



Ryhall CE Academy News

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

In the manner we've become accustomed to, it's been an incredibly busy term once again. November was the month of remembering as we joined the nation in commemorating 100 years since the end of WW1. We thank each and every one of you who supported our Remembrance Day Service – it was a truly memorable experience for all involved. The children enjoyed creating their commemorative artwork with Miss Cummings, which now hangs in our school hall. November was also the time to draw our attentions back to our school values and particularly to how we can all work to 'choose **respect**' and eradicate bullying. At the start of the week we celebrated individuality and diversity in the wearing of our 'odd socks' before all classes across the school devised their own charter which they now proudly display and work to every day. The week was rounded off by the annual national Children in Need campaign and once again, an overwhelming response to charity was made as children donated 'loose change' – totalling a phenomenal £310.42. During some of my recent visits to different classes, I'm always impressed by the responsibility, **compassion** and thoughtfulness of the children. As a result of a reading comprehension in one class the children began talking about some of their own approaches to advent, considering others as they put aside a food item each day. It was this first discussion that was the starting point of our own whole school collection for Stamford Food Bank – I'm very happy to pass on their thanks to each and every one of you who were able to contribute in any way. Our contributions will make a difference to local families who can find this time of year incredibly difficult.

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

Whilst November was the month for remembering, December has most certainly been the month to bring joy. The school Choir kicked this off in traditional style with the annual Carol Singing at Morrisons in Stamford, raising a fantastic £84.41. FORAs Annual Christmas Market was well attended as usual and I'd like to pass on my thanks to our co-Chairs Mrs Woollard and Mrs Pacitti for their significant efforts in putting on a fantastic event for the whole family, together with all the PTFA members, volunteers, staff and Year 6 children – it can't be underestimated how much goes in to preparations for events like these. The same has to be said for the amazing KS1 performance of the 'Inn-spectors' which many of you had the delight of being an audience for only last week; the children were fabulous in their entire performances. The term has been finished off with usual tradition: a whole school pilgrimage leading to our arrival at the birth of Jesus (thank you to all our local community members for their involvement and support with this), Carols by Candlelight with our KS2 children, a special visit by Father Christmas for our party afternoon and I look forward to ending a wonderful time in the giving of some well-deserved awards. I wish you all a very peaceful Christmas and look forward to seeing you all refreshed for a successful 2019! *Katy Walker*, Headteacher

TERMLY AWARDS ROUND-UP

Congratulations to all the children who have been the deserving winners of our weekly awards over the last half term:

'STARS OF THE WEEK'

Congratulations to these children who have been nominated for their significant effort or contributions:

Noah Parnell, Alicia Kavanagh, Ted Bolitho, Felipe Salles, Max Heames, Ariel Ecclestone, Skylar Burkhill, Olivia Woollard, Jack Player, Faye Favell, Freddie McArthur, Kailum Lester, Tallulah Sorbi, Alfie Topaz, Alessia Pacitti, Toby Haylock-Cox, Mary-Ann Dawkins, Ruby Rowland, Rudy Maltby, Joshua Clarke, Lottie Hartles, Amelia Peck, William Gregory, Neo-Logan Davidson, Isaac Rawlings, Emilia Wells, Bailey Virgin, Libby Perry, Nathaniel Griffin, William Brown, Solomon Johnson, Orlaith Heames, Ethan Dawkins, Ruby-Skye McArthur, Scarlett Booth, Jamie Bell, Jackson Glover, Esme Scholes, Lois Etheridge, Isla Ecclestone, Zuzanna Blok, Lyla Osborne and all of Hambleton, Woolsthorpe & Belton Classes.

'MATHMAGICIANS'

IN RECOGNITION OF CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN MATHS:

Emilia Wells, Liam Keel, Macy-Jane Smith, Archie Hill, Georgia Rawlings, Nevelyn Stewart, Annabel Crichton, Gabby Hill, Sam Osborne, Artemis Trotter, Max Palmer, Lance Maiden, Jamie Bell, Jason Moat, Archie Cantwell, Jasmine Brocklebank, Hope Lee, Thomas Johnson, Demi Gorman, Kyla Powell, Richie Scott, Eva Edgson, Scarlett Booth, Toby Fryett, Abi Byrne, Anya Harley, Luke Fender, Libby Perry, Fern Grice, Tyler Charlwood, Tyler Armstrong, Henry Hill, Ruby Lee and Jackson Glover.

HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Final congratulations of the term go to those children nominated for the termly Headteacher's Awards – to be announced on 20th December in our Awards Assembly.

Dates for your diary

Mon 7 th Jan	START OF TERM 3
Mon 7 th Jan	PE Begins this day: PE kits should be in school
Tues 8 th Jan	Young Voices: Sheffield (Yr 4, 5, 6)
Fri 11 th Jan	Energise Club begins (Yr 3/4)
Mon 14 th Jan	Start of Clubs/Activities (including Premier Sport)
Wed 16 th Jan	Whole School Samba Drumming workshops NEW DATE: Yr 6 Parents invited to whole school assembly at 3pm
Fri 18 th Jan	Mid Year Report to parents: Year 2/6
Thurs 24 th Jan	Woolsthorpe (Yr 4) Class Assembly 3pm
Fri 1 st Feb	NEW DATE: NSPCC Number Day
Wed 6 th Feb	Year 5/6 to CCR: Mary Poppins (am)
Thurs 7 th Feb	9am – Internet Safety presentation for parents led by NSPCC (change of date/time to that previously given)
Wed 13 th Feb	Sports Leaders: Leadership Academy at UCC 4-5.30pm
Thurs 14 th Feb	NEW DATE: Love to Lunch
Thurs 14 th Feb	Mid Year Report to parents – Year R/1/3/4/5
Fri 15 th Feb	Whole School Book Swap Shop
Fri 15 th Feb	LAST DAY OF TERM 3
Mon 25 th Feb	START OF TERM 4
Mon 25 th Feb	Clubs/Activities resume (including Premier Sport)

NEW DATES FOR THE DIARY

You'll note another three additional dates for your diary (from those published in November). 'Love to Lunch' on Thursday 14th Feb will be an invitation for one adult per family to join us for a school dinner. More details will be sent out in January.

TRUST
RESPECT
FRIENDSHIP
RESILIENCE
COMPASSION

Tolethorpe News

This half-term has been nothing less than absolutely amazing! We have continued to increase our knowledge and understanding of the rainforest, how animals adapt to their environment! We have been shocked by the devastating effects that Deforestation and Rainforest clearing has upon our planet!

Yet again, I have been blown away by the amount of effort and resilience that has been put into developing our Maths skills!

We have been fully immersed in Katherine Rundell's 'The Explorer' where we have had the chance to develop our reading skills, while enjoying reading about the journey of four young children lost in the Amazon Rainforest!



This is one of the freeze frames that we did to represent an event within The Monkey and The Bees Chapter.

Thank you for all of the shoe boxes, which we have transformed into the most amazing Rainforest Dioramas!



Above is our collection of SWYK!

We have thoroughly enjoyed sharing the Show What You Know homework and I have been amazed by the range of brilliant ideas, knowledge and effort used to create them! Thank you also to the parents for all the support that has gone into creating them! Thank you again for another amazing term! I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all with batteries re-charged ready for our next exciting topic in the New Year!

Mobile Phones

Please note that children are not allowed to bring mobile phones in to school, including out-of-hours events e.g. school disco. The only exceptions will be where this has been agreed in writing with the Headteacher e.g. an older child has written permission to walk independently to and from school and they have the phone for security – in which case the phone is handed to the class teacher upon arrival and given back at the end of the school day. We thank you for your understanding and support.

School Tuck Shop

We're pleased that the school tuck shop will be open once more at the start of the new term. The shop will be open to Reception Class and KS1 children on a Tuesday and to all KS2 children on a Thursday. Children wishing to purchase healthy snacks should bring in their money in a named purse/envelope/bag. Most items are 50p so we appreciate you not sending children in with coins of a greater amount – change is always useful as it helps the children to get used to the different coins as well as using their developing mathematical skills relating to coins.

