



3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a good week. This week's update comes a day early again as **tomorrow (Friday) is an INSET day** so the children have a 3 day weekend to enjoy. Staff will be in school completing training together focussed on task design that provides challenge for all pupils and helping children to fly high together. We will also be gaining valuable further training in Sensory Circuits, a powerful SEND strategy enabling children to be ready to learn.

**Encouraged and Inspired: Flying High Together:**

Here are a few of my highlights of the school week that have encouraged and inspired me...

**1) Hilliers:** The children and staff had a wonderful day at Hilliers today. It is always very rewarding to see children's curiosity and wonder ignited by the beauty and complexity of the natural world.

**2) 500 Word Stories:** It has been great to see some of the 500 word stories the children have been writing for the 500 word story competition. There is still lots of time for children to complete their stories as the closing date is the start of November. The playful, imaginative ideas and the really positive attitudes the children are demonstrating is really inspiring. Children's stories need to be typed to be submitted and we recommend they do this on Google Docs and submit to their teacher through Google Classroom. More information on the competition can be found at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>

**3) Harvest Service:** It has been lovely to hear from the children, the staff, parents and members of the wider community, how well the children did on Friday last week leading our Harvest Celebration Service in the Abbey. Here is a special message of thanks from Romsey Foodbank:

*"A huge thank you to all the children, parents, and staff at Romsey Abbey Primary School for their wonderful Harvest donation collection. Together, you donated an incredible **123kg** of food to the Foodbank!"*

*Harvest is such an important time for us, as our stocks are often very low after the summer months. Your annual donations help ensure we can continue providing this vital service for the community.*

*Every item you've given will go directly to people in our community who are facing crisis and financial hardship. On behalf of the whole Romsey Foodbank team—thank you once again. We are truly grateful for your support."*

Well done and thank you everyone!

**Attendance Matters:** Well done to Willow Tree and Rowan Tree Classes who topped the attendance charts last week in school. We make no apologies for continually returning to the importance of good attendance for the research is overwhelmingly clear: those whose attendance remains high, make strong progress in all aspects of their learning; those who more regularly miss school are more likely to make slow progress and achieve less well as they go through their schooling journey. 95% attendance is just one day's absence every 4 weeks or just 3 days absence across a whole term.

**Dates for your Diary:** Please see the all important Dates for your Diary. Dates will be added throughout the term and we will highlight new dates in yellow so you can see what is a new addition. [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)

**Reflection and Prayer:** I'll finish with a prayer which you are most welcome to join me in praying inspired by the words in James chapter 1 verse 19 in the Bible which states:

***"My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry."***



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

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Dear God,

*Thank you for the blessing of being part of a community where we can inspire and encourage one another. We also recognise that being a community can be challenging at times, especially if we are worried, weary or unwell. Please help us to model to the children within our school community and beyond what it means to be quick to listen and slower to speak or become angry. Equip us with your patience and peace, your forgiveness and thankfulness.*

Amen

Have a wonderful weekend everybody and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Mr Harris

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