

Reeth Community Primary School and Two Dales Nursery Gunnarside Methodist Primary School



“COMMUNIQUE”

5th September 2014 No 1 Autumn Term

Dear Parents,

The first few days of the autumn term have begun really well, with pupils keen to make a great start to the school year. New classes have formed, targets have been set and assemblies held to consider the opportunities before us – the chance to learn, explore, enjoy and succeed. It has also been a new beginning for me as headteacher, and I would like to thank pupils and staff for making me feel so welcome. I have been very impressed by how polite, cheerful and friendly the children are and it has been great to get to know them a little over the last few days.

As a school we strive to meet the needs of individual learners and we know that an effective partnership between pupils, parents and the school is essential to achieve this aim. There are a number of opportunities to join us in school over the coming weeks, including an open morning and Harvest Assemblies; there will also be a parents' evening in October. In the meantime, if there is anything that you would like to discuss, please feel free to phone, pop in or make an appointment. I look forward meeting and working with you.

Gordon Stainsby

START OF YEAR CHAPEL SERVICE AT GUNNERSIDE



Reverend Janet will be leading a start of year chapel service for children enrolled at Gunnarside School. This will take place on Tuesday 9th September at 9am. Inter-site transport will run at the later time of 9.30am on this day. All parents, Reeth and Gunnarside, are welcome to join us for the service and children enrolled at Reeth Community Primary are welcome to attend the service with their parents should they wish – for registration purposes, please just let us know in advance that they will be attending with you. Mr Stainsby will be attending this service and Mrs Bastow will be leading an assembly for all Reeth enrolled children at the Reeth site.

OPEN MORNING at REETH SITE

All parents/carers are invited to join us in school from 10.30am until 12pm on the morning of Friday 19th September. Lessons will be running as normal and you are welcome to join us in class. Mr Stainsby will be available throughout the morning and the Friends of the School have kindly offered to serve tea and coffee. We look forward to welcoming you.



AFTER SCHOOL COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS



The safeguarding of the children in our care is something which we naturally place great importance on and we want to do everything we can 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:** e.g. you must 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 other 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.

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.

A reply slip is included at the end of this communiqué for regular arrangement details. We need one returned by every family as soon as possible. WE DO NOT INTEND TO USE INFORMATION GIVEN TO US LAST TERM.

Thank you for helping us to keep **your** child safe!

IMPROVEMENTS/CHANGES TO START AND END OF DAY ROUTINES

We always value parental feedback, and from Monday 8th September, we are introducing what we hope will be an improved end of day routine for getting children off home to you once the bus arrives at the Reeth site from Gunnerside. Pupils who are collected from school or who walk home independently will get off the bus first, and, once a register has been checked, will be free to go without going into Reeth School.

In addition, a member of staff will supervise the road side gate at Reeth to ensure safety of pupils at the start of the day.



MEDICAL AND TELEPHONE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YOUR CHILD



A sheet of personal information which we currently hold in school for your child has been sent home to you today. Please can you 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 future 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.

HOME SCHOOL LINK BOOKS



Home → School → Home link books have been set up this week for all Reception to Year 6 children and a copy of our Home-School-Child Agreement has been added into the book today. Please can you share the content of this agreement with your child and sign it.

We have also sent home our Home-School Internet and Learning Platform User Agreement. Please can you return a signed copy to us at school.

SCHOOL CLUBS

We are able to offer a range of clubs this half-term, either during the school day at lunchtime or after school. If you would like your child to join in with after school activities with Mrs Postlethwaite, or the after school cooking (FS/KS1) with Mrs Atkinson/Mrs Billingham, please complete the attached slip and return to school early next week. All sessions start week beginning Monday 8th September.

Key Stage 1

Playtime games with Mrs Postlethwaite – Tuesdays, 12:30 – 13:00

Ball games with Mrs Postlethwaite – Tuesdays, 15:30 – 16:30

Cooking with Mrs Atkinson and Mrs Billingham – Wednesdays, 3:30 – 4:30

Art/Craft with Mrs Levell – 12:30 – 13:00, Mondays 22nd Sept, 29th Sept, 6th Oct and 13th Oct. A list of themes will be displayed in the FS/KS1 classroom.

