



RICHARD TAYLOR

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY



Welcome to 2022

Welcome back to the start of the Spring Term. Whilst the January 2022 newsletter contained information regarding the current situation surrounding covid-19 and its implications for RTS we also want to celebrate the achievements and activities which our children have already enjoyed or will be enjoying this term. Whilst we face many challenges in the coming months it is simply wonderful to be able to welcome back our children following the Christmas break and to see so many happy faces.

As the key dates show, the school will continue to provide an enriching and exciting curriculum as we continue to provide all of the academic catch up and supportive wellbeing programmes which our children need following the disruption of the previous two years.

Key Dates

The key dates below are all provisional based on our ability to hold events safely within the latest covid-19 guidance for schools.

Monday 17th & Wednesday 19th January:	M&M performance of 'Cinderella'
Monday 7th February:	Children's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 8th February:	Safer Internet Day
Monday 21 st February:	Half Term Begins
Monday 21 st February:	Fairtrade Fortnight Begins
Thursday 3 rd March:	World Book Day
Monday 14 th March:	British Science Week Begins
Friday 18 th March:	Comic Relief Day
Monday 21 st March:	Incredible Eggs arriving in school (Ducklings being hatched in school)
Monday 28 th March:	World Autism Acceptance Week Begins
Wednesday 30 th March:	Parents Evening Early (to confirm)
Thursday 31 st March:	Parents Evening late (to confirm)
Thursday 7 th April:	1.15pm Whole School Service of Reflection
Friday 8 th April:	Easter Service at St John's 10.00am School Closes for Easter 2.15pm

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Covid Update

With the situation changing on an almost daily basis we will ensure that all parents are kept fully up to date with the latest guidance as it is published.

To provide you with a full picture of the current situation we have started the year with 5% of the school population self-isolating due to covid-19, with one member of staff absent for the same reason.

We have retained all of the safeguards which were in place prior to the Christmas break and will inform all parents as soon as new cases are identified in any class base.

Parents are reminded that if their child is identified as a possible close contact of a positive case, they only require a PCR test if they display symptoms. In all other cases they are advised to take daily LFT tests for seven days to monitor for possible infection.

We appreciate your support as we work to keep everyone in school this term.

Staffing News

Mrs Wood

Mrs Wood, our wonderful office administrator, has announced her intention to retire at the end of the Spring Term after 17 years of outstanding service to the school. During my time as Headteacher she has been a very special colleague and friend who many of you will recognise as the friendly face who greets you at the office window and solves your problem. She will be missed by everyone, especially me and we wish her a very happy and active retirement. The process of finding a new administrator to join Mrs Bonson and Mrs Conlon in the office is already underway and the successful applicant will be announced in due course.

Mrs Conlen

You will be forgiven for not recognising the name, Mrs Conlen. During the Christmas Holiday Mrs Rennison celebrated her wedding to the lucky Mr Conlen. We wish both Mr and Mrs Conlen a very happy marriage.

Mrs Rothera

More good news sees me able to let you know that Mrs Rothera has announced that she is expecting her second child in the Spring of 2022. The plan is that Mrs Longstaff will increase her teaching commitment to cover Mrs Rothera's maternity leave and will be joined by Mrs Martin who is an experienced EYFS practitioner and who has been part of the staffing team at RTS, teaching in Coverdale class, for two previous terms. We are delighted with Mrs Rothera's happy news and would ask all of the parent's of children in Bishopdale Class to work with us in being especially covid-19 aware to ensure that we do everything possible to protect Mrs Rothera for the remainder of the Spring Term.

Mrs Simpson

Finally you will be pleased to hear that Mrs Simpson is continuing her recovery from illness and is currently undergoing further treatment during the Spring Term. We all wish her well in her journey to full health.

Kitchen News

Jo and her wonderful kitchen team are all glad to be back at the start of the Spring Term. We are looking forward to lots of wonderful meals to keep us going over the cold winter weeks ahead.

I look forward to sharing another of Jo's wonderful recipes with you in our next newsletter.



