



A very Happy New Year and welcome back to all our children, families and members of our local community!

### Reception 2019—Urgent!

If your child is eligible to start Reception in September 2019 you **MUST** apply online for a school place with North Yorkshire County Council by 15<sup>th</sup> January - you can apply by clicking [HERE!](#)

Please pass on this message as we don't want anyone to lose out. We look to have some capacity in Reception 2019, including for families applying from outside our normal catchment area.

The deadline is just days away! ALL families must formally apply for the school online, even if your child attends our nursery. If unsure, please contact us on 01937 832899.

If you intend your child to start Reception in September and you would like them to attend the Play Place (before and after school club), please contact us to place them on the waiting list as soon as possible.

### Staffing News

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Robin back this week from her maternity leave. She will be teaching in Early Years in RRW each Weds pm, Thurs and Fri, working closely with Miss Woodward, Mrs Carr and Mrs Sykes.

We also welcome Mrs Johnson to our Teaching Assistant team, working daily across the school supporting teaching and learning.

We would like to say a big THANK YOU and send our best wishes to Mrs Dutton from our MSA team who left us last Wednesday to pursue her new role at Appleton Roebuck..

#### Vacancies -Lunchtime Supervisors—(MSAs)

We are still welcoming application for

#### Lunchtime supervisors.

Hours of work are 11.50-1.10 pm and your duties would include assisting the children with their lunch as well as playing and leading games in the playground. If you have some free time, and are interested, please contact the office for an application form—We would love to have you on our team!

### Meals census

As mentioned previously, the amount of income we receive for infant school meals is calculated across two meal 'census' days. The first such day was in October. The second is **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January**. It makes a HUGE difference to our budget if every infant pupil takes a meal on that date as it will count as if they have a meal every day of the year! The menu for the day is another popular favourite - pizza, baked beans and chips; jacket potato option; pasta bolognaise; salad bar and dessert of chocolate cake with chocolate sauce or fresh fruit and yoghurt.

This meals census day we would like to encourage every infant pupil to at least sample from our 'taster menu' and so on the 17<sup>th</sup> we will be giving every infant pupil taster samples even if they come with a packed lunch - **please let us know if you do NOT want your child to have the taster menu.**



Menu Change: Monday 14th Jan– Vegetarian Curry/Macaroni Cheese-Peach crisp

Quick link– click on the link for the Spring term menu: <http://riverside.n-yorks.sch.uk/information/meals-menus>





### Starting the new year off in the right way!

We know that we are very privileged at Riverside to have such well-behaved, well-mannered, articulate pupils - it allows for an enthusiastic positive learning environment where we can all have fun and make great progress together.

### LOOK SMART - THINK SMART - ACT SMART



Being well-presented, with all the equipment needed for the day, homework complete and ready to learn - these are key ingredients for successful learning. The new year is a perfect time to ensure that everything is well set for the year ahead and we would ask for your continued support in this.

As parents, you can also play your part in starting the new year off just right. Please can we remind you to:

- Switch off car engines whilst waiting in our car-parks. Even if it is cold outside, please remember that our pupils themselves have flagged this as a health issue and implemented the 'no idling' approach.
- Ensure that pupils do not wear earrings which cannot be removed easily on PE days. If you are considering getting your child's ears pierced then please aim for the long holidays such as they are able to be removed for school PE lessons.
- Remember that our school canteen catering is nut-free and if you are preparing a packed lunch for your child please try to tie in and you're your child with nut allergy friendly foodstuffs.

Thank you !

### Nursery availability

There is some availability in our Nursery this term, which includes both 15 and 30 hour entitlements. If you would like to discuss taking some additional sessions for your child, please contact the school office on 01937 832899 or via [schooloffice@rs.starmat.uk](mailto:schooloffice@rs.starmat.uk). Don't forget our Nursery offer now includes taking children from the actual date of their

### Pupil Premium

Another way you can help our school and your own individual child is with regard PUPIL PREMIUM.

This is where the school receives extra money to provide additional support for our students. We receive Pupil Premium for pupils who have previously been or are currently in care, for pupils who come from forces families and for pupils who are currently in receipt of Free School Meals, or have received Free School Meals at any point within the last 6 years. You can find out more [HERE](#)

Whilst children in Reception, years 1 and 2 automatically receive a free meal at lunchtime please could I urge parents of pupils in those year groups (and indeed elsewhere in school) to consider applying for Free School Meals if they believe they are eligible as the additional income we will receive will help us to add value to what we do for your child for the next 6 years!

### Clubs

Places for this term's clubs are already booking quickly. The [clubs schedule](#) was circulated last term and is also available on the 'information - clubs' section of our website. Please remember, if your child is signed up for a club and they cannot attend for any reason (party, doctor's appointment, etc) please notify the school office - our club providers all have a register of attendance and, of course, get very concerned if a pupil doesn't arrive with them - please help us prevent unnecessary phone calls!





