ROMAN WAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter Thursday 22nd October 2026

Every Child Matters
Every Moment Counts

Dear Families,

As we reach the end of Autumn 1, I would like to take a moment to thank you for your continued support during what has been an incredibly busy and productive half term.

The children have settled exceptionally well into their new year groups and it has been wonderful to see them embracing new challenges, developing friendships and demonstrating our school values each day. It was also a pleasure to welcome so many parents and carers to our Family Evenings. These meetings provided an invaluable opportunity to celebrate the children's successes and discuss their next steps in learning.

This half term, pupils have also participated in both our fire drill and our successful Shelter-in-Place drill. These exercises are an important part of ensuring that everyone knows how to remain safe in the event of an emergency. We have also taken part in Show Racism the Red Card Day, helping children to develop their understanding of equality, respect and inclusion, and reinforcing the important message that everyone deserves to be treated with kindness and dignity.

We are finishing the term with a visit from Hampshire County Council representatives, who will be working with school leaders to celebrate the many strengths of Roman Way and identify priorities for further improvement as we prepare to welcome our new Headteacher. This is an important step in ensuring that the school continues to go from strength to strength.

We have also enjoyed several memorable enrichment opportunities this half term. Our Year 1 children had a wonderful visit to Beaulieu Motor Museum, Year 1 and 2 took part in the inspiring Blown Away Concert in Southampton, and Year 3 travelled back in time with a visit to Stonehenge to support their learning. These experiences help bring the curriculum to life and create lasting memories for our children. We are already looking forward to more exciting opportunities next half term, including a Year 5 visit to the Winchester Science Centre.

As always, we finish every term with safety messages to the children especially around staying safe online during the holidays. We also discuss playing 'out' safely, including in the park with information around' Clever Never Goes' which used to be called Stanger-Danger.

I would like to personally thank our wonderful staff team. Every day I see the lengths they go to, to support, encourage and care for our children. Their dedication is evident in a thousand small acts of kindness as well as the huge amount of work they do behind the scenes.

On Friday, we also say a fond farewell to Mr Jefferies, our Site Manager. We are incredibly grateful for the dedication, care and hard work he has shown during his time at Roman Way. We wish him every success and happiness in his new role.

We also send our very best wishes to Mrs Taylor, who begins her maternity leave at the end of this half term. We thank her for all she has done for our children and families and look forward to celebrating the arrival of Baby Taylor in November.

Thank you once again for your continued support. I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for the second half of the autumn term on Monday 2nd November.

Warm regards,

Ms Jones

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Cygnet Class

The children have made a great start to the new school year. They have all settled in really well. We have been learning to recognise our feelings. Our class book is Room on the Broom and the children have been having great fun experimenting how to make a witch fly using magnets and investigating the inside of a pumpkin. Have a lovely half term!

Year R – Ducklings



Well done year R for settling in so well into your first year and first term in Ducklings. You have all worked so hard this term and we are super impressed with how well you have all settled and formed friendships.
This term we have been looking at fairytales and discussing each fairytale in depth to discover what characters there are, what the story line is and having a go at writing what characters in the story would say. The children have tried really hard to put their phonics into practice and write the sounds they have learnt and form words for their English writing. The children have learnt 20 sounds so far and 3 tricky words.
During maths we have been concentrating on counting 1:1 objects, making sure it isn't rushed and that all objects are counted correctly, we have been subitising to 5 and counting forwards and backwards to 20. We will be finishing off our fairytale project with a fairytale dress up day on the last day of term with lots of fun things to do for the day.

Well done Ducklings!

Year 1 – Puffins

Year 1 have settled into whole class learning brilliantly! The children have adapted so well and are growing in confidence as they learn together. In English, we have been looking at the book *Rapunzel*. The children have been writing some fantastic sentences, remembering to use capital letters and full stops, and even using adjectives to describe the characters. They have done such an amazing job!

In Maths, we have been looking at numbers to 20. The children have been making numbers using a range of different resources and finding one more and one less. In History, we have been exploring how transport has changed over time. We have looked at vehicles from the past and compared them to the ones we see today.

In DT, the children made their own cars using toilet roll tubes, and they look fantastic! The children have also enjoyed our trips to the Transport Museum and the music concert.

It has been a wonderful half term, and they have worked hard. I hope you all have a wonderful half term!



