

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Friday 9th June 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to this, our final half-term of the year. A slightly longer edition than usual, but there is rather a lot to share!

Land art

Wasn't the Tour de Yorkshire exciting?



We were delighted to have our wonderful land art so heavily featured on TV footage, even making it onto the official edited highlights of the tour, which you can watch [HERE](#). Well done to everyone who took part, organised and made it such a special day for Tadcaster.

OUR LAND ART HAS BEEN SHORTLISTED IN THE LAND ART COMPETITION AND YOU HAVE UNTIL 13th JUNE TO VOTE - just click [HERE](#) or visit <http://letour.yorkshire.com/landart>

Staffing update and class groups for 2017-2018

We sent a letter home on Wednesday 7th June about class placements for September, with this half-term ensuring the best possible handover information is in place to enable a flying start to the next academic year.

There will also be 'Stay and Play' sessions and home visits for those starting Reception or Nursery next year.

During the late summer term and very early autumn, we will again be offering parents of every year group the chance to attend a 'Welcome to Year X' parents' information evening' - watch out for more news very soon.

Year 1 Tues 4th July at 6pm

Year 3 Mon 17th July at 6pm

Subscribe for updates and follow us

Don't forget that by using the 'subscribe to updates' link at the top of our website homepage, you can register your email address to automatically receive notifications for some of the new information we publish, such as our newsletters. See the User Guide on the website home page for further details, especially to ensure our emails do not arrive in your 'spam' or 'clutter' boxes!



You can also follow us on Twitter - @TadRiverside

Celebration of Work Evening

| Venue | What you can see |
|-------------|---|
| Early Years | The Early Years areas (Nursery and Reception) will be set up inside and outside ready for play. A chance for you and your child to come and 'stay and play' for a while - make a model, paint a picture, explore all the areas. |
| Year 1 | Year 1 will be showcasing their Red Hen art and stories. |
| Year 2 | Explore safari animal crafts. |
| Year 3 | See our fantasy gardens and find out about our metacognition work. |
| Year 4 | We will be showing some of the advertisements we have been working on. |
| Year 5 | Find out about our Bug Hotel and see our Life Cycle work. |
| Year 6 | We will be demonstrating our 'wacky races' design technology work. |
| Hall | Some demonstration materials from some of our club providers as well as some light snacks and drinks served by the Friends. |
| Outside | Why not explore our extensive grounds, see what is growing in our garden areas, relax in the courtyard or visit the wildlife area? (Please be advised that for health and safety reasons children must be accompanied by an adult.) |

Our annual 'Celebration of Work/Open Evening' takes place on Wednesday 21st June, from **3.30pm until 6pm**.

If you know of any families due to start in Reception or Nursery this September, please make sure they have received their invite!

The whole school will be open including the Play Place and the gardens and grounds. There will be work and activities in classrooms as well as displays and demonstrations by some of our after school clubs in the hall. Please come along and see why we are so proud of the learning at Riverside. Visit current classrooms then go on to see new ones and meet the staff for next year. Perhaps go for a walk around the whole school.

Whilst you will of course have the chance to meet staff informally on our Celebration Evening, this is not a formal open evening. Reports will follow early in July, but if you would like to have a private, more formal, consultation with your child's class teacher, please make an appointment for a different date by popping to see them or via the School Office.

Building works

A huge thanks to all our school community for working with us so well while our building works have been on site. Works are progressing well and are on course for a late August finish. We are DELIGHTED with how quickly and sensibly our pupils have adapted to new entrance routes and so on. Some of our site arrangements for sports days and other events will differ this year - more details soon.

If you haven't been through the hall recently, then you won't have seen our whole school collaborative art, which we have installed to cover up the rather drab builders' hoardings - 'Tadcaster in the style of the artist Hundertwasser' - isn't it fab?



Sports days



Dates and timings of sports days are listed at the end of this newsletter and are available via the school website. Extra letters and information will also be circulated via the pupils, where appropriate. Watch out for updates via the 'news' section of our website and also via Twitter (@TadRiverside) - should sports events be cancelled/in jeopardy because of the weather, the website will always have up-to-date information! This year we will also again send out any urgent weather updates via our texting service, for those registered.