## Friends News and Events

### Bags2School

Wednesday 23rd January is our next Bags2School collection. Bags have already been circulated from school, but feel free to fill extra bin bags! Bags full of clothes, etc, can then be left next to the lamp-post at the edge of the parent car park (the one with the high level sign on it) for collection at around 9am on the MORNING of 23rd January. Each year, not only do the clothes you donate go on to worthwhile homes, but we also earn some valuable funds for the Friends of School.

## Community update

Inspired by our ever active School Council, Christmas saw our pupils collect charitable donations for Children with Cancer UK.



The School Council again bought hundreds of cardboard cups with lids, as well as pupil prizes. Our pupils were then challenged to decorate a cup to hang on the school Christmas tree, also filling the cups with the 'pennies' they would save by not sending Christmas cards.

Between our Christmas cups and donations from Christmas concerts, we managed to raise a simply amazing £1538, with over £555 from the cups alone!

This has become an incredible Christmas tradition - one we are extremely proud of!

The last day of term also saw us host around 150 local people for our annual sherry and mince pie concert. Judging by the lovely comments we received at the end, this event continues to be very special and well received.

All through December, supported by the British Red Cross, each class talked about the power of kindness. Every child made a shortlist of some acts of kindness that they would try and carry out before Christmas. We celebrated these in our last assembly before Christmas. We were very proud of our thoughtful children who had great ideas about kindness, not only for themselves and their families but for the wider world around them! In our New Year assembly we then talked about how doing those little things 'extra' for no reward apart from feeling good about doing it, can move you from 'ordinary' to EXTRA-ordinary!





### Parents' Consultation evenings and mid-year reports

Just to remind you that parent-teacher consultation evenings will soon be upon us again. The dates are already set, with timings to mirror those which have worked successfully through last year:

Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 3.30-6.00pm

Weds 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 3.30-6.00pm

*NB IRD consultations will be taking place on 29th/30th January*

*For RRW- Miss Woodward will be available on Tuesday 22nd Jan and Mrs Robin will be available on Wednesday 23rd January.*

Actual appointment times online might vary slightly for some individual staff, so please check on the contact letter.



You will be able to book your appointments online from 7.30am on Monday 14th January through to 9am on Monday 21st January. After this time, bookings will only be possible via direct contact with the school, so book early to avoid disappointment!

As ever, at Riverside, our parent-teacher evenings are focused on pupil progress. At these evenings we will be concentrating on:

- Progress made since the beginning of year
- Progress on targets discussed at last parents' meeting
- Reasons for progress or otherwise
- Successes and areas for improvement
- Suggested targets for the end of the year
- Steps to get there and how you can help at home with areas such as maths and reading

On Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January, all children from years 1-6 will receive a their mid-year report which contains their targets which will have been previously discussed and agreed between your child and their teacher in school. You can of course discuss the report as part of your parents/ evening consultation.

You may also wish to bring along the previously circulated

Parents' Evenings 'notes sheet' - copies available from our website [HERE](#).

Should your Parents' Evening session begin to over-run, we may ask you to come back and finish the discussion on another date, out of fairness to other families. If you feel that you will need a longer discussion then please do get in contact with your child's teacher directly as it may be easier to arrange an alternative appointment to the actual parents' evening itself.

### Dates for your Diary!

#### January 2019

- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Jan Year group letters out
- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> Jan Full Governors Meeting 6.30pm
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Jan interim reports issued
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan Spring parents evenings
- Thursday 31 Magna trip (Y5)

#### February 2019

- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February Internet Safety Day
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February Chinese New Year lunch
- Weds 13- Young Voices
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb Valentines Day lunch
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb Full Governors Meeting 6.30pm
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb Halfterm finishes
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb school discos

#### March 2019

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March Term starts for pupils

### Contact us

The school office email is: [SchoolOffice@rs.starmat.uk](mailto:SchoolOffice@rs.starmat.uk)

For more sensitive School Office enquiries please contact Mrs Borradaile our School Business Manager using the admin account: [admin@rs.starmat.uk](mailto:admin@rs.starmat.uk)

Should you need to contact Mr Yapp/Miss Woodward directly, the addresses are [headteacher@rs.starmat.uk](mailto:headteacher@rs.starmat.uk) and [a.woodward@rs.starmat.uk](mailto:a.woodward@rs.starmat.uk)

*Please note that classroom staff have a very busy working day and do not monitor their email during teaching time. Should your contact be urgent (i.e. needs to be seen within 24 hours), please use one of the office addresses or phone us on 01937 832899. If you receive a phonecall from us, please don't use 'ringback'! We dial out from our fax line - please use 01937 832899 to ring in to school*

Ian Yapp

Executive Headteacher

Thank you for your continued support - here's to another great year!

Alison Woodward

Head of School