

# RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016



**Given that we are already half way through April at the time of writing, this newsletter is an April and May special edition!!**

### New school website

I am delighted to say that our new school website is now up and running! Indeed, to be reading this newsletter online I guess you have already found the site.

*Please read the attached/following information sheet for details of where things are hosted on the new site as well as how to register for automatic updates.*

### Charging policy update

Many families use some of the private childcare offered by the school, whether at Riverside Play Place, or extra nursery or lunch sessions.

The school policy is to review these charging arrangements each Spring ready for the Autumn Term, in order to give parents plenty of notice, with many choosing employer salary sacrifice schemes to pay by voucher.

All rates have been fully discussed and approved by the Resources Committee of the Governing Body.

Play Place rates have also been compared to other similar providers' charges to ensure we provide a competitive, good value service.

I can confirm therefore that charges from **1st September 2016** will be:

	<b>Sept 2016 price and % increase</b>
Play Place - Breakfast Club	£4.70 (4%)
Play Place - After School Club	£7.60 (4%)
Play Place - Holiday Club $\frac{1}{2}$ days	£10.80 (4%)
Play Place - Holiday Club full days	£19.55 (4%)
Additional Nursery sessions (where available)	£12.50 - our price matches NYCC reimbursement of 'free' sessions
Nursery Lunch Club	£2.70 (4%)

Prices have seen some increase this year because of significantly increased overheads, including changes to employer contributions for National Insurance.

However, we are sure parents will still see these charges as both representing competitive rates and great value for the excellent standard of childcare on offer.

Remember, these rates do not come into effect until September 2016.

Following four years of no price change, junior meal charges will also increase slightly in September, to £2.20 per meal.

Nursery meals will remain at £1.60, with pupils in Reception and Years 1 and 2 still entitled to a 'free school meal. Our catering offer is superb and we would encourage all families to make the most of it.

### Don't forget to let us know!

If you change address or any contact information please either ring the school office on 01937 832899 or drop us an email on

[admin2@riverside.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin2@riverside.n-yorks.sch.uk)



Thank you to parents for being so conscientious and phoning in when your child is absent. If you are leaving a voicemail message, please ensure you give us brief details i.e. we need to know the nature of illness rather than that they are just ill or off.

### Cycling To School and Bikeability

The warmer weather often sees an increasing number of children walk and cycle to school. This is terrific as it provides exercise and lessens the amount of traffic on and around our school site.

If your child is in Key Stage 2 you may wish to consider them cycling to school independently (especially if they have passed their Cycling Proficiency Test). If this is the case, please let us know at the school office as we have a short 'Cycling Contract' which needs to be completed. This is also available via the school website under 'Filing Cabinet' and then 'Consent Forms'.



For younger pupils (Key Stage 1 and younger), we would ask that if cycling to school, they are accompanied by a responsible adult.

There are secure racks available outside the front entrance to school as well as outside Mrs Needham's portacabin. Remember please - all bikes and scooters must be dismounted throughout the school site.

Under the Bikeability scheme, every pupil in Year 5 will be given the opportunity to train in safe road cycling during June/July, so please ensure bikes are in good repair, your child has a helmet and starts working on balance skills whilst indicating and turning etc! More details will follow very soon.

To help with this process, the 'Bike Checklist' is also under 'Filing Cabinet' on the new school website - if in doubt, get the bike checked out professionally.

### Individual Provision Maps (IPMs)

If your child has specific SEND provision, you may have or will be receiving an Individual Provision Map (IPM). This states the targets we will be working on with your child over the next term. It also outlines the provision they receive in school to help them make progress.

We are implementing a new system where we require parents/carers to sign and return the IPM to their child's class teacher.

It will then be copied and returned back to you so we both have a copy. If you are unsure of what something means within the IPM please speak to your child's class teacher, they will be more than happy to go through it with you.

If you have any queries about this, please contact your child's class teacher or Miss Hunter, Inclusion Manager.

### Staffing news

Mrs Snioch will be retiring at the end of the Summer Term after many years of dedicated service to the school community. Governors have already started the recruitment process and I hope to be able to share further news with you soon.

I plan to confirm September class placements to parents just after May half-term, so that you know who your child's new class teacher is, in time for our annual Celebration of Work evening on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

### Running late and collections/drop-offs

Whilst Riverside School does not control the roadway outside the school gates, please could I remind parents that we have four school buses dropping off and collecting pupils. Please do not stop, drop-off or park in the bus bays, zig-zags or the space between the two (I have asked NYCC Highways to extend the zigzags to cover this space). If cars are in these areas, you may risk a fixed penalty, and it makes access for buses very tricky and can cause an obstruction.



If you are running late to collect your child (whether from main school, nursery, Play Place or even the bus drop-offs on the east of town), please do give us a ring on the School Office number (01937 832899) so that we can plan accordingly.

### Friends clothes stall



Friends will be running a second hand uniform stall on Friday 22 April in the school courtyard from 3.20pm onwards. In order to do this, we would be very grateful for donations of school jumpers, cardigans, dresses, trousers, etc as well as

any other uniforms your children have grown out of such as Beavers or ballet kit! Please drop off your donations at the school office in the week commencing 18 April.