More Gardening News

Mr Groves, our school gardener, has written with his suggestions with what to do in the garden at this time of year. It is a good time at the moment to plan ahead, what you intend to grow in 2022, there are lots of different seed and plant books available to help you make the right choices, for the space you have available at home. I can recommend Mr Fothergills, Spring 2022, Big Green Book (www.mr-fothergills.co.uk) DT Brown, Premium Seeds and Plants Spring 2022 (www.dtbrownseeds.co.uk) and Marshalls Little Book of Seeds 2022 (marshallsgarden.com) but of course there are many others to choose from, if you so wish.

All you have to do is, once on line, click on request a catalogue. They are free of charge and are all excellent reads, full of advice about crop rotation, to avoid spreading disease, top tips on many gardening and wildlife issues, growing and sowing assistance month by month and so much more.

New Starters September 2022 Applications Deadline.

A reminder to everyone that the deadline for admissions for the September 2022 intake is fast approaching. If you or anyone you know still needs to select RTS as their child's school for next year, please remember to register your preference on the NYCC admissions website.

A link to the LA site can be found on the school's website where you will also find the school's own supplementary information form. The deadline for submission is Saturday 15th January.

Friends News



A huge thank you to everyone who supported the work of the Friends during the Autumn Term. Whether you were a volunteer or supported a Friends event, your help was greatly appreciated. The events surrounding the Christmas Fair raised the fantastic total of £1661.50. The school will work with the friends to spend the money wisely for the benefit of the children over the Spring Term.

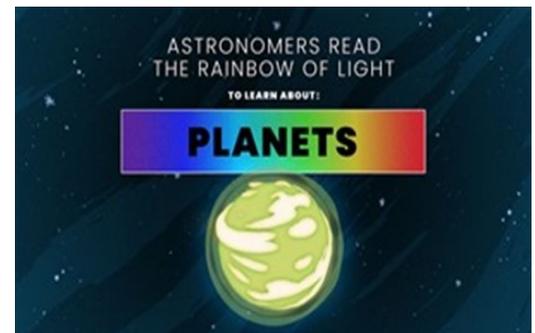
The friends have asked me to remind all parents that they also offer a prayer support group for anyone who needs the spiritual support of prayer. Any prayer requests can be emailed to prayeratrichardtaylor@gmail.com All requests are treated confidentially.

James Webb Telescope

Mrs Crisell and Mrs Heard are very excited about the year of science which lies ahead. We will be celebrating British Science Week on 14th March. Mrs Crisell was also very keen to make sure that everyone knew about the adventure of the James Webb telescope. On Christmas Day the long awaited James Webb telescope was launched. Mrs Crisell would like everyone to follow it's journey. Find out more about this amazing technology and track it's journey by following the links below.

<https://spaceplace.nasa.gov/james-webb-space-telescope/en/>

<https://jwst.nasa.gov/content/webbLaunch/wherelsWebb.html>

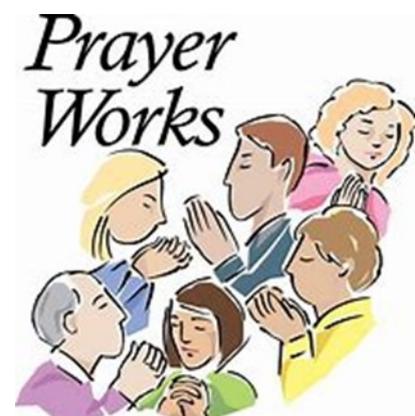


Prayer from Emma James - Youth Worker

We are very lucky to have the support of Emma James, the youth worker at St John's and St Luke's. At this time last year I asked her to share a prayer with us and she has very kindly agreed to send us a new prayer at the start of 2022. Please take the time to read the prayer below and reflect on its message.

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.
(Howard Thurman)*

God of love
Be with our whole school community at the start of this new year.
Bless the children, teachers, staff and families.
Guide us and equip us to go out and shine your love to the world.
Amen





Worship News

The new worship ambassadors have been appointed for the new term at RTS. They will be helping to prepare for worship every day and will be leading a worship or two themselves.

