



# The Ropemakers' Academy

PART OF THE BECKMEAD TRUST



## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome to the first edition of our new monthly newsletter. We want to make sure we keep you up to date with all the things that are going on in our school, so please let me know any ideas of what you would like to see in the newsletter. Your child's class teacher will continue to send out a termly newsletter so that you are up to date with what is being taught in class as well.

As we reach the end of the year, I have taken the time to reflect on everything that has happened at Ropemakers. I firstly want to thank you all for the support, kindness and understanding you have shown to me and my wonderful team. I hope that in return you have felt the love and care that we always try and show our whole community. I am extremely proud of all our students, and nothing makes me happier than seeing them overcome the many challenges that they face, and as a result grow as individual people in their own right. I am also very proud of my team - our very successful Ofsted report captured clearly how much hard work and effort they put into the work they do, but far more importantly I hope that you see the rewards of that as well.

What I have felt more this year is how much more of my time is taken up with all the 'stuff' involved in running a busy school. When I set up Ropemakers, it was very important to me that I remained available to my parents and carers, as I absolutely want you to have a voice and be able to contribute to our journey and growth. If there have been times when you've not felt that availability, then please know I am working to ensure that this improves.

With all of that in mind, I hope you enjoy this newsletter, and have a very restful and enjoyable Christmas with your wonderful children.

Best wishes,  
Simon



We hope that you all have a safe and wonderful Christmas break.  
Staff members have an inset training day on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024,  
and we look forward to seeing all pupils again for the first day  
back on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024.





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## Spare Clothes Appeal

Do you have any spare clothes that would fit our pupils? We are looking to create a spare clothes stash in our medical room for when pupils have accidents or need something clean and dry.

Please bring freshly washed donations to the school office.



## Trust News



West Sussex Alternative Provision College has received the green light to join The Beckmead Trust, marking a significant milestone in its commitment to providing quality education. This collaboration is poised to enhance educational opportunities for students, fostering a supportive environment that aligns with The Beckmead Trust's mission of empowering learners for a successful future.





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## Safeguarding Resources

Staying safe over the festive period is a concern for every family and digital safeguarding is an important part of keeping children and young people protected. Gifts such as Tablets, Gaming Consoles or Smartphones can all be used to go online so it is important to think ahead about what safety features are available and set them up in advance.

Please visit <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/> for more information.



## School News



This week, we welcomed some reptilian companions for a visit! Lots of pupils were enthusiastic at the chance to observe these creatures, while others bravely confronted their fears.

Additionally, we enjoyed a delightful Christmas dinner, and downstairs arranged one long table to facilitate a communal meal, bringing everyone together for a festive and happy gathering. Thank you to Site Manager Ben Smith for stepping up and cooking for everyone!

