



## Headteacher's Weekly Update: Friday 21st November

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a good week.

In terms of highlights for the week, it was lovely to see lots of you at **Parents Evening** yesterday evening. Thank you for coming in or talking to us on the phone; it is great to work in partnership with you in helping your children to grow and flourish. If you didn't manage to make an appointment or were unable to attend, please email the school office to arrange a time to speak to your child's class teacher. We don't want you to miss out.

**Gentleness:** This half term, within our theme of Power for Good, we have been reflecting on a verse from the Bible in Colossians 3:12 that says "**Clothe yourselves with kindness, compassion, humility, gentleness and patience**". This week we looked at how gentleness isn't a lack of strength but rather when strength is under control and used to support and care for others. Being gentle is not just a nice idea but rather a honourable and courageous choice to use our strength to care and look after one another. We have the power to do great good and that is what we want to choose to do each day.

**Children in Need Thanks and Video:** We raised a tremendous £700 for Children in Need last week. Thank you for your support and to the staff who took on a variety of challenges for children to enjoy on Friday afternoon. Mr Langford has kindly put a friendly video together to celebrate the fundraising efforts. It is an unlisted video for families of our school community so please don't share on social media. <https://youtu.be/ZAYSPUJtyrk?feature=shared> Well done everyone!

**Roblox - Safeguarding Concern:** Schools been made aware of a pop-up that is appearing on Roblox, encouraging children to download an app called pollybuzz (or pollyfuzz in some spelling cases). The app seems quite simple where children are asked questions, and it generates an Artificial Intelligence 'friend' – this starts off quite innocently but then begins to show very harmful content. Please help us in reminding your children about not clicking on pop-ups in games and to report anything that is worrying or inappropriate to a trusted adult. Roblox has parental controls and instructions of how to put these on can be accessed via this link: [Parental Controls Overview – Roblox Support](#). Please note: parental controls will stop some pop-ups, but not all, so appropriate supervision is still required.

**Cold weather:** As we head into winter, please can we all ensure children bring suitable coats to school for the cold and the wet along with gloves and hats etc as necessary. Before the cold snap this week we had quite a few children without coats on what proved to be quite rainy days.

**Hand Hygiene:** It is that time of year when seasonal viruses and infections tend to peak in schools. We are working hard to clean surfaces regularly and encourage excellent hand washing and hygiene. We would be grateful if you could do so at home too; children often need reminders of what good hand washing looks like and the importance of washing hands before eating in particular.

**Christmas Family Celebration Event:** We will be holding a Christmas Family Celebration event on **Tuesday 16th December between 3:30pm and 4:30pm**. We are looking for more volunteers to help set up and run various things. Here are some of the things we need help with...

- Bottle and Chocolate Christmas Tombola
- Tea/Coffee/Hot Chocolate and Mince Pie Serving
- Simple Christmas Games or Craft Stalls e.g pin the tail on the donkey etc
- Supporting set up and decoration of the hall
- Any other ideas



**We are walking in the Footsteps of Jesus with Love Trust and Forgiveness**

Romsey Abbey Primary School, Church Lane, Romsey. SO51 8EP 01794 512047 [adminoffice@romseyabbey.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@romseyabbey.hants.sch.uk)

If you are able to offer some time in preparation for the event and for the event itself please do email [adminoffice@romseyabbey.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@romseyabbey.hants.sch.uk) to express your interest, stating what you might be able to help with. We look forward to hearing from you. And if you cannot help out this time, do come along and enjoy the event. In the lead up to this event we will be holding a **Christmas Jumper non-school uniform day on Friday 5th December** and we are asking in return that the children bring in a bottle or box of chocolates for the Christmas Tombola.

**Year R 2026 Applications:** We are in the window for parents to make applications for Year R places in September 2026. The deadline for applications is the **15th January 2026** so always wise to get this sorted before Christmas so it doesn't get forgotten. If you know of any parents with children due to start school in September 2026 please do encourage them to book in a tour with me and get their application complete. The links below take you to the place to apply and provide video guidance on what you need to do. Thank you

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions>

<https://documents.hants.gov.uk/education/Online-application-guidance.pdf>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xi7j34AXtw4>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BxVvcIX2o\\_s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BxVvcIX2o_s)

**Papaya 'Power of Play' Event:** Papaya (Parents against phone addiction in young adults) wanted to bring this webinar event to your attention:

**"The Power of Play: Rediscovering Childhood in the Digital Age."**

This

new content is designed for KS1 and KS2 parents and is an exciting development in Papaya's portfolio. Please see the attached PDF flyer for full details.

**Date:** Tuesday 25th November 2025

**Time:** 8:00 pm – 9:30 pm

**Tickets:** £3 book [here](#), also listed on our [events page](#)—all proceeds to Papaya.

**Dates for your diary :** [https://docs.google.com/document/d/10-Qagv3rcTOhIIGpgLuw5Jpz\\_roi8-UQP-67qL45jBc/edit?tab=t.0](https://docs.google.com/document/d/10-Qagv3rcTOhIIGpgLuw5Jpz_roi8-UQP-67qL45jBc/edit?tab=t.0)

I will finish in prayer which you are most welcome to join me in praying:

Dear God,

*Thank you that you have given us all different gifts and strengths so that we each have the power to do great good for those around us. Help us to grow in and be clothed in gentleness, using our strengths and skills to serve the community around us rather than to just push ourselves to the front and make ourselves Number 1. Thank you for the great example of gentleness found in Jesus, the one whose power is beyond limitation and could calm the wind and waves with just a word but also chose to humbly wash the feet of his disciples.*

Amen

Have a great weekend everyone!

Mr Harris

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**Mr Mark Harris**

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**"Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus with Love, Trust and Forgiveness"**