

# RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017

Welcome back to another half-term. Loads more to share, even before we start the build up to Christmas (only 52 days to go by the way!)

### **From old to new**

Our whole community was affected when Tadcaster Bridge collapsed in the flooding of late 2015. Of course, as a school we played a key role in the celebration events last year to mark the re-opening of this important landmark and communication route. Following this, we have been in contact with North Yorkshire County Council who have kindly let us have some of the original stone which was not re-used in the new construction. This has now been installed under our willow trees to form our very own outdoor story circle - which has it's own historic story to tell! Thank you so much to Mrs Wallbank and Mrs Perkins for coming up with the concept and liaising with all parties and also to the Friends of School for funding the installation as they were just a little bit heavy!



Click [HERE](#) to watch a timelapse of the stone circle being installed

PS please encourage little ones to use this as a seating area ONLY - no climbing please as we would not want any nasty accidents.

### **Admissions to Main School**

For those of you who have children eligible to start school NEXT September, please remember applications are due by January 15<sup>th</sup> 2018. This might still seem a long way away, but each of the last few years several families have not applied in time! There is no automatic transfer from Nursery, you MUST apply formally to NYCC for a Reception place - we have been quite full several times in the past few years and hope for the same this coming year.

If you know of any families who have children ready to start school next September please make sure they get this message, even if they don't currently attend our wonderful Nursery, I am always delighted to show families around and answer any questions to help you make the right choice for your child. Apply for a place in our reception 2018 classes by clicking [HERE](#).

### **Parents Workshop**



Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December from 6-7.30pm we are hosting an additional parents workshop centred around our pastoral support systems. Most pupils will benefit from these at some point in

their school career whether that be friendship issues, bullying, family issues, bereavement, anxiety... the list is quite a long one. This workshop will explain how you can link in to us and what to expect from us when you raise a concern or a query. The workshop will be followed up with materials on our website and all parents will be sent the link.

Watch out for a flier/booking form very soon.

### **Friends of Riverside**

Towards the end of last term, Friends of Riverside held their AGM. Amongst other agenda items, we discussed last academic year's fundraising for the school. Over the past year, Friends have contributed to various outdoor developments including the early years playgrounds. They have also supported lots of fun curriculum activities in school and provided treats for our pupils. Currently, Friends are funding enhancements to our site with new signs, posters, photo displays and so forth (you may have noticed the large 'vision words' appearing around school - chosen by our School Council and funded by Friends).

Another current project is match-funded wet-playtime equipment for our classrooms. Each class has been challenged to use young enterprise skills to generate money for wet playtime equipment and Friends will match up to £50, allowing our pupils both to invest in wet playtime games and activities but also to take ownership themselves of what they buy.

Thanks to everyone involved in every single event for all of your positive energy and support. Thanks also to the wider school community for continuing to support the Friends by attending and enjoying events.



We hope you have your tickets for our annual Bonfire event on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November. Gates open at 4.30pm. You can also pay on the door. We will be serving a BBQ, Curry and Pies as well as the usual snacks, tea, coffee, hot chocolate, mulled wine and a licensed Bar. The bonfire will be lit at 5.00pm and the fireworks at 6.00pm. If you have any wood donations please can you either drop them into the large trailer at the top of Tower Crescent from Friday evening or bring them to school on Saturday morning. If you can help at all on the day, please contact Taz on 07980013058.

## Anti-Bullying 2017

Anti-Bullying 'Week' will run from 6<sup>th</sup> November until the end of the month. The theme this year is

**'All different, all equal'**

During the month, pupils will explore themes and issues around equality and inclusion. We will take the opportunity during assemblies and class work to again re-launch our **Anti-Bullying Charter**. The charter was drawn up by our pupils back in 2011 and is still so relevant and current. It is copied in full at the end of this newsletter.

We will use the charter to ensure that

- our pupils know what to do if they are being bullied,
- how we will deal with anyone who bullies

Before half term you all received a letter inviting pupils to contribute to our **'Rich Tapestry'**. This exciting art work is planned to serve as a lasting reminder of Riverside's inclusivity. Don't forget to bring in your 20cm x 3cm fabric strips.