The themes for this terms worship all focus on the miracles of Jesus and the Easter Story. We have wonderful support from the team at St John's and the other local churches which all help to make our worship times very special.



Gardening News

Well done to Jay who used his cake sale last term to raise funds to buy gardening equipment for school. The brand new wheelbarrow arrived this week and Jay helped to construct it before testing it out. We are all looking forward to a busy year of gardening at RTS.

Sports News



Congratulations to the key stage two swimming team who performed brilliantly when they took part in the Harrogate Swimming Gala, held at Ashville College in December. Thanks to Mrs Warburton who led the team.



Jumping into January 2022

This is an exciting session being held on January 12th between 5pm-6pm and is open to any Y5/Y6/Y7 pupils needing a bit of a boost as we start back in the new term. The session will be led by Athlete Mentor – James Kirton and supported by Jody (North Yorkshire Sport) and Elizabeth (BCMHT).

Any pupils who might like to log in for a fun session with lots of tips to help make a positive start to 2022 can sign up by following the link -

<https://nysport.typeform.com/to/KdMEbUeY> and a zoom link will then be sent! There is no pressure to have a camera or microphone on – the young person can make the session as interactive as they like! It is absolutely fine if they just want to sit and listen in or use the chat box.

The teachers from Coverdale, Wharfedale and Wensleydale will also be posting the link on their class seesaw page.

North Yorkshire Sport BRADFORD AND CRAVEN trailblazer NHS

Transition

'Jumping into January'

🕒 5pm - 6pm
📅 January 12th, 2022
Zoom.us

Happy New Year! A new year is a great time for new beginnings, to form new habits and to plan for the year ahead.
So join us this session to do exactly that.

What do you hope you achieve in 2022?

To sign up fill in the form following the link: <https://nysport.typeform.com/to/KdMEbUeY>

Recycling News

Miss Sherwood and her Eco Ambassadors would like to remind everyone that after Christmas is the perfect time for a clear out! If you have any broken plastic toys or old working technology, please bring them in to be collected in our recycling boxes by the end of the month.

The team will then schedule a pick up to get them recycled.



New Governors

Thank you to everyone who took part in last terms parent governor elections. The two elected governors were Joanne Sykes and Caroline Fox-Robinson . They have made their first official visits to school as governors and will be joining their first meetings in the coming weeks. Below is a short introduction from both governors.

Joanne Sykes: In November 2021 I was elected parent governor at Richard Taylor School, where my daughter is thriving in Key Stage 2. I have been a physics teacher in local secondary schools for over ten years and, as such, will be supporting RTS to develop their already excellent science provision and will be part of the curriculum and standards committee. I am also class governor for Coverdale



Caroline Fox-Robinson: 'I am a parent to twin daughters just starting in Richard Taylor, I am looking forward to growing my involvement in and knowledge of the school along with my children. I am on the 'Premises and Health & Safety' and 'Personnel' committees and am class governor for Wensleydale'

Woodfield and Bilton Library

Bilton and Woodfield library look forward to welcoming all members of the Richard Taylor family back into our wonderful library.

The children's section is crammed with books to meet every type of readers interest. We have many new titles and authors to introduce to you, both fiction and non fiction, so come along and explore. Our teenage and adult section have also benefited from huge investment in new materials and titles. We are pretty well back to our normal opening hours but please check the website for updates and events.

Thank you and have a happy and healthy 2022.
From all at Bilton and Woodfield Library.



Bilton & Woodfield
Community Library

Charity News

Thank you to everyone for their support with last term's charity fundraising events. Our Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children raised £78.35.

The Santa Fun Run for Cancer Research raised £128.80.

Children in Need Day, back in November raised an amazing £363.23

The photographs below show the children enjoying some of these events . As a school we really are grateful for all of the support which parents and children give us with our charity fundraising.

Special mention also goes to Noah and Charlie Wrightson who did a Santa Run of their own, and raised £170 pounds for bowel cancer. Well done boys we are very proud of you both!



