



“COMMUNIQUE”

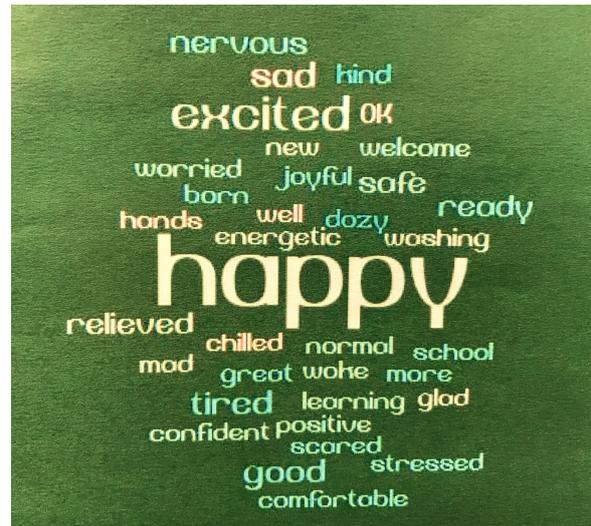
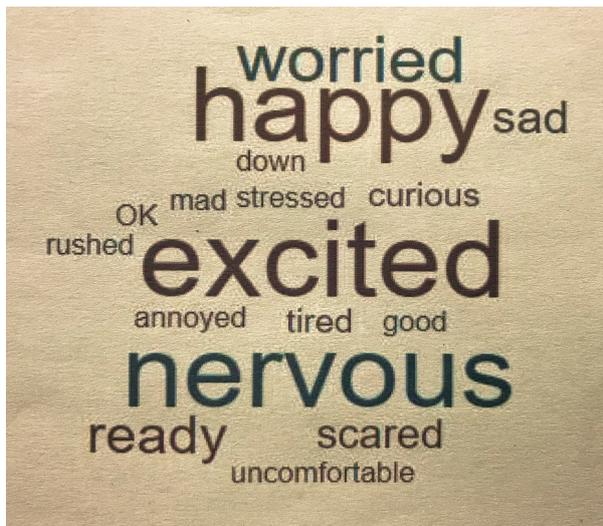
11th September 2020

No.1 Autumn Term

WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

It has been absolutely brilliant to welcome pupils back to school this week. The staff team has been so impressed with the children who have settled in quickly, have tried hard with their learning and have made the most of the opportunity to see their friends. It's been a great start.

Year 5 & 6 pupils have reflected on their feelings before and after their return, creating these Wordles.



Pupils in other year groups have been thinking too:

I like being back at school because I like to learn.

I like the new teachers. We are doing new stuff and it's really fun.

I like having dinner with my friends.

I feel so calm back here.

I love history and we have been learning about Florence Nightingale.

It's been so good to see my friends. I really like learning all the subjects at school.

At the start I was nervous about what the change would be like, but now I feel like it's just a regular day at school.

This week has gone really fast!



CURRICULUM FOR THE TERM AHEAD

Year 5 & 6 will take part in an exciting history project called 'The Story of Schools.' Led and organised by The NASH in Hawes, the project will delve into the development of schools over time in Upper Wensleydale, Swaledale and Arkengarthdale, as part of pupils' broader study of Victorian Britain. They will gather photographs from the past that will be used to create a giant photo mosaic with digital artist Helen Marshall of [The People's Picture](#), celebrating the young people of the Dales - past and present. They will also gather stories from those who attended schools in the area. Activity will culminate in an exhibition at Dales Countryside Museum, opening in January 2021, telling the story through the mosaic, a short film, audio recordings and artefacts. We will be in touch soon as the project gathers momentum to ask for your help in telling the story.

Later in the term, pupils' topic-based learning will focus on National Parks in Britain and North America, complimented by our planned visit to the Lake District in 2021.

In science pupils will study animals and electricity. Design technology will build on this learning, with pupils building controllable vehicles, while in art lessons, pupils will focus on textiles. PE lessons will focus on invasion games – tag rugby, netball and hockey.

Pupils in **Year 3 & 4** will study rivers, the water cycle and water storage. We'll bring this to life, completing stream study in Gunnerside Gill and visiting Thornton Steward Reservoir. In history lessons, pupils will learn about the fascinating Indus Valley Civilisation. Art lessons will focus on 3D work inspired by Andy Goldsworthy and DT will involve textiles. Pupils will learn about animals and rocks in science. As in Year 5 & 6, PE lessons will focus on invasion games – tag rugby, netball and hockey.