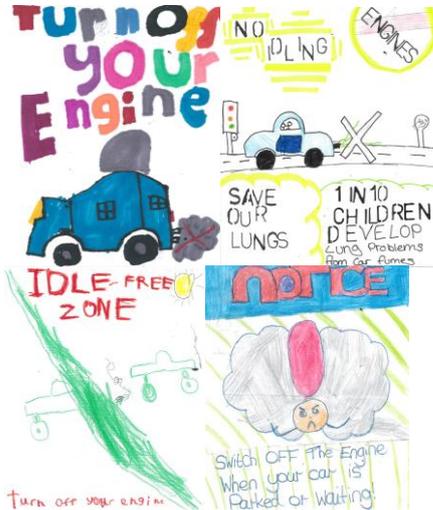
To further demonstrate our whole school commitment to anti-bullying and positive behaviour, we invite pupils to adapt their uniform for the day on **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November, Blue Day**. Wear something blue as a visual reminder. This is not a dress-up day so no fancy dress please and still in uniform jumpers/cardigans but add in blue trousers, shorts, skirt, dress, hair bobbles etc to mark our theme. The day is specifically to raise awareness **not** money.

Everyone should take bullying seriously because of the long-term impact it can have on friendships, self-esteem as well as health and wellbeing. If your child struggles with their friendships, bullying etc in any way, please do get in contact with us directly - we pride ourselves on a very high success rate. For further information re anti-bullying please visit [www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk) / @ABAonline

## No idling in our carparks

We are delighted to be the longest standing Greenflag Eco-School in North Yorkshire. Indeed, our students have recently been visited by a film crew with this regard!

You will be aware that our students recently engaged in a competition to design 'No Idling' signs for our carparks - reduce pollution and of course setting a great example of ecology in action.



'Powerdown Pete' (the NYCC eco-superhero!) visited us on 11<sup>th</sup> October and was delighted to choose the four winning designs. Watch out for the No Idling signs in due course and be prepared to take action as this is something our eco-groups feel really strongly about.

Well done to Sam, Harriet, Jamie and Aaron for their winning designs.

## Christmas shows and services

**Advance notice so you can start planning.....**

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December will be Christmas dinner in school - with a special 'dress Christmassy day' - Christmas jumpers, reindeer antlers, Santa hats, etc. £1 donation with 50% going to our chosen Christmas charity this year - see below.

Christmas in the Nursery - please come and join your child in Nursery for "Christmas family day" on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. We will have all our Christmas activities set up for you and your child to play together, including a roleplay 'Santa's grotto' in the home corner. You are welcome to stay for as long or short a time as you wish. For the last 15 minutes of both morning and afternoon sessions we will sing some favourite songs to you. If your child doesn't usually attend on this day, you are welcome to bring them along and stay with them. The activities will be available to all children over the last two weeks of term.

Early years and Key Stage 1 will have their parties on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December - more news in December.

The Reception classes would like to invite parents to celebrate Christmas with them on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December in the hall from 2.45pm performing with a range of Christmas songs.



Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) are performing jointly this year with narration and songs. These will take place on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec at 2pm and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec at 9.30am. The shows will last about 20-30 minutes and parents and grandparents are invited to accompany their children back to classrooms for Christmas congratulations and goodbyes!

Key Stage 2 will share their Christmas songs and narration in St Mary's Church on Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Dec at 1.45pm and on Weds 20<sup>th</sup> Dec at 9.45am.

Every year the School Council choose a charity to support. This year they have chosen the Alzheimer's Society. Our Christmas Cups (see below) and donations at Nativity Shows and Church services will be shared between supporting Edmon through World Vision and Alzheimer's. This year we aim not just to raise money but also to deepen our understanding. During the year our pupils will be taking part in lessons to raise their awareness of the condition which sadly affects 1 in 3 families in the UK. We feel that Riverside can reach out to our community near and far and as such we are looking to become a Dementia Friendly School. We aim to help everyone to have an awareness of dementia and look at the small things we can do to make a difference to the lives of people affected.

