



Rush Common School Newsletter

Friday 11th September 2020



Dream, Aspire, Succeed

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of our first full week this year, I have to say what an absolute pleasure it has been to see all year groups back in school enjoying learning again. It has been a fantastic start to the term with so much achieved by our pupils already this week.

The wide range of COVID-19 safety measures have been implemented successfully by our staff team and we continue to review and refine all of our systems to minimise any risk of transmission. A summary of our risk assessment is available on the school website. All parents have also been sent out information regarding what to do if your child develops symptoms.

The beginning of this school year is a good opportunity to share the current evaluation of the school. The most recent Ofsted report is from January 2017 and is 'Good' in all areas. Considering this is over three and a half years ago, I felt it would be useful to update parents with more current information. At the beginning of March 2020, we received an external quality assurance visit organised by Abingdon Learning Trust. The visit resulted in a glowing report, which verified the progress we had made as a school over the last year. The report backed up our own self-evaluation of being securely 'good' in all Ofsted areas with clear evidence that the school is on a steep upward trajectory to progress further. This is reflected in our assessments in March 2020 that showed we were on track to achieve KS2 results well above national average last year. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, our Year 6 cohort did not get to demonstrate this in the SATs. We have a permanent, strong, forward thinking leadership team in place, and a hugely talented team of staff. This a very exciting time to be at Rush Common School.

Unfortunately, this year it is going to prove to be more difficult to hold open days for new parents. If you believe your child is happy at our school, please could you share this with other families in the area, who may have children starting school next year. Your support will really help us to spread positive messages about our school in the local community.

Today, you have received a Powerpoint document specific to the year group of your child/ children with lots of information about the new school year. Ordinarily, this would be shared at our Vision and Values Evening, with an opportunity to ask questions. If you have any questions relating to the Powerpoint or anything else regarding the school year ahead, please email the school office (office@rushcommonschool.org) and it will be forwarded to the class teachers.

A letter has also gone out today, asking if anyone would like to become a Parent Governor for our school. I hope some of you will consider taking on this important role, and I look forward to meeting some new Governors in due course. Please contact the chair of governors at dlymn43@rushcommonschoo.org

Thank you to everyone for your patience, flexibility and understanding as we have implemented our new systems of drop off and pick up. For the safety of everyone, please can I ask that no parents park on the grass verge at the back car park gate. All children now leave the school by this exit, and it is unsafe to park and pull away from this area.

As you know, we have been moving to paperless and cashless systems for parents via Parentmail or Intouch. This includes communication, permissions, payments and booking lunches. Thank you for your flexibility in moving fully over to these systems – we think it will be much more efficient for everyone.

We are still taking donations for our school using donatemyschool. To give a donation hover your phone over the QR code below, and you will be able to make an immediate donation. Thank you in advance for any donations made.

Finally, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the new families that have joined Rush Common School this year. We hope your children have enjoyed starting at our school, and please do not hesitate to contact us if there is anything we can do to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable and safe weekend and I look forward to seeing you all next week.

Kind regards
Kristen Fawcett

Kristen Fawcett
Headteacher.



TERMS AND HOLIDAYS
2020/2021

<u>Autumn Term</u>	BEGINS:	Thursday 3 rd September 2020
	ENDS:	Friday 23 rd October 2020

<u>October Holiday</u>	BEGINS:	Monday 26 th October 2020
	ENDS:	Friday 30 th October 2020

<u>Autumn Term</u>	BEGINS:	Monday 2 nd November 2020
	ENDS:	Friday 18 th December 2020

<u>Christmas Holiday</u>	BEGINS:	Monday 21 st December 2020
	ENDS:	Friday 1 st January 2021

<u>Spring Term</u>	BEGINS:	Monday 4 th January 2021
	ENDS:	Friday 12 th February 2021

<u>February Holiday</u>	BEGINS:	Monday 15 th February 2021
	ENDS:	Friday 19 th February 2021

<u>Spring Term</u>	BEGINS:	Monday 22 nd February 2021
	ENDS:	Wednesday 31 st March 2021

<u>April Holiday</u>	BEGINS:	Thursday 1 st April 2021
	ENDS:	Friday 16 th April 2021

<u>Summer Term</u>	BEGINS:	Monday 19 th April 2021
	ENDS:	Friday 28 th May 2021

<u>Late Spring Holiday</u>	BEGINS:	Monday 31 st May 2021
	ENDS:	Friday 4 th June 2021

<u>Summer Term</u>	BEGINS:	Tuesday 8 th June 2021
	ENDS:	Wednesday 21 st July 2021

Additional Closures

Monday 3rd May 2021 (May Day)

Staff Inset Days

Tuesday 1st September 2020
Wednesday 2nd September 2020
Friday 2nd October 2020
Monday 7th June 2021
Thursday 22nd July 2021

Local Community News

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



Abingdon Heritage Weekend 19th-20th September

Self-guided walks – explore the town’s heritage in your own time and space. Download the trails or pick them up from the Market Place stall.

New films about local heritage made by local people—view online or on the big screen in the Guildhall.

Hidden Nature Quiz and picture trails

Facebook Live event from the Museum

Radley Lakes consultation events

Visit the “Little Basement Museum”

Market Place Information Stall



THE FRIENDS OF
ABINGDON
CIVIC SOCIETY



Abingdon Arms
Archaeological and
Historical Society



Abingdon Town
Council



For days & times abingdonheritage.org.uk or heritageopendays.org.uk