All pupils from Year 1 upwards have been allocated to one of our four 'colour houses' for PE and sport. They will need an appropriately coloured top for their sports day. If you do not have a school-badged one through school ready for sports days, any appropriately coloured t-shirt or polo shirt is fine - no large logos or pictures please! If you are struggling to find something just chat with your child's teacher and we will find a coloured band for the day so that they feel part of their team.

Walk on Wednesday and Skipping Challenge!



In just a few weeks we will be embarking on our annual Walk on Wednesday (WoW) challenge. Classes are challenged to have the highest proportion of pupils who manage to Walk on Wednesday - making even part of their journey on foot. This will start on Wednesday 28th June and last for 3 weeks until

Wednesday 12th July, so please start planning! Even if you really must use a car because of distance or work commitments, perhaps consider parking in town and walking the rest of the way to school. Less traffic - good for the environment - good for safety - great messages for our pupils (not to mention there is nowhere to park anywhere near site at the moment!)

The Skipping Challenge is also returning! We will be running it with KS1 and Reception challenges on Mondays, KS2 challenges on Wednesdays. This will start on 26th and 28th June and run for 3 weeks until 10th and 12th July. We have had a Skipping Workshop in school for all children run by Skipping Schools, where they learnt different skips including the dreaded pretzell! Skipping Schools have left us a number of good quality ropes that can be purchased at £5 each from the office. We have also a quantity of ropes available in school for children to use on their day.

Site safety

Please could I remind all bike users that cycles should be dismantled on the school site - adults and pupils alike. We also expect ALL pupils cycling to school independently to have completed our Bikeability/Cycling Proficiency Training and/or completed a parental contract (available from our website). As part of this contract, ALL pupils arriving by bike MUST wear a helmet.

If you are making use of our school site during the nicer weather by letting your children play for a while after 3.30pm, please can we make two requests: please ensure your children are supervised at all times; please keep your children to the area of grass behind the trim trails, leaving the bottom playground and the main field area for our Play Place children - in this way school staff can maintain absolute clarity and line of sight for the children under their supervision. MANY THANKS.

Please could I also remind pupils (and we have also given this message in assembly) that ball games are not allowed before school as there are many very young children including 'babes in arms' around at this time of day.

Picnic lunches

During the summer term, we have a few changes to meal arrangements - on the following dates, the school dinner served will be a picnic 'grab a bag' lunch, with a choice of sandwiches, savouries, salads, cake and ice cream etc all served to take outside and sit in the beautiful English summer weather!

The picnics will be on:

9th and 20th June

6th, 19th and 25th July



Tuesday 25th July will be our annual Teddy Bears Picnic lunch! Send your child in with their favourite teddy and either a pack-up or why not book a delicious school-prepared picnic and save yourself the effort?

Sun and heat protection

Without wanting to tempt fate, we are hoping for a sunny sports day season. However, with the sunny weather comes the other side of being weather prepared.



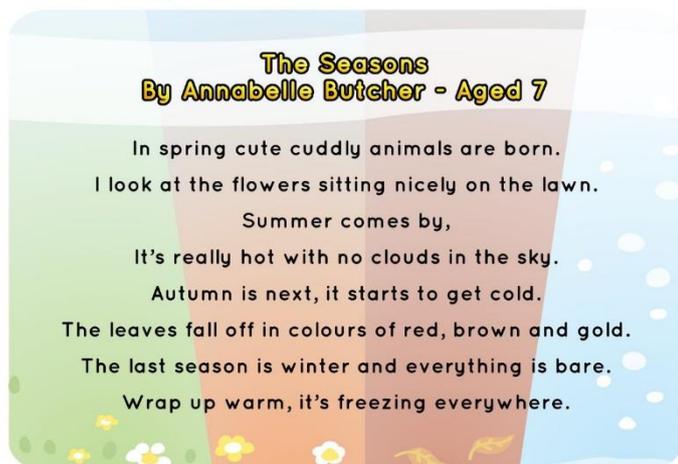
Since we have very little natural shade on our school site, I would encourage you to ensure your child has a sunhat in school (named of course) and that high factor sun lotion is applied before leaving home in the morning.

The preferred option is to pre-apply a cream which is designed to last all day. If, however, cream needs to be sent in with your child, please ensure this is clearly labelled and suitable for your child to apply by themselves.