Kingswood catering

The Christmas period can be a hectic one so make sure you book your lunches online now in preparation for the new year. Don't forget that if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, your child is entitled to a universal free school meal. Have a look at the menus available now and make your selection at

<https://www.kingswoodcatering.co.uk/>

Belvoir News

What a busy time it has been in Belvoir class! We have been looking at many areas of the world around us as well as the festivals and changing seasons. We truly emerged ourselves in the celebration of Diwali and spent a whole week learning about how Diwali is celebrated. We made diva lamps to take home and light, wrote Happy Diwali cards to our friends and families and created firework pictures by matching numbers with firework splashes! Continuing on the festivals theme we celebrated the Jewish festival of Sukkot (a bit like our harvest festival). We joined Year One for a full morning of activities which ended with us eating the fruit kebabs we had made ourselves. We really enjoyed working with the older children.

A certain little spud called 'Supertato' took over the classroom for a couple of weeks. He set us tasks and challenges to help him to capture the very mischievous Evil Pea! We eventually did stop Evil Pea's rule of terror after reading the book 'Evil Pea Rules', which gave us the idea of turning Evil Pea into an angel for our Christmas tree!

We have been truly into the swing of preparations for Christmas time. We have joined in with the school Nativity play 'Inn-Spector's' when all the children sang beautifully and listened and followed instructions like the true professionals that we all are! We hope you enjoyed it!

The end of this term has been all about the very first Christmas. We learned about all the important characters in the nativity as well as the very special gift of Jesus. All the children made a Nativity bracelet, each bead representing an event or person in the Christmas story...has your child told you all about it yet? And we even had a special moment when we met Mary and baby Jesus...it was simply awe-inspiring.

We can't wait to see your photos on Tapestry of you playing your Christmas board games. Have a wonderful Christmas time and we'll see you in 2019!

Eco News

The Eco Warriors have had a busy term; weeding, garden tidying, bulb planting, litter picking, homemade compost sieving, leaf sweeping, carving pumpkins to feed the squirrels and making Christmas decorations out of natural or recycled materials. It's amazing what you can achieve in an hour a week!

Next year we will be taking part in The Big Battery Hunt again, so please save any used batteries you have over the Christmas holidays, to start us off. Is it possible for us to beat our last year's total of 15,000 batteries? We have an exciting whole school project starting in the New Year, so watch this space!

We're always looking for support in our Eco work so if you think you can help in any way please do get in touch with us – we've always got so much to do!

BIG
Battery Hunt!

Do you need Health Advice?

It can sometimes be difficult to know where to turn for help when you are ill or injured but know you don't really need to visit A&E. This new App will give advice on local pharmacy services and out of hours medical care. www.asaplincs.nhs.uk



The banner features the NHS logo in the top right corner. On the left, there is a row of colorful cartoon characters representing diverse people. Below them, the text reads 'ADVICE ASAP Lincolnshire'. To the right of this, the main text says 'Illness or injury? Not sure where to turn?'. At the bottom, there are four icons with labels: 'APP' (ASAP Lincs NHS), 'SEARCH' (www.asaplincs.nhs.uk), 'ASK' (NHS 111), and '+ PHARMACY' (Pop in). A small line of text at the very bottom mentions partnerships with various NHS trusts in Lincolnshire.

Polite Notice

All children should be accompanied to and from school by a nominated adult (or responsible named person if not an adult) – this includes seeing the child in to the door leading to their classroom at the beginning of the day. If you wish for your child to make their own way in to school, please put this in writing to the Headteacher indicating the dates for when this applies.

We also kindly ask that you do not use the staff car park as a pedestrian route at the beginning or end of the day when the school playground gates are open. This is the time when transport is most likely to be moving and places you and your child at greater risk.

Thank you for your support and understanding in both regards.

