



WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

We hope that your child has enjoyed the start to the school year. It's been a really positive time in school with all pupils trying their best and challenging themselves in their new year groups.

GOOD BEHAVIOUR CERTIFICATES

Since the start of term, we have extended our good behaviour reward scheme to include pupils' approach to their learning as well as their general good behaviour. When teachers notice that a pupil has been making a particular effort with their work, they will award a good behaviour stamp. With such a positive start to term and with pupils trying hard, a number of certificates have been awarded already. Well done everyone!

Bronze

Daisy Richardson
Eva Tweddle
Monty Rowland-Hill

Silver

Amber Williams
Ryan Reynoldson
Coleby Teague
Freddie Lundberg

Gold

Rhys Price
Rowan Wilkinson



ATTENDANCE, ILLNESS, HOLIDAYS

Staff, governors and school inspectors monitor pupil attendance closely. There is a close relationship between good attendance and good progress. Absence of 10% or more of possible sessions is recorded and monitored particularly closely; these pupils are identified as persistent absentees. Our schools have benefitted from very good attendance in previous years and we are keen to maintain this. We request that you help us in several ways:

1. Please do all you can to avoid booking a family holiday in term time. We appreciate that for some families, work commitments make this challenging. Where a holiday must be taken in term time, use school holidays as much as possible to minimise days away from school. If required, apply for leave of absence using the form available on the school website or at the school office. Always apply before making a booking, as some weeks of the school year are of particular importance (e.g. statutory test weeks and those preceding these assessments).
2. If your child feels a little unwell, perhaps with a cough or cold, please encourage them to join us in school. We are happy to adapt the school day for them; for example they could stay indoors at playtime if this helps.

HOME-SCHOOL LINK BOOKS



Home school link books have been set up for the new school year 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.**

With this newsletter we have also sent home our Home-School Internet User Agreement and some information about use of media in school and communication with school.

Please return a signed copy.

HARVEST ASSEMBLY

Our Harvest assembly for Reception to Year 6 pupils will be held on Thursday 10th 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 2nd October

Afternoon session 1:30pm until 3:30pm at Reeth for pupils in Nursery and Reception

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

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

Thursday 3rd October

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 Monday 23rd September.

FREE FAMILY SWIMMING

Many of our pupils started school swimming sessions this week. Following the success of the family swim scheme which we have run for almost two years now, we are pleased to let you know that this will continue through this academic year.



Our schools utilise sport premium funding to fund the family swim scheme initiative which enables every family to access free swimming. We provide a 'family swimming card' to all pupils. These cards can be used at both Richmond Swimming Pool and Catterick Swimming Pool. The card entitles families to enjoy free swim sessions during the public swimming times offered by the pools, providing that the child pictured on the family swim card is taking part in the swim session. Pupils new to school will receive a card next week. We hope that you are able to swim as a family utilising the scheme as it really helps pupils to progress between lessons and is a great way to exercise. If you need a new card, please complete the reply slip at the end of this newsletter, or contact school.

We have worked with the swimming pools to make use of the cards as straightforward and as accessible as possible.

- Family members taking children swimming show the school 'family swimming card' for their child(ren) at the reception desk of the pool. Reception staff will ask parents to sign for admission but will not ask for any payment.
- Older and younger siblings (not on roll at our schools) are welcome to be included in the free swim session
- Grandparents (or other family members) are welcome to accompany children in their family using the card, although the number of adults accompanying any pupil is limited at two.

Swimming timetables can be viewed at:

Richmond Pool - <https://richmond-swimming-pool.rltrust.org.uk/>

Catterick Pool - <https://www.nuffieldhealth.com/catterick>

Please note that these timetables change periodically. Both pools offer fun sessions at the weekends, and the swim cards can be used in the same way to access these sessions free of charge also.

All schools receive Sport Premium funding. Each school can choose how they spend the money. It must be used to enhance sports provision. For further information on how we use the funding, please visit our website. We would like to thank Richmond and Catterick Pools for continuing to work with us to make the scheme possible.

AFTER SCHOOL COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS

Unless you inform us of alternative arrangements, we 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 of 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 be collected by someone other than yourself;
- if your child is going straight through to the school hall for private dance lessons with Mrs Seymour;
- 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 newsletter for regular arrangement details which differ from home-school transport, parent collection or after-school club.

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.

We advise that all Early Years and Key Stage 1 pupils are supervised by an adult when walking to and from school.

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 their purple book bag for carrying items to and from school.
- Use a small drawstring bag to store their PE kit.
- Name all items of clothing.

