



Rush Common School Newsletter



Friday 14th March 2025

Dream, Aspire, Succeed

Dear Parents/Carers

Thursday the 6th March was World Book Day and the children arrived at school with such a wide array of different costumes from such a breadth of literature. This created a huge buzz in the school and children enjoyed the day immensely. As well as activities such as 'Drop Everything and Read', we had a lovely opportunity for children to have a story read to them from a different member of staff. The day was a huge success, and I would like to thank Mrs Neal for her organisation of the day, and all the parents that supported the event.

On the theme of books and reading, throughout last week we held our Book Fair and the response was fantastic. During the school day, children were given a chance to peruse the selection and choose books they might like to purchase with parents. There is nothing quite like a brand new book, and it was lovely to see the children's excitement in getting their hands on one. Really importantly, every book purchased contributes to rewards for the school, with this Book Fair making over £680 for the school to spend on books.

Last week, our Boys Football Team played Long Furlong School in a league match. At half time, they were 1-0 down but showed fantastic mentality in coming back in the second half, eventually winning 4-1. I am sure Mr Meredith's inspirational team talk also had something to do with it!

This week our Girls Football Team played in a Football Festival involving many other local teams. Once again, they excelled themselves and won four of their five matches, finishing second overall. This means they have made it through to the Oxfordshire Finals. Congratulations to them all!

This week our Year 1 children enjoyed a brilliant trip to 'Crocodiles of the World' which complements their topic of Australia. They had a great time on the trip, absorbing a huge amount of knowledge, which they will be able to apply when continuing their learning back in school. These experiences are hugely rewarding and memorable, and really bring their learning to life. Thank you to the parents who volunteered on this day, and all the parents for your continual support of these trips.

On Wednesday we had our annual Science Fair in school. The breadth and depth of scientific knowledge and process skills on show was incredible, and we know the children enjoyed carrying out their projects immensely. They were also very proud that their project was on display for everyone to see. All the children in the school were given a slot in the day to explore the range of projects, and many parents came to see the fair at the end of the school day. Thank you to all the parents that supported the Science Fair through helping children with projects and attending the event.

Yesterday was Superhero Day for our Reception children. All the children and Reception staff came to school in Superhero outfits both from stories/comics and the real world of Superheroes. To complement this topic, children in Reception are receiving a range of talks from real life super heroes which are both informative and inspiring in equal measure!

At Rush Common we know the importance of celebrating all of the main world religions both through our RE curriculum and our Assembly programme. On Monday we had a really informative and interesting assembly on Islam, where children learnt about how Muslims observe Ramadan, including fasting, prayer and reflection. We are fortunate to have increasing diversity in our school community and these opportunities ensure that all the main world religions are represented, learnt about and celebrated.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our parents for their continuing support of our school and wish everyone an enjoyable and safe weekend ahead.

Kind regards

Kristen Fawcett
Headteacher



School Dinners

The cost of school dinners is **£2.65** per day. Payment for school dinners can be made via ParentMail. Meal choices must be made at least 3 days in advance.



Please see our website for latest school and Trust Job Vacancies:

Vacancies - Rush Common School - Dream, Aspire, Succeed

Homework Champions

Ralphy	2RS
Lottie	3LG
Albert	3LG
Isabel	3LA
Leonardo	3LA
Sophie	3LA
Erin	3LA
Charlotte	3LA
Noah	4CM
Avalyn	4CM
Kitty	4CM
Sasha	4CM

Bright	4TJ
Ethan	4TJ
Lucas	4TJ
Evie	4TJ
Talulah	6JN
Cattaleayah	6JN
Emma	6JN
Alex	6EW
Florence	6EW
Indhu	6EW
Dylan	6EW

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
7

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Don Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMIN@Bible.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

X @wake_up_weds

f /wuw.thenationalcollege

Instagram @wake.up.wednesday

Music @wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 12.03.2025

**Friends of Rush Common
Second Hand Uniform Sale**



Tues 25th March

2:30 - 3:30 PM

in the school hall

Prices start from £1.

Come along and grab a bargain!

