



## Headteacher's Weekly Update: Friday 24th October

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy Friday. I hope you have had a good week as we come into land for Autumn 1 ready for the October half term holiday next week. We return to school on Monday 3rd November.

**Flying High Together:** A couple of highlights that have encouraged and inspired this week...

**Y5 Romsey Abbey Sleepover:** Sycamore Tree Class were utterly amazing as they enjoyed a day and a night spent in the beauty, peace and historic majesty of Romsey Abbey. They discovered how Romsey's history is very much shaped by the Abbey and explored the lives and experiences of nuns and tradesman families around 1000 years ago. Thank you to Rob Gower, who provided excellent historical expertise, to the bell ringers for letting Year 5 go up to the bell tower and teaching them to ring the bells across Romsey. Thank you to Rev Thomas and Martin Seymour for wowing the children with the organ and leading the class in an evening candlelit service of thanksgiving. Thank you to the amazing and now very tired staff who worked tirelessly hard to make it an extraordinary experience for the children. Thank you to the children for being so great from start to end of this unique trip; they were eager, polite, brave and caring in plentiful measure.

**Being Good Stewards:** Year R, 1 and 2 thoroughly enjoyed welcoming local campaigner, Manuela, this week along with a grand total of 10 mayors and local councillors who came to be part of the events and present gifts to the children. Look out for an article in the local paper soon. The children have been taught the high value of looking after what we have been given, individually and collectively. It was lovely to introduced the children to these community role models who have devoted much to the future development of Romsey and beyond.

**New Atlases:** A big thank you to parents who contributed donations towards a new set of atlases for both KS1 and KS2 in a couple of our summer class performances and a really big thank you to local business **Ace Liftaway** who generously contributed the remaining costs for these lovely new atlases which are being enjoyed and well used by the children within our Geography Curriculum.

**Abbey parking - Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th November:** The Abbey have let us know that from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October until Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November (inclusive) they are having maintenance work undertaken in the Church Rooms. To facilitate this, they will need to reserve parking from 8.30am each working day for a large transit van, with an additional transit van(s) on both Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November. This could impact on the parking available for the school. You should also be aware that the toilets won't be available for children during this time (for health and safety reasons).

**500 Word Story Competition:** The entries continue to come in and I know lots of children are working hard on these at home. There is still lots of time for children to complete their stories as the closing date is the start of November. 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>

**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.



**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

**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.

**Jewellery:** The only jewellery permitted in school are stud earrings. There should be no bracelets, necklaces or earrings that are not studs. This is primarily for pupils' safety and also to ensure precious items are not lost in school. All children need to be following this policy.

**Secondary School Applications:** Year 6 parents please make sure you have submitted your secondary school applications before the end of October as the deadline is 31st October 2025. Details of the application process can be found here: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions/applicationprocess/year7>  
I will finish in prayer which you are most welcome to join me in praying:

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for opportunities to rest and opportunities to grow; opportunities to care and opportunities to enjoy the support of those around us. Help us to inspire and encourage one another. We pray for a happy, healthy and heartwarming and encouraging half term break before we embark on the thrills and delights of November and December.  
Amen*

Have a great week and we look forward to seeing you again on Monday 3rd November.  
Happy Half Term.

Mr Harris

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**Mr Mark Harris**

**Headteacher**

**Romsey Abbey Church of England Primary School**

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