

Reeth and Gunnerside Schools



Newsletter 2 Autumn Term 2025

A BUSY HALF TERM

We've enjoyed a great start to the school year, with an action packed eight week half term that has included a number of sports events, a range of after school clubs and a residential visit to York for key stage 2 pupils.

Pupils have risen to the challenge of their new year groups, and we have been pleased with their approach to learning, with many pupils achieving good behaviour certificates. We often talk about the best way to collect stamps for good behaviour, and pupils suggest:

- Be kind and helpful
- Listen carefully and share ideas in class
- Work hard and try your best

We can't ask for much more – keep up the good work!

After a longer half term than usual, it's time for pupils to take a well earned rest. We hope that you have a lovely half term break.

G. Stainsby

Gordon Stainsby, Headteacher
Friday 24th October



HARVEST SERVICE



There was a great turnout in Gunnerside Chapel for our Harvest Service – thank you, we really appreciate your support. Pupils impressed with their thoughtful contributions, showing both appreciation and a commitment to active citizenship. The Influence Church in Richmond have thanked us for our contribution to Store House. Well done everyone!



GOOD BEHAVIOUR CERTIFICATES

BRONZE	Isabelle Porter, Arthur Pybus, Harry Coates, Brooke Thompson, Harry Calvert, Harper Asher, Charlie Dunworth, Joe Cessford, Lottie Shade, Mason Doughty-Coates, Holly Calvert, Tommy Wearmouth, Emma Livingstone, Albie Gredziak, Rosie Holliday, Louis Francis, Lucy Wearmouth, Chloe Reynoldson, Rose Calvert, Luca Atkinson-Iesini, Seth Whitehead
SILVER	Daniel Pearson, Franklin Parker, Eliza Guy, Henry Law, Isabelle Porter, Samuel Chen-Robinson, Leo Atkinson-Iesini, Amy Allison, Sam Clarkson, Lucy Allison, Evie Burge, James Livingstone, Arthur Holliday, Toby Sunter, Charlotte Tinsley, Liv Hartley, Eloise Fowler, Darragh Biddle, Nancy Livingstone-Owen, Charlotte Whitehead, Olivia Sunter, Sophie Rukin, Eva Reynoldson, Annie Hunter, Alfie Allison, Marianne Skinner, Amelia Hill, Abigail Sunter, Harry Calvert, Thalia Calvert
GOLD	Charlie Sunter, Lottie Shade, Seth Whitehead, Arthur Porter, Ella Shade, Zadok Chen-Robinson, Polly Kendall, Luca Atkinson-Iesini, Ruby Rukin, Seth Booth, Alfie Allison, Annabel Fowler, Jake Williams, Kane Longden, Orla Stainsby, Annie Hunter, Olivia Sunter, Eva Reynoldson, Sophie Rukin, Toby Sunter

KEY STAGE 2 VISIT TO YORK

Having studied Vikings in school, the younger children built a Longship, took a lesson in cookery and visited Jorvik. Meanwhile, older pupils furthered their study of Roman Britain by exploring York Minster and started their next geography project 'Design a City', interviewing visitors to the city centre, climbing to the top of the Minster, and calling at the railway station. They also enjoyed a fascinating visit to York Mosque on the second day.

I really enjoyed going to Jorvik because it was really exciting. I liked to go round on the little ride and see lots of things about Vikings. Holly

My favourite bit was when we were in the dormitories because it was my first time away from school. I also enjoyed walking through the streets and seeing all the shops and the chocolate factory. Raife

My favourite part was making the honey bread – I loved it. Marianne

I went up the tower and persevered even though I was scared. Amelia

I really enjoyed our residential trip to York. My favourite thing was climbing the tower at the Minster. When we reached the top, we could see a beautiful view of the whole city. Eva

I was proud of myself for speaking to members of the public. My favourite part of the trip was visiting the mosque because it was very interesting. Charlotte

I thought the trip was amazing. I enjoyed asking people questions because it made me more confident in talking to new people. I learnt that men and women have different prayer rooms in a mosque. I found it fascinating to learn about a different religion. Alexa





FRIENDS OF SCHOOL FUNDRAISER RELAY

Well done to everyone that took part in the school relay. This year the course record was broken by 5 minutes, with the winning team finishing in just 1 hour 12 minutes!