Year 2 – Penguins

Wow! What an incredible first half term we have had in year 2. The children have settled into year 2 amazingly and have taken on lots of different challenges. We have retold the story of Hansel and Gretel in English and deepened our understanding of place value and number in maths. In DT, the children cut their own fabric and learnt how to sew to create their own pirate puppets. We have even been to a music concert in Southampton which was brilliant and the children loved it. We hope you have a lovely half-term break and we look forward to lots more exciting learning next half-term.



Year 3 – Flamingos

What a start to Year 3! The children have settled in brilliantly and are working their socks off! This half term our project focused on the Stone Age, and the children thoroughly enjoyed our trip to Stonehenge to start this learning. The learnt about where the stones all came from and how they were transported to Salisbury Plains to become what is now Stonehenge. As well as the types of houses they would have lived in and the clothes they would have worn.

In English the children have loved reading 'George's Marvellous Medicine' and they had great fun creating a character description for grandma and creating their own poems this week. In Maths, we have worked on recognising numbers up to 1,000 as well as adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers using number lines, dienes and tens frames. In Science this half term we have investigated how magnets move. The children took part in a hunt around the school to find magnetic materials - we found out that not all metal is magnetic - which was very interesting! We also started using the vocabulary attracting and repelling to describe how the magnets move themselves. We had great fun investigating the strength of magnets and exploring how many paperclips they can pick up off of the table.

I hope you all have a great half-term break, please keep reading and practicing your times tables and spellings when you can. Miss Black 😊



Year 4 – Robins

What a great start to Year Four! We have been working very hard in all of our subjects and have had lots of laughs. In maths, we've revised our place value knowledge and learned that calculations involving money aren't scary after all! We wrote some incredible setting descriptions about the picture book *Journey,* using some imaginative vocabulary and even metaphors. They were so good, Mrs Holdway and I wanted them ALL to get Deputy Headteacher awards, but there weren't enough! Year Four have travelled around the world in our megacities topic; visiting Milton Keynes, Baghdad, Brasilia and even immersing ourselves in the world of Monet's London and Van Gogh's Starry Night. We've danced like spies and samba performers, and honed our football skills like Messi and Ronaldo in P.E. Our science experiments exploring mixtures and substances have been so much fun, too! We'd like to do some of them at home, including dissolving skittles, making oobleck and making a solar still. Mrs Holdway and I are so proud of you, Year Four.

We look forward to seeing you after our week off.

Mrs Knight.



Year 5 – Falcons

This term Year 5 have enjoyed reading, writing, watching and drama around Alice in Wonderland. We have used it as a stimulus to write a character description and a narrative from the point of view of the white rabbit. Grammatically, we have been creating expanded noun phrases with prepositional phrases, understanding further word classes, and improving our spelling and vocabulary.

We have been revisiting number bonds and applying them to more complex arithmetic, and have learned strategies for multiplying and dividing. We have continued our recall of times and divide up to 12 X 12.

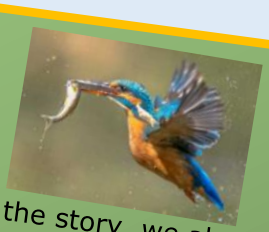
In Science, we had a series of letters from a professor inviting us to investigate evolution, and have made fossil moulds, excavated objects and identifying similarities and differences of living things over time. Our History topic has allowed us to compare four ancient civilisations - Ancient Sumer, Ancient Egypt, Shang Dynasty and the Indus Valley. We have explored writing, technology, buildings and cities, how they used the rivers and the structure of societies in each. Later in the year, we will revisit Egypt in more depth to build on our current knowledge. This has led to our Art of drawing, using different techniques, pots and vases from these civilisations.

We have also spent lots of time getting to know each other, working on our social skills and how to show kindness and respect. We have applied these in PE and Music when watching each other perform, as well as Thrive and RHE sessions.

We have had a great half term and our upcoming week off has been well deserved! We look forward to our first school trip next term, so enjoy the break, spend lots of time playing together, and continue reading, spelling and times tables as you can.



Year 6 - Kingfisher



It has been a busy and interesting first eight weeks in Year 6! In English, we have really enjoyed reading *Holes* by Louis Sachar and have written some lovely diary entries in role as Stanley. Inspired by the yellow-spotted lizards from the story, we also created information pages about our own imaginary reptiles.

