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26th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have enjoyed a busy first few weeks settling back into school. Our new children and their families have settled very quickly; new beginnings can always be a bit tricky but the children have very quickly got used to school life and are enjoying so many new learning experiences and making new friends.

We Need Your Help!

On **Friday 3rd October** we would like to welcome all parents and carers, new and old, to a 'Parent/Carer Breakfast' at 8.45 in the Main Hall to find out how you can support the school to ensure that your child benefits from new initiatives whilst they are here.

We have a strong Parent/Carer Forum with a representative from each class meeting together every half term to discuss various areas of school practice and new initiatives. Parent/Carer Forum representatives will be able to let you know how they support these developments in school and you will be able to join in with this if you are interested.

Our school PTA is called the Rockmount Friends and Community (RFC) and this has always been very successful in fundraising to provide for our children. Last year they raised over £15,000 across the school year and previous purchases have included the astro-turf in the Arena, the gym equipment and table tennis tables in the playground, the book vending machine used for school rewards and much more. We have lost the parents and carers who used to run the RFC as their children have now left the school or will be leaving this year.

We now have no parents/carers to collaborate together to run the RFC and therefore need other parents/carers to come forward and help to keep this going. Without this we will not be able to hold the winter and summer fairs,



disco nights, film nights, cake sales etc. We will not be able to fundraise to make great opportunities and experiences for the children.

This 'Parent/Carer Breakfast' is an informal opportunity for us to come together and everyone is welcome - we have about thirty different families represented in each class so we do hope that the community spirit can prevail and each class or year group can have a couple of parents/carers who are willing to support throughout the year. We will have coffee, tea, pastries and fruit and will have good quality pre-loved uniform pieces available too. Please do pop along and see how an hour or two of your time at some point this year can support the school so effectively whilst having some fun!

Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings

Our parent/carers consultation meetings will be held on Tuesday 21st October and Wednesday 22nd October for all year groups and staff are looking forward to meeting you to discuss the progress your child is making. You will receive an email next week with a link asking you to make a booking for your child/ren. There will be a separate invitation for each child so please ensure you read the class name on the invitation carefully. Once you access the link, you will be able to select a 10-minute slot on your chosen day. Once a slot has been booked, it will disappear for anyone else booking and you will receive confirmation of your booked slot. If you have multiple children, please ensure you leave sufficient time in between bookings to get from one appointment to another. You will need to book a slot for each of your children. If you cannot make any of the dates/times offered, please see your child's class teacher.

During the parent/carers evenings, we will have a range of things happening in the hall:

- The opportunity to sample some of our delicious school meal dishes will be provided by our chef, Hussein.
- Croydon Mental Health Support Team (MHST) will be available for informal appointments to discuss support available. A separate communication will be sent containing information about booking a slot with MHST.
- Representatives from the Parent/Carer Forum and Rockmount Friends and Community (PTA) will be present to advise about their respective groups and how you can get involved.

Easy Fundraising

Just a reminder about the fundraising channel 'Easy Fundraising'. We have raised almost £1000 through popular retailers with no added cost to any of us! You can sign up in 2 minutes by scanning the QR code. Then, each time you shop, you can be prompted to add the 'Easy Fundraising' link which means that the retailer pays the school a small percentage without you having to make any additional payment. There are over 7,000 well-known brands that will donate to our school when you spend on their website including: eBay, Argos, John Lewis & Partners, Asda, Tesco, Currys, Nike, Expedia and many more. If everyone could use this when shopping online, we could raise so much money to support opportunities for the children.



Year Group Emails

The year group email facility was set up during the Covid period and has always been a great means of communication between parents/carers and staff. However, the volume of emails being sent direct to teachers rather than the school office has vastly increased and we would like to remind everyone of the most appropriate means of communication with school, as detailed in our Communication Policy which is also available on the school website:

Phone Calls

If you have an urgent issue or message about your child, please telephone the school office. Urgent messages could include:

- Family emergencies
- Safeguarding or welfare issues
- **Unexpected** changes in collection arrangements for your child

Please telephone the school office at any time regarding general queries or to leave a message for a member of staff to call you at a convenient time outside of their teaching hours.

Emails

If you need to speak to a specific member of staff about a non-urgent matter, please call or email the school office and the relevant member of staff will contact you within 2 working days. (Please be aware that some staff do not work a five-day week)

Year Group Emails

Each year group has a specific year group email address which can be used for communication. Please be mindful that staff are working with children throughout the school day and are not able to take time away to respond to emails so in many instances, the most appropriate means of communication will be via the school office. They also have meetings, preparation, planning and assessment before and after the school day. Staff will aim to respond to emails within 2 working days and we ask for your patience and support.

Nursery	<i>nursery@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk</i>
Reception	<i>receptionclass@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk</i>
Year 1	<i>year1@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk</i>
Year 2	<i>year2@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk</i>
Year 3	<i>year3@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk</i>
Year 4	<i>year4@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk</i>
Year 5	<i>year5@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk</i>
Year 6	<i>year6@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk</i>

Who to contact

Table 1	
To report your child's absence from school	Telephone the school office as early as possible on the day of absence 020 8653 2619
To inform school of any urgent issue or unexpected change in collection arrangements	Telephone the school office 020 8653 2619
To make general enquiries	Contact the school office by telephone or email 020 8653 2619 office@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk
To speak to someone regarding issues with payments for Nursery fees, lunches or activity clubs	Contact the School Business Manager Jennie Gilbertson sbm@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk
To pass on a message or to request a meeting with an individual member of staff	Contact the school office by telephone or email 020 8653 2619 office@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk
To communicate directly with your child's class teacher about their learning	Use the year group email address e.g. year2@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk
To enquire about Rockmount Children's Club (RCC)	Contact Ana De Miguel 020 8683 8451 extendedschools@rockmount.croydon.sch.uk
To enquire about after school activities clubs	Contact Ana De Miguel via the school office or on ademiguel.306@lgflmail.org

Free School Meals for Everyone

We are pleased to see that most children continue to enjoy a freshly prepared school meal each day. Remember that meals for all children from Reception to Year 6 are all **free** as they are funded by a Mayor of London initiative. We encourage all families to take advantage of this offer for a free meal; children are given a choice of meal and are only encouraged to try new things ... not forced to eat unfamiliar foods. Our Year 6 pupils enjoy a 'Transition Menu' on Thursdays with meals designed by Pabulum to support our eldest pupils in their journey to becoming secondary school-ready and to provide them with a special dining experience. Hussein and the kitchen team prepare beautiful dishes every Thursday and the children thoroughly enjoy them. The current menu cycle runs until the end of December. Please see the menu and check the website for any further information regarding school meals as well as examples of the Year 6 Transition dishes – link below.

<https://www.rockmountprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=Healthy+School+and+School+Meals&pid=110>

Community Club

Our first Community Club gardening session of the year is on Sunday 5th October from 10.00-12.00. Based in the school garden at the back of the playground area, this is a fun community initiative giving the children an opportunity to handle and care for the school chickens and learning how to grow from seeds with Wendy, our gardener. Refreshments are provided by some of our parents when we can enjoy cooking chocolatey smores or sausages over the fire pit. The summer sun and rain has helped everything grow well, including lots of weeds, so all help will be welcome! Wendy, our gardener, will be here to organise the gardening side of things and we have lots of weeds to cut down in the pond and fire pit area to make sure that we keep the outdoor environment ready to support learning for our children. All families are very welcome!

Thank you all for your support – have a lovely weekend.

Helen Carvall