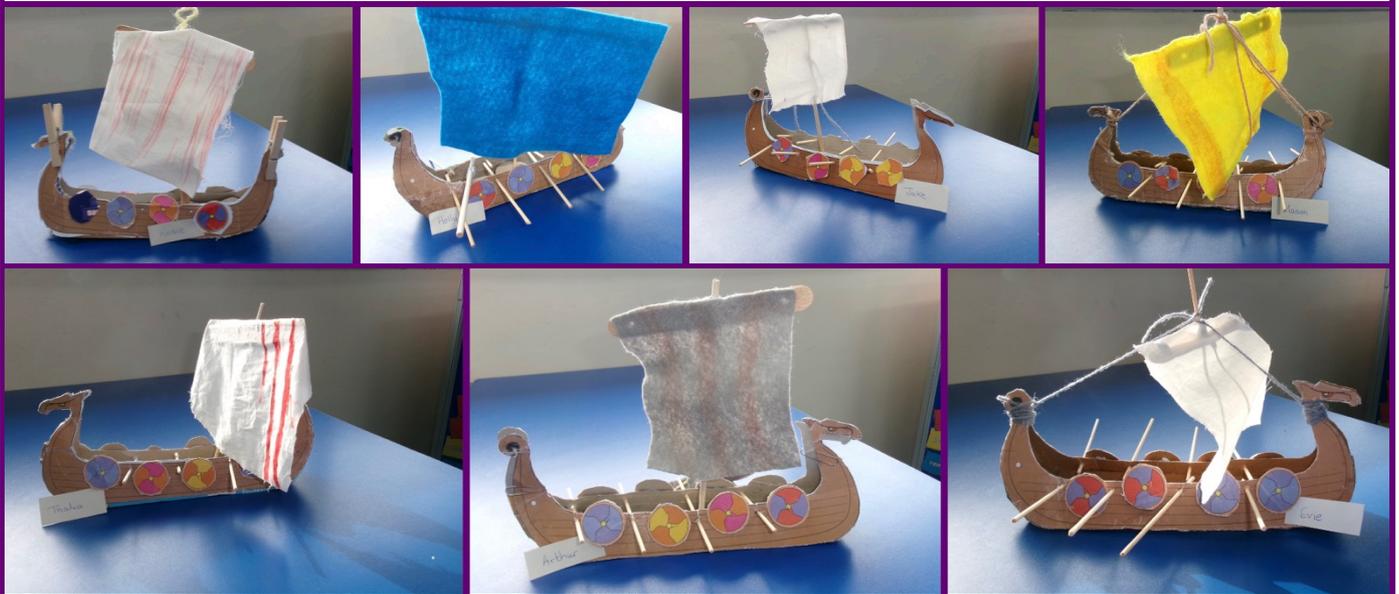
ROMAN SHIELDS

In their study of Roman Britain, Y5 & 6 have explored what made the Roman army so successful. One of the key reasons was their equipment, and particularly their shields (scuta). For homework, the children were tasked with creating their own Roman scutum. We were incredibly impressed with the creativity they showed and the effort they put into making sure their designs were historically accurate.



VIKING LONGSHIPS

As part of their DT topic linked to history, Y3 & 4 have been making Viking longships. Concentrating on cutting and fastening skills, pupils used a template to make the hull of the ship and then had to design their own mast, yard and sail. They had to decide how to attach all the parts together so that the boat stood up and had to attach oars and shields. An extra challenge was to make the sail move up and down using a method of their own choosing. The children really enjoyed it and everybody's ship was a success.



THREE LITTLE PIGS

Key stage 1 pupils have enjoyed reading *The Three Little Pigs* and decided to write their own version of the story. To help with ideas, they also read *The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig* and compared the characters in the two stories. We were really impressed with their writing and brilliant art work. We hope that you enjoy reading these extracts from Charlotte and Rose.

Once upon a time there were three little bears who lived with their mother. She told them to go and find their own house. The bears were walking by and saw a man with crackers and cheese, so the first little bear asked if he could have some crunchy crackers with some soft cheese.

The big bad giant came along and said 'Little child, little child, let me come in.'

