



Ripponden J&I News

Friday 24th September 2021

Dear parents/carers,

Here we are roughly half way through the first half term already! Time is flying by!

Thank you for all of those families who attended the virtual welcome meetings. If you were unable to attend, we will be putting these on the website. We have had a few technical issues with the website, but hopefully these will be resolved soon and be updated as soon as I can.

We have seen a number of positive Covid cases over the last week or so. Please remain vigilant with symptoms. We are no longer providing track and trace, but in the interests of transparency and keeping our community safe, I will always tell you if we have a new positive case in school. If the numbers continue to rise, we may need to reinstate some of the control measures we had before the summer, but of course, this will be in consultation with Public Health for Calderdale and I will communicate this with you as soon as possible. There has been a bit of confusion over isolation; children should only isolate if they have a positive PCR test, or have symptoms and are waiting for the results of a PCR. Other than that, there is no need for them to isolate. This also goes for adults who have been fully vaccinated. I know this feels odd and different to the previous guidance before the summer, but this is what we are working with now. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

I wish you a wonderful weekend,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "V Bamforth".

Headteacher

COVID-19 Testing

Covid guidance has changed. There is no longer a need for anyone who has been fully vaccinated or who are under 18 to isolate if they have been a close contact of a positive case. I will, in the interests of transparency let you know if we have any cases and ask you be extra vigilant regarding symptom spotting. If your child has any symptoms, please do not send them to school – please arrange for a PCR test and keep them at home until the result. If your child has been around a person who has tested positive, you can also arrange a PCR test for them, but they can still come into school while waiting on the results (unless they have symptoms) Please keep me informed of any tests being taken and any results. This is because I need to keep a track to see whether we need to invoke the outbreak management plan. Please use the office email office@ripponden.calderdale.sch.uk or text/call **07399 326030**. In all other cases, if your child would normally be well enough to send into school, please do. As always, contact us if you need help, support or advice. Thanks.

At present, we have a number of members of staff who are confirmed positive and awaiting a result, as per the email sent earlier. Please be vigilant with your children and if in doubt, please arrange a PCR.

TESTING & SELF-ISOLATION GUIDANCE

You should **self isolate** if:

You have symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive lateral flow test

You have had a positive PCR test

You have been in contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19



Take a PCR test, even if you've had both vaccinations. Continue to isolate if you test positive



Isolate even if you have been vaccinated



If you are under 18 or are fully vaccinated, take a PCR test & isolate only if it's positive

If you're over 18 and not fully vaccinated you should self-isolate and only get a PCR test if you feel unwell



You should isolate for 10 days from when your symptoms started, or the date of your test if you don't have symptoms.

Premises Work and car parking

We are nearly there with the roof and boiler work! Over the next week or so, you should start to see the scaffolding coming down and the car park being reinstated. The work has been really successful and as we are coming into the colder, wetter months, we are looking forward to coming in to dry ceilings!!

In line with that, please be considerate of where you are parking. We have sectioned part of the playground off to allow for staff cars, to alleviate these on the road, but as always, please do not park in the residents' area of Greenacres. We must make sure that residents can get in and out, as well as carers or emergency services. Many thanks for your understanding.

School Council

Children from Year 2 to Year 6 are currently electing school councillors to represent them in the school council meetings that begin next week. Little Acorns and Saplings have representatives chosen from Years 5 and 6. At meetings, the council discusses school issues and finds ways to improve our school. Every class has a suggestion box so that every pupil has a voice in the process. Councillors are also invited to represent the school in the wider community. They have visited the Calderdale charity 'SmartMove' and last year, they planned a visit to Westminster to see how Parliament works! We are very pleased that meetings can now start again, and hopefully visits too. Good luck to everyone in the elections. Mrs Hutchinson, Mrs Bolton and Mr Baldwin are looking forward to hearing what suggestions our wonderful children have at upcoming meetings.

Dinner Money

Just a reminder that all children from Year 3 upwards who have a school dinner and are not in receipt of Free School Meals, should be paying for their school dinner. The cost of the meal is £2.10 per day - £10.50 per week. This can be paid in advance by the week, month or half term depending on how you would prefer.

If you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals, please see here - <https://www.calderdale.gov.uk/v2/residents/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals> or speak to Mrs Skotnicki in the office. As well as your child receiving a free meal, the school also benefits from an extra pot of money to support the teaching and learning in school. In a time when funding is very limited, applications are most welcome.

PTFA Updates

The PTFA AGM was a really successful evening with so many positives, despite a very tricky year. They have given us a fabulous amount of money, which will allow us to fit more interactive panels into all of the Key Stage 2 classrooms.

If you would like to be involved, we have our next meeting on Thursday 7th October at 7.30pm in the Lion pub – all are welcome.