- V-neck Sweatshirts - Sweatshirt Cardigans - Tee - PE T-shirts
- Book Bags - PE Bags - Dresses - Trousers - Shorts - Skirts
- Joggers - Sweatshirts - Hoodies - PE Shorts - House T-shirts

Secondhand Children's Book Sale

Wednesday 30th April, 3pm

In the school hall at pick up

Most books 50p each!

If you have any children's books to donate we will have crates outside the Music Room (to the right of BASC) at drop off and pick up the week before and after the Easter holidays.



Dates for your diary 2025

Year 2 Cotswold Wildlife Park Trip	Wednesday 19 th March
Red Nose Day	Friday 21 st March
Parents Evening	Monday 24 th March- Thursday 27 th March
FoRC Second Hand Uniform Sale	Tuesday 25 th March 2.30pm – 3.30pm
Year 4 Youlbury Residential	Thursday 27 th – Friday 28 th March
Oxford Mind Fundraising Event	Week beginning 31 st March
Parent Forum – General	Wednesday 2 nd April at 4.45pm (online)
End of Term 2b	Friday 4 th April at 1.30pm
Start of Term 3a	Tuesday 22 nd April
KS1 Fire Talk	Wednesday 23 rd April
Year 5 Residential	Wednesday 23 rd – Friday 25 th April
2RS Trip to Abingdon Musuem	Wednesday 30 th April
FoRC Second Hand Book Sale	Wednesday 30 th April 3.00pm
Year 4 Curriculum Assembly	Thursday 1 st May at 9.00am
May Bank Holiday (children not in school)	Monday 5 th May
2JB Trip to Abingdon Musuem	Wednesday 7 th May
KS2 SATs Week	Week of the 12 th May
Parent Forum – Personal Development	Monday 19 th May at 3.30pm (online)
Whole School Picnic and Open Afternoon	Friday 23 rd May
End of Term 3a	Friday 23 rd May
Inset Day (Children Not in School)	Monday 2 nd June
Start of Term 3b	Tuesday 3 rd June
Class Photos	Thursday 5 th June
Year 3 Hill End Trip	Thursday 12 th June
Vision Screening (Reception Only)	Monday 16th June (Date Change)
Summer Fete	Saturday 21 st June
Year 6 Call of The Wild Residential	Monday 30 th June – Friday 4 th July
Year 6 Production	Monday 14 th and Tuesday 15 th July 6.00pm
Year 6 Leaver's Party	Thursday 17 th July
End of Term 3b	Monday 21 st 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 poster features a dark blue background with various icons: a white hat and sunglasses in the top left, a white keyhole in a square frame in the top right, a white flask with stars in the middle left, and a white fingerprint with a magnifying glass in the middle right. At the bottom, there is a photograph of four children in scout-like attire using binoculars and a magnifying glass.

house of fun

ADVENTURE Week

A WEEK OF ADVENTURE THEMED SPORTS, COOKERY AND ARTS & CRAFTS! INCLUDING:

- SPY SCHOOL
- FORENSICS LAB
- ESCAPE ROOM CHALLENGES
- POTION MAKING

CHILD CARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

HAF PLACES AVAILABLE

EASTER MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP


Monday 7th to Thursday 17th April, 2025
open from 8.30am to 6pm each day!



RUSH COMMON
PRIMARY SCHOOL
HENDRED WAY
ABINGDON
OX14 2AW

Scan the QR code to book now!
or visit house-of-fun.co.uk, or call 07762 944204

LITTLE STARS MUSICAL THEATRE PRESENTS



Matilda

THE MUSICAL JR.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Directed by Suzanne Carter
Co-Director Katie Jackson

3rd - 5th April

£13 Adult
£8 Child

littlestarsmusicaltheatre.co.uk

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.



@cygnetsartschool

TERM TIME CLASSES • HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS • PRIVATE TUITION



CYGNETS ART SCHOOL

Easter Holidays 2025 | 'Colourful Spring'

AGES 5-13

- Wood Green School, **Witney** •
- Ladygrove Community Centre, **Didcot** •
- North East Abingdon Community Association, **Abingdon** •

Traditional drawing, painting, and sculpture, combined with unique projects; experienced teachers, & professional quality materials. Each workshop covers a new, exciting subject or technique.

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WWW.CYGNETSARTSCHOOL.COM/ABINGDONWITNEY