



RICHARD TAYLOR

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Reading Evening

Key Dates

Mon 24th Oct Half Term

Wed 2nd Nov Bonfire Lunch

Tues 8th Nov KS2 Reading Evening 6.30pm

Fri 11th Nov Remembrance Service in school.

Fri 18th Nov Children in Need Day

Friday 25th Nov Non-Uniform Day

Monday 28th Nov Advent Lantern Service at St John's Church 4.30pm

Friday 2nd Dec Christmas Lunch

Monday 5th & Tues 6th Dec Nativity Performances 1.15pm

Friday 9th Dec Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch

Thursday 15th Carol Service at St John's 10am

Friday 16th Dec Finish 2.30pm

Following on from the successful early reading evening for parents of younger children the school will be holding a Key Stage Two Reading Evening for parents of children in our junior classes.

The evening will take place on Tuesday 8th November starting at 6.30pm and lasting for a hour.

The staff will cover all aspects of reading, including how we teach reading at school and how you can support your child to become a confident and enthusiastic reader at home.

Refreshments will be available from six o'clock and staff will be available after the presentation to answer your questions.

I hope to see many of you at what will be an enjoyable and informative event.

November will also see the school holding its annual scholastic book fair from the week beginning Monday 7th November. As well as providing parents with the opportunity to buy fantastic books to encourage children to become life long readers; it also allows the school to continuously replenish our books due to the commission we receive.



Miss Sherwood

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I am delighted to be able to share the news that Miss Sherwood from Ribblesdale Class has been nominated in the Harrogate Local Heroes Awards 'Teacher of the Year' category.

We are all very proud of Miss Sherwood and the wonderful job that she does for the children at RTS. The winner will be announced at the gala ceremony being held at Rudding Park on 11th November. What ever the result she is our hero! Everyone will be keeping their fingers crossed, we will let you know how she gets on.



Friends News

friends
of RICHARD TAYLOR SCHOOL

The Friends are now publishing their own newsletter outlining their plans for the rest of the term.

In a correction from the first edition of the newsletter, a date for the planned quiz is yet to be confirmed. The quiz WILL NOT take place during the first week back as originally planned.

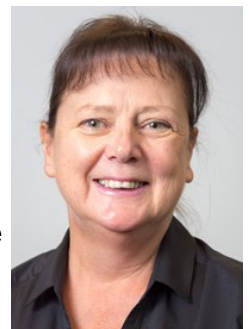
The friends will continue to sell our preloved good quality school uniform at various times after school. However if you need any in the meantime please email friendsofrichardtaylorsschool@gmail.com

Lunchtime News



The Kitchen team will be serving a delicious bonfire lunch on Wednesday 2nd November including autumn favourites such as sausages and Yorkshire parkin. I would like to thank Jo and her team for producing a range of delicious meals over the last half term.

A special mention must go to Liz Hickling a member of the RTS kitchen team who completed the Amsterdam marathon for charity over the previous weekend and was still fit enough to be back in school serving lunches this week .



Social Media

The school is targeting the way in which we use social media to promote the wonderful work that we do with our families and with the wider community. Please look out for further information on the platforms that we will be using after half term.

Our use of children's images will be carefully managed and we will provide all parents with the opportunity to opt out before using any pictures on social media platforms . We will not use images of any child who we are already aware should not appear on the school's website.

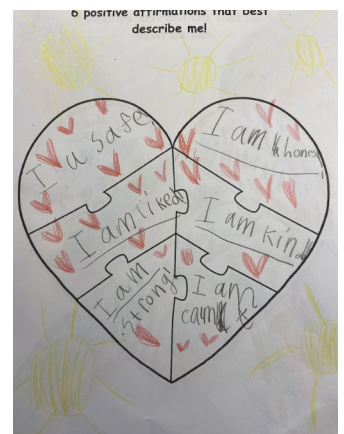
We will not be using images of children but will be sharing some of the amazing things that we do at RTS and hope that you will be able to help us by sharing the good news with family and friends.



World Mental Health Day

International Mental Health Awareness Day was an important day for the children to think about why they need to consider how they can look after their mental as well as physical health. The pictures were drawn by children from Dentedale Class.

One of our approaches to mental health focuses on the use of zones of regulation (the colour monster at KS1) Ask your child what it means to them.



Staffing News



I am delighted to be able to confirm with you that Mrs Simpson will be completing a phased return to Wensleydale Class after half term. You may be aware that she has already begun the process of returning to work as we approach half term and will take on greater classroom teaching responsibility over the 2nd half of the autumn term.

Mrs Watts will continue to work with Mrs Simpson and Wensleydale to ensure that the transition is carefully managed for both Mrs Simpson and the children. Mr Draper will continue to teach on Fridays in Wensleydale.

I would like to thank Mrs Watts for the outstanding job that she has done in supporting the children during Mrs Simpson's absence. I am sure that you will join everyone at RTS in welcoming Mrs Simpson back to school over the coming weeks.

Poppies

After Half term the children from Yr6 will be collecting for the annual Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Children can make a donation to receive their poppy, worn in memory of those who have served and continue to serve our country.

In addition the children can purchase a range of items bearing the poppy logo. The Legion have provided a guide price ranging from £1-£3 for these items. There are a limited number and it is not possible to restock, please send you child with their donation at the start of next half term if they wish to purchase one of the special items available.