In **Year 1 & 2**, pupils have begun to learn about Florence Nightingale in history. After half term, geography lessons will explore Yorkshire market towns. Science lessons will focus on animals and seasonal change. Inspired by Picasso, pupils will learn to draw and paint self portraits in art, while in design technology they will build balloon jet cars. In PE lessons, the class will enjoy the invasion games of netball and hockey.

Early Years pupils have had fun learning about dinosaurs this week. They will go on to learn about toys, materials and seasonal change as they develop the core skills of number and phonics. Nursery pupils are working on phase 1 phonics while Reception children are learning Phase 2 sounds and will work on blending and segmenting skills. Further information on phonics, and ways that you can support your child with this learning, will be provided by the Early Years teachers next week.

SCHOOL RULES

We've introduced our new, simple and easy to remember school rules this week. They are **Ready, Kind, Safe**. The children have picked them up really quickly and can apply them to different aspects of school life.

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 talk about this agreement with your child and sign it.**

Our Home-School Internet User Agreement has been sent home today. **Please return a signed copy.**

FREE FAMILY SWIMMING



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. At the moment, they are operating a little differently, but we can confirm that you can continue to use the scheme with both pools. At Catterick, you can book the learner pool for the sole use of your family. At Richmond, you can book a time for your swim. **At both pools, you need to make a booking in advance.** Please explain that your child is a pupil at Reeth and Gunnerside Schools when making the booking. You will need to show your card when you arrive. The full cost of the swim, including adults and siblings not on roll at our schools will be paid for by school.

Pupils new to school will receive a card next week. If you need a new card, please let us know.

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.

Please e-mail or phone the school office next week if any of your home-time arrangements are going to differ regularly this term.

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.

SCHOOL MEALS

We plan to offer hot school meals again from Monday 21st September and we hope that many of you will take up this option. You are of course welcome to bring a packed lunch if you prefer. With packed lunches, please try to include a nutritionally balanced meal, with some fruit or vegetables and no more than one sweet item.

MEDICAL AND TELEPHONE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YOUR CHILD



A sheet of personal information that we currently hold in school for your child will be sent home to you soon. **Please check the information, make any necessary amendments on the form, and then sign and return it to us at your earliest convenience.** Latest best practice advises that schools hold a minimum of two contact telephone numbers per family. Please note that it is your responsibility to inform these contacts that you are sharing their information with us. 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.

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

Instrumental lessons for KS2 pupils, provided through the NYCC Music Service, are continuing to be offered remotely, via video-link, for at least the first half of this term. The Music Service will be in touch with families who have children registered for lessons to arrange a lesson time. Lessons will currently take place outside of school hours. The Music Service hopes to resume 'face-to-face' teaching in school as soon as possible. Parents of KS2 pupils interested in starting lessons can access information via www.northyorkshireremusicclub.co.uk and apply on-line.

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 2021

Letters about applying for a place at secondary school for September 2021 will be sent home by email today 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 2020**. 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 24th September, 18:00

St.Francis Xavier School – Monday 21st September, between 17:30 and 19:45

WORK COMPLETED AT HOME

We are hoping to celebrate and keep the work that pupils completed at home during the time of national school closure. If you would like to send in either a selection of work or all of the work that your child completed, then please do so.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – FIRST HALF OF AUTUMN TERM

We are pleased to be able to offer one after school club to each class bubble in KS1 and KS2 this half-term. All sessions will start next week (week commencing 11th September) and will continue until the half-term break. A 4:30pm finish time applies to all sessions apart from fell-running, which will finish at 5:00pm.

Please email or telephone the school office to let us know which clubs your child(ren) would like to attend. Clubs for the first half of this term will be:

Day	School	Year Groups	Club
Monday	Gunnerside	Years 3 and 4	Origami with Mrs Guy
Thursday	Reeth	Years 1 and 2	Reading and storytelling with Miss Codman
Friday	Reeth	Years 5 and 6	Fell running with Mr Stainsby and Mrs Bearpark 5:00pm collection at Reeth by parents. Transport from Gunnerside to Reeth can be arranged. Please let us know in advance if your child will require a place on the bus.

CONTACTING SCHOOL

We very much look forward to working with you in the year ahead. At this time, we would appreciate initial contact by phone, by email, or with staff at the school gate.

School office phone Reeth 01748 884308, Gunnerside 01748 886321

School office email admin@rg-schools.org.uk

Headteacher email headteacher@rg-schools.org.uk

If there's anything that we can do to help, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Gordon Stainsby
Headteacher