



Ripponden J&I News

Friday 20th February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Good afternoon,

Last week we finished the first half-term of 2026 and as the weeks went by we seemed to get busier and busier in school! This newsletter is crammed full of photos and information about some of the things we have been up to. We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoy sharing everything with you. You will also find lots of information about upcoming events including World Book Day, the Family Quiz arranged by the School Council and the Gala Ball being organised by the PTFA.

Hopefully we will soon see lots more signs of Spring, I think we would all benefit from some warmer, brighter days! Fingers crossed that we get some in the 5 weeks before we break up for Easter and beyond.

Thank you so much for all your support and kind wishes during this initial period of interim leadership. This has really helped us to ensure that things have moved along smoothly and calmly for everyone, especially the children.

We hope you have all had chance to enjoy the half-term break and look forward to seeing all the children back in school on Monday morning.

If you would like to get in touch about anything then please drop in at reception or email the office at: office@ripponden.calderdale.sch.uk who will forward your message on. You may also be able to catch me in the playground at pick up or drop off times.

Jude Kemp

Headteacher (Interim)

Fundraiser for a new playground

Total: £20,000

The school playground equipment is in need of an upgrade. The PTFA are organising a Spring Gala with the aim of raising as much as possible towards our £20,000 target. This will pay for a new set of equipment for all our children to enjoy. The date of the gala will be Saturday 18th April, with further details being released soon. Let's raise some cash by raising a glass!

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE FIRST EVER RIPPONDEN GALA

LET'S RAISE SOME CASH BY RAISING A GLASS FOR A BRAND NEW PLAYGROUND FOR RIPPONDEN J&I

Gala

SATURDAY 18 APRIL 6:30pm

TICKETS £60pp
INCLUDES ARRIVAL DRINK
3 COURSE SIT DOWN MEAL
LIVE MUSIC / AUCTION / & MORE! TFC
FORMAL ATTIRE

THE VENUE / BOWERS MILL BARKISLAND

Children's Mental Health Week 9th-15th February



This was a super week in school where every child had the chance to explore why looking after our mental health is so important.

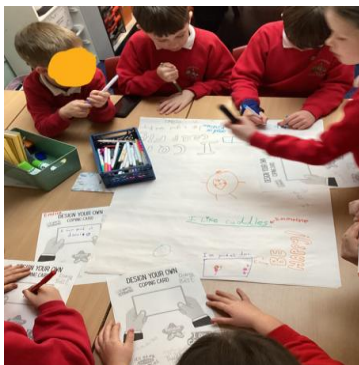
We kicked off the week with a dress down day for the Invictus wellbeing charity <https://www.invictuswellbeing.com/> where we raised a whopping £176.70!! Thank you so much for your generosity!

Throughout the week all the children were given opportunities to practise strategies they might use to support them with anxious feelings and worries.

Rec, Y1 and Y2 had yoga sessions with Judith Abbott, who already runs a yoga club on a Monday morning for KS1 (places available – please email the office for information and we will pass this on to Judith for you).



The Y2, 3 4 and 5 children took part in an OpenMinds mental health workshop, delivered by Sam and Claire. They discussed anxiety and worries and methods of managing 'normal' worries. The children took part in 5 different stations with activities that outlined coping strategies such as worry monsters, sorting problems, worry jars and coping cards.





Y6 – Matilda at Ryburn Valley High School

Wednesday afternoon, year 6 were given the opportunity to watch the dress rehearsal of Matilda at Ryburn Valley High School. We all enjoyed the production very much and it was lovely to see some of our ex-students performing. Hopefully, some of our pupils will have been inspired to take part in the performing arts when they move up to high school!

Ripponden V Parkinson Lane – Girls' Football

On Monday Ripponden girls Parkinson Lane. The match started amazingly, Lotte scored a great goal in the first half. Soon after, Esme scored a fantastic goal in top-bins. By half-time it was two all. Unfortunately, the match ended 4-2 to Parkinson Lane. By Chloe and Mabel



Help us to celebrate the National Year of Reading!

We all read much more than we realise and we would really like to showcase this with photos of Ripponden children and families **READING ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING!** It might be a book, comic, a set of instructions, a poster, a signpost, travel information, shop signs, recipes, messages, websites, booklets, pamphlets, tickets, event programmes, blurbs about movies or TV..... anything!! Please send your photos either to the school Dojo page or your child's class page so we can print them out and put them up on display in school. Alternatively you can email them to: office@ripponden.calderdale.sch.uk.