Key Stage 2

Running with Mr Stainsby – Tuesdays, 12:30 – 13:00

Initially the running sessions will take place at lunchtimes on the school field, although some fell running sessions are also planned for later this half term, that will 'run' after school. Details to follow.

Table Tennis with Mrs Bastow – Wednesdays, 12:30 – 13:00

Playtime games with Mrs Postlethwaite – Thursdays, 12:30 – 13:00

Football with Mrs Postlethwaite – Thursdays, 15:30 – 16:30

MID-MORNING BREAK TIME SNACK

A piece of fruit is provided free to each Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 child each day as part of a National Scheme. This is often enjoyed at afternoon playtimes, but sometimes in the mornings. Children 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.



MUSIC LESSONS

Mr Cobb will be teaching guitar and woodwind on Wednesdays this term – 11.00 until 12.00 at Gunnerside. Lessons start next week, Wednesday 10th September. Pupils just starting to learn will not start lesson until the final paperwork has been completed.

FOOTWEAR



Some parents have asked us to clarify our policy on footwear. All pupils need a pair of school shoes to wear in the school building. In addition, children also need a pair of trainers for outdoor PE and a pair of plimsolls for indoor PE. We ask pupils to change into their PE trainers at playtime when the grassy areas are damp or muddy, as they provide improved grip and avoid water and mud being trodden into the classroom carpets.

SCHOOL DINNERS

Our cooks and lunchtime staff at both schools enjoy making lunchtime a positive and enjoyable experience, where children enjoy the food served, are encouraged to try the different menus, and have the opportunity to chat over their meal. Special diets can be catered for and small adjustments can often be made to suit individual children.



The North Yorkshire Meal Service ensures that all meals served in our school over the week are nutritionally balanced. It's great to see that all of our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are taking advantage of the universal free school meals offer which has been introduced by the Government from this September, and we would very much like to encourage all our KS2 children to support the catering service by purchasing regular school meals so that they can have a hot dinner in school each day with their peers. The cost of a school dinner remains at £2.10 per day / £10.50 per week, per child; please contact the school office if you would like your child to start having dinners.

At intervals throughout the school year we will once again be inviting parents into school to enjoy lunch with us; we look forward to you joining us. In the meantime, if you wish to share ideas or comments about the lunchtime experience, do get in touch with us at school.

CAN YOU HELP?

We are looking for someone to help with Monday lunchtimes, 12 noon until 1pm, at Gunnerside School. The role involves helping to serve the lunch and then supervising the children both during lunch and then outside during the lunchtime play. It can be a rewarding role – if you are able to help, or even share with someone on a rota basis, please do contact school for an application form. Likewise, if you know of anyone who might be interested, please do let them know and ask them to get in touch. Thank you for your support.



PAYMENTS FOR SCHOOL DINNERS

Our electronic system, Parent Pay, is our preferred method of payment for dinners please (KS2 children). For parents who pay via Parent Pay, a reminder that the system does not send you a reminder when your account needs topping up. It is therefore essential that you check your account regularly and ensure it is in credit by at least one week's worth of meals by 9am each Monday morning. This is to comply with NYCC guidelines which state that payments for dinner money must be made in advance of the meals being served. If accounts remain in arrears by the third day of the school week (ie. Wednesdays) the school will not be able to provide a meal for your child/children until your account is credited, up to and including the end of that week. Thank you for your cooperation with this policy.



HARVEST ASSEMBLIES



Our harvest assemblies will be held on Wednesday 15th October: 11.00am in Gunnerside Chapel for children based at Gunnerside on Thursdays, and 1.15pm in Reeth School Hall for our Nursery children and main school children based at Reeth site on Thursdays. We extend a warm welcome to all parents and extended family and friends; we hope you will join us. Please note that our Nursery children are invited to join us with their parents, and they will have an opportunity to take part in the assembly.

We are also holding a Harvest Lunch on this date at both sites, to which we are inviting all parents and Nursery children. Further information will be sent to you soon on a separate flyer.

