



Summer Term Newsletter One Friday 29th April 2022

Ofsted April 2017: 'The school lives out its Christian and British values with integrity and fervour. There is a tangible sense of community, care, respect of, and value for, others as soon as you enter the school and as pupils and staff carry out their daily work.'

Welcome Back

You will see from the list of key dates that we have a very busy Summer term ahead of us at RTS. Please make a note of the dates that matter.

There is a lot to look forward to, including the national celebration of the Queen's platinum jubilee at the end of May. We will be sending more details of the events that will be taking place at RTS nearer the time. The term includes a lot of post covid restriction firsts. The children in year six will be going on the first residential visit in two years. We will also be holding our first sports day in a number of years which is something to look forward to. Other special events this term include the delayed Young Voices Concert in Sheffield, the Great Science Share Event and a special visit from the Parliamentary Education Team.

In addition we will be busy with all of the preparations for next year with transition activities for all of our children.

Please note that **Monday 6th June** is a training day for the school and we will re-open for children on Tuesday 7th June.



Key Dates

Holiday Dates

School Opens Monday 25th April
May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 2nd May
SATs Week Monday 10th May
Scargill Residential 17th May
Half Term Monday 30th May
Staff Training Day Monday 6th June
Last Day of Term: Friday 22nd July
School Finishes at 2.15pm

Key Dates

Mon 25th April	School reopens
Tues 26th April	Coverdale Farmer Time
Wed 27th April	Young Voices
Mon 2nd May	Bank Holiday
Thurs 5th May	Cross Country Competition
Mon 9th May	SATS Week
Mon 9th May	Dent and Ribb visiting St John's Church
Tues 17th May	Scargill residential begins
Thurs 19th May	Kids Aloud Composing session
Mon 23rd May	KS2 Internet Safety Talk
Thurs 26th	Jubilee Celebrations
Mon 30th May	Half Term
Mon 6th June	Training Day
Wed 8th June	Tempest Photography in school
Wed 8th June	New Parents Meeting
Tues 14th June	Great Science Share Event
Tues 21st June	Coverdale working with Parliamentary Education Team
Wed 22nd June	Sports Day pm
Tues 5th July	Swaledale and Nidderdale Countryside learning day
Wed 6th &	
Thurs 7th July	Yr 6 performance dates
Mon 11th & Tues	12th July 2.30pm Open Classrooms for Parents
Thurs 14th July	Meet New Classes and EYFS transition day
Thurs 14th July	Year 6 leavers disco
Tues 19th July	Community Tea 2pm
Thurs 21st July	Leavers Lunch
Fri 22nd July	10.30 leavers' service at St John's Church
Fri 22nd July	School Closes for summer at 2.15pm

National Testing Returns

The summer term sees a return to a range of national tests which the school will be undertaking. The statutory assessment tests for year six children takes place during the week beginning Monday 9th May. If for any reason your child is unable to attend school on the day of a test please contact the school as soon as possible. This will allow us to make the appropriate arrangements for your child to access the test as soon as possible.

Other tests this term will include the multiplication tests for children in year four and the phonics test for children in year one. The children in year two will undertake end of key stage assessments and the children in EYFS will complete their end of reception baseline tests.

All other year groups will participate in age appropriate tests to support teacher assessments.

In all cases we approach testing in a sensitive manner, working hard to ensure the children are in the best position to show the progress that they have made over the last twelve months.

Staffing News

The end of the Spring term saw everyone in school celebrate the contribution of Mrs Wood as she retired from the school office after 17 years of service. The start of the summer term sees Mrs Manwaring joining the school admin team and I hope you will join with me in welcoming her to the staffing team at RTS.



Mrs Rothera has begun her maternity leave and Mrs Longstaffe and Mrs Martin have begun their job share in Bishopdale Class.

In other news I sadly have to inform parents that Mrs Jackson, Dentdale Class Teacher will be retiring at the end of the summer term. She has worked with a range of partners at RTS for over 22 years and will be greatly missed by everyone at school.

I look forward to introducing you to the new addition to the staffing team for both Nidderdale & Dentdale Classes in September 2022 in due course following the completion of the recruitment process which is currently underway.

Sports News

At the very end of the Spring term Mr. Starkey and Mrs. Warburton took a TAG rugby team to the regional finals at Harrogate High School and returned unbeaten after three wins and a closely fought draw with Pannal School. Congratulations to all of the children who took part.

The next event in the sporting calendar is the Cross Country competition which takes place on Thursday 5th May.