Please also ensure that your child has a drinks bottle in school to help stay refreshed in lessons (only water in class please, no juices).

Poetry award winner!

Congratulations go to Annabelle Butcher in Year 2 who, along with many other Riverside pupils, as well as those from other schools from far and wide, entered a recent poetry competition as part of the Poems and Pictures initiative. Annabelle was joint first prize winner. Well done Annabelle!



Play Place bookings

The Play Place is open from Wednesday 26th July until Friday 18th August for summer holiday activities. Booking forms are on the Information page of our website under 'information' and 'clubs,' or just click [HERE](#).

A limited number of summer holiday club Play Place sessions are also available for pupils who will be starting our Reception classes in September. Ring 01937 832899 for further details.

Book soon to avoid disappointment.

'First day of absence' home contact arrangements from June 2017



Parent/carers are responsible for the safe arrival and collection of their children to and from the school site. School does provide some outdoor supervision for first aid

purposes from 8.40am until bell time, but official responsibility for pupils does not start until pupils enter the school buildings through their designated entrances. Parents are reminded of these arrangements (specific entrances and timings) through school newsletters. For older pupils who can walk to school without adults, if a child has an unauthorised absence or is not arriving on time, then we may ask you to make alternative arrangements. Likewise, if we have concerns about pre- or post-school arrangements (children not walking home safely, or being home alone when they are not sufficiently mature) then we may get in touch to discuss this.

Whilst school is not responsible for pupils who are not on site, it is in the interests of pupil safety and wellbeing that home-school communication allows us to know the whereabouts of every child every day. We also have a legal responsibility to maintain accurate attendance registers. It is a parental responsibility to inform school if your child is unable to attend statutory schooling.

If we don't hear from you on the first day of absence, we will try to get in touch with you, to check that your child is safe, and make sure registers are coded appropriately. From June 2017, school will start a texting service when pupils have been marked absent but no message has been received.

Our system, revised for June 2017:

- If your child is absent please ring 01937 832899 and leave a message or speak to us directly
- You may also email on admin3@riverside.n-yorks.sch.uk or use the 'contact us' section on the website (pls note to use admin3 email address)
- If you are coming to school anyway with another child, you can speak to us directly
- **If we have not received a message from you by 9.15am your child will be marked as absent/unauthorised on our register**
- In this case, you will receive a text message (on your registered mobile number) from school asking you to ring us with a reason for absence. You can respond by phone or email
- Where no response is received the unauthorised absence mark will remain on the register
- We would far rather you ring/email us before we have to text!

Where no message is received, absences will be coded as unauthorised and where such absence accrues, intervention may be required through the NYCC Prevention Service. This is a statutory legal duty on the school.

Music lessons

If your child is in Year 3 and above and interested in starting to learn a musical instrument, please get in contact with the School Office for more details on 01937 832899. This can include any families considering this for the Autumn for their child (eg children currently in Year 2), as we can start the process now.

Switch off day!

Don't forget that Tuesday 20th June will be our annual 'switch off day' when we do without power for the whole day in school (picnic lunch that day!) and challenge you to try the same at home!

Don't forget our Summer Fair

Summer Fair Saturday 17th June 1-4pm

It's that time of year again and the Summer Fair preparation is well under way!

This year we are hoping to sell as many programmes as possible before the big day! If bought beforehand, the programme is only £2.50 per family, which includes a programme and a raffle ticket for our GRAND RAFFLE consisting of 30 fabulous prizes donated by local businesses. (If bought on the day, programmes will be £3.00 per family)

Prizes in this year's raffle include...

- A Tassimo coffee machine
- A term's FREE pass to 'Just For Fun' Theatre Group
- A professional carpet clean
- A salon haircut and haircare products
- A family cinema voucher for VUE cinemas

This year the fair will be bigger and better than ever before! There will be live entertainment and demonstrations from a variety of performers in the Riverside Events Arena, a tombola, various independent stalls, lots of fun games, face painting, BBQ, Riverside Tearooms, a Pimms tent and lots more besides!

There is also a free Children's Fancy Dress Parade, so get planning!

