor PE if the weather is muddy. This will be communicated via MCAS.

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

School Uniform

Additional reminders:

- No extreme hairstyles please – unnatural colours, shaved styles, etc.
- For older years probably: PE shorts should be a sensible length (i.e. football shorts or cycling shorts. Nike Pro/Gym Shark gym shorts are not appropriate.)
- Long hair should be tied back using a scrunchie or hair band. 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.
- School dinners for KS2 are £3.00.
- Y3-Y6 have playtime at 12:00.
- Y3-Y6 eat at 12:30.

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

Mobile phones (Y5 & Y6):

- Permission should be sought from Mr Fawcett.
- There is an agreement that must be completed, signed and returned to school.
- Phones must be turned off before entering the school gates and handed into the class teacher at the start of the day and will be kept in a secure area.
- They are returned at the end of the day but must not be switched on until the child has left the school grounds.
- This is in line with new government guidance.
- Please be aware of group chat apps such as Whats App.

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).

My Child at School

- Weekly Updates for your year group will be sent out about what your child has learnt in school that week as well as what they will be learning in the upcoming week.
- 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.

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.

- 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

	8.30-9.00	9.00-9.30	9.30-10.30	10.30-10.55	10.55-12.00	12.00-1.00	1.00-2.00	2.00 -3.00	
MONDAY	Arithmetic/RfP	Reading	English	Break	Maths	Lunch	6JN RE 1.00-1.40 6EP PE 1.00-1.40	6JN PE 1.45-2.25 6EP RE 1.45-2.25	Assembly 2.30 pm
TUESDAY	Arithmetic/RfP	Reading	English	Break	Maths	Lunch	Library / Handwriting Science PSHE		
WEDNESDAY PPA pm	Spelling test and homework marking	Reading	English	Break	Maths	Lunch	6JN Music/Mandarin (alternate weeks): 1.00 – 2.00 pm 6JN PE: 2.00-2.55pm 6EP PE: 1.00-2.00pm 6EP Music/Mandarin (alternate weeks): 2.00 – 3.00 pm		
THURSDAY	Arithmetic/RfP Hand out homework	Reading	English	Break	Maths	Lunch	Humanities Computing		
FRIDAY	Arithmetic	RfP / Reading	English	Break	Maths	Lunch	Art / DT		Assembly 2.30 pm

Curriculum

- Term 1:
  - Reading – When the Sky Falls
  - English – Balanced argument about evacuation during World War II

    Setting description

    War poetry

    Newspaper article about the Blitz
  - Maths – Place value and the four operations
  - Humanities – World War II

Curriculum and enrichment

- Our class text during the Spring term will be ‘Holes’ by Louis Sacher. For the Summer term we will be reading ‘The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe’ by CS Lewis.
- STEAM museum in Term 1b (approx. £26) – children to dress up as World War II evacuees if possible.
- Swimming (after Christmas – exact dates TBC. approx. £23)
- World Book Day – Thursday 4th March
- Call Of The Wild (28th June – 2nd July 2027) – a letter will be sent out.
- Y6 Production (End of Summer term)

- Please refer to the school calendar on the website for any other key dates for the year.

Curriculum and teaching methods

- New teaching methods that will be introduced in Year 6:

Long Division

youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=LGqBQrUYua4 (by one digit)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HdU_rf7eMTI (by 2 digits)

- 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

KS2 SATs week

KS2 SATs assessments will take place between 10th May and 13th May 2027.

An information evening for SATs will be arranged nearer to the time.



Google Classroom

- Your child's new class is being set up by our IT support, Sweethaven.
- Please ensure that you are able to access Google Classroom through your devices at home.
- Please monitor your child's use at home. Google Classroom is not meant to be used for chatting and posting non-school related things.

Homework expectations

- Homework will be handed out in homework books.
- Homework will be sent home on Thursdays and returned to school on Tuesdays.
- Spelling tests will take place on Wednesdays. Children will write these in the back of their homework books.
- Times tables tests will take place as part of Maths lessons at different points in the week.
- Homework includes:

  Maths/English (alternating each week)

  Spelling lists

  Daily Reading

  Open question (Twice per half term).

KS2 Homework: Open Questions

- Twice per half term, a question will go home as part of the homework. The work done to answer the question can be as small or as large as you would like to make it, depending on your child's interest and the time you have available. Examples include:

  - A simple answer with evidence
  - An investigation
  - Additional research
  - A model (or other creative approach) to demonstrate your answer

- A photo of larger work completed can be uploaded to your Google Classroom stream.

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. Even older children like to listen to stories.
- Conversation – talking about current events, plans, what you or they are reading. This will help build their vocabulary.
- Practise Maths – mental maths, times tables, 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.

Pupil Welfare

Bullying: when someone is deliberately hurtful to someone over a period of time.

At school we:

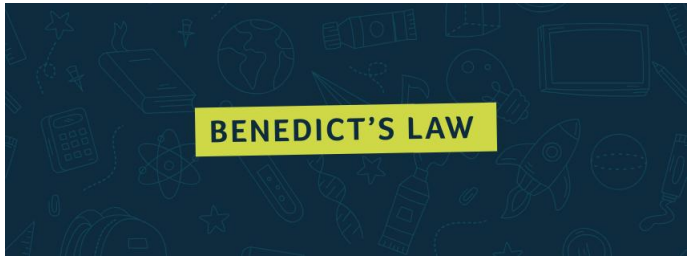
- have anti-bullying ambassadors
- raise awareness through assemblies, presentations, forums, nurture groups, PSHE lessons and pupil leadership.

Banter: According to Oxford Languages, banter is defined as "the playful and friendly exchange of teasing remarks." It's a reciprocal interaction that typically occurs between friends, involving a "verbal ping-pong" of comments meant to be light-hearted and humorous.

- When banter is shared with a wider audience or repeated excessively, it can lose its playful nature and become hurtful.
- Understanding verbal and non-verbal cues is critical in recognising when banter is appropriate. Tone of voice, body language, and facial expressions all play a role in conveying intent. However, for some pupils including neurodiverse individuals, these cues might be harder to interpret, necessitating explicit communication and support.

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:
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 House Points, Recognition Award, Homework Champions and Sporting Champions.

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.

Secondary Schools

Applications for secondary school must be completed by 31st October 2026 on the County Council website https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/apply-school-place/year-7-applications

Questions

