



Ripponden J&I News

Friday 26th November 2021

Dear parents/carers,

This term certainly seems to be whizzing by and at the time of writing this, we only have 3 weeks left until Christmas! We have so much to do in such a short time, but as always here at Ripponden, we do it with smiles on our faces!

The children have been working super hard and are working towards end of term assessments. These will then help inform our planning for the Spring term to best meet the needs of each child. We are also starting sporting activities, which is brilliant to be out and about competing again. We are also working towards Christmas – the smaller tree is up and the hall tree arrives next week! So exciting! Rehearsals for our recorded nativity will begin next week, so expect to hear carols!

This really is a wonderful time of year. Remember, that the weather can be unpredictable, so please always send your child with a coat. It is better to have it and not need it, than need it and not have it! Sending hats and gloves at this time of year is also advisable.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Headteacher

Ripponden joins Twitter

If you haven't filled in the quick survey for permission for your child's photos to appear on our Twitter Feed, please do so as soon as possible. We have so many excellent things on the go, we'd love to shout it to the world! The link to the survey is here -

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=urQs3c-rmEmigJStcz9U8dWznFnwGX5OtwscyLf-TW1URVRGQjM3SjhQMEJGREpLM04wQzdDTTFGVC4u> many thanks.



Children in Need and mental health fundraisers

Huge thank you to all who donated for our mental health awareness, The Poppy Appeal and Children in Need.

For mental health we raised £229.20 and for Children in Need we raised £277.40. Thank you for your generosity for these worthy causes.

Dinner Money Reminder

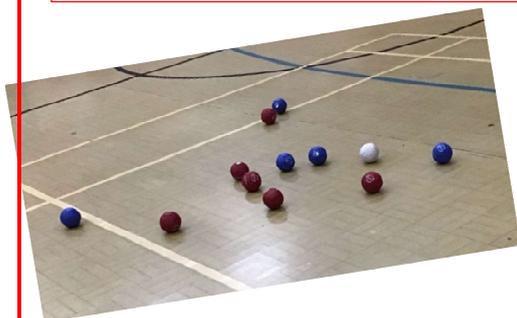
Mrs Skotnicki has asked me to remind you about dinner money. This should be paid in advance - £10.50 per week. Some large debts have been mounted, so please avoid this by paying regularly.

Boccia

Another new challenge for our Ripponden children. Boccia was played for the first time by our team. Teamwork was impeccable.

The goal was to aim to get their coloured ball near to the jack (white ball). They were sat on a chair and had to throw from a seated position. They won almost all their games.

A great afternoon for a great team. It was a pleasure to accompany Elsie, Gioia, Y6, Leo and Elsie Y4, they represented our school with pride.



Maples Marble Run Project

You may have seen Maples' class coming in with cardboard tubes of differing sizes. Well this is because they are going a DT project to create a Marble Run of their own. They have been researching and testing different configurations, planning their design and will begin making next week. Here are Luke and Travis testing out a Marble Run they've made. All in the name of research and always with a huge smile!



Orienteering

On Thursday 25th November we took a team of 8 year 4 children to Savile Park for the annual orienteering competition. The children had only had a very quick practice at orienteering in our school grounds, so this was all very new to them! The children worked in two teams of 4 and quickly got to work finding the right check points in the correct order. They had great fun and it was a bonus to find that our teams came in first and second position; well done guys!! We're not sure yet if there will be a further competition later in the year but if not, we have been promised medals!



Sportshall Athletics

On Friday 19th November we took a team of 24 children from years 5 and 6 to RVHS for the annual sportshall athletics competition. The children competed against 4 other local schools in field events (various jumping and throwing events) and also track events in the form of relays. The children all performed brilliantly in this team competition, trying their very best and having lots of fun along the way. We were very proud to find out that team Ripponden won the event and are now through to a Calderdale final in the new year. Well done to all of you!



Christmas dates for your diary

The following dates are for Christmas activities. Please get in touch if you need any further information:

- **Friday 3rd December** – Christmas Jumper Day for all – hamper item donation please!
- **Monday 6th December** – Christmas Pudding orders back to school please.
- **Wednesday 8th December** – Christmas Dinner Day – all welcome. If your child is usually on a packed lunch but would like a Christmas Dinner, please let the office know.
- **Friday 10th December** – Elfridges Delivery
- **Monday 13th December** – Y1/2 Christmas Party – bring party clothes!
Christmas Puddings Delivery
- **Tuesday 14th December** – Reception and Y5/6 parties – bring party clothes!
- **Wednesday 15th December** – Y3/4 parties – bring party clothes!
- **Thursday 16th December** – Panto for R/Y1/Y2
Close for Christmas



Mental Health and Well-being: Year 5 & 6 Parent Workshop – 1st December

Date for your diary: 1st December at 4pm

OpenMinds Calderdale, through the Transition Project, will be hosting an online parent workshop on Supporting and Understanding Anxiety in Children. Links to the meeting will be published the week prior to the event. We are really hoping for a fabulous turn out as anxiety is fast becoming a reality for many children at the moment due to the last couple of tumultuous years.

