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Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of another exciting half term, we again thank you for your engagement, support and encouragement. This is the case especially with our recent Ofsted inspection where parental feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

All staff and school leaders have worked immensely hard from September and of course during the inspection itself this week, where we were issued a 2-day graded inspection and were visited by 3 Ofsted inspectors and 1 HMI Inspector. The inspection report will be published in due course, which will be shared immediately with you. We will be happy to meet and discuss the report at this point.

I'm sure you will join me in thanking all school staff, leaders, Governors and children for demonstrating a shared commitment and ambition for our school. It is safe to say that everyone is ready for a well deserved break, whilst also looking forward to the next half term and all of the fabulous opportunities and experiences we have planned together.

We look forward to welcoming you back for the second half of the spring term on **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February**.

Warmest wishes,

Mrs Searson  
Head Teacher

**Attendance**


A reminder of The Department for Education's new updates to attendance.

<https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/education-2/school-attendance>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>

**Please note that ALL term time holidays are classed as unauthorised.**

Please also be reminded that any late arrival (after registers have closed) is recorded as an 'Unauthorised Absence' so please make every effort to arrive at school before the registers are closed at **9:15am**.

Attendance this week (whole school) is: 97.8% 

Weekly year group highest attendance: Year 1 with 98.63% 

Weekly year group lowest attendance: FS2/Reception with 93.92%

**Thank you to all parents and carers!**

If your child has less than 90% attendance it is categorised as persistence absence. You will be sent a letter to alert you and to offer support. If your child's attendance declines further, you will be invited into school for a meeting to discuss how support might improve your child's attendance.

**Reporting Illnesses**

When deciding if your child is well enough for school, please consult the NHS link:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> Thank you for

communicating any absence, appointments and late arrivals via the school office. This is much appreciated. Please be reminded that we need a reason for any absence for our records. We notice that we have allocated a high number of medical appointments during the school day and ask you, where at all possible to take these out of school hours or in the school holidays.

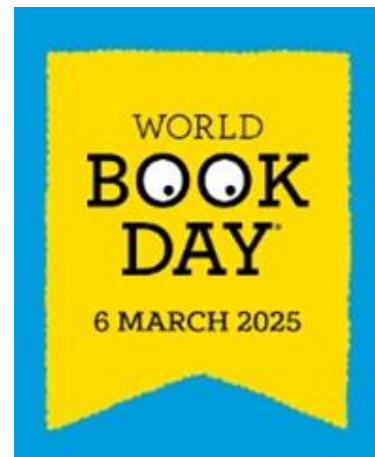
**ATTENDANCE WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME**

- 1** I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week. Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80. **£160**
- 2** FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN. **IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE 10 IN 10** If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution. **1 Day = 2 Sessions**
- 3** FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS. **4 children & 1 parent = £640** (Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days). **4 children & 2 parents = £1280** (Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days).
- 4** If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance... **2ND TIME** 2 parents and 1 child = £320, 2 children = 640, 3 children = 960, 4 children = 1280. **3RD TIME** A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child. **1 parent & 4 children = £10,000**, **2 parents & 4 children = £20,000**. No discount for early payment.

## World Book Day – Thursday 6th March 2025

Our favourite day of the year is fast-approaching. All of our children will be celebrating this day with lots of fun reading activities in school. We invite our children to **dress up as their favourite book character** on this special day.

We have planned for the wonderful Scholastic Book Fair to visit us again during Book Week. All children will receive a £1 book token, which they will be able to spend here or in shops outside of school.