Burghley News

What an amazing term Burghley have had! We have been helping Mr Willy Wonka solve all sorts of problems in maths and we have even sabotaged his chocolate recipes and written the instructions for them. There were some truly disgusting ones!! Miss Cox visited us to make our very own chocolate and we got to hold some real cocoa beans. We read non-fiction texts about scurvy and found out the symptoms and cures for the disease. We even found out that some people still suffer with scurvy today because they do not have enough vitamin C. We also read a story about Grendel, a creature who loved chocolate. He was granted three wishes and chose to turn everything he touched into chocolate. It did not turn out quite as he thought. Our Burghley Bright Sparks will be able to tell you what happened. Our non-chronological reports based on healthy eating highlighted our amazing learning in Science about the food groups and the children's knowledge was fantastic. Children's art work based on skeletons have included the 'posh' (correct anatomical) names for the bones. Ask your child if they remember any of them. I'm sure they will surprise you!

This term was topped off with an amazing class assembly showcasing our work from the term. The children spoke well and enthusiastically shared their learning. We were very proud of each and every one of them. Well done Burghley Bright Sparks. We wish everyone a happy and healthy Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in 2019 when we begin our next theme.

WONDERING WHAT TO DO WITH THE CARDS?

The giving and receiving of cards is what many do at this time of year – sending them 'across the miles', giving them to loved ones, or as a way of saying a 'thank you' at this special time of year. Too many of our Christmas Cards then end up in recycling bins to be turned back to pulp (if they can – depending on how they are made). However, the fabulous Eco Warriors team always find many uses for things and are great at 'upcycling' before considering 'recycling'. You can help them out by bringing in your Christmas Cards at the start of the new year. All we ask that you do is cut down the seam, removing the back of the card (and your personal messages), so that we only receive the design on the front of the card. Thank you.

Woolsthorpe News

Woolsthorpe Wizards have had a busy term, but we have managed to squeeze in some fun Italian learning with lots of drama and role plays. We are concluding our linguistic adventure with a performance of a much-loved Italian Christmas song 'A Natale Puoi' which we will be sending to some children in Italy who are learning English. I wonder if they will send us an English song back?!

We are loving our class novel The Creakers and to improve our summarising skills became news readers to write and present some exciting newflashes about the strange goings-on in Whiffington town. Our English skills were also put to test recently when we were contacted by a major retailer to write some adverts for a new toy we invented. Here in Woolsthorpe class, our imagination and creativity know no bounds and we wrote some very persuasive adverts, which will surely help our toys to become best-sellers!

Towards the end of this term, we transformed our class into an Ancient Egyptian Museum and all the children became expert curators sharing their knowledge of mummies, pyramids, Gods and numerous other fascinating facts about this exciting period of history to our many visitors.



We have loved finding out so much about Ancient Egypt this term but now can't wait to start our new topic of Extreme Earth in January. We'd like to say thank you to all the adults who have been in to listen to our reading this term and we look forward to seeing you again next term.

Buon Natale from the Woolsthorpe Wizards!



Primary School Applications

Please be reminded that if you are looking for a Reception Class place for September 2019, your applications must be submitted to your Local Authority by 15th January 2019.

Uniform & Lost Property

This term we have had a significant increase in our lost property – most of which we cannot return to its rightful owner as it is unnamed. Over the holiday period, please check that all your child's uniform is still clearly marked with their name. Thank you.

DIGITAL UPDATE

While digital devices have become commonplace during family time in most homes, studies show that screen-free activities have a positive impact on children's development and health in a wide range of areas, including social skills, physical exercise, sleep and academic performance. Research from Action for Children found that nearly a quarter of parents struggle to get their children to "unplug" and take part in activities away from television, phone and computer screens. Kettler has created a fun visual guide to show you how screen-free toys and activities aid the development of children in various age groups. From babies to school-age children, their guide covers the benefits of different types of screen-free play and can be found through a link on the Action for Children website <https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/news-and-blogs/parenting-tips/2018/november/screen-free-learning/>

You might also want to spend some of your downtime this festive season having a look at #DITTO – the free online safety magazine for schools and parents/carers. Included in this is a section called DITTO Junior – written for adults by children. If you want to keep up to date with #DITTO as it appears, have a look at our website where we publish all of these free downloads (find it in the 'online safety' page for 'Parents' on our school website www.ryhallceacademy.co.uk).