In Geography, we have been developing our knowledge of mountains, discovering how they are formed, where some of the highest mountains in the world can be found and exploring mountains closer to home. All of this helped us to answer our project question: **Are there mountains in the UK?**

In Maths, we have continued to develop our understanding of number and calculation, while also sharpening our arithmetic skills. We have even tackled long multiplication! Although this has sometimes been tricky, we have persevered and made great progress.

Our Science topic this half term has been light. We explored how light travels, investigated reflection and discovered the different colours that make up white light. In Computing, we have looked at how the internet supports online communication and collaboration. We completed shared projects online and evaluated different methods of communicating digitally.

Finally, in PE, we have been swimming, with many of us making great progress over the half term.

After such a busy eight weeks, we are all looking forward to a well-earned break and the chance to rest, relax and recharge. **Have a safe and enjoyable half term, and we look forward to seeing everyone back refreshed and ready for another exciting half term!**

The Book Corner

Better Together

Dear Families,

We hope children have enjoyed reading at school and home this half-term. Please remember that reading alongside your child every day, makes a positive impact on their reading progress. Here are some recommendations for how long children can spend reading with you:



Year R – 5 Minutes

KS1 – 10 Minutes

KS2 – 15 Minutes

Reading together also supports children's well-being and is a great way to spend some quality time together. Here is to some happy reading over the holidays!

Andover Library



We were impressed with how many children took part in the *Summer Reading Challenge* at *Andover Library*. It would be great if children could continue to visit the Library over the break, to make the most their FREE events and resources. Discover what's happening HERE.

Sora Virtual Library

We also hope children will continue to use the *Sora Virtual Library*. It's a FUN, FREE and POSITIVE way to enjoy a digital device at home. Please remember to follow these steps:



- Download *Sora* onto your device or visit https://soraapp.com/welcome
- Enter the setup code: *hampshiresls*



- Now search for our school. Start typing *Roman Way Primary School*.
- For their *Username*, children must enter the first two initials of their first name and their whole surname. All in lowercase. E.g., *Willy Wonka – wiwonka*.





- Everyone's *Password* is *book*.

Additional support and a helpful video can be found here: https://help.soraapp.com/en-us/5033.htm



EVERY CHILD DESERVES A TOY THIS CHRISTMAS

DONATIONS NEEDED

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY CHARITY

Have toys your child has outgrown or no longer plays with that are still in good, resellable condition?

Please drop them off at reception - your donation will help support our charity and give the toys a new home!



Please drop your donations to:

YMCA Nursery Andover, SP11 6YG

YMCA

“Support Andover Foodbank by buying tickets to the Thruxton Glitter and Glow Firework Festival! Andover Foodbank is thrilled to be this year’s charity beneficiary of this fantastic event, organised by Andover Community Events at the iconic Thruxton Race Circuit. With spectacular fireworks, a disco, market stalls, food, light-up tractors around the track, a bonfire and a fairground rides, it’s set to be a brilliant family night out! Every ticket purchased helps support Andover Foodbank, so get yours today and enjoy a fabulous evening while making a difference in our local community.

https://thruxtonracing.co.uk/event/firework-festival ”



NHS
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

CHILD HEALTH CLINICS*

The Community Public Health Advisors from the Andover & Winchester Public Health Nursing Team(5-19y) are offering support with your primary aged child's health

Scan the QR code
to book a 30-minute slot at
Beech Hurst, Andover

How do I manage challenging behaviour?

Why does my child wet the bed?

Where can I access support for my child's anxiety?

How do I encourage healthy eating?

* These slots should not be used as a place to seek advice regarding specific medical conditions

Andover Foodbank
Together with Trussell

A new way to get support, closer to home.

Andover Foodbank Community Hubs across Andover, are making it easier for people to access Foodbank and support nearer to where they live. Our Community Hub sessions are open:

- Ludgershall Memorial Hall, SP11 9LZ
  Mondays 10am-12pm
- Picket Twenty Community Hall, SP11 6TY
  Tuesdays 10am-12pm
- King Arthurs Hall, SP10 4BS
  Wednesdays 9.30am- 11.30am
- Bridge Street Methodist Church, SP10 1BL
  Wednesdays 10am-12pm
- St John the Baptist Church, SP10 3AD
  Thursday and Fridays 10am-12pm

To receive support from Andover Foodbank, please arrange a **referral** through a supporting agency, your child's school, your GP surgery, or another professional who is supporting you. If you're not already working with a support agency, you can call 0808 812 6681.