'Not by the hairs on our head, head, heads. We will not let you in.'

'Then I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house down.' With just enough time to escape they ran away.

The next day the big bad wolf huffed and he puffed and the house did fall down.

The bears and the wolf had a tea party because they were friends. Phew!



ADVERSE WEATHER PROCEDURES

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

- Our first lines of communication about school closure and school transport in adverse weather are our SchoolPing messaging service and our website, www.reethandgunnerside.org.uk.
- We aim to update the school website by 7:45am each day when conditions are poor. If there is no message on the website, please presume that school is open.
- The most important priority is your child's safety. In school we are not always best placed to know what weather conditions are like where you live. If you decide it is unsafe for your child to travel, please inform us by telephone.
- If you don't have internet access to check the school web-site or view a SchoolPing message, please let us know.
- If a school needs to close during the day, we will contact you by telephone.

AUTUMN PHOTOGRAPHY

In assemblies we've encouraged pupils to take autumn photos and with half term approaching it could be a good time to head out with a camera. Please send your photos to admin@rg-schools.org.uk



FOOTBALL AND HOCKEY

Well done to Y5 & 6 pupils that have taken part in football and hockey events this term. The football teams have progressed to the final – a great outcome! The hockey event focused on enjoyment of the game, with everyone demonstrating excellent sportsmanship.



CROSS COUNTRY

A team of pupils from Y3 to Y6 did really well at the annual cross country at Richmond School this week. It's a big event with a lot of pupils from local schools. Everyone achieved well and five runners from our schools managed to cross the line in the top five!



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – SECOND HALF OF AUTUMN TERM

We are pleased to be able to offer a number of after school clubs for pupils this half term. All sessions will start in the second week back (week beginning 10th November) and will run for five weeks through to the second to last week of term (week beginning 8th December).

Please use SchoolPing to let us know which clubs your child(ren) would like to attend.

Day and time	Location	Staff	Year groups	Club
Mondays 3:30pm – 4:30pm	Reeth	John Clark	Y1 & 2	Fitness
Tuesdays 3:30pm – 4:30pm	Gunnarside	John Clark	Y3 & 4	Hockey
Fridays 3:30pm – 5:30pm	Reeth	Mr Stainsby and Mrs Johnson	Y5 & 6	Fell running in the dark

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Nov	Mon 3 rd	School opens
	Tues 11 th	Remembrance Service – Gunnarside Chapel – Rec to Y6 – 9:30am
	Fri 14 th	Cluster Y3 & 4 mixed football event at The Wensleydale School
	Mon 17 th	School photographs (individual and family)
Dec	Tues 2 nd	Flu immunisations - Rec to Y6 pupils
	Thurs 4 th	Christmas performance EY & KS1 rehearsal (pm) in Reeth Memorial Hall
	Mon 8 th	Christmas performance dress rehearsal (am), KS2 pupils to watch, Reeth Memorial Hall
	Tues 9 th	Area football finals – Y5 & 6 girls (am) and Y5 & 6 boys (pm) at Richmond School
		EY & KS1 Christmas performance in Reeth Memorial Hall, 2pm
	Wed 10 th	EY & KS1 Christmas performance in Reeth Memorial Hall, 6pm
	Fri 12 th	Christmas Market at Reeth School. All pupils based at Reeth School for the full day
	Tues 16 th	EY Christmas party (am)
KS2 Christmas carols, Gunnarside Chapel, 6pm		

Wed 17 th	Rec and KS1 Visit to The Georgian Theatre pantomime (am)
Thurs 18 th	Christmas dinner at both schools
	Christmas parties at both schools (pm)
Fri 19 th	All pupils based at Reeth, Christmas carols at Reeth market, 9.30am, followed by Christingle making in school
	Christingle at St Andrew's Church, Grinton, 1.30pm. School closes after the service.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR SUMMER 2026 STATUTORY TESTS

Each year the Department for Education set dates for statutory testing and all pupils in certain year groups must be in school to complete these on specific dates. Please find these dates outlined below:

Year group	Test dates and details
6	KS2 tests Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May 2026
4	Multiplication tables test within the 3-week period from Monday 1 st June 2026
2	Optional KS1 tests administered during May 2026
1	Phonics tests during week commencing Monday 8th June 2026