

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



“COMMUNIQUE”

11th September 2015 No 1 Autumn Term

WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

It's been lovely to welcome both staff and pupils back to school this week and also meet our new pupils who have just started in Reception and Nursery. We have been pleased to welcome as new members of our staff team Miss Lynsey Dinsdale, who will teach our Year 5/6 children in the afternoons, and Mrs Rozalyn Ives and Mrs Emma Moore as teaching assistants. Mrs Diane Raw is currently covering the cook's role at Gunnarside School.

We have also returned to see further enhancements to the learning environments: both the FS/KS1 classroom and the central KS2 classroom at Reeth have been refurbished and decorated – the 'new look' rooms have a light and airy feel, with improved furniture layouts and wall display areas. Likewise, we have re-developed the west facing classroom at Gunnarside as a Year 5/6 classroom for afternoon lessons, enabling the pupils on that site to benefit from 3 purposeful classrooms. We have also upgraded our IT resources at both sites by replacing the older desktop PCs we had with new, good specification education laptops – 15 at each school. These machines will provide the pupils with regular opportunities to use IT across different areas of their learning and the flexibility to work individually or in pairs on a laptop.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2015 – DON'T MISS THE FINISH LINE!

A reminder that pupils who have taken part in this year's Summer Reading Challenge need to visit their local library by this Saturday, 12th September, to receive their rewards. If your child has chosen to be presented with their certificate through school then this will be done once we receive the certificates from the library service, and we look forward to celebrating their achievement with them.

HARVEST ASSEMBLY



Our harvest assembly for all pupils in Reception through to Y6 will be held on Friday 2nd October in Reeth School Hall. We invite parents and extended family members to join us for this occasion. Please come along at 10:30am for tea/coffee prior to the start of the assembly. Our Nursery children are invited to join us with their parents, and they will have an opportunity to take part in the assembly.

APPLES and JAM JARS



We have a great crop of cooking apples both at the Nursery and at Gunnarside School. Please call in at either school if you would like to pick any of these; we can't use them all ourselves and it's a shame to see them go to waste. Our nursery class and cooking club are baking apple products, for sale on the morning of our harvest assembly. If you would like to make any harvest produce using our apples to complement items made by the children we would really appreciate it. Also, Mrs Freda Terry is collecting jam jars to use for potting her home-made harvest produce. If you have any jars which you can spare please send them into school and we'll pass them onto her, many thanks.

MATHLETICS

All pupils in Reception through to Y6 have Mathletics usernames and passwords in their new home school books. Each pupil has a new set of activities to complete as well as the opportunity to compete in challenges with other pupils in their class and from around the world. Last year a lot of pupils found that Mathletics really boosted their recall of number facts, understanding of key concepts and maths confidence. Pupils collect certificates recognising their achievements, and we're hoping that as many pupils as possible will be able to collect silver and gold certificates this year.

BEHAVIOUR REWARD SCHEME

We have been very impressed by pupils' approach to school life this week. Children across the schools have been hardworking, enthusiastic, helpful and polite. Our behaviour reward scheme continues, with many children now working towards their gold certificate. Keep up the good work everyone!

HOME SCHOOL LINK BOOKS



Home → School → Home 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. **Please return a signed copy to us at school.**

SCHOOL CLUBS

We are again 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 games with Mrs Postlethwaite, or the after school cooking with Mrs Atkinson, **please complete the attached slip and return to school early next week.** All sessions start week beginning Monday 15th September. After-school sports this year will all take place at Reeth, allowing us the option to use the school hall when daylight hours are shorter, or when the weather is less favourable.

FS/Key Stage 1

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

After-school games with Mrs Postlethwaite – Tuesdays, 15:30 – 16:30

Art/Craft with Mrs Levell – Thursdays - 12:30 – 13:00. A list of the dates when this club is running is displayed in the FS/KS1 classroom along with the craft theme.

Key Stage 2

Ukulele with Mr Stainsby and Mrs Allison – Thursdays, 12:30 – 13:00

Craft with Mrs Bastow – Wednesdays, 12:30 – 13:00

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

After-school games with Mrs Postlethwaite – Fridays, 15:30 – 16:30

After-school cooking club with Mrs Atkinson

Pupils in Y1, Y2 and Y3 are invited to take part in these sessions on Wednesdays, 3:45 – 4:45, in the Nursery building. These sessions will run for the whole of this **half-term**, with the exception of Wednesday 14th October when the session will not be running.

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.

