



WELCOMING BACK ALL PUPILS

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all pupils back to school on Monday 8th March. We can't wait to see you.

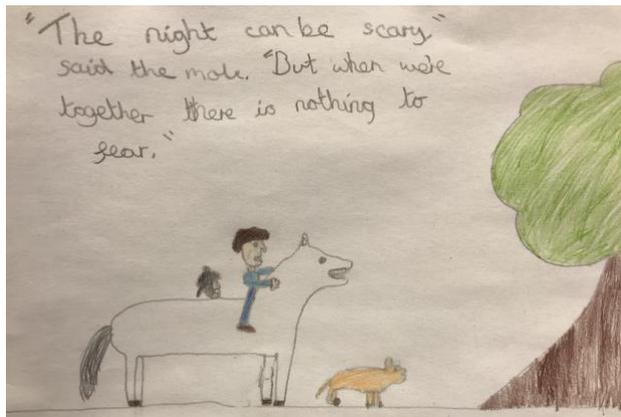
To help all pupils adjust to being back at school, we suggest that over the next week they:

- Have a little think about coming back to school to help them to prepare.
- Go to bed early and re-establish the routines that help during term time.
- Try to keep up to date with school work, as the work that we complete when we return will build on that covered in the first two weeks of this half term.
- Consider reconnecting with friends, perhaps by telephone, video call or by writing a letter or card.

**THE BOY, THE MOLE,
THE FOX AND THE HORSE**

We hope that your child enjoyed reading this story. Thank you to all pupils that joined us for assemblies and completed artwork inspired by the book. We were delighted with all of the responses and the feedback that we've received. Thanks everyone.

Let's hope that 'This storm will pass', as we look forward to working together again in school.



RETURN OF SCHOOL EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING LAPTOPS

We realise that pupils will need access to computing and other resources through to the end of next week. After that, we have arranged for all borrowed computers to be cleaned and checked by our computing provider on Wednesday 10th March. With this in mind, please return equipment on Monday 8th or Tuesday 9th March. When returning laptops, please include the power lead and try to protect the computer by wrapping it up (in a plastic bag, bubble wrap or cardboard). Please return stationery too.

MAXIMISING SAFETY

When we reopen, school will operate largely as it did during the autumn term last year, with lots of measures to ensure that the classroom environment is as safe as possible, while trying to make sure that pupils enjoy their time in school in a way that is as normal as possible. We have completed a comprehensive risk assessment that reflects guidance from both the Department for Education and that of our Local Authority.

Key measures to maximise safety:

- Pupils must not come to school if they or anyone in their household has symptoms of coronavirus:
 - *high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)*
 - *new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)*
 - *loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal*

Anyone with these symptoms must self-isolate along with their household. A test should be arranged for those that are symptomatic. Please update school as soon as possible with the outcome of test results. Parents will be contacted to arrange collection of pupils that develop symptoms during the school day.

- Pupils will work in their class groups throughout the school day.
- Teaching staff will work with one group of pupils as much as possible.
- Distancing will be maintained as much as possible. When pupils complete desk-based learning, the workspaces will be set out to facilitate distancing, with one forward facing table for each pupil. We realise that pupils won't remember to follow the guidance all the time and that the youngest pupils in early years cannot be expected to remain 2m apart from each other and staff.
- All teaching spaces will be well ventilated. If you think that your child may benefit from some warmer clothing, please consider thicker socks or tights and perhaps a vest underneath the usual school uniform.
- An enhanced cleaning programme will be implemented. Frequently touched surfaces, such as door handles, and the toilet facilities will be cleaned during the school day.
- Pupils and staff will clean their hands more often than usual and at key points throughout the day. This can be done with soap and running water or, when washing is not practical, with sanitiser. We also ask that you encourage your child to clean their hands before leaving home and when they get in from school. Pupils should not come to school with their own supply of hand sanitiser.
- The 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach continues to be very important. Tissues will be available in all classrooms to catch sneezes and we will regularly remind pupils to help everyone by getting this aspect of hygiene right.
- Distancing will be maximised at the start and end of the day. Parents are invited to drop off between 08:45 at the earliest and 09:05 at the latest. Please note that KS2 pupils depart on intersite transport from Reeth to Gunnerside at 08:55 and that the playground will be a bit busier at this time as they prepare to leave. End of day collection is at 15:30. Pupils travelling on intersite transport will arrive at their home school at 15:40. For those travelling by car, we ask that you wait in your vehicle until drop off or collection time. This will reduce the amount of people assembling in and around the school grounds and will help with social distancing. We also ask that only one adult accompanies pupils to school at any one time. Parents are welcome to enter the school site to drop off their child at their child's classroom, but we ask that parents do not enter the buildings or gather on the school site. We recommend that all parents entering the school premises wear a face covering. Please note that this does not apply to those who are medically exempt.
- Home to school transport will operate largely as normal when we return next week, with some additional hand cleaning, enhanced vehicle cleaning and seating plans that reduce mixing. A larger vehicle has been arranged for intersite transport between Reeth and Gunnerside to increase distancing between groups of pupils. Pupils are encouraged to carry tissues when travelling to school so that they can continue to follow the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- Parents that use external childcare providers or out of school extra-curricular activities for their children should limit their use of multiple out-of-school settings providers, and only use one out-of-school setting in addition to school as far as possible, checking that the provider has put in place their own protective measures.