We are now starting to get down to organising the final details and are looking for volunteers to help! If you can help (in any way - no matter how big or small!) please get in touch via the Friends of Riverside link on the school website or alternatively by speaking to one of the Friends. We will also be sending out a separate Summer Fair letter with specific requests for help.

From Monday 22nd May, boxes will be outside classrooms where you can make donations of pre-loved toys, books and teddy bears, as well as donations for the tombola.

Thursday 15th June is going to be a non-uniform day. We are asking for children to bring in donations of cakes and bottles for the Riverside Tearooms and the Bottle Hoopla.

We really do hope that you will come and join us for what promises to be a fun-filled afternoon for the whole family and help us to raise some money for our fabulous school!

Applying for pupil leave during term-time

You may well have seen in the news that the court case on taking holiday in term-time has now reached its final outcome and that the local council position has been upheld - the issuing of the Penalty Notice in the case was appropriate.

Here in North Yorkshire, the County Council has always held a very clear position that leave during term-time should never be authorised for a holiday and that only leave applications fitting the 'exceptional circumstances' criteria may be approved. This policy will continue, but any flexibility over the issuing of Penalty Notices has now been removed with immediate effect, NEW applications (those received after half-term) which result in unauthorised absence, will be subject to a Penalty Notice fine.

Riverside Nursery for September 2017

You may have heard that we are changing our nursery offer for this Autumn, to allow us to offer:

- 15 hours free childcare to all families
- Up to 30 hours free childcare where families are eligible and we have availability
- Additional paid and bolt-on sessions for those who are not eligible for the 30 hours free offer
- Provision for both cooked and packed lunches

Nursery will be open from 9am through to 3.30pm, with a range of timings available depending on the number of hours your child takes.

Some additional charges apply:

Lunch club supervision: £3 for a half hour 12.00-12.30 where not taken as part of a 6-hour session.

Additional 'private bolt-on' to a 6-hour session, taken from 3.00-3.30pm at £3 for half an hour.

Additional 'private 3-hour sessions' for those not eligible for the additional 15 hours free childcare; these are costed at £15 for a 3-hour session

Please contact the School Office on 01937 832899 to discuss your needs and we can explain this in detail with you - we have sessions available for the Autumn - tell your friends!

Term and holiday dates for 17-18 and 18-19 are now available on our 'filing cabinet' website page

[Here.](#)

Some Dates For Your Diaries:

June 2017

Week 12th June Bikeability for 5DB
Week 12th June Year 1 and 2 phonics test week
Thurs 15th June KS2 able science workshop STAR
Fri 16th June Class and group photos
Sat 17th June FOR Summer Fair
Mon 19th June Multiskills event TBC
Tuesday 20th June 'Switch Off Day' inc picnic lunch
Weds 21st June Celebration of Work evening
Weds 21st June World Music Day
Thurs 22nd June Year 6 STAR Able writers workshop in Play Place
Tues 27th June Upper KS2 sports 1.30pm
Weds 28th to Fri 30th June Malham residential for Year 4

July 2017

Mon 3rd July KS2 rounders competition TBC
Weds 5th July Lower KS2 sports 1.30pm
Weds 5th July Reception 2017 open evening 6.30pm
Weds 5th and Thurs 6th July T&S changeover days
Thurs 6th July - whole school 'changeover day'
Friday 7th July UKS2 sports reserve 1.30pm
Mon 10th July Sports event day—for all school pupils
Mon 10th July Full Governors Meeting
Weds 12th July LKS2 sports reserve
Thurs 13th July Y5/6 technical rehearsals at Riley Smith all day
Fri 14th July EY/KS1 sports AM
Mon 17th July Dress rehearsal at Riley Smith AM
Mon 17th July Ainsty Sports PM
Mon 17th July Reports home
Tues 18th July Dress rehearsal at Riley Smith AM
Weds 19th July EY/KS1 sports reserve
Weds 19th and Thurs 20th July Year 5/6 shows 7pm at Riley Smith Hall
Fri 21st July Year 6 Leavers disco 7-9pm
Fri 21st July Leavers lunch
Monday 24th July Awards assembly AM for pupils
Tuesday 25th July Year 6 Leavers Assembly 2.30 PM
Tuesday 25th July Teddy Bears Picnic; stay and play; school closes for summer holidays

Thank you for your continued support

Ian Yapp