



We have had new email addresses rolled out across RLK and have a new email address for all correspondence which is
officerlk@robertlekyng.bluekitetrust.org

Dear Parents/Carers,

It seems like a long time already since the start of term, but I would still like to wish you a Happy New Year. The children have all been very settled as they have come back to school and many teachers have commented on how much they have matured even in the short time that they were away.

Something new that we are trialling for 2024 is the introduction of class assemblies for some of our year groups. Previously each year group has put on a play for their parents using a preprepared script. Reception will continue to do this through their nativity and Year 6 will continue to present an end of year production. For the years in between we are planning a less formal event, where the children share a bit about the topic they have been doing and the work they have done. This may include some music and singing, but will be representative of what they have been learning in class, rather than a standalone thing. We hope that this will give you some insight into what the children do in class across the curriculum. Some of the year groups will work as a year group and others will do separate classes - we will evaluate which works best as the year goes on. We do not plan to ticket these events, so if you have other friends or relatives that would like to see what your child has been doing, they can come (we just ask that you don't bring too many!).

The first dates in the diary for this are Year 3. Class 7 will be doing their assembly at 2.00pm on Monday 5th February and Class 8 will do theirs on Tuesday 6th February at the same time. Watch out on Parentmail for dates for the other year groups.

The final word from me is to once again request that you consider carefully whether you need to drive into Westcott Street. With the colder weather, we have more cars than ever. Please be considerate and park away from the school or walk where you can.

Susan Smith
Headteacher



Parent Support Advisor

Just a reminder that Monday (15th) is our next uniform event in the hall after school. If you have any school clothes, PE kit, shoes or warm coats that your children have grown out of and you would like to donate, please drop them to the office on Monday morning. Please come along after school and help yourself to any items that could be of use, free of charge.



I know many families are struggling with rising household bills and wanted to make everyone aware of the social tariffs available for broadband and phone packages. If you are claiming Universal Credit, Pension Credit or some other means-tested benefits you may be able to access a much cheaper deal, with no set-up costs. Please go to [Social tariffs: Cheaper broadband and phone packages - Ofcom](#) for more details and to see whether you would be eligible.

As always, I am here to offer support and advice to all parents of children here at RLK. Parents/carers do not need to be referred but instead can contact me directly via the school office, or by emailing psa@robertlekyng.swindon.sch.uk

Drop in sessions happen every Tuesday. Please email me or ring the office if you would like to book a slot to discuss any issues, big or small, regarding parenting.

In addition to Tuesday morning drop in sessions, I also open the school library on Mondays until 4pm where I am also available to discuss any issues.

Tara Ward - Parent Support Advisor



RLK Safeguarding

Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)

Please see the information below taken from the Barnardos website.

What is child criminal exploitation (CCE)?

Criminal exploitation is when an individual or a group manipulates, deceives, coerces or controls someone under the age of 18 to take part in any activity which breaks the law. All children are at risk of criminal exploitation, including girls.

You may have heard the term "county lines," this is one form of criminal exploitation. It is when people involved in criminal activity identify, target and befriend children, either online or offline, and manipulate them into dealing drugs or other activities across geographical areas.

Criminal exploitation can take many forms, from making children hold, hide or deliver drugs, money or weapons, to forcing children to steal, harm others or beg. Children can also be exploited in other ways, such as through sexual exploitation. Sometimes a child can be exploited criminally and sexually at the same time.

How are children criminally exploited?

Exploitation is a form of abuse, and it happens when those who want to harm, do so. A child is never to blame for being exploited. All children are at risk of being criminally exploited.

However, some young people may be more at risk because they have more unmet needs that exploiters will use to manipulate and control them. This might include those who have experienced previous abuse, are homeless, are misusing alcohol and drugs, have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), are in care, are out of education, have run away/ gone missing from home or care, or are involved with a gang (Barnardo's hosted Centre of expertise on child sexual abuse, 2021).

When a child is trafficked or criminally exploited, this can involve the use of violence or fear of violence towards the child or their family. But this is not always the case.

For more information, including a comprehensive list of signs and indicators that a child may be being criminally exploited, see [Criminal exploitation of children | Barnardo's \(barnardos.org.uk\)](https://www.barnardos.org.uk/criminal-exploitation-of-children)

If you have any concerns, please contact the RLK Safeguarding Lead Mrs Smith or the Deputy safeguarding Leads Mrs Fisher and Mrs Ward. Alternatively, the NSPCC helpline, Childline and the police are able to offer advice and support if you are concerned about a child. However, if you think a child is being harmed or in immediate danger of being harmed dial **999** or contact your local authority social care department.



