



Ripponden J&I News

Friday 29th September 2023

Dear parents/carers,

Well, we are well and truly into Autumn! The weather has turned, and we are seeing lots of pink cheeks after the children have been playing out! Please make sure that all children come to school with a coat, even if it is sunny in the morning, it can very quickly turn! It won't be long until we will need to be wearing hats, gloves and scarfs. As always, please label everything, so should things go missing, we can get them back to their rightful owner.

A little plea, please! At the end of the school day, when you have collected the children, please make your way out as soon as possible. In Ripponden we are lucky enough to have some lovely park areas; if children want to continue to play, please take them there. We have had occasions where children have played football or on the equipment after school, and as tempting as this is, we are unable to have this, as we are not insured for play after the end of the school day. Thank you for your understanding.

Parents of children in Little Acorns – the new starter photo supplement will be in The Halifax Courier on 12th October – you should have received an email regarding ordering. You can, of course just buy it from any retailer. What a lovely memento from your child's first days at school!

We have been up to lots of amazing things in school and this newsletter is packed with some of them. This is a very long half term and some of the children (and adults!) are starting to flag a little. Hopefully these wonderful learning experiences will keep them going until half term!

I hope you have a wonderful weekend,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J Bamforth".

Headteacher

Christmas Cards

Your child should have brought home their Christmas Cards for you to see. They have worked hard creating individual artwork that can then be turned into cards, mugs, wrapping paper, tags...all sorts! They are lovely keepsakes of when the children were this age. Please have a good look at them and make any orders online (the instructions on what to do are on the form) but please send the form, along with the artwork back into school **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER** so they can be processed, created, and delivered back to school in time. Any late comers may not be able to be accommodated. Remember, too, that while these cards and gifts make wonderful keepsakes (and quick presents for Christmas!) every item purchased also raises money for school through the PTFA. So, it really is a win-win! Many thanks for your support.



Maples are artists.

Maples are learning about installation art. Their first project was inspired by the 'explosive' work of Cai Guo-Qiang. To investigate the effect of space and scale when creating 3D art, they used various materials to create a room inside a box and photographed it with mini-figures to create scale.



Scientific Willows

Willows have been exploring the amazing world of plants and animals. This week we focused on grouping and identifying plants! So, we took advantage of the fabulous weather to explore our wonderful grounds for all the different plants we have growing. The children were incredible scientists as they discovered a plethora of plants, and they soon were able to group them into deciduous and evergreen! Well done, Willows!



Elsie continues to do us proud!

Many of you may remember Elsie, a former pupil who I predicted from a very young age would do great things...well she is on the guest speaker list for a national cycling event at just 12 years old! She continues to win many events with her cycling and is inspiring other riders with disabilities through the British Cycling Limitless Programme. Elsie is an incredible young lady, and I am excited for what the future holds for her! Well done, Elsie!



PTFA Updates

Following our plea for support for the PTFA, we had an extra-ordinary PTFA meeting this week and I am delighted to say that we have a new committee! The meeting was such a positive one, with new faces and lots of new ideas for the children to experience and to raise money!

Our new PTFA committee for 2023/24 is:

Chair – James Farrell (Bessie’s Dad)

Vice Chairs – Alexis & Richard Booth (Eva’s parents) and James Huse (Art’s Dad)

Treasurer – Stephanie Herring (Sebastian’s Mum)

Secretary – Charlie Whitehead (Sebastian’s Mum)

A word from our Chair:

“My name is James, I’m dad to Bessie who is in Saplings plus Lottie and Neve who are both grown up. I’m married to Jayne, and we have been part of the Ripponden community for the last 5 years. I work in People and Leadership Development currently with HARIBO and in the past I’ve been Managing Director of 2 leadership consultancies.

I’m delighted to have been able to take on the role of chair with the PTFA and hope to bring my experience to support this great group continue to provide fantastic events for our children and support raising funds to support school get the resources they desperately need.

Watch out for more communication in the next few weeks as we need all your help.”

We have some fantastic events already planned for this term. Make sure to put them in your calendars! Below are the dates and activities – more details will follow in due course.

Friday 6th October

Christmas card orders to be done and artwork returned to school.