A workshop for parents for the remainder of the school is in the works and will take place in November. Please watch this space for further details.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Virtual Parent Workshop – 24th November

Thank you to the small group of parents who attended this workshop. It was intended to support and advise parents on how to deal with the stresses and anxieties that face some of our children. The parents who attended found it beneficial. If you weren't able to attend, we will be putting slides up on the website in the coming days.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Working Party

After a great success with the Wellbeing Parent working party last year, we are introducing a whole-school community Mental Health and Wellbeing working party to come together once or twice a half-term (depending on need) on a weekday evening for a solutions-based focus to improve the mental health and wellbeing of everyone in our school community.

We are hoping that with staff, parents and governors working together for a common goal, we will have even more of an impact on improving mental health and wellbeing in our school. Our focus will be to respond to the parent/pupil/staff and governor Mental Health and Wellbeing surveys. Our first meeting will take place on Wednesday 8th December at 7pm at Hollins Mill in Sowerby Bridge. If you are interested in joining us, please send an email to the office to the attention of Emily Hutchinson - the Senior Mental Health Lead. Thank you!

Kandinsky-inspired and nature art in Little Acorns

Little Acorns have been looking at the art work of Kandinsky with the different shapes and making their own, not just with paper, but with natural and everyday objects too. We hope you like them!



Branch Out Awards

Not Giving Up!

Little Acorns – Maisie S
Saplings – Theo A
Great Oaks – Leila M

Being Enthusiastic

Little Acorns – Harry S
Saplings – Violet B
Great Oaks – Maria K

Showing Respect

Little Acorns – Saskia M
Saplings – Denis N
Great Oaks – Reggie B-H

Being Kind and Caring

Little Acorns – Hazel S
Saplings – Reggie M
Great Oaks – Isla B-C

Making Good Choices

Little Acorns – Art H
Saplings – George W-M
Great Oaks – Kai W

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.

December

Monday 1st

Friday 3rd

Monday 6th

Tuesday 7th

Wednesday 8th

Friday 10th

Monday 13th

Tuesday 14th

Wednesday 15th

Thursday 16th

Friday 17th

Monday 20th – Thursday 23rd

Year 5&6 parents Mental Health and wellbeing virtual workshop

Christmas Jumper Day – hamper item donation

KS2 celebration assembly

Christmas pudding orders back to school

Full Governing Meeting

Christmas Dinner Day

Elfridge's Delivery

Clubs finish for Christmas

Saplings Christmas Party – bring party clothes!

Christmas puddings brought into school to go home

Little Acorns, Maples and Redwoods Christmas Parties – bring party clothes!

Chestnuts and Willows Christmas Parties – bring party clothes!

Panto for Little Acorns, Saplings and Great Oaks

School Closes for Christmas

Training Day – Busy Bees open

Busy Bees open – more information to follow

January 2022

Tuesday 4th

Friday 14th

Friday 28th

School reopens

Reception/KS1 celebration assembly

KS2 celebration assembly

February

Tuesday 8th

Friday 11th

Friday 18th

Monday 28th

Full Governing Meeting

Reception/KS1 celebration assembly

Close for half term

Reopen

March

Friday 4 th	KS2 celebration assembly
Friday 18 th	Reception/KS1 celebration assembly
Tuesday 29 th	Full Governing Meeting

April

Friday 1 st	Reception/KS1 celebration assembly
Friday 8 th	Close for Easter
Monday 25 th	Reopen for the summer term

May

Monday 2 nd	May Bank Holiday – school closed
Tuesday 3 rd	School reopen
Friday 6 th	KS2 celebration assembly
W/C Monday 9 th	KS2 SATs Week
Friday 20 th	Reception/KS1 celebration assembly
Tuesday 24 th	Full Governing Meeting
Friday 27 th	School closes for half term

June

Monday 6 th	School Closed – Queen's Jubilee
Tuesday 7 th	School reopens
Friday 17 th	KS2 celebration assembly
Monday 20 th	Year 6 residential to Langdale all week

July

Friday 1 st	Reception/KS1 celebration assembly
Friday 15 th	KS2 celebration assembly
Tuesday 19 th	Full Governing Meeting
Friday 22 nd	School closes for summer



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Challenge and enjoyment leading to excellence for all