School dinners

Our ladies in the kitchen serve up some very tasty meals at lunchtime for the children at RLK. Can we please ask that when booking school dinners for your child, please ensure that payment is made at the time of booking. Unfortunately, if your child's account goes into arrears the ability to book further meals for your child is withdrawn until the outstanding balance is cleared.

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to free school meals. Your Year 3-6 child may also be entitled if you are in receipt of certain benefits. To apply please visit [Free school meals | Swindon Borough Council](#)



Packed lunches

The start of a New Year for many of us brings a resolution to eat more healthily, particularly if we've over indulged during the school break so now seemed a good time to revisit the kinds of items that should be in a child's packed lunch.

At RLK we encourage you to send in a healthy packed lunch, based on foods that your child likes, or would be willing to try. An easy way to plan a packed lunch is:-

Choose a main food

Choose a starchy based food in each packed lunch e.g. sandwich, wraps, bagels, pitta, rice, pasta, potatoes or couscous.

Choose a protein e.g. cheese, tuna, ham, chicken, hummus and/ or salad.

Add some fruit or salad

Choose a piece of fruit or salad in each packed lunch, carrot or pepper sticks are a great option.

Add a little something else

Choose an item that is low in sugar e.g. Rice cakes, popcorn, plain or low-sugar yoghurt and/or a packet of crisps

We ask that you do not send in sweets or chocolates and please limit the amount of sugary food packed, such as biscuits.

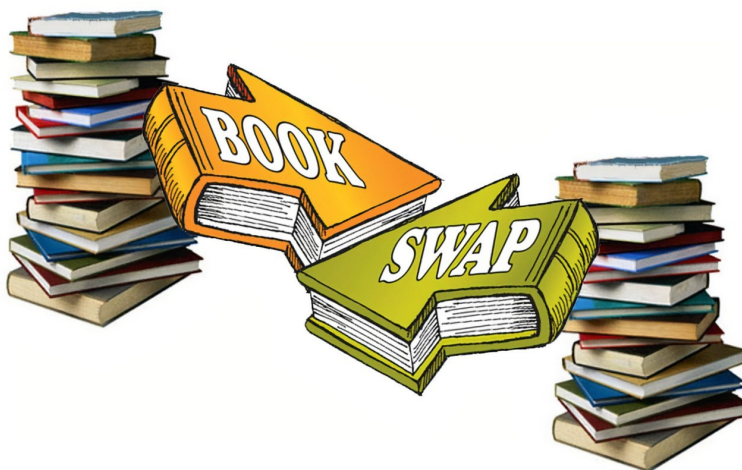


For some great recipe ideas and tips on how to make a packed lunch healthier have a look at <https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/#swaps>, great advice for adults and children alike!



Book Swap

A reminder that we will be holding our next Book Swap on Friday 26th January, where children will have the opportunity to choose and bring home a book to keep that has been donated. If you are thinking of having a clear out of your child's books, we would be grateful if you would keep them to send in for the Book Swap. We shall be receiving books from Monday 22nd January.



Reading for Pleasure

Do you or members of your family visit the public library? If not, have you thought of joining? It does not cost to become members. The nearest one to school is Central Library in Swindon town centre and it has a great variety of books for children of all ages. You can join the library in person or by completing the online form at the link below:

[Join the library | Swindon Borough Council](#)

Library Books

Please can you check at home if your child has any school library books that they have finished reading. We like to swap around the book collections in the classes and it is difficult to do this if we can no longer find some of our books in school. Any books that you find can be brought in to the class teacher and we will return them to the library.

Don't forget the school library is open after school on Tuesdays until 4pm.

Supporters

Next Supporters' Meeting

The next Supporters' meeting will be towards the end of January. Look out for details in the next newsletter and on classroom windows. We will be discussing and begin planning events for the next few terms. All welcome as we are always looking for new people to come and join us!



TD DAYS

The remaining TD days for this school year are :

Monday 19th February 2024

Thursday 28th March 2024

Friday 28th June 2024



Did you know that we have a Facebook page?



Just search for 'Robert le Kyng Primary School' on Facebook, look for the RLK school logo and select 'Like' to follow our page.

We use this page for general updates, photos and sharing of useful education based Facebook links.



Please note that the main platform for school communication is Parentmail, telephone calls and the school office email address. (The Facebook page does not allow messages between parents and school)