



Rumboldswyke
Church of England Primary School

Newsletter 5th September 2025

Dear Rumboldswyke families

A very warm welcome to the start of our new school year!



We hope you all enjoyed a restful summer break and are ready for the exciting year ahead. It has been wonderful to see the children return with such enthusiasm. A special welcome goes to our new children and their families, we are delighted to have you as part of our school community.

We are also thrilled to welcome Mrs Pennicott, our new SENCO and class teacher. She brings a wealth of experience and a passion for supporting every child to thrive, and we are so pleased to have her on the Rumboldswyke team.

We look forward to another busy, happy, and successful year together!

Over the summer, the staff have worked incredibly hard to make sure our school/classrooms look fabulous. We are especially grateful to Mr Harris (no



relation!) from Bishop Luffa, who has created two wonderful nurture spaces within the school.



You may remember that we relocated the library during the summer term last year, which meant the nurture room was previously in the old library space. This area has now been beautifully transformed and divided into two dedicated nurture/SEN rooms. The results are amazing - you would never know the rooms were once separate!

We also have some exciting projects coming up this term. One of the highlights will be the installation of a children's kitchen, which we hope will be ready after half term.

To prepare, we've already purchased six full sets of cooking utensils: from bowls and sieves to graters and more. This new space will give the children even greater opportunities to develop practical life skills, learn about healthy eating, and enjoy the creativity of cooking together. It will also provide a wonderful way to build independence, confidence, and teamwork, as well as support cross-curricular learning in subjects such as maths, science, and PSHE.

Meet the Teacher

As in previous years, we will hold 'Meet the Teacher' meetings early in the Autumn Term for the parents of children in Years 1-6. We strongly encourage parents to attend these if possible. This is an opportunity for you to meet your child's new teacher, find out the class routines and what is coming up in the school year, and most importantly, ways to support your child's learning.



- Blue Class (Year 1's only): 2:45pm on Monday 15th September
- Yellow Class 2:45pm on Tuesday 16th September
- Green Class 2:45pm on Wednesday 17th September
- Red Class 2:45pm on Thursday 18th September



PE / Forest School Timetable:

Please see the timetable below regarding PE lessons and Forest School sessions for the Autumn Term 2025.

From next week, all children (except Reception aged children) will be able to come into school wearing their PE Kit on days when they have PE.



For those children participating in Forest School next half term, this will happen whatever the weather, so it is important

that children come prepared. Children will need to bring in a change of clothes that they don't mind getting dirty in a named bag ready for their Forest School session in the afternoon. They will also need a sturdy pair of old shoes or wellies depending on the weather forecast, along with, waterproof jackets and trousers as needed.

	PE	Forest School
Monday	Blue Class Yellow Class	
Tuesday	Yellow Class Red Class	
Wednesday	Green Class	
Thursday	Blue Class	Yellow Class* (25/9, 2/10, 9/10, 16/10)
Friday	Red Class Green Class	

*Please note the dates on which Yellow Class have their Forest School Sessions.
Details regarding Forest School sessions for KS2 children will be confirmed shortly and parents notified.

We are hoping to start our swimming lessons for our Year 3 children after the October half term. This will be on Monday mornings with our Year 4's remaining

in school for their PE lesson with Mrs Jennings. More details to follow at a later date.

Term Dates

The new term dates are detailed at the end of this newsletter, please be aware there are three more INSET days to be set.

After School Clubs

Dates and times of after school clubs running this half term are detailed at the end of this newsletter. Please note these will run on a weekly basis unless specified. Please refer to your emails with further details regarding how to sign your child up to an after-school club this term.

Reception Blue Class parents will be invited into school for a Stay and Play session on Monday 13th October at 8:45am.

St George's Children's Choir

St George's Children's Choir begins again next week, but there are some changes. Here is a message from Mandy and Sue, the choir leaders: 'Thank you to everyone who made the choir such a success last year. It was a delight to hear the children sing and grow in confidence. For the coming year, we are having to change the timing and format of the choir rehearsals. The new proposal is for rehearsals to take place on Tuesday evenings during term time, from 5:15pm to 6:00pm, starting on Tuesday 9 September. The rehearsals would be open to everyone (from Year 1 and above) and be free of charge. As before, the expectation is that the choir will sing at the All-Age Eucharist services at St George's (21 September, 19 October, 16 November and 21 December) as well as the Christmas Concert (date to be confirmed). Alongside this we are also keen to explore whether we might begin to follow the acclaimed Royal School of Church Music (RSCM's) choral training scheme



Rumboldswyke

Church of England Primary School

– see here for more details: <https://www.rscm.org.uk/learn-with-us/voice-for-life-and-singing-awards/>. Before we can begin, however, we need to confirm that there is sufficient interest amongst the children and their parents/carers. Accordingly, could we ask that you email us with an expression of interest by the end of Saturday this week. Could we also ask that you use the new children's choir email address when you respond: childrenschoir@stgeorgeschichester.org. This will replace the music@whyke.info address. With our very best wishes, Mandy Roberts, and Sue Howell Evans'

Parking at the Church

A message from Father Angus -

"As in previous years, parents and carers are most welcome to use St George's Car Park when dropping off and picking up their children from school. Outside these times, however, unless attending a service or event at St George's, parents and carers will need to apply for a parking permit".

