

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



COMMUNIQUÉ

8th December 2014

No 4 autumn term

Dear Parents,

Over the last few weeks we have been really pleased with how pupils have responded to the new behaviour reward scheme. Many children are well on the way to achieving their first bronze certificate. Keep up the good work everyone!

At the end of November Year 5 and 6 pupils spent a morning competing against other primary schools in a sportshall athletics competition. The children had a great time, despite a few aches the next day, and I was very impressed by their positive approach and sportsmanship.

Preparations are well underway for Christmas here at school. The children have enjoyed singing and learning about traditions at this special time of year. We look forward to seeing you at our performances and services over the next few weeks.

Gordon Stainsby

CHILDREN IN NEED DAY

Thank you to everyone who supported the Children in Need fundraising event. The KS1 children and staff did a great job baking cakes. We aimed to cover a large picture of Pudsey in coins and this was achieved on the day, raising £82.50 for the appeal.



MATHLETICS

This week we are introducing an electronic learning platform for numeracy, called Mathletics. Each pupil has a username and password providing access to a large range of curriculum based maths activities and the chance to compete against pupils from around the world. Mathletics can be used at home on a computer – log in at www.mathletics.co.uk. iPad users need to download the Mathletics app and sign in there. If you have any questions about the resource please do get in touch.

ADVERSE WEATHER PROCEDURES



In preparation for the possibility of adverse weather conditions, we have taken the precaution of ensuring that our procedures have been checked, updated and made available on our website. The key points to be aware of are:

- Our first line of communication about school closure and school transport in adverse weather is our text messaging service and our website, www.reethandgunnerside.org.uk. The website will be updated by 07:45 each day when conditions are poor. If you don't have internet access or a mobile signal for the text-message service, please let us know. Also, do update the office if you have made any changes to your contact numbers.
- If a school needs to close during the day, we will contact you by telephone.
- The most important priority of all is your child's safety. We are not always best placed in school to know what weather conditions are like where you live. If you decide that the roads are unsafe please keep your child at home and inform us by telephone.

SICKNESS ABSENCES

In line with our safeguarding procedures, please telephone either school office by 9am that morning if your child is unwell and unable to attend school, or if your child is going to be late due to a medical appointment. Please note that it is possible to leave a message outside of school office hours if this is more convenient.

FESTIVE EVENTS

We are looking forward to many of you joining us for our forthcoming Christmas events. Many of these were detailed on our last communique. A reminder of all the main dates is below:

Visit to the Pantomime, Party Lunch and Christmas Party – Friday 12th December. Children are welcome to bring party clothes to change into for the afternoon.

Christmas Dinners – our School Governors will be joining us for these – Wednesday 17th December at Reeth School, and Thursday 18th December at Gunnerside School.

Christmas Performances - these are being held at **6pm on Tuesday 16th December and Thursday 18th December in Reeth Memorial Hall**, and involve all children. Our KS2 children are performing as carol singers, and our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are dressing as Nativity characters. A letter detailing any help needed with costumes was sent home earlier this week. Our Nursery children are also invited to take part – the Nursery staff will provide more details.



As usual, Friends will be serving refreshments at the event and there will be a raffle (proceeds to the Friends of the School); donations of raffle prizes will be gratefully received – please send prizes to school by this Wednesday, 10th December.

Christingle Service – Our annual Christingle Service is being held on **Friday 19th December at St. Andrew's Church, Grinton, starting at 1.30pm**. This will be a shared event with



Arkengarthdale School. Parents, friends and relatives are very welcome to join us for the service. We expect the service to finish by 2pm. **Parents are asked to take their child(ren) home directly after the service and make the most of an early start to the Christmas holiday!** We are hoping that everyone will be able to meet this request, or that you will be able to ask a friend or relative to collect your child for you. Please let us know on the reply slip below if this is not the case. Although Nursery sessions do not run on Fridays, the children will have made Christingle oranges at Nursery and we hope that the Nursery children will join us for the service. However, for safety reasons, we ask that parents/carers stay with them and supervise them at the Church.

Transport to the church for main school children from both sites will be arranged by the school.

Please complete and return the attached reply slip giving permission for child(ren) to attend the service and indicating travel/collection arrangements afterwards.

We would like to ask for a £1 donation per child (Nursery and Main School) to cover the cost of making the Christingle oranges. Please send this to school using the reply slip. Please can parents of nursery children drop in the £1 donation to nursery staff. Any remaining funds will be sent as a donation to the Children's Society.

The children will also be bringing home envelopes to collect donations from family or friends for the Children's Society. Please return these envelopes to school by Wednesday 17th December. There will also be a collection plate at the service.

To encourage safety around lit candles, all children with long hair should come to school with their hair tied back. Our younger children will be using glow sticks in their Christingle oranges. At the end of the service the children will return to their seats, for staff to supervise a safe handover from the pews to parents.

LOCAL ASTRONOMY GROUP

There is now a local astronomy group which meets regularly in Reeth and welcomes families along. For further details visit: www.reethastro.org.uk.



SWIMMING LESSONS – SPRING 2015



Our second six week block of swimming lessons, as part of the PE curriculum, will take place again in the spring term, commencing after February half-term, for all children who swam in the autumn term and who have not yet achieved a 25m distance swim. The lessons will be run again through Richmond Swimming Pool, on Friday afternoons, and will continue to develop the water skills taught during the autumn term. Letters giving full details will be sent home nearer the time. Please note that we will not be swimming in the summer term.

Dec

Thurs 11 th	Rehearsal for Christmas Performance – all main school children – Reeth Memorial Hall – 1.30pm to 3pm.
Fri 12 th	Pantomime trip to Georgian Theatre, to see "Puss in Boots". All main school children.
Fri 12 th	Christmas Party lunch followed by games & a visit from Santa, Reeth School Hall.
Tues 16 th	Christmas Performance – all main school children and Nursery – Reeth Memorial Hall – 6pm. Everyone welcome.
Wed 17 th	Christmas lunch at Reeth School
Thurs 18 th	Christmas Lunch at Gunnerside School
Thurs 18 th	Christmas Performance – all main school children and Nursery – Reeth Memorial Hall – 6pm. Everyone welcome.

Fri 19th Christingle Service at St. Andrew's Grinton, 1.30pm. Everyone welcome. Children to go home with parents directly after the service, from the Church.
Fri 19th School closes for Christmas directly after the Christingle.

Jan
Tue 6th School re-opens for pupils

AND FINALLY.....HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!



The staff and governors would like to thank everyone for all their hard work and support on behalf of our children this term and wish all our pupils and their families a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful start to the New Year.

Don't forget you can support our school (through Friends of the School) by shopping online through www.easyfundraising.org.uk/reethandgunnerside and using the internet search engine 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 SLIP

All Reeth and Gunnerside Children – Christingle Service – 19th Dec 1.30pm

I give permission for my child/children _____ to go to the Christingle Service.

I enclose a donation of £1 per child towards the cost of my child's Christingle Orange £ ____.

The school is closing for the Christmas break directly after the Christingle Service. We expect the service to finish by 2pm. Please confirm below arrangements for your child after the service (*please complete/delete as appropriate).

*** I will be attending Grinton Church and will take my child home directly after the service.**

*** I will not be at Grinton Church but give permission for**

_____ (name of other adult)

to collect my child directly after the service.

- **If none of the above arrangements apply, please let us know below of any difficulties or alternative arrangements that you would like help with.**

Signature of parent/carer _____ Date _____