Wednesday 25th October

Reception and Key Stage 1 Hallowe’en Dress Down Day and Hallowe’en Disco after school.

Thursday 26th October

Key Stage 2 Hallowe’en Disco after school (Bring clothes to change into)

Friday 1st December

Christmas Jumper Day! All children to wear their festive best (can be t-shirts or dresses, doesn’t have to be a jumper) and bring a hamper item. This year we will be running a rainbow hamper and so children from each class will be asked to bring a specific colour item -



Little Acorns – Red
Saplings – Orange
Great Oaks – Yellow
Chestnuts – Green
Willows – Blue
Maples – Pink
Redwoods - Purple



Be as creative as you can with the hamper items – it is always so lovely to see the creations – the PTFA will then collect them and make them into hampers that will be raffled off at the Grandparents Around the Christmas Tree Event – everyone can buy tickets beforehand though!

**Friday 8th &
Monday 11th December** Secret Santa Shop

Wednesday 13th December R/KS1 production in school – refreshments to be sold by PTFA

Friday 15th December Grandparents around the Christmas Tree

The next PTFA meeting will be on Thursday 9th November at 7pm – everyone is welcome. Even if you weren't at the last meeting, you are always welcome to come and join in and have chance to influence the PTFA going forward.

There will be plenty of ways to help and support and the PTFA may be sending out pleas for specific skills as the year goes on. Please help support in any way you can. Many thanks.

New iPads!

Following the previous PTFA AGM, school have been able to purchase other 11 iPads for classes, meaning that all KS2 classes have 5 iPads and R/KS1 classes have 4 currently. This is incredible and such a good resource to be able to use in school. Thank you all for your generosity during last year and let's see what we can achieve this year!



Great Oaks are Scientists

In Science, Great Oaks have been looking at how mammals, birds and fish survive. We made bird feeders and wrote about the ways this helps birds to survive, comparing this to other animals. We have discussed a lot about how we survive and the similarities and differences between each category we have explored.



Saplings become Park Keepers!

This week, Saplings had a trip to Mill Fold Park to support the work they were doing in English with the book, Percy the Park Keeper. I had the privilege of going with them and they were an absolute pleasure to take. When we were there, they had to work in groups and use their senses to discover what they could see, hear, feel and smell, but we decided that the sense of taste was tricky to do at the park! They worked so hard that they even had time for a little play!



Busy Bees at Half Term

— book on the app!

Monday 30th Breakfast served between 8-9am	Tuesday 31st Breakfast served between 8-9am	Wednesday 1st Breakfast served between 8-9am	Thursday 2nd Breakfast served between 8-9am	Friday 3rd Breakfast served between 8-9am
Tiny Witch Hats 	Halloween Crowns 	Autumn Acorn Wreaths 	Pumpkin chocolate chip cookies 	Pipe Cleaner Firework pictures 
Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch Cotton Bud Skeletons 	Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch Halloween Party and Games  Come dressed up!	Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch Clay Hedgehogs 	Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch Autumn Hunt 	Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch Film Afternoon 
Snack between 3.30-4.30pm	Snack between 3.30-4.30pm	Snack between 3.30-4.30pm	Snack between 3.30-4.30pm	Snack between 3.30-4.30pm

Diary Dates

Lots of dates will be added regularly – keep an eye on the diary dates section! We will add more detail in the coming weeks.

October

Friday 6 th	Christmas Card artwork deadline back to school KS2 Celebration assembly – 2.45pm
Monday 9 th	Year 6 Bikeability
Tuesday 10 th	Year 6 Bikeability
Wednesday 11 th	Phonics open sessions for parents – Time TBC
Friday 13 th	R/KS1 Celebration assembly 2.45pm
Monday 16 th	Book Fair this week
Tuesday 17 th	Autumn parents' evenings
Wednesday 18 th	Nasal flu vaccinations
Thursday 19 th	Autumn parents' evenings
Friday 20 th	KS2 Celebration assembly – 2.45pm
Monday 23 rd	Year 6 Bikeability
Tuesday 24 th	Year 6 Bikeability
Wednesday 25 th	R/KS1 Hallowe'en Dress Down Day & Hallowe'en Disco after school *** more Information to follow***
Thursday 26 th	KS2 Hallowe'en Disco after school ***more information to follow***
Friday 27 th	Individual and Siblings photographs R/KS1 Celebration assembly 2.45pm Close for half term
W/C 30 th	Busy Bees open all week – book on the app