Please can we remind you too that with effect from this term home time on Fridays (only) will be at 3.30pm for Rec, KS1 and KS2. All home-school transport from Reeth will run at this time. The bus for Gunnerside enrolled pupils who have spent the day at Reeth will leave at 3.25pm from Reeth. This bus arrives at Gunnerside Square at 3.40pm to be met by parents of pupils from Gunnerside village, after which it continues on to home-school transport destinations. End of day timings for all other days are unchanged.

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 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.

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.



PERIPATETIC MUSIC LESSONS

Mr Cobb will be teaching guitar and woodwind on Wednesday mornings this year at Gunnerside. Lessons start next week, Wednesday 16th September. Pupils just starting to learn will not start lessons until the final paperwork has been completed.

INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Richard, of Impressions Photography, is visiting on Monday 28th September to take individual pupil photos and/or family group photos. Full details will be sent to you next week in a separate letter.

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 schools over the week are nutritionally balanced. It's great to see so many of our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are taking advantage of the universal free school meals offer again this year, 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 be inviting parents into school to enjoy lunch with us; we look forward to you joining us.

PAYMENTS FOR SCHOOL DINNERS

Our electronic system, Parent Pay, is our preferred method of payment for dinners please (KS2 children). Letters about setting up a ParentPay account have been sent home to all parents of Y3 children this week. The school office updates the system weekly, each Friday, with the number of meals taken in school that week, after which pupil accounts show the remaining credit/debit as of the end of that week.



For parents who pay via Parent Pay, please note that the system does not send you a reminder when your account needs topping up. Please check your account regularly and ensure it is in credit by at least one week's worth of meals by 9am each Monday morning. Thank you for your cooperation with this policy.

SWIMMING – AUTUMN TERM 2015

Swimming commences next week, Friday 18th September, at Richmond Pool, as part of the PE curriculum, for all Year 1s and 2s and certain older children based on individual need. Letters have been sent home to pupils today. Staff accompanying the swimmers are Mrs Walker and Mrs Seymour, and we rely on the kind offer of two parent helpers each week to make up our adult:child supervision ratios. Thank you to those who have been able to help. If anyone not currently helping with swimming is keen to do so on future occasions, please contact the school office to register your interest.



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.



PARENTS' EVENINGS

Our Autumn Term parents' evenings/afternoons for children in all year groups, Nursery through to Y6, will be held on Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th October. Further details will be sent to you in the next couple of weeks.

YEAR 6s – APPLICATONS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL in 2016

A reminder to all parents of current Year 6 children that letters about applying for a place at secondary school for September 2016 were sent home at the end of the summer term. Applications must be completed on-line **no later than 31st October 2015**. 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 15th September, 6.30pm to 7.30pm

St. Francis Xavier School – Thursday 24th September, at 7.00pm (doors open at 6.30pm)

Wensleydale School – Thursday 8th October, 6pm to 8pm.

G. Stainsby

Gordon Stainsby
Headteacher

DATES for your diary

Sep

- Thurs 10th Start of Year service for Gunnerside enrolled pupils at Gunnerside Chapel with Rev Janet Park.
- Tues 15th Richmond School open evening for Year 6 children, 6.30pm to 7.30pm
- Fri 18th Afternoon swimming lessons start for 6 weeks for all Year 1 and 2 children and some KS2 children.
- Mon 28th Individual photographs at both schools, by Richard of Impressions. A separate letter will be sent home soon.
- Thur 24th St Francis Xavier School open evening for Year 6 children, 7pm



Oct

- Fri 2nd Harvest assembly in Reeth School Hall for all pupils. Tea/coffee being served from 10:30am.
- Mon 5th Audio screening for Year 1 children
- Thurs 8th Wensleydale School open evening for Year 6 children, 6pm to 8pm
- Fri 23rd School closes for Half-term

Nov

- Mon 2nd School re-opens

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.



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 2015

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 _____

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Reeth and Gunnerside Schools - PARENT REPLY SLIP – Autumn term 2015

FS/KS1 after-school sports 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: _____

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Reeth and Gunnerside Schools - PARENT REPLY SLIP – Autumn term 2015

KS2 after-school sports with Mrs Postlethwaite – Fridays, 15:30 – 16:30, Reeth

Name of child(ren) _____

Please state who will be collecting your child:

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

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Reeth and Gunnerside Schools – PARENT REPLY SLIP – First half autumn term 2015

Please note that there will not be a session running on Wednesday 14th October

Cooking for Years 1, 2 and 3 with Mrs Atkinson – Wednesdays, 15:45 – 16:45, Reeth

Name of child(ren) _____

Please state who will be collecting your child:

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