For full details, please see here: <https://www.stgeorgeschichester.org/carpark>

We are very grateful to the church for continuing to support our school community in this way and allowing us to use their car park as needed.

We would also like to encourage families to walk to school when possible. If you do need to drive, please ensure you park considerately and safely. This includes only using permitted spaces and avoiding parking across neighbours' driveways, on double yellow lines, or on zig zag markings outside school. Being mindful in this way helps us maintain good relationship with our neighbours and keeps children safe.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Friends of Rumboldswyke School (FORS) Facebook Group & Instagram Page!

Just a reminder to you can join us in this vibrant community space where families can stay updated on all the exciting events and important notices from FORS as part of Rumboldswyke School. Whether it's school fairs, fundraisers, or special announcements, you'll find it all here! Feel free to share this group with friends, family, and anyone in the wider community who might be interested. Let's make sure everyone stays connected and informed. Together, we can make our school community even stronger! Don't forget to check back often for the latest updates and join in the fun!



Smartphone free Childhood



As per our email at the end of last term and in light of upcoming government guidance, and as part of the *Smartphone-Free*

Childhood campaign, Bishop Luffa School has taken further steps this term to become a phone-free environment. While our policy has always been *no phones*, we had noticed an increase in pupils bringing smartphones to school at the end of last term as a safety measure for their journey home.

Unfortunately, this led to some concerning behaviour. As per our newsletter at the end of last term and to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students, **we will no longer allow smartphones in school under any circumstances.**



Rumboldswyke

Church of England Primary School

If you would like your child to have a way of contacting you on their way home, they may bring a **basic, non-smart mobile phone**. This must be handed into the school office at the start of the day and can be collected before they leave.

We also hope this policy will support parents and carers in conversations at home, especially when children request a smartphone on the basis that "everyone else has one." With this consistent approach across the school, we aim to reduce peer pressure and promote safer, healthier boundaries around phone use.

Thank you for your support in keeping our school environment safe and focused on learning.



Open Days

Over the coming months we will be running various Open Days for prospective new parents with children due to start school in September 2026.



If you know of anyone who has a child who will be applying to school, please do let them know to drop us an email or phone call.

Rumboldswyke does not have its own catchment area and therefore only receives applications due to recommendations.

With warmest wishes,
Lisa Harris

After School Clubs

A reminder of our after school clubs running this term:

After School Club	Day	Time	Dates
Creation Station	Mondays	3:15 - 4:15pm	8 th Sept – 20 th Oct
Drama Club	Tuesdays	3:15 - 4:15pm	9 th Sept – 21 st Sept
Dance Club	Wednesdays	3:15 - 4pm	10 th Sept - 10 th Dec (no session 25 th Sept)
Goal Getters	Thursdays	3:15 - 4:15pm	11 th Sept – 11 th Dec

Diary Dates

September 2025

10 th Sept	Red Class to Butser Ancient Farm
12 th Sept	Little Lifesavers visit – Green Class
15 th Sept	Open Day sessions for prospective Sept 2026 parents (9am & 1:30pm) Year 1 Meet the Teacher (Blue Class)
16 th Sept	Yellow Class Meet the Teacher (Yr 1&2)
17 th Sept	Green Class Meet the Teacher (Yr 5&6)
18 th Sept	Red Class Meet the Teacher (Yr 3&4)
23 rd Sept	Open Day sessions for prospective Sept 2026 parents (9am & 1:30pm)
26 th Sept	5 Ways to Wellbeing – Green Class (more details to follow)
13 th Oct	Stay & Play Session for Reception Parents (8:45am – 9:45am)
27 th – 31 st Oct	Half Term



Term Dates

Autumn Term 2025

Monday 3rd September – Friday 19th December
Half Term - Monday 27th – Friday 31st October

INSET Day Monday 3rd September – children not in school
Children's first day of school will be Tuesday 4th September

Spring Term 2026

Monday 5th January – Friday 27th March
Half Term – Monday 16th – Friday 20th February

INSET Day Monday 23rd February – children not in school

Summer Term 2026

Tuesday 13th April – Wednesday 22nd July
Half Term – Monday 25th – Friday 29th May

Please note we are still in the process of organising the remaining 3 INSET days for the next academic year and will share these dates with you as soon as we can.