The committee have some fabulous ideas for this term, including a Hallowe'en dress down day just before we break up for half term, toffee apple sales for Bonfire night and lots of Christmas activities too, including the famous Secret Santa! Watch this space for further updates. Thanks, as always to the dedicated PTFA team.



LTA
YOUTH
START Starts Sat 18th Sept

Sowerby Tennis & Bowls Club
162 St Peter's Ave, Sowerby Bridge, HX6 1HA

6 hours of great coaching, racket, t-shirt, set of balls, lanyard & stickers

Ages 4 & 5	Saturday 9.00am – 10.00am
Ages 6, 7 & 8	Saturday 10.00am – 11.00am
Ages 9, 10 & 11	Saturday 11.00am – 12.00pm

We Do Teen Tennis - 6 hours of coaching & a racket
Ages 12 to 16 Saturday 12.00pm – 1.00pm

Covid Regulations
We recognise it is a strange time and want to assure you that we have a risk assessment & measures in place to ensure social distancing. Tennis is a great sport to play with the outdoor nature and safe distance between players.

All sessions delivered by an LTA Accredited Coach
Coaches have a clean DBS, safeguarding & first aid training
Sessions are open to members and non-members

All Courses cost just £34.99 - Book online @ www.wedotennis.co.uk/sowerby

CONTACT US:
01952 984 894
enquiries@wedotennis.co.uk
wedotennis.co.uk

Official equipment partner
DUNLOP

WE DO TENNIS



Branch Out Awards

All of Little Acorns were awarded a certificate for how well they have settled into life at school.
Watch this space for individual certificates over the coming weeks!

Not Giving Up!

Saplings – Sam A
Great Oaks – Harry-George H-S

Being Enthusiastic

Saplings – Huey S
Great Oaks – Freddie M

Showing Respect

Saplings – Grace W
Great Oaks – Dolly B

Being Kind and Caring

Saplings – Ylva K
Great Oaks – Solomon A
Siena R

Making Good Choices

Saplings – Toby K
Great Oaks – Samuel H

Diary Dates

Lots of dates will be added regularly – keep an eye on the diary dates section! We will add more detail in the coming weeks.

October

Friday 1 st	Christmas Card art work deadline – please send back in by then
Thursday 7 th	KS2 celebration assembly
Friday 15 th	PTFA meeting – The Lion 7.30pm
Tuesday 19 th	Reception/KS1 celebration assembly
Wednesday 20 th	Full Governing Meeting
Friday 22 nd	Nasal Flu Immunisation
W/c 25 th	Hallowe'en Dress Down Day - £1 minimum donation Close for half term Busy Bees open all week – more information to follow

November

Monday 1 st	Training Day – Busy Bees open
Tuesday 2 nd	Reopen to children
Friday 5 th	KS2 celebration assembly Toffee Apple sale after school
Friday 19 th	Reception/KS1 celebration assembly
Monday 22 nd	Christmas pudding orders to go home

December

Friday 3 rd	Christmas Jumper Day - £1 minimum donation KS2 celebration assembly
Monday 6 th	Christmas pudding orders back to school
Tuesday 7 th	Full Governing Meeting
Friday 10 th	Clubs finish for Christmas
Monday 13 th	Christmas puddings brought into school to go home
Thursday 16 th	School Closes for Christmas
Friday 17 th	Training Day – Busy Bees open
Monday 20 th – Thursday 23 rd	Busy Bees open – more information to follow

January 2022

Tuesday 4 th	School reopens
Friday 14 th	Reception/KS1 celebration assembly
Friday 28 th	KS2 celebration assembly

February

Tuesday 8 th	Full Governing Meeting
Friday 11 th	Reception/KS1 celebration assembly
Friday 18 th	Close for half term
Monday 28 th	Reopen

March

Friday 4 th	KS2 celebration assembly
Friday 18 th	Reception/KS1 celebration assembly
Tuesday 29 th	Full Governing Meeting

April

Friday 1 st	Reception/KS1 celebration assembly
Friday 8 th	Close for Easter
Monday 25 th	Reopen for the summer term

May

Monday 2 nd	May Bank Holiday – school closed
Tuesday 3 rd	School reopen
Friday 6 th	KS2 celebration assembly
W/C Monday 9 th	KS2 SATs Week
Friday 20 th	Reception/KS1 celebration assembly
Tuesday 24 th	Full Governing Meeting
Friday 27 th	School closes for half term

June

Monday 6 th	School Closed – Queen's Jubilee
Tuesday 7 th	School reopens
Friday 17 th	KS2 celebration assembly
Monday 20 th	Year 6 residential to Langdale all week

July

Friday 1 st	Reception/KS1 celebration assembly
Friday 15 th	KS2 celebration assembly
Tuesday 19 th	Full Governing Meeting
Friday 22 nd	School closes for summer



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Challenge and enjoyment leading to excellence for all