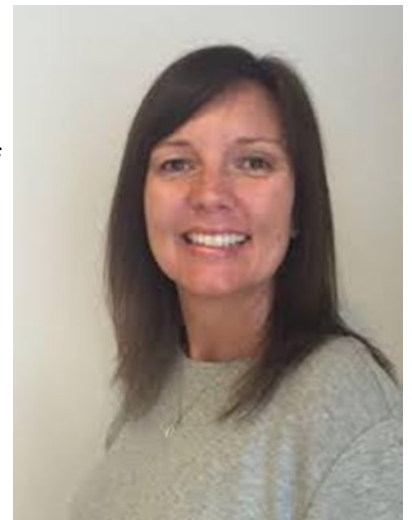


Governor News

We are delighted to be able to welcome Mr Phillip Richardson to the Local Governing Body at RTS. Please look out for the latest edition of the Governor's newsletter which will be sent out to all parents during the 2nd half term and will include an article from Phillip.

I am very sad to announce the news that Mrs Victoria Amella will be stepping down from her role as vice chair of the governing body. She has been an outstanding governor over a number of years and will be greatly missed by everyone associated with the school. I would like to take the opportunity to thank her personally for the support and advice that she has given me over the years and through multiple Inspections.

We will be marking the end of her term of office properly before the end of term.



Fun Club News

Everyone at RTS will be very sad to see Ashley begin her maternity leave after half term, she is such a valued member of the whole school team and we wish her well for the weeks ahead.

If you want more information about your child attending Funclub or to come for a look around please just get in touch. richardtaylor@funclubs.co.uk



Worship News Autumn Term

The theme for collective worship as we approach the season of Advent is 'Peace'

The 2nd half of the autumn term is full of very special occasions that we look forward to sharing with parents and the wider community

Our lantern lit Advent Service will take place at St John's Church on Monday 28th November at 4.30pm and will begin with a lantern procession from school to church. It is a magical start to an important season in the churches year and we hope that parents will be able to join us .

Our nativity services will take place on 5/6 of December in the school hall, starting at 1.30pm
The school's carol service will take place at St John's Church on Thursday 15th December starting at 10am. Everyone is welcome to join us for what will be a very festive celebration.



Fundraising

The school is looking for ways to access some of the many charitable funds that are available to organisations such as RTS. Many businesses offer community grants which would allow us to undertake renovations to our outdoor play areas.

This was a crucial part of our wildlife garden renovation scheme.

We are looking for a team of parents to help us with the process of identifying possible funding sources and completing the paperwork which would release much needed funds.

If you are interested in helping us with this important work please contact the school office.



Website Redesign

The school recognises that our website is in urgent need of an update. We are working with web designers to ensure that the new site reflects our values and is easy for parents to navigate finding the information that they need. I am speaking to a range of parents to make sure that we get our final design right.

Please bear with us as we go through the revamp, it will be worth it when the new site is launched.

Staffing Vacancies

We still have a small number of vacancies for mid-day supervisory assistants to join our lunchtime team. We can offer full time or part time roles to work with our children during lunchtime. If you are interested please contact the school office for more information.

If you are a qualified TA or Teacher looking for an opportunity either at RTS or within any of the Yorkshire Causeway Family of Schools please check out the YCST website where all vacancies are advertised.



Harvest Festival 2022.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Harvest Festival this year. You will see from the photographs below that the response from parents was superb in the current climate.

The friends did a fabulous job in creating the hampers which were distributed at the Harvest Tea. The tins and packets were gratefully received by the Harrogate Food Bank who were able to fill a van with the donations made.

Everyone who was able to attend the school's Harvest Festival had a great time and enjoyed the contributions from every class. We hope that the recorded harvest contributions were enjoyed at home.

The photographs show the harvest gifts and community tea.



Admissions Applications September 2023

The cycle of admissions for those children due to start school in September 2023 is well under way, we are busy showing prospective parents around school. Full details of our admissions criteria can be found on the school website. If you know of anyone whose child is due to start school in the next cycle and would like to know more about all aspects of school life please ask them to contact school via the office.

There is a virtual tour of the school as well as an updated prospectus for all prospective parents. We are always happy to answer any questions regarding the school and the admissions process. We are delighted to be able to welcome prospective parents back to school for a tour of the classes. Booking are being taken now and can be made via the school office.



The deadline for this year's applications is 15th January 2023.

Gallery

Below are a selection of the photos which are regularly updated on the school's website gallery. Please take a look if you want to find out more of what happens every day at RTS.



Flu Vaccinations

As part of the national programme to vaccinate children against the dangers of Flu the children at RTS will receive their flu vaccination on Tuesday 13th December.

The vaccine is administered quickly and painlessly by expert nurses using the nose puff method.

Further information will be provided to all parents nearer to the time to ensure consent has been for the dose to be administered .



Important National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) information for schools

The National Child Measurement Programme (Height and weight checks for children in Reception and Year 6)

Every year in England, school children in Reception (aged 4-5 years) and Year 6 (aged 10-11 years) have their height and weight checked at school as part of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP).

Height and weight measurements are used to calculate weight status. This information is collected because it is in the public interest to understand how many children are overweight, healthy weight or underweight and so support and advice can be offered to parents.

The checks are carried out by trained health care providers, and are delivered in a COVID-safe way. Children are measured fully clothed, except for their coats and shoes, in a private space away from other pupils.

NCMP measurements are conducted in a sensitive way, in private and away from other children. Individual results are not shared with your child or their school. The weight and height information is shared only with you in the parent or carer feedback letter. It is your choice if you share the information with your child.

Once the measurements have been carried out, parents/carers get a letter with the results. They may also be contacted by the NCMP staff who will talk through their child's results and offer advice and support.

These measurements will be taking place in our school soon (for those year groups). If your child is due to be measured you will receive a letter to explain more about it.

If you are worried about your child's weight, please have a look at: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/healthy-weight-support-children-young-people-and-families>

If you would like some information about cost saving ideas, free school meals, food banks, financial support etc. please go to: <https://healthyschoolsnorthyorks.org/parents/>