We are also delighted to say that the school's annual sports day will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday 22nd June after an absence of two years. We hope that many of you will be able to join us for this very special event in the school's calendar.

School Worship News

The theme for our worship times will be based around the Fruits of the Spirit as described in St Paul's letter to the Galatians. The children will learn about the way that these fruits are closely linked to our school values. The children will also learn about the lives of men and women who were inspired by the Fruits of the Spirit to change the world around them.

Thank you to both Mrs. Watts and Mrs. Onslow, who established the lent prayer stations which the children enjoyed before half term.

All of the dates for special worship times can be found on page one of the newsletter.

Gardening News

The warmer weather signals the start of a busy gardening season at RTS. The gardening club will be meeting Mr Groves at the start of term to begin to plan their veg box entry for this year's Great Yorkshire Show. Mrs. Crisell is planning to fill our wonderful polytunnel with a range of salad crops and summer vegetables.

Every class will be given their potato bucket at the start of term and we are looking to ensure that every class enjoys gardening and growing over the summer term. If you would like to help with some weeding please get in touch via the school office.



New Starters News

During the Easter break, prospective parents were informed of their choice of primary school for September 2022. All parents of our confirmed new starters will receive their Starter Packs in the summer term and as soon as email contact addresses are confirmed, we will be communicating with them to ensure that we make their transition to the RTS family a happy one.

If you know of any parent who was disappointed to not be offered a place at RTS in the first round of offers please ask them to contact the school office for further guidance.

Open Classes

Following our online parents' evening we are aiming to invite parents to spend some time in their child's classroom this term. The aim is to invite parents to come and join their children for some time in their classroom where they will be able to share their work and show their learning environment .

Please look out for more information about this event later in the term.



Friends News

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Easter Egg Design competition just before the Easter Break. We had over 122 entries and the standard was amazing. If you want to see more of the eggs please visit the school's photo gallery on our website.

Special thanks must go to Mrs. Onslow from the friends who helped to judge the entries and organize the prize giving.

The Friends Easter Hamper was won by Evan Weir, I hope Evan shared some of the goodies in the hamper with the rest of his family.

Look out for more details of friends meetings and upcoming plans for the summer term in upcoming newsletters. The photos show some of our happy prize winners and a few of the wonderful egg designs which were entered.



On Line Safety News

On Monday 23rd May we look forward to welcoming Martin Powell from NY Police who will be talking to the children in KS2 about staying safe online. The school's website has lots of fantastic resources for parents at [Internet Safety | Richard Taylor School, Harrogate \(rtsharrogate.com\)](https://www.rtsharrogate.com) . Below are some further useful links provided by NY Police for parents and children with important reminders on how to stay safe online. Follow the links below to learn more.

[Think you know](#) – CEOP – Activities for all age groups to build resilience and awareness online.

[Parent guide to online safety](#) – BT – Useful tips to understand the issues and set controls at home.

[Online safety](#) – NSPCC – Details the key issues facing young people online.

Uniform News



If you have borrowed uniform from one of our classes please could you ensure that you return it to the appropriate class, some of whom are running low on spare clothing stock. Any items of uniform which your child has grown out of can be donated to the friends who will recycle stock to parents via their preloved 2nd hand uniform scheme.

The school adapted it's uniform policy to reflect government guidelines during the pandemic. We took a decision not to change uniform policy mid-year causing unnecessary expense to parents. In preparation for September we will shortly be revising our uniform policy for September 2022 and sharing it with all existing and prospective parents giving plenty of time for parents to prepare for the start of the new academic year.

Mrs. Rothera Breaking News

In breaking news I am delighted to be able to announce the birth of Florence Rose. Both mum and baby are at home and doing well. I am sure that you will join with me in passing congratulations and best wishes to the whole Rothera family and look forward to seeing both Florence and Mrs Rothera visiting the school at some point in the future.



Taylor's Trust Donation

The Taylor Trust is a charitable organisation which supports the school with requests for support with funding for areas of our work which we do not have the funds to meet identified needs across the school.

I would like parents to be aware that the Trust has recently supported the school by making a donation to support the purchase of sensory resources. They have also helped to fund new synthetic phonics reading books and some important training for staff that will benefit all children at RTS.

Music Lessons

The school is able to offer a wide range of instrumental music lessons for children of most ages. Peripatetic teachers deliver high quality lessons using the music room established in the old bungalow.

If you are interested in your child learning an instrument

Please contact the school office who will be able to provide you with more information.

The violin group in school are hoping to hold a concert for parents in school towards the end of the summer term. Further details will be shared as soon as a date is finalised.