## Safer Internet Day 2025

The main goal of Safer Internet Day is to raise awareness and start a conversation about online safety, particularly with young people who may not be fully equipped with how to stay safe when using the internet. Each year, Safer Internet Day covers a new theme. For Safer Internet Day 2025, the theme is "Too good to be true? Keeping yourself and others safe from scams online." This Safer Internet Day is starting a conversation about how to spot, respond to and report scams of all types online. With new technology being made every day to make these sorts of scams more common, it is important to know what to look out for. More information can be found by using the link below. <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2025>

As a parent or carer you play a key role in helping your child to stay safe online. You don't need to be an expert on the internet to help keep your child stay safe online. The websites below advice and resources to help you as you support your child to use the internet safely, responsibility and positively.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Tips to support children online and step by step guide to parental controls <https://www.internetmatters.org/>

## Music

Our foundation children who are learning to move to the beat, have been thrilled to play the new percussion instruments in their music lessons this week that have been purchased pursuant to a grant kindly awarded to us by UK Steel Enterprises. In line with our ambitious music curriculum, it is our heartfelt desire and delight to ensure each child has the opportunity to reach their potential in musical development. With this in mind, we are hoping to appeal to local businesses to likewise donate funds so that we might purchase class sets of instruments to enhance our Key Stage 1 provision. If you work for, or know of, other local businesses that have a similar community fund, please would you contact school and let us know so that Mrs Goulding can apply on the school's behalf.

The children in reception were very excited to receive a 'special box' in their classrooms this week full of wonderful musical instruments. They loved exploring the instruments, finding out how to use them and if we need to strike, shake or blow them.



"It's a thumb piano. You need to play it with your thumb."  
Cameron Unit 3



“So... the drum makes a loud sound and it makes a drum sound and when you press the different ones on the thumb piano it makes a different sound.” Clark Unit 3



“I like them. This one goes like this... it shakes, like this. We need to tap the drum and we press the piano down on the silver bits.” Phoebe Unit 4 “They make bang sounds.” Jackson Unit 4

### **Music lessons – Glockenspiels & Guitar**

It is wonderful to hear our young people begin their 1:1 Guitar lessons in school – Well done to our pupils for showing such curiosity and determination to learn something new. We are also delighted to welcome Rotherham Music Hub back into school, this time in our KS1 classrooms to teach our children to play the Glockenspiels.

## **Breakfast Club £4**

07:45-08:30am

Breakfast club is available every day to all children. During this session children can enjoy a varied choice of breakfast food and drink. Breakfast club starts at 07.45am. Places are available to book for the whole year. The daily cost includes a choice of food and drinks. During this special time before school children enjoy games, crafts and sports with their friends and are well supported by our happy, caring adults. Please book your child's place and make payment using Arbor.



## **School Clubs**

Please note that places are only available to book as a **half term block payment** using Arbor. The after-school clubs cost between £3-£3:50. Sports Clubs are delivered by sports professionals 'Live & Learn'. Other clubs are delivered by school staff.

Monday – All **Football** -15:05-16:10pm (Live & Learn)  
Monday – KS1 **Library Club** - 15:05-16:10pm (Mrs Rushton)  
Monday – KS1 **Cooking Club** – 15:05-16:30pm (Mrs Frost & Mrs Ford)  
Monday – KS1 **Recorders** - 15:05-16:10pm (Mrs Seanson & friends)

Tuesday – KS1 **Science Club** – 15:05 – 16:10pm (Mrs Frost & Mrs Ford)

Wednesday – All **Mini V/FIT Trampoline Club** – 15:05-16:10pm (Live & Learn)  
Wednesday – KS1 **Gardening Club** - 15:05-16:30pm (Mrs Ford & Mrs Frost)

Thursday – All **Movie Night** – 15:05-16:10pm (Mrs Taylor & Mrs Chilcott)  
Thursday – KS1 **Designers & Makers** - 15:05-16:10pm (Mrs Frost & Mrs Ford)

Friday – All **Gymnastics** – 07:45am – 8:30am (Live & Learn)

Look out for news about a Tag Rugby club and a Phonics Check Booster club!