INTERNET SAFETY

Over this festive period, some children may be receiving gifts which can connect to the internet. You can be sure they'll want to 'get connected' as soon as possible, so why don't you take a bit of time to check out our top tips for making sure your child stays safe online. We've lots of advice, all sourced from the key internet providers, on our school website in the 'Parents–online safety' page. If you want an opportunity to find out more and keep up to date then please put our 'Online Safety' for parents diary date on your new calendar.

FORA NEWS

We've had a very busy last term of the year. We held a successful disco in November and raised £262.53, it was lovely to see the children dancing and enjoying themselves. We have also produced personalised tea towels for the whole school which we are sure are going to make lovely Christmas presents. Our Christmas Market was well attended; Santa was kept busy in his grotto, the games were all well played and lots of children secretly wrapped presents for their special grown-ups. It was a lovely evening and we'd like to thank everyone who contributed in any way. We have continued to support school projects this term and it has included purchasing a class rug for reception, guided reading class sets to support class reading, new wet play items in each classroom and tickets for the whole school to attend the Christmas pantomime; Dick Whittington. We are now busy planning for the next school film night which will take place when we all return in January. We thank you for your continued support and would like to wish you all an enjoyable Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Hambleton News

I can't quite believe we are a third of the year through already. Hambleton Class have learnt so much already. Thank you to those of you who attended our Class Assembly – what the children shared with you was just a snap-shot of all the hard work and learning the children have done so far this year. We have continued with our theme of 'Remember Them' and learnt about: the various types of vehicles used during World War One and how the British and Germans used them in warfare; how the sinking of the US *Luisitania*, resulting in huge civilian casualties, which eventually meant the Americans joined with the fighting; and about the legendary figure of Lawrence of Arabia, and his impact on the war in the Middle East at that time. Our English writing has focussed on life as an 'outsider', in particular refugees. The children have had some interesting and in depth conversations on this subject and we then related it to being in that situation during a period of unrest and war by writing a newspaper article and story. On completion of the trenches, Wednesday afternoons have focussed more on Art this term. The children created their own interpretation of the 'Lone Soldier' using pastels and also portraits of Lawrence of Arabia, using pencil drawing and collage. They also had a go at needlework when making poppies for our whole school Poppy Blanket. In Science we moved on to revising our knowledge and understanding of Electricity carrying out various investigations with circuits, bulbs, buzzers and switches. We have then combined this with some Design & Technology by designing and making our own festive light decorations which will, hopefully, light up and make a noise!

Some of the extra-curricular activities this term have included a visit to Oakham Castle to view the public display of poppies that the people of Rutland (including all of this children and staff in the school last year) made at the end of last year. It was a lovely day and the sun shone, which added to our reflection and learning about World War One. We then went along to the Library where we were treated to a performance of 'The First'; a play about two young boys who grew up together in Leicester and joined up together at the beginning of World War One. The children were fascinated by the fact that all the characters were played by just one person, something they had never seen before; all were riveted for the full 45 minutes! I'd like to wish you all a restful Christmas break and here's to a productive and successful 2019! As always, thank you for your ongoing support.

Rockingham News

This term has been all about toys. We brought in our favourite toys to share with the class and wrote descriptions of them. We thought about how they might differ from the toys of the past. Traction Man inspired us to write amazing setting and character descriptions. We drew our own storyboards for our own Traction Man mission and used them to write our own versions. We helped Traction Man to work out the fraction of each energy bar that he was allowed to eat. We have been practising making amounts of money to buy toys from pretend sales and have been continuing to build on our knowledge of multiplication and division. In Science, Traction Man needed waterproof shelter, an absorbent bed for 'Scrubbing Brush' and an appropriate outfit for his missions. We drew upon our learning of materials to work out solutions to these problems. We have designed and made our own felt hand puppets when we showed lots of resilience in sewing the pieces together.

In RE, we have been learning about the Hindu celebration of Raksha Bhandan. We learnt about why Hindus celebrate it and made traditional sweets and Raki bracelets. We have also extended our knowledge of the Christmas Story and thoroughly enjoyed performing our nativity 'The Inn-Spectors'. We hope you liked it as much as we did!