Sportshall Athletics

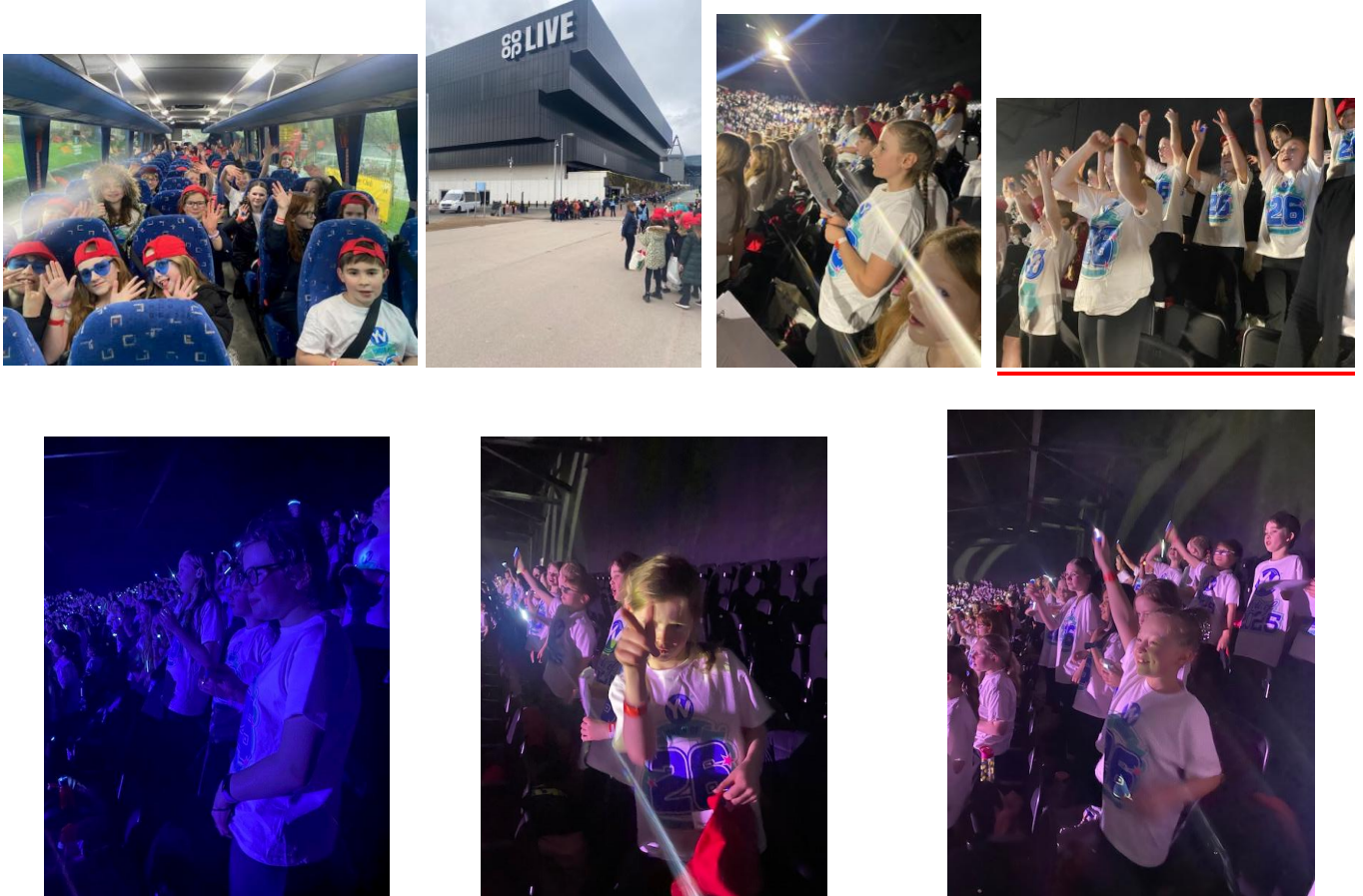
On Thursday morning last week, 25 of our year 5 and 6 pupils took part in the annual sports hall athletics competition at RVHS. First of all they participated in the various field events which involved throwing and jumping activities. Then we had the running events which were in various sized groups. Our runners did incredibly well and a number of our pupils got a special mention for coming first in their events. As always, the behaviour and sportsmanship of our pupils was excellent. Well done to everyone who took part.



Young Voices - Manchester 2026

On Friday 6th February we took 46 of our y4,5 and 6 children to the Co-op Live Arena in Manchester to take part in this year's Young Voices event. What a fantastic evening we had!!! Thank you to Mrs Hamilton for doing a brilliant job of organizing everything as usual (she has now done this for 11 years!!) and to James, Jo Lister and Sue Rosborough for giving up their Friday night to accompany us.

Watch out for more photos on Dojo this week.

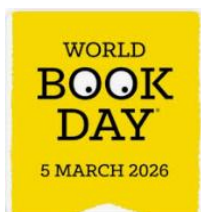


The School Council Quiz



Don't forget that our wonderful School Council are trying to raise funds for school.

Please support them