More information can be found at [dementiafriends.org.uk](http://dementiafriends.org.uk) and [alzheimers.org.uk](http://alzheimers.org.uk)

All of our Nativity and Christmas Service collections will also support the Alzheimer's Society.

### Christmas cards/cups



The School Council and Eco Group would like once again to discourage pupils from sending lots of individual Christmas cards to their class mates and instead use the money to help others in need.

Our school tradition for the past few years has been that instead of sending cards, pupils decorate a paper cup for the Christmas tree and make a small donation to charity. This year we will continue to sponsor Edmon, through World Vision, and will also support our chosen charity for this year- Alzheimer's Society. Thank you in advance for your contributions.

### Children In Need



### **Children in Need**

Children in Need is on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November. Children can come dressed in fancy dress or dress down in casual clothes. We would ask for a contribution of £1 to wear non-uniform for the day. Our fancy dress theme this year is 'Pyjama Party,' so a great dress down opportunity is in store!

There will also be a Year 6 talent show, which is always a real treat!

There will also be all sorts of stalls - so please do send your child along with plenty of money (5ps, 10ps and 20ps for stalls/games) to help us break last year's excellent fund-raising record. Please also send donations of toys and books to sell.

Year 6 pupils will come around classes from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> selling glow in the dark key rings (£1) and Pudsey and Blush pin badges (£1) while stocks last.

The school lunch will be fish fingers, veggie sausages and chips with Pudsey Bear buns for dessert.

### Menu changes

Advance warning of a few menu changes coming up:

13th December - change to Pizza

14th December - Christmas Lunch

### Some Dates For Your Diaries:

#### **November 2017**

6th to 30th Nov Anti-bullying month

Saturday 4th Nov FOR bonfire and fireworks

Weds 8th 'Streetlaw' - human rights - workshops for y6

Weds 15th 'Streetlaw' - crime and punishment - workshops for y6

Mon 13th Nov Full Governors Meeting 6.30pm

Thurs 16th Nov STAR y6 k'bots challenge day 1

Fri 17th Nov Children In Need day and special lunch

Tues 28th Nov - flu jabs years rec to y4

#### **December 2017**

Monday 4th Dec Presents for Parents

Weds 6th Dec PM Ainsty Carols for KS2 1.30pm at TGS

Monday 11th Dec Full Governors Meeting 6.30pm

Wednesday 13th Dec KS2 panto

Wednesday 13th Dec -EYFS Christmas show- 2.45 pm

**Thurs 14th Dec Christmas lunch - change of date**

Thursday 14th Dec School discos

Monday 18th Dec KS2 practise at church

Monday 18th Dec KS1 nativity 2pm

Tuesday 19th Dec KS1 nativity 9.30am

Tues 19th Dec KS2 church service at 1.45pm

Weds 20th Dec KS2 church service at 9.45am

Weds 20th KS1 party day and Santa in school

Fri 22nd Sherry and Mince Pies AM

Term closes Fri 22nd Dec

#### **January 2018**

Monday 8th January Training Day - school closed to pupils

Tuesday 9th January 2018 Term begins for pupils

Thank you for your continued support.

*Ian Yapp*

Headteacher





### Riverside School Anti-Bullying Charter

We at Riverside School are working together to create a community where bullying is not tolerated.

We understand that bullying is when someone makes us feel frightened by hurting us or our feelings, over a period of time.

#### How can we keep our school a safe and happy place?

- Ask people to join in so they are not lonely
- Respect all our differences – everyone is important
- Cheer people up if they get upset
- No name calling or whispering
- Not use our phones or computers to be nasty
- Take no notice of rumours
- Make new children welcome
- Take responsibility for our own actions and words
- Don't be afraid to report bullying

#### If we have a problem we can talk to:

- Our teacher or teaching assistant
- Mr. Yapp or any adult in school
- Parents or carers and family
- Our friends
- Mid-day supervisors
- Mrs. Wyatt or Mrs. Brown-Bolton