



# RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Welcome back to another half-term. Loads more to share, even before we start the build up to Christmas (only 49 days to go by the way!)

### Sports update

This year as a school we are very proud to have been awarded the Sainsbury's School Games Silver award. So we are going to be working even harder this year to get the **gold award!** To help with this, 16 children have been appointed as sports leaders and they are already hard at work organising activities with children from Reception to Year 5 to get them to enjoy more sports. Recently some of the sports leaders have coached the Year 3/4 football teams and also cheered them on at the side lines (with the help of the leaders all three teams were undefeated!) We have also had half of KS2 taking part in the cross country competition at Tadcaster Grammar with some brilliant performances. At school the teachers have set up badminton, hockey and rugby during breaks and after school. Riverside is becoming an incredibly sporty school!

Article by Elizabeth Robinson and Georgia Moxon – two of our Year 6 Sports Leaders

### 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> 2016. 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 expect the same this 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 round and answer any questions to help you make the right choice for your child.

### OFSTED Parentview

On the front page of our website there is a link to the Ofsted Parentview site. This contains just 12 questions about our school and we would welcome your feedback. These questions are viewed by Ofsted as part of their school assessment process. Every parent can answer individually so we could have more than 800 responses, but currently have only 26! Each academic year, the results are archived, so even if you have answered in the past, please consider doing so again this year. We are very proud of what we do and hope you are too, so please fill in the survey. As always, if you do have concerns or would like to discuss something with us, just call the School Office.

### Bags2School

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November is our next Bags2School collection. Bags have 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 26<sup>th</sup> November. Each year, not only do the clothes you donate go on to worthwhile homes, but we also earn some £400 for the Friends of School.

### Anti-Bullying Week

Anti-Bullying 'Week' will run from 16<sup>th</sup> November until the end of the month. This year the focus is to 'Make a noise about bullying'. Our aim will be to empower children to make a noise if bullying is happening to them or someone else and encourage parents to have conversations at home about bullying. We hope to raise awareness of the impact of bullying on children's lives if they don't tell anyone it's happening.

### 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. Very recently, Friends have contributed a wonderful £7,000 towards our outdoor developments in early years, which has enabled new surfaces and a play shelter to be installed in early years.

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.

***Don't forget it's our school bonfire and fireworks display tomorrow evening! Come along, enjoy the fun, bring your family and friends and help raise valuable funds for our school!***

***Gate open 5pm***

***Bonfire lit 5.30pm***

***Fireworks approx. 6.00pm***

***Tickets £3 in advance; £4 on the gate***

### Christmas shows and services

Thursday 10<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 - Candlelighters, who give support for families battling children's cancer and have close connections with some of our families.

Christmas in the Nursery - please come and join your child in Nursery for "Christmas family day" on Friday 18<sup>th</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 16<sup>th</sup> December - more news in December.

The Reception classes would like to invite parents to celebrate Christmas with them on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December in the hall from 2.45pm with a range of Christmas songs and some tasty refreshments.



Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) are performing jointly this year with narration and songs. These will take place on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec at 1.45pm and Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec at 10.00am. The shows will last about 20-30 minutes and parents and grandparents are invited back to classrooms with their child afterwards for some Christmas activities.

Key Stage 2 will share their Christmas songs and narration in St Mary's Church on Weds 16<sup>th</sup> Dec at 1.45pm and on Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Dec at 10am.

All of our Nativity and Christmas Service collections will also support the Candlelighters Charity.

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December will see Key Stage 2 off to the panto - replies are now overdue - please send any further replies as a matter of urgency!

### Christmas cards



The School Council and Eco Group would like once again to discourage the sending of Christmas cards to all the children in the class. Instead they would like to keep up the tradition of decorating a paper cup for the Christmas tree and making a small donation to charity instead. This year we will continue to sponsor Edmon, through World Vision, and will also support our chosen charity for this year- Candlelighters. Thank you in advance for your contributions.

### Medicines in school and reporting absence

ALL medicines in school MUST be brought to the School Office. We can then advise you if they can be left/administered at school. No medicines should be left with pupils or in classrooms. Please remember to inform us on the first day of absence if your child is unable to attend school. If leaving messages on the ansaphone, please be specific as to reasons, ie, specific health complaint rather than 'ill.' Many thanks.

### Playtime snacks

I thought it would be useful to clarify the snacks and drinks sold by canteen staff during breaktimes:

Calyпсо Citrus Aid various flavours lightly sparkling 50% fruit juice - 50p

Radnor Tropical Fizz 45% fruit juice - 40p

AquaJuice Juicy Water various flavours still - 40p

Calyпсо Shots various flavours still - 20p

Viva Strawberry or Chocolate Milk - 40p

Raisins - 20p

### Children In Need



**Children in Need**

Children in Need is on Friday 13<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 'dress as your hero.' 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 efforts. Please also send donations of toys and books to sell.

Year 6 pupils will come around classes from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> selling wristbands (£1) and keyrings (£2.50) while stocks last.

During the week we will also be raffling Pudsey Bear and every pupil taking a school cooked dinner will get a ticket to a special dinner time prize.

Lunch on the day, as selected by our pupils, will be sausages or cheese potato and leek bake with sticky toffee pudding and custard for dessert! (Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> will be breaded salmon fillet)

After lunch we are aiming to take part in a 'flash-mob' dance along with other schools in North Yorkshire. We will be learning the moves in PE lessons and if you want to practice at home too here's a web link! [www.northyorks.gov.uk/herbieflashmob](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/herbieflashmob)

### Herbie Carrot is 30!

Herbie Carrot, the County Caterers' mascot, is celebrating his 30<sup>th</sup> birthday in school on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November. A special 'party' lunch is planned with assorted finger sandwiches (tuna, egg mayo or Yorkshire ham), vegetable sticks, cherry tomatoes, sausages, cheese scones and birthday cake. During the week, pupils will be revisiting the 1980s initiative to have a bite size portion of cheese or raw carrot after the meal (this has been shown to reduce the acid in the mouth and have a beneficial effect on tooth decay).

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> menu will be fish fingers with Herbie's birthday party on Friday.

### Some Dates For Your Diaries:

#### **November 2015**

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Nov Friends bonfire and fireworks

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov Friends reserve fireworks date

Weds 11<sup>th</sup> Nov PM 'Streetlaw' - human rights - workshops for Y6

Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Nov STAR K'bots challenge day

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Nov Children in Need day and lunch

Anti-bullying week 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> November

Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Nov Y4 Tudor Day

Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Nov School Improvement Governors Committee

Weds 18<sup>th</sup> Nov PM 'Streetlaw' - crime and punishment - workshops for Y6

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov Full Governors Meeting

Weds 25<sup>th</sup> Nov Y4 parents invited to share Towton and Tudor Experience

#### **December 2015**

Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Dec Provisional Presents for Parents

Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas lunch

Fri 11<sup>th</sup> Dec Ainsty Carols for KS2 1.30pm

Fri 11<sup>th</sup> Dec Friends Christmas disco

Mon 14<sup>th</sup> Dec PM and Tues 15<sup>th</sup> Dec AM Key Stage 1 shows

Weds 16<sup>th</sup> Dec PM and Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Dec AM Key Stage 2 services at church

Weds 16<sup>th</sup> KS1 party day and Santa in school

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Dec Sherry and Mince Pies AM

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Dec Nursery family activity day

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Dec Term closes

#### **January 2016**

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Jan Training Day

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Jan Term starts

Thank you for your continued support.

*Ian Yapp*  
Headteacher