HEALTHY EATING

As a school we are keen to promote healthy eating and lifestyles and we also 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.
- The school meals provided by the catering service offer nutritionally balanced meals and follow a healthy-eating policy. We request that parents sending packed lunches for their child also try to provide nutritionally balanced meals, **taking particular care to avoid more than one sugary item**. Please note that **we do not allow nuts or nutty snacks to be brought into school** for allergy reasons and for safety reasons we ask that if grapes or other small fruits are being sent into school that they are prepared at home by being cut vertically in half. The NHS Change4Life website has practical tips and ideas for healthy and tasty packed lunches. Visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>.

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

Instrumental lessons, provided through the NYCC Music Service, continue to be available in school for KS2 pupils. Mr Ian Cobb will be teaching these lessons this term. Lessons will take place on Tuesday mornings starting next week. 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.



'FLU VACCINATION PROGRAMME

On Thursday 12th December all children from Year Reception to Year 6 will receive the immunisation for influenza unless you decide to opt out for your child. Further details will be sent home nearer the time.

YEAR 6s – APPLICATIONS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

Letters about applying for a place at secondary school for September 2020 were sent home last week to families of all Year 6 pupils. Parents are encouraged to make their applications on-line. The latest date for parents to apply is **31st October 2019**. 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 – Thursday 19th September, 7:00pm

St.Francis Xavier School – Wednesday 18th September, 7:00pm – 9:00pm (doors open 6:30pm)

The Wensleydale School – Thursday 3rd October, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

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

Tues 10 th	6 week block of swimming lessons start for Year 1 and Year 2 pupils
Fri 13 th	6 week block of swimming lessons start for some KS2 pupils
Wed 18 th	SFX Open Evening for Year 6 pupils – 6.30pm
Thurs 19 th	Richmond School Open Evening for Year 6 pupils – 7pm



Oct

Wed 2nd Parents Evening/Afternoon for all pupils – see text within newsletter for full details
 Thurs 3rd Parents Evening for all pupils – see text within newsletter for full details
 Thurs 3rd Wensleydale School Open Evening from Year 6 pupils – 6pm to 8pm
 Thurs 10th 9:30am. Harvest Assembly at Gunnerside Methodist Chapel for all pupils in Reception through to Year 6. Parents and extended family members are invited to join us.
 Thurs 24th School closes for half-term
 Fri 25th Staff training day

Nov

Mon 4th School re-opens
 Mon 4th/ Tue 5th KS2 Residential visit to York
 Fri 8th Remembrance Assembly led by KS2 pupils
 Thurs 28th Rachel Pinkney leading Advent assemblies at both schools

Dec

Thurs 12th ‘Flu Vaccinations Years R-6 at both schools
 Fri 20th 2pm. Christingle Service at St. Andrew’s Church, Grinton, for all pupils. Arrangements for Nursery pupils will be provided nearer the time. Parents and extended family members are invited to join us.

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

REPLY SLIPS

Family Swimming Card

Please return to school if you require a replacement card. Cards for families new to school this year are already being prepared and will be sent home next week.

Pupil name(s) _____

Please provide a replacement family swim scheme card.

Signature of parent _____ Date _____

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Regular end of school day collection arrangements – Autumn Term 2019

Please complete to let us know of regular arrangement details for your child **which differ** from home-school transport, parent collection or after-school club (eg. walking home on own, going directly to private dance lessons with Mrs Seymour after school).

Name of child(ren) _____

Day	Details of permission for <i>regular</i> arrangement, eg. walking home on own, going directly to private dance lessons with Mrs Seymour after school. (please give full details):
Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	

Signature of parent _____ Date _____

Please complete the parent reply slip overleaf for parents’ evening →

Reeth and Gunnerside Federated Primary Schools - Parent Reply slip – All Families

Parents' Evenings – Wednesday 2nd October & Thursday 3rd October 2019

Please complete and **return to school by Monday 23rd 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 and Mrs Stainsby	Reeth Wed 2 nd October	1 st Choice	1.30 – 2.00	2.00 – 2.30	2.30 – 3.00	3.00 – 3.30
		2 nd Choice	1.30 – 2.00	2.00 – 2.30	2.30 – 3.00	3.00 – 3.30
	Reeth Thurs 3 rd October	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
Mrs Rachel Allison	Reeth Wed 2 nd October	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 3 rd October	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 Mrs Guy	Gunnerside Wed 2 nd October	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 3 rd October	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 _____