

Reeth Community and Gunnerside Methodist Primary Schools



“COMMUNIQUE”

8th September 2017

No.1 Autumn Term

WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

We have all enjoyed a great week in school. Pupils have made an excellent start to the new school year and the staff team has been very impressed by their enthusiasm and commitment to learning. Well done everyone.

PUPIL PROGRESS and LITERACY FOCUS

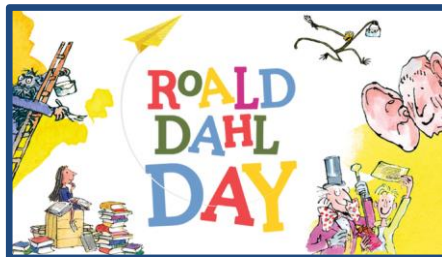
We monitor the learning and progress made by pupils carefully and are very pleased with the outcome of summer term assessments across our schools. A good example of this is the great progress made by our Year 6 leavers, that was significantly above the national average in all subjects. We are ambitious in wanting every child to achieve their very best and have identified literacy as a subject that we plan to focus on in the year ahead. Spelling, reading comprehension and handwriting are aspects of literacy that we are working hard on. We really value the contribution that parents make to learning; reading at home, supporting the learning of spellings and practising handwriting all make a big difference that we see and value on a daily basis. In school this week we have been talking to the children about the importance of these aspects of school life and would appreciate your support in ensuring that your child completes the following activities each week:

- Literacy and numeracy homework
- At least four reading sessions, either with an adult or independently, with progress recorded at the back of the purple home school books.
- Daily practice of spellings and number facts. A daily review of this learning, often is most useful, helping pupils to remember much more in the long term

If you have any questions about these activities please do not hesitate to contact school.

ROALD DAHL – Wednesday 13th September

With our focus on literacy, we are really looking forward to celebrating Roald Dahl's marvellous writing on his birthday next week. **Pupils are invited to dress up as their favourite character from one of his books.** Literacy lessons will focus on his writing, we will watch a live celebration of his work broadcast to schools around the world as well as enjoying one of his books as a class novel during the autumn term.



HOME-SCHOOL LINK BOOKS



Home school link books have been set up this week for all pupils (Nursery to Y6) and a copy of our Home-School-Child Agreement has been added into the book today. **Please share the content of this agreement with your child and sign it.**

We have also sent home our Home-School Internet User Agreement and some information about use of media in school. **Please return a signed copy.**

HARVEST ASSEMBLY

Our Harvest assembly for Reception to Year 6 pupils will be held on Thursday 12th October in Gunnerside Methodist Chapel at 9:30am. We invite parents and extended family members to join us for this occasion.

PARENTS' EVENINGS

Our autumn term parents' evenings for pupils in all year groups will be held on the following dates:

Wednesday 27th September

4pm until 6pm at Reeth for pupils in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

4pm until 6pm at Gunnerside for pupils in Years 3 to 6

Thursday 28th September

4pm until 6pm at Reeth for pupils in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

4pm until 6pm at Gunnerside for pupils in Years 3 to 6

Staff will be available for 10 minute appointments. We are always keen to build a partnership between teachers, pupils and their parents. We have found that meeting with parents and pupils can prove to be a very helpful opportunity to discuss progress, celebrate achievements and set targets. You are welcome to invite your child to the meeting if you feel this will be useful.

Please complete the attached reply slip to indicate your preferred appointment time, and return it to school by Friday 15th September.

AFTER SCHOOL COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS



The safeguarding of the children in our care is something which we naturally place great importance on and we are keen to help you with your after school collection arrangements.

In the absence of any additional information from parents we would expect children either to be collected by their own parents or travel on the home-school transport route notified to us by County. Please let us know in advance about any home-time arrangements which differ: for example, tell us if your child has permission from you to walk home unaccompanied on certain days, or every day; if your child is going to attend dance or another club straight from school; if your child is going to be collected by someone other than yourself; if your child is not going to travel on home-school transport; if your child is not going to return on the inter-site transport to their home-school. **A reply slip is included at the end of this communiqué for regular arrangement details. We need one returned to the school office by every family as soon as possible so that we are certain of the current arrangements for every pupil.** If you need to let us know about an occasional arrangement please try and let us know no later than 3pm so that staff have adequate time to pass on messages. Thank you.

MEDICAL AND TELEPHONE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YOUR CHILD



A sheet of personal information that we currently hold in school for your child has been sent home to you today. **Please check the information, make any necessary amendments on the form, and then sign and return it to us by the end of next week.** Please remember to update school if there are any changes to your child's medical details or contact information so that we always have the correct information if we need to contact you in an emergency.

HOUSEKEEPING

In order to maintain a tidy school and to reduce loss of personal belongings we ask that all pupils:

- Leave pencil cases at home (these can be used to store equipment for homework instead).
- Use a small drawstring bag to store their PE kit.
- Avoid bringing a large bag for items such as their reading book – a school book bag or similar small bag is more than adequate.
- Name all items of clothing.

BIRTHDAY CAKES AND SWEETS

We have a number of pupils and staff members with significant food allergies. In order to safeguard against a reaction and to comply with the School Food Standards, we ask that when celebrating birthdays, and at any other time, pupils do not bring in food to share with their class. Thank you for your support with this.

RELAY

Thank you to all pupils that have expressed interest in the school relay later this month. A letter providing full details will be sent home next week. If any pupils would like to take part but have not yet registered their interest, please do so as soon as possible.



INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

Instrumental lessons, provided through the NYCC Music Service, continue to be available in school for KS2 pupils. Mr Thomas Rhodes will be teaching Brass this term. Lessons start week commencing 11th September. For the first few weeks of this term lessons will take place on a Friday, but the lesson day is then likely to change to a different one. We will inform pupils of their regular lesson day once it has been finalised. Parents of pupils interested in starting lessons can access information via www.northyorkshiremusicclub.co.uk and apply on-line.

APPLES



We have a great crop of cooking apples in the Early Years orchard area and at Gunnerside. Please do call in if you would like to pick any of these; we can't use them all ourselves and it would be good not to see them go to waste.

MID-MORNING BREAK TIME SNACK

A piece of fruit is provided free to each Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupil each day as part of a National Scheme. This is often enjoyed at afternoon playtimes, but sometimes in the mornings. Pupils in KS2 are encouraged to bring to school a piece of fruit (fresh or dried) from home to enjoy at their morning break each day. Please note that snacks other than fruit must not be brought for break-time.



YEAR 6s – APPLICATIONS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

We would like to remind all parents of current Year 6 children that letters about applying for a place at secondary school for September 2018 were sent home at the end of the summer term. Applications

must be completed on-line **no later than 31st October 2017**. Should you have any queries, please contact the North Yorkshire Admissions Team on 01609 533679.

Secondary School Open Evenings for prospective Year 7 students are being held as follows:

- Richmond School - Tuesday 26th September, 7:00pm
- St. Francis Xavier School – Thursday 28th September, 7:00pm
- Wensleydale School – Thursday 12th October, 6:00pm

CONTACTING SCHOOL

We very much look forward to working with you in the year ahead. If there is any aspect of school life that you would like more information about or wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact school. We'll do all we can to help.

G. Stainsby

Gordon Stainsby
Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Sep

- Mon 11th 9am - Start of Year Service for Gunnerside enrolled pupils at Gunnerside Chapel with Rev Janet Park.
- Fri 15th Swimming lessons start for 6 weeks – all Year 1 and Year 2 pupils and some KS2 pupils. A letter has been sent home with full details.
- Weds 20th Visiting artist from Chrysalis Arts working with Year 5/6 pupils all day
- Weds 27th Visiting artist from Chrysalis Arts working with Year 5/6 pupils (pm)
- Weds 27th Parents' Evening for all pupils – more details soon
- Thurs 28th Parents' Evening for all pupils – more details soon
- Thurs 28th Visiting artist from Chrysalis Arts working with Year 5/6 pupils (pm)
- Sat 30th Friends of school - relay fundraising event - 2pm

Oct

- Tues 3rd Rev Janet Park working with pupils in school to prepare for Harvest
- Thurs 12th 9.30am - Whole School Harvest assembly for pupils in Reception to Year 6. Gunnerside Methodist Chapel with Rev Janet Park. Parents and extended family members are most welcome to join us.
- Fri 20th Last swimming lesson for this term
- Fri 20th School closes for half-term
- Mon 30th School re-opens

Nov

- Fri 3rd Individual photographs being taken at Reeth School by Richard of Impressions, full details nearer the time
- Wed 8th Year R – Year 4 'flu immunisations at both schools (am), details nearer the time
- Fri 10th Remembrance assembly for pupils, led by KS2 with Rev Janet

More dates will be sent to you as the term progresses.

Reeth and Gunnerside Schools

PARENT REPLY SLIP - Regular end of school day collection arrangements – Autumn Term 2017

Name of child(ren) _____

Day	Details of permission for <i>regular</i> arrangement (eg. 'loco-parentis', after-school club, dance, walking home on own): (please give full details)
Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	

Signature of parent _____

Date _____

Reeth and Gunnerside Federated Primary Schools - Parent Reply slip

Parents' Evenings – Wednesday 27th September & Thursday 28th September 2017

Please complete and **return to school by Friday 15th September**. Thank you.

Where parents have children in more than one year group, staff will liaise and tie in appointment times.

Name of child(ren) _____

I would like to make an appointment as follows: - (please circle preferred appointment times for each teacher)

Name of teacher	Date/Day	Appointment time preferences				
Mrs Walker	Reeth Weds 27 th Sept	1 st Choice	4.00 – 4.30	4.30 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.30	5.30 – 6.00
		2 nd Choice	4.00 – 4.30	4.30 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.30	5.30 – 6.00
	Reeth Thurs 28 th Sept	1 st Choice	4.00 – 4.30	4.30 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.30	5.30 – 6.00
		2 nd Choice	4.00 – 4.30	4.30 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.30	5.30 – 6.00
Miss Fawcett	Reeth Weds 27 th Sept	1 st Choice	4.00 – 4.30	4.30 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.30	5.30 – 6.00
		2 nd Choice	4.00 – 4.30	4.30 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.30	5.30 – 6.00
	Reeth Thurs 28 th Sept	1 st Choice	4.00 – 4.30	4.30 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.30	5.30 – 6.00
		2 nd Choice	4.00 – 4.30	4.30 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.30	5.30 – 6.00
Mr Stainsby, Mrs Bastow and Miss Dinsdale	Gunnerside Weds 27 th Sept	1 st Choice	4.00 – 4.30	4.30 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.30	5.30 – 6.00
		2 nd Choice	4.00 – 4.30	4.30 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.30	5.30 – 6.00
	Gunnerside Thurs 28 th Sept	1 st Choice	4.00 – 4.30	4.30 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.30	5.30 – 6.00
		2 nd Choice	4.00 – 4.30	4.30 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.30	5.30 – 6.00

Signature of Parent _____

Date _____