SWIMMING – AUTUMN TERM 2014

Swimming commences next week, Friday 12th September, at Richmond Pool, as part of the PE curriculum, for all Year 1s and 2s and certain older children based on individual need. Staff accompanying the swimmers are Mrs Walker and Mrs Malton, and we



rely on the kind offer of two parent helpers each week to make up our adult:child supervision ratios. Parents helping need to be at Reeth School for 1pm. Thank you to everyone who has been able to offer help; we will be drawing up a rota and will contact those parents in due course.

YEAR 6s – APPLICATIONS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL in 2015

A reminder to all parents of current Year 6 children that letters about applying for a place at secondary school in September 2015 were sent home at the end of the Summer Term. Applications must be completed on-line no later than 31st October 2014. Should you have any queries, please contact the North Yorkshire Admissions Team on: 0845 034 9420.

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

Richmond School - Tuesday 16th September, at 7pm.

St. Francis Xavier School – Thursday 25th September, at 7pm

Wensleydale School – date yet to be confirmed. School tel number is: 01969 622244

DATES for your diary

Sep

Tues 9th

Start of Year service at Gunnerside Chapel with Rev Janet Park.

Fri 12th

Swimming lessons start for 6 weeks for Year 1 and 2 children and some KS2 children. Afternoon session.

Mon 15th

Seeing is Believing – Methodist Art Exhibition at Leyburn, whole School visit (am). Separate letter sent home

Tues 16th

Richmond School open evening for Year 6 children, 7pm

Wed 17th

East Barnby visit – Parent meeting at Reeth School – 4 to 4.45pm

Fri 19th

Open morning, with refreshments and activities, at Reeth site
10.30am to 12 noon. Parents and extended family welcome.

Mon 22nd

Individual photographs at both schools, by Richard of Impressions. A separate letter will be sent home soon.

Thur 25th

St Francis Xavier School open evening for Year 6 children, 7pm

Mon 29th – Fri 3rd

Year 5/6 residential visit to East Barnby.

Oct

Fri 10th

Whole school assembly with David Levell

Wed 15th

Harvest Assemblies with Rev Janet Park, Gunnerside Chapel, 11am, Reeth School Hall, 1.15pm. Parents welcome. Nursery children invited with their parents.

Fri 24th

Harvest Lunch at both sites – a separate letter will be sent home soon.

Fri 24th

KS2 Outdoor Sessions start at Marrick Priory for 4 weeks. Details to follow
School closes for Half-term

Nov

Mon 3rd

School re-opens

Fri 28th

Whole School swim at Richmond Leisure Pool – afternoon.

More dates and details of events will be sent to you as the term progresses.

DON'T FORGET!.....you can support our school (through Friends of the School) by shopping on-line via:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/reethandgunnerside and/or using the internet search engine of www.reethandgunnerside.easysearch.org.uk. It costs you nothing but raises funds for Friends and makes a huge difference to helping with the cost of activities and resources in the schools. Thank you for your support.



If you would like this information in another language or format such as Braille, large print or audio, please ask us.

যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو براہ مہربانی ہم سے پوچھئے۔

Aby otrzymać te informacje w innym języku lub formacie, np. W alfabecie brajla, w wersji dużym drukiem lub audio, prosimy się z nami skontaktować.



REPLY SLIPS – Please complete and return as soon as possible, thank you

Reeth and Gunnerside Schools

PARENT REPLY SLIP - Regular end of school day collection arrangements – Autumn Term 2014

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 Schools - PARENT REPLY SLIP – First half autumn term 2014

FS/KS1 Ball games with Mrs Postlethwaite – Tuesdays, 15:30 – 16:30, Reeth

Name of child(ren) _____

Please state who will be collecting your child:

Parent's name: _____ Signed: _____ Date: _____

=====

Reeth and Gunnerside Schools - PARENT REPLY SLIP – First half autumn term 2014

KS2 Football with Mrs Postlethwaite – Thursdays, 15:30 – 16:30, Gunnerside

Name of child(ren) _____

Please state who will be collecting your child:

Parent's name: _____ Signed: _____ Date: _____

=====

Reeth and Gunnerside Schools – PARENT REPLY SLIP – First half autumn term 2014

FS/KS1 Cooking with Mrs Atkinson and Mrs Billingham – Wednesdays, 15:30 – 16.:30, Reeth

Name of child(ren) _____

Please state who will be collecting your child:

Parent's name: _____ Signed: _____ Date: _____