November

Monday 6 th	Training Day – Busy Bees will be open
Tuesday 7 th	School reopens to children
Thursday 9 th	PTFA Meeting – 7pm all welcome
Friday 10 th	KS2 Celebration assembly – 2.45pm
Friday 17 th	Children in Need R/KS1 Celebration assembly 2.45pm
Wednesday 22 nd	Open Afternoon - 2.45pm
Friday 24 th	KS2 Celebration assembly 2.45pm

December

Friday 1 st	Christmas Jumper Day – bring a rainbow hamper item R/KS1 Celebration assembly 2.45pm
Friday 8 th	Secret Santa ***more information to follow*** KS2 Celebration assembly 2.45pm Clubs finish for Christmas
Monday 11 th	Secret Santa
Wednesday 13 th	R/KS1 Christmas production 10am/2pm
Friday 15 th	Grandparents Around the Christmas Tree
Thursday 21 st	KS2 Christmas Production – Church School finishes for Christmas
Friday 22 nd	Training Day – Busy Bees will be open

	October	November	December
1			Christmas Jumper Day R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm
2			
3			
4			
5			
6	KS2 Celebration 2.45pm	TRAINING DAY	
7		School Reopens	
8			Secret Santa Clubs finish for Christmas KS2 Celebration 2.45pm
9	Y6 Bikeability	PTFA Meeting – 7pm	
10	Y6 Bikeability	KS2 Celebration 2.45pm	
11	Phonics open session for Reception/ Key Stage 1		Secret Santa
12			
13	R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm		R/KS1 Christmas Production 10am/2pm
14			
15			Grandparents Around the Christmas Tree
16	Book Fair this week		
17	Parents Evening	Children in Need R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm	
18	Nasal Flu Vaccinations		
19	Parents Evening		
20	KS2 Celebration 2.45pm		
21			KS2 Christmas production – 2pm Church School closes for Christmas
22		Open afternoon – 2.45pm	TRAINING DAY – Busy Bees Open
23	Y6 Bikeability		
24	Y6 Bikeability	KS2 Celebration 2.45pm	
25			
26			
27	Individual and sibling photos R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm School Closes for Half Term		
28			
29			
30	Busy Bees Open All Week		
31			

	January	February	March
1			KS2 Celebration 2.45pm
2		R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm	
3			
4			
5			Parents Evening
6			
7		Young Voices	World Book Day Parents Evening
8	School reopens		R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm
9		KS2 Celebration 2.45pm School Closes for Half term	
10			
11			
12		Busy Bees Open all week	
13			
14			Open Afternoon 2.45pm
15	Clubs restart		Clubs finish for Easter KS2 Celebration 2.45pm
16			
17	EYFS Maths Information Session		
18			
19	R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm	TRAINING DAY	
20		School reopens	
21			
22			School Closes for Easter
23		R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm	
24			
25			
26	KS2 Celebration 2.45pm		
27			
28			
29			
30	EYFS Maths Open Session		
31			

	April	May	June	July
1				
2				Open Afternoon 2.45pm
3		R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm	School reopens	
4				
5				Clubs finish for summer Transition Day
6		BANK HOLIDAY		
7			Class Photos R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm	
8	School reopens			
9				
10		KS2 Celebration 2.45pm	Y6 Residential all week	
11				
12				Reports Out
13		Y6 SATs Week		
14			KS2 Celebration 2.45pm	
15	Clubs restart			
16				
17		R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm		Year 6 Production 2PM & 6PM
18				
19	R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm			School closes for summer
20				
21			R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm	
22				TRAINING DAY
23				
24		KS2 Celebration 2.45pm School Closes for half term	Sports Week	
25			Sports Day	
26	KS2 Celebration 2.45pm			
27				
28			KS2 Celebration 2.45pm	
29				
30				
31				