## **School Uniform**

Please can we remind you about school uniform and jewellery from a safety perspective. We ask that you ensure children are in suitable footwear for school and wear only stud earring – no other jewellery. Children who come to school wearing inappropriate items will be asked to put them in their school bag. We have lots of spare school uniform at the front of school should you need it. Please help yourselves. We also ask that if you find that you have uniform items at home that do not belong to your child, please return them to school. [www.bramleysunnysideinfant.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/School-Dress-Code-2023-24.pdf](http://www.bramleysunnysideinfant.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/School-Dress-Code-2023-24.pdf)

## **Safeguarding**

Are you in an abusive relationship? Please reach out for help and support and know that you are not alone. Learn more about the Domestic Abuse Coordinated Community Response (DACCR) Service - <https://hopian.org.uk/domestic-abuse-coordinated-community-response-service/> Useful Numbers - <https://hopian.org.uk/resources/organisations-that-can-help/>



## Diary Dates Term 2 2025

Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Inset day – school closed for children
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Return to school
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Y2 Titanic Drama Workshop
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day – Character dress up!
Week 10 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> March	Science week - SPACE
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	WonderDome experience
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Red Nose Day -
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Y2 – Active Fusion Festival of Sport at the English Institute of Sport
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	FS2 Unit 3 – Afternoon Tea Party for parents
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Y1 & Y1/2 – Whistle-stop Valley Visit – Steam Train Ride
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	FS2 Unit 4 – Afternoon Tea Party for parents
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Y1& Y1/2 Family Learning – It’s a Bugs Life
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Disco
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	FS2 Unit 2 – Afternoon Tea Party for parents
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Last day of half term
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	EYFS Easter Bonnet Parades
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	KS1 Easter Bonnet Parades
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	FS2 & KS1 Church Visit
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Closed for Easter Bank Holiday Weekend
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Closed for Easter Bank Holiday Weekend
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Parent Consultations 15.15-17.00pm
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	FS2 White Post Farm Visit
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Parent Consultations 15.15-18:30pm

\*More dates to follow

### Term Dates for 2024

2<sup>nd</sup> September – 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024

5<sup>th</sup> November – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

6<sup>th</sup> January – 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025

25<sup>th</sup> February – 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025

14<sup>th</sup> April – 17<sup>th</sup> April 2025 (Easter weekend 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>)

22<sup>nd</sup> April – 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025 (5<sup>th</sup> May, May Day)

6<sup>th</sup> May – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025

2<sup>nd</sup> June – 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025

### Inset Days 2024/2025

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025

# LEARN TO PLAY GUITAR IN SCHOOL



**WOULD YOUR CHILD LIKE TO LEARN TO  
PLAY THE GUITAR IN SCHOOL?**

**GROUPS LESSONS £68 PER TERM**

**PAIRED LESSONS £89 PER TERM**

**INDIVIDUAL LESSONS £106 - £189 PER TERM**

**OPTIONAL INSTRUMENT HIRE £10 PER TERM**

For more information please collect an expression of  
interest form from your school or our website,  
or alternatively register online at  
<https://rotherham.eepos.fi>

Please contact [music@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:music@rotherham.gov.uk) for further  
information



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# LEARN TO PLAY PIANO IN SCHOOL



**WOULD YOUR CHILD LIKE TO LEARN TO  
PLAY THE PIANO / KEYBOARD IN SCHOOL?**

**INDIVIDUAL LESSONS  
15MINS £106 PER TERM  
20 MINS £144 PER TERM  
30 MINS £189 PER TERM**

For more information please collect an expression of interest form from your school or our website, or alternatively register online at <https://rotherham.eepos.fi>

Please contact [music@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:music@rotherham.gov.uk) for further information



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# LEARN TO PLAY WOODWIND IN SCHOOL



**WOULD YOUR CHILD LIKE TO LEARN TO  
PLAY A WOODWIND INSTRUMENTS IN  
SCHOOL?**

**GROUPS LESSONS £68 PER TERM  
PAIRED LESSONS £89 PER TERM  
INDIVIDUAL LESSONS £106 - £189 PER TERM  
INSTRUMENT HIRE £10 PER TERM**

For more information please collect an expression of  
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Please contact [music@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:music@rotherham.gov.uk) for further  
information



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# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCAMS AND FAKE NEWS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

"Fake news" refers to falsified or misleading material presented as a legitimate account of events. It's often used by malicious actors online to push an agenda, or even by criminals as a way of making scams more persuasive. Scammers can trick us into handing over personal information, security details and even our hard-earned cash.