### Tour de Yorkshire

I am sure you are already aware that the Tour De Yorkshire comes through Tadcaster on 29<sup>th</sup> April. We expect the race to go along Wetherby Road at around 1.50pm and will be lining the route outside our school site to watch the race go past as well as planning a large piece of 'landart' on the theme which we hope will be seen by news helicopters!



If you are coming down to watch please could we ask you to use the pavement opposite the site, leaving the school side free for our 450 pupils! If you are available to help walk pupils out and supervise, please liaise directly with your child's class teacher.

### Year 2 and year 6 assessment update

Following the two successful parent workshops, giving information on this years SATs tests and reporting arrangements, I have placed the powerpoint used on our school website under 'Filing Cabinet.' On this link you will also find a DfE leaflet and a short DfE video to watch on the subject.

### Dates To Remember

#### **April 2016**

Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> April 6.30pm Wales briefing for Y6 parents

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> April year group letter out

Tues 26<sup>th</sup> April School Improvement Governors Committee

#### **May 2016**

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> May Bank Holiday—school closed

Week 9<sup>th</sup> May Year 6 SATs

Fri 13<sup>th</sup> May School Discos

Mon 16<sup>th</sup> May Full Governors Meeting

Tues 17<sup>th</sup> May Y4 parents information session with regard  
Puberty Education

Tues 17<sup>th</sup> May Malham briefing 630pm for Y4 parents

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> May Resources Governors Committee Meeting

Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> May School sponsored walk from 1.30pm

Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> May Close for hols

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> May Training day

#### **June 2016**

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> June Term starts

Thank you for your continued support

**Ian Yapp**

Headteacher

## All new site - same address: [www.riverside.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.riverside.n-yorks.sch.uk)

Over the last few months, we have been working hard in the background, to create a new website with a sleek, modern feel, which will hopefully continue to provide a useful resource for our school community (the old site averaged 2000 visitors per month), but will be more easy to navigate and, vitally, will enable us to link directly to email, Twitter feeds and, in the longer term, may enable us save money on our text service! Also we hope to introduce some pupil blogs, pop-up surveys and so on - the software behind the new site allows for us to change and expand in all sorts of ways.

### Information for site users:

#### What is where?

**Information:** hover your mouse or click on 'Information' and you will access the sub-menu for this page within which we are hosting most of the statutory information for our school as well as the up to date School Prospectus, menus and clubs. There is also a short video with loads of photos of our school in action.

**Curriculum:** through this link you will find information on the various subjects taught at Riverside, as well as information about the wider curriculum such as Eco Schools. This link also hosts sub-pages for each of the year groups in school, where we hold year group information letters and information from staff and photos of our classes in action!

**News:** this contains a section with letters home along with the 'Filing Cabinet' which contains useful forms, dates and so on.

**PTA:** this links to the latest information about Friends of Riverside events and fundraising.

**Governors:** this link provides a list of the serving governors along with information about the work of our Governing Body, including the termly Governor Newsletters

**Gallery:** this is where we will be posting various photos (and now we have our new site, video) sharing life around school, as well as things such as our residential visits (where we always post photos whilst children are away, so that parents can feel 'in touch' with their children).

**Calendar:** our events diary, including a link to download the calendar to your device (don't worry, this is the same calendar and link as on the old site, so no need to download again). The up and coming calendar events can also be found at the bottom of the homepage.

**Quick links:** from the homepage there are also large quick links through to 'News', 'Year Groups', 'Calendar', and 'Filing Cabinet' since we presume these will be popular features.

#### Subscribe to updates

At the very top of the homepage you will find this link. When you click on this you will access a registration page, where you can input your details and e-mail address. You don't need this to login to the site, but once registered it means that you can receive direct emails from the site when we make important updates. For example, when we post a new newsletter you would receive an email with a link through to the newsletter on the website. The first time you receive an update it might arrive in your 'spam' or 'junk' since your system may be set to treat automated emails in this way - just right click and tell your email server this is 'not spam' and it should then learn for the next school alert email!

#### Follow us on Twitter

Riverside School is joining the world of Twitter. Follow us @TadRiverside and receive tweets and important updates direct to your device. I have to admit, I am very definitely a 'learner driver' when it comes to Social Media so please be prepared to have a chuckle at my expense (#gettingold)! At various places on the site you will be able to read our tweets even if you choose not to follow us.

### How to give site feedback:

We hope that we have created a user-friendly website, but the real test will come from your experience navigating the site - does it hold the information you need to find? Is the information reasonably easy to locate?

Hopefully, families (and pupils) will want to spend a bit of time browsing around the new site, familiarising themselves with where everything is!

If you have any suggestions to help us improve the user experience or to develop the site further, please let us know via:

[admin@riverside.n-yorks.ch.uk](mailto:admin@riverside.n-yorks.ch.uk)

or

use the 'contact us' option on the website itself

*We really appreciate your feedback!*