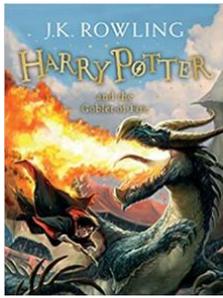
The Department for Education has recently updated their [guidance for parents of children attending schools](#).

PARENT TELEPHONE CONSULTATIONS

Thank you for letting us know your preferences for parent telephone consultations which take place next week for all classes. Allocated times were shared yesterday by text message. If you haven't received an appointment and would like to discuss your child's progress, please do contact the school office.

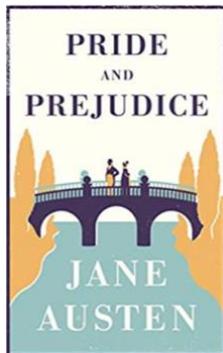
WORLD BOOK DAY

We're looking forward to World Book Day and plan to mark the occasion by creating a page on our school website where we can share book recommendations. To help us get started, Mrs Guy and Miss Codman have shared their favourite books below:



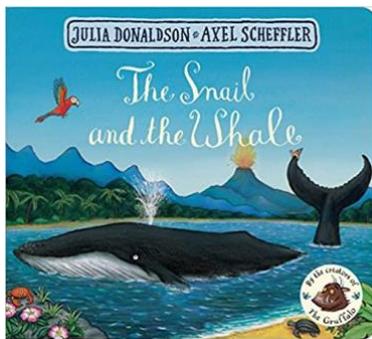
Mrs Guy's favourite children's book: *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* by J. K. Rowling.

This book had me gripped from cover to cover. A book which is full of adventure, suspense, friendship and loss. Follow Harry as he battles dragons, mermaids and mazes in his attempt to win the Triwizard cup. But be warned, all is not as it seems... have some tissues handy!



Mrs Guy's all-time favourite book: *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen.

I first encountered this book when studying English Literature at college and fell in love with it. A story about first impressions, misunderstandings and ultimately love. A classic which has stood the test of time, which we can still relate to today.



Miss Codman's favourite children's book: *The Snail and the Whale* by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler

I love this rhyming story and its super illustrations. It has a really nice message - even though we might be small we can still be brave and achieve great things.



Miss Codman's favourite book: *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott

I used to read this book every Christmas when I was younger and it always reminds me of Christmas time and family. It is a lovely story about family and helping and caring for each other.

We hope that we can build a super collection of recommended reads that we can all use to help us choose our next book. We plan to arrange the books in age categories so that it is as easy as possible to use. Have your say, and let us know about your favourites! Parents are very welcome to contribute too.

When you have written your recommendation, send it to headteacher@rq-schools.org.uk

All contributions will be posted along with your name in the format above, unless you ask that your work is anonymous. You are welcome to send a photo of your child with their book, or we can provide a cover photo for you.

DfE GUIDANCE ON STAYING SAFE ONLINE

With computing taking an even greater role in our lives at the moment, the need to stay safe has never been more significant. The DfE has updated its guidance on [staying safe online](#), and we recommend that you take time to look through the resources available – there's some really useful support.

We very much look forward to seeing you all soon. In the meantime, if there's anything that we can do to help, please do not hesitate to contact us. If any of you would like to discuss your child's return to school, please do let us know.

G. Stainsby

Gordon Stainsby
Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March

Mon 8th

School welcomes back all pupils, in line with national guidance

Fri 26th

School closes for Easter

April

Mon 12th

Staff training day

Tues 13th

School re-opens