KEEPING YOU INFORMED Parent Support Service

Are there times when you need parenting help or support in the evenings and weekends? If yes, there is now a free Digital Parent Support Service. Through Family Action parent helpline, befrienders and counselling service, emotional and practical support can be provided and guidance on all aspects of parenting.

Freephone 0808 802 0222

Text: 07537 404 282

Email NDPSS@family-action.org.uk

Open weekdays 6pm to 10pm,
weekends 10am to 1pm

GO NOODLE!

Next term, as we to begin to focus more on keeping our bodies active and our minds healthy, we'll be joining the 'Go Noodle' crew on a daily basis. Why don't you join us too as Go Noodle is available on the web, iOS and Android. Why don't you join us and download and play today!

<https://www.gonoodle.com/>

NSPCC

You will have noticed a change to a date on the calendar. Next term we have booked the NSPCC team to come in and lead assemblies (KS1 & KS2) and follow up workshops to Year 5/6 children on the 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' campaign. They also provide workshops for parents in the area of internet safety and we're delighted to have them booked in for an early morning workshop (9am) on Thursday 7th February. We do hope you'll be able to join us – refreshments will be available.

Belton News

What an amazingly busy term we have had! We have loved exploring and investigating the topic of castles and what it was like to live during this time. We looked at different types of castles and why William the Conqueror built the castles in England. We labelled parts of these super structures and looked at the weapons they used to attack and defend. We even made our own catapults! The children were surprised by the lack of electricity in the castles and we explored what they used instead of lighting, ovens, microwaves and televisions. We've decided that we prefer to live our own lives rather than that of a medieval child!

Jam tarts were made by independently following instructions. 'Zog' from Julia Donaldson's book came to visit and we 'hot-seated' him practicing using our question words. We also used our 'Talk for Writing' to write the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' in our own words.

As artists, we have created our own shield designs and drew a castle using the paint programme. We studied Paul Klee's 'Castles' and investigated the shapes we could find in the pictures.

As part of our RE topic we have been looking at people who are important to us and understanding the special times Jewish people celebrate with their families. We worked with Belvior Class to make fruit kebabs and a Sukkah to share in the Jewish festival of Sukkot. We are looking forward to finding out more about the Jewish faith next term.

We hope you've enjoyed keeping in touch with what's been going on through our Class Dojo page – if you're not connected, please see one of us and we'll get you logged in. As always, we thank you for your fantastic support and we all take this opportunity to wish you a very peaceful Christmas and Happy New Year – the Belton Team.

Hambleton Leaders

SPORTING NEWS: We are the Sports Ambassadors for Saint Matthew (Eva), Saint John (Evie), Saint Luke (Jason) and Saint Mark (Chiara). We make all the decisions for every sports event at Ryhall CE Academy. We have created a board for you to know who we are (it's in KS2 corridor, opposite the staff room).

Some of the competitions that we have been to are:

- Year 5/6 Basketball at Uppingham - we came second in our group but sadly didn't make it through to the finals.
- Year 5/6 Sports Hall Athletics competition, again at Uppingham. In this competition we made it through to the finals from our qualification. In this competition

We thoroughly enjoyed competing against others schools from Rutland. *Eva, Evie, Jason & Chiara.*

ETHOS: On Friday, the 14th of December, the entire school participated in the whole school pilgrimage. At approximately 10.15am, we all began to depart to our different places in the village of Ryhall. On the way to our destination(s), we were preparing various questions for the characters of the Christmas story. By the time we had reached our destination, we were greeted by our host; Angel Gabriel, the Shepherd, King Herod, the Wise Men, the Inn Keeper or Mary with Baby Jesus (unless you were in Hambleton, Year 6, where you visited all 6 places). Furthermore, we asked questions according to the character and what we wanted to know; most questions asked had answers not included in the Bible. Once we had finished asking questions to our host, we headed back to school and watched Mary and Baby Jesus being given gifts by the Wise Men: it was a very enjoyable experience. *Charlie & Felipe.*