



Rydon Primary School

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Message from Mrs Willcocks

Dear Parent/Carer,

I extend a very warm and enthusiastic welcome back to school for the Autumn term to our whole school here at Rydon. It has been a pleasure to be a part of Rydon Primary School community over the past two weeks and an honour to take on the privileged role as Headteacher. Thank you for the kind welcomes I have received from children, staff, parents and carers as this has meant so much. I would like to extend an additional warm welcome to our new children and families in the EYFS and also in other classes across the school. I am confident that you too will feel the warmth in everyone's welcome over the coming days, weeks and terms. We also welcome the following members of staff into our school this term:

- Miss Jade Simpson - Year 4 Class Teacher
- Mrs Sian Davies - Year 5 Teaching Assistant
- Mrs Lizzie Newton - Year 4 Teaching assistant

I have loved seeing the children enjoying some of the long-missed school activities such as assemblies, play-times together, singing and instrument celebrations and also eating lunches in our refurbished school hall. Whilst it is such a pleasure to see, we continue to navigate the world with COVID and appreciate all of your support in managing the risks against any changes we make along the way.

Next week our Year 6 pupils will enjoy a long awaited off site residential and I hope that they have a super time whilst gaining some broader experiences beyond the classroom. I look forward to joining them there at some point.

Thank you for your support in providing your children with the correct school uniform and also the necessary items required to support a successful day in school. It has been lovely to see so many children independently walking to their classrooms. I do hope that they are now settling back into routines and enjoying their new classes. Where you have questions or concerns, please do communicate these with the appropriate staff and we will endeavour to support you and your child/ren the best that we possibly can.

I look forward to communicating with you monthly through a school newsletter and catching up with you at the school gates. Any information to be shared with the school community between newsletters will come via the usual route of Groupcall/Xpressions.

I hope that you and your child/ren have a great few weeks back at school.

Kind regards

Catherine Willcocks

Home school communication

Thank you for using the phone call and email line of communication upon return to school. This is much appreciated. Please can we remind you that communication with all staff needs to be via the school office rather than through direct email and Seesaw currently. All staff are unable to communicate with parents regarding school matters through social media. In using the appropriate channels of communication, we can support you and your child more effectively and in a timely matter. We thank you for your anticipated and on-going support with this.

Just a quick reminder to only message an absence/illness on Groupcall. For all other messages such as; your child has a medical appointment, etc please email the school office on: admin@rydonprimary.org.uk

This will enable us to forward, and/or print off your message, as we are unable to do this within Groupcall.



Music News

We were very lucky to have a folk band come in to visit 6WH last week thanks to the Devon Music Education Hub. Tom, Ric and Steve performed some tunes to not only the class but to KS2 for their choral assembly, what a way to start assemblies again! 6WH were also given the opportunity to learn some easy tunes on the violin, which they also performed in the assembly. They all were marvellous and enjoyed the experience.

We are very happy to tell you all that we have been nominated by the Devon Music Education Hub to become a Music Mark school.

"They (DMEH) have recognised the value that you place on music and asked us to add you to the growing number of Music Mark Schools we support across the UK as a Music Subject Association.



Your dedication to offering and delivering a broad and balanced curriculum is both welcomed and celebrated."

We are hoping this will give the children even more opportunities to enjoy and engage with music at Rydon.



Covid update

At the time of writing, we are waiting to hear if there will be any changes to our protocols. We encourage parents to continue to wear a face covering on the playground.

Message from Y2 teachers

It is wonderful to see the Year 2's settling in well. The children are very happy to be back with their friends and have been working hard in class. They have already been enjoying their learning in the Forest school, Music and RE with Mrs Edworthy and our instructions unit. A particular highlight for the children this week has been having our Indoor PE lessons and Key stage assemblies in our newly decorated hall.

FOREST SCHOOL SESSIONS		
Mon 13th Sept	AM—5W PM—4S	Mon 27th Sept All day—4S
Tues 14th Sept	AM—5D PM—4P	Tues 28th Sept All day—4P
Wed 15th Sept	AM—RC PM—2C	Wed 29th Sept AM—RC PM—2C
Thurs 16th Sept	TBC	Thurs 30th Sept TBC
Mon 20th Sept	AM—1NC PM—1HB	Mon 4th Oct All day—6W
Tues 21st Sept	All day—3SB	Tues 5th Oct All day—6WHT
Wed 22nd Sept	AM—RW PM—2S	Wed 6th Oct AM—RW PM—2S
Thurs 23rd Sept	AM—3HT	Thurs 7th Oct TBC
		Thurs 21st Oct TBC

School Uniform

We now have school ties available from the school office. **Elasticated ties—£4.00, Long ties—£4.50**
If you wish to purchase a tie please put the correct money in an envelope with your child's name on it, which tie you wish to purchase and give this to your child to hand into the school office.

Get a Healthy Start! Goodie box promotion

If you are pregnant or have children under 4, and receiving benefits, would you be interested in a free box of fruit and vegetables delivered directly to your door, along with family friendly recipes to prepare them? If you are eligible for Healthy Start, you can order a box as part of the Get a Healthy Start! initiative. Please log onto the NHS web site and click on Healthy Start. Closing date is 24th September.



HANDi Paediatric app: advice for common childhood conditions

If you want to check your child's symptoms for any common illnesses and get local advice and guidance, we recommend downloading the free HANDi paediatric app.



Please find listed below our term dates for 2021—2022. Please note that our last day of the Autumn Term is now **Thursday 16th December**.

Term and holiday dates for 2021 - 2022

	Autumn Term 2021	Spring Term 2022	Summer Term 2022
Begins	Tues 7 th Sept	Tues 4 th Jan	Mon 25 th April
Half term	25 th – 29 th Oct	21 st – 25 th Feb	30 th May – 3 rd June
Last day of term	Thurs 16 th Dec	Thurs 8 th April	Fri 22 nd July

Non-Pupil days 2021: Mon 6th Sept, Fri 22nd Oct, Mon 29th Nov

Non-Pupil days in 2022: 14th March

May Day in 2022 will be Monday 2nd May