### "CLICKBAIT" PHISHING SCAMS

A message arrives saying "Have you seen this video of yourself?" or you might be sent an attention-grabbing headline about a celebrity that's been shared on social media. This kind of "bait" is produced by scammers to drive us to click on an unsafe link, where malware could be downloaded to our devices. These scams rely on our curiosity and our "need-to-know" instinct.

### SALES, DEALS & DISCOUNTS

Some scams appear as adverts, offering a chance to buy something – such as designer products, expensive gadgets or tickets to a popular show – at a reduced price. Such plays often include a time limit or countdown, urging us to hurry so we don't miss out on the deal. This pressure encourages us to input personal details or payment information before pausing to check if it's legitimate.

### YOU'RE A WINNER!

This kind of scam involves fake giveaways, opportunities or freebies. It could be a message saying we've won a prize draw or competition. Or it could be a gift, free trial, bonus credit, and suchlike. It might claim that a package or refund is waiting. All these techniques are used to prompt us to share our personal information, thinking that there's something to be gained by doing so.

### FALSE FRIENDSHIPS

Scammers often pretend to be someone they're not to gain their victims' trust. They might attempt to convince any children they connect with that they're a child of similar age with shared interests. Warning signs include a high volume of messages (often with an intense tone), secrecy, inappropriate levels of intimacy, guilt tripping, emotional manipulation, threats or blackmail.

### PANIC MODE

To trigger a sense of panic, scammers may claim that a child's account has been hacked, or a virus has been installed on their device, or any number of other scary scenarios. They may claim to be able to fix the problem or offer a solution – if the child hands over control of the device or sensitive information. Similar scams involve impersonating a friend or relative, claiming that they're in trouble and need help.

### FAKE CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS

Impersonating influential people online is a common tactic for scammers, who can use technology to create fake photos, audio and even videos that look authentic. These can be used to convince us, for example, to buy products, sign up for so-called "business opportunities" or invest in cryptocurrency schemes – all of which are false or otherwise malicious. Many scams also involve the impersonation of popular companies' social media accounts, as well as those of individuals.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### STAY INFORMED

Stay up to date with the latest information and best practice on cyber-security. See what scam stories are reported in the news and make note of what tactics were used. Keep up with young people's digital lives: talk about what they're doing online and use properly endorsed resources to learn what risks certain sites and apps pose to their younger users.

### TALK TOGETHER

Chat often and openly with young people about false news, online scams and how they both work. Encourage them to talk to you about anything they're unsure of or worried about online. If a child claims to have been scammed, don't pass judgement. Blaming the victim may deter young people from asking you for help. Remember: adults are scammed just as often, if not more.

### ENCOURAGE HEALTHY SCEPTICISM

Most scams rely on emotional or psychological manipulation, tapping into our human instincts – whether that's to keep ourselves safe, help others, and answers, make friends, avoid losing out or to secure something we really want. Encourage children to recognise that pressure to act and to always consult with an adult – especially if what's on offer sounds too good to be true.

### BE PROACTIVE

Children increasingly use digital devices for education, socialising, shopping and play. Don't wait for a problem to arise before you discuss the risk of scams, false information and fake news. Highlight what to look out for and clearly communicate under what circumstances the child ought to speak to an adult. Finally, ensure that they're aware of the support services that are available to them (such as Childline).

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading expert in digital safety, media law and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit [onlinemedialaw.co.uk](https://onlinemedialaw.co.uk) for more.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/false-news-and-scams>

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