Our hubs will offer the **same Foodbank Support**, alongside a cup of tea, warm welcome, signposting and access to additional support including Citizens Advice.

Questions? Call us on 01264 362111
Website: andover.foodbank.org.uk/locations

andover.foodbank.org.uk
Registered charity 1199568 Registered in England and Wales

Other Information

Please look here for updates, events and dates for the diary

Dates for the Diary

School Terms And Holidays
2026– 2027

Determined programme of school term and holiday dates for county and controlled schools for the academic year 2026/27

SEPTEMBER 2026						
M		7	14	21	28	
T	1*	8	15	22	29	
W	2	9	16	23	30	
T	3	10	17	24		
F	4	11	18	25		
S	5	12	19	26		
S	6	13	20	27		

OCTOBER 2026						
M		5	12	19	26	
T		6	13	20	27	
W		7	14	21	28	
T	1	8	15	22	29	
F	2	9	16	23 #	30	
S	3	10	17	24	31	
S	4	11	18	25		

NOVEMBER 2026						
M		2*	9	16	23	30
T		3	10	17	24	
W		4	11	18	25	
T		5	12	19	26	
F		6	13	20	27	
S		7	14	21	28	
S	1	8	15	22	29	

DECEMBER 2026						
M		7	14	21	28	
T	1	8	15	22	29	
W	2	9	16	23	30	
T	3	10	17	24	31	
F	4	11	18 #	25		
S	5	12	19	26		
S	6	13	20	27		

JANUARY 2027						
M		4*	11	18	25	
T		5	12	19	26	
W		6	13	20	27	
T		7	14	21	28	
F	1	8	15	22	29	
S	2	9	16	23	30	
S	3	10	17	24	31	

FEBRUARY 2027						
M		1	8	15	22*	
T		2	9	16	23	
W		3	10	17	24	
T		4	11	18	25	
F		5	12#	19	26	
S		6	13	20	27	
S		7	14	21	28	

MARCH 2027						
M	1	8	15	22	29	
T	2	9	16	23	30	
W	3	10	17	24	31	
T	4	11	18	25#		
F	5	12	19	26		
S	6	13	20	27		
S	7	14	21	28		

APRIL 2027						
M		5	12*	19	26	
T		6	13	20	27	
W		7	14	21	28	
T	1	8	15	22	29	
F	2	9	16	23	30	
S	3	10	17	24		
S	4	11	18	25		

MAY 2027						
M		3	10	17	24	31
T		4	11	18	25	
W		5	12	19	26	
T		6	13	20	27	
F		7	14	21	28#	
S	1	8	15	22	29	
S	2	9	16	23	30	

JUNE 2027						
M		7*	14	21	28	
T	1	8	15	22	29	
W	2	9	16	23	30	
T	3	10	17	24		
F	4	11	18	25		
S	5	12	19	26		
S	6	13	20	27		

JULY 2027						
M		5	12	19	26	
T		6	13	20	27	
W		7	14	21 #	28	
T	1	8	15	22	29	
F	2	9	16	23	30	
S	3	10	17	24	31	
S	4	11	18	25		

AUGUST 2027						
M		2	9	16	23	30
T		3	10	17	24	31
W		4	11	18	25	
T		5	12	19	26	
F		6	13	20	27	
S		7	14	21	28	
S	1	8	15	22	29	

Key Dates

26th – 30th October
Half term school closed

Friday 13th November
Year 5 Winchester trip

Friday 13th November
Children In Need – Dress Down

Tuesday 1st December
Pantomime in school

Wednesday 2nd December
Flu Immunisations in school

Wednesday 16th December
Year R & KS1 Nativity PM

Thursday 17th December
Year R & KS1 Nativity AM

Friday 18th December
Christmas Dinner
Wear Christmas jumpers/clothing

21st December – 1st January
Christmas Holidays – schl closed

Monday 4th January
School Closed – Inset Dy

INSET DAYS – School Closed

~~Tuesday 1st September~~

Monday 4th January

Monday 22nd February

Monday 14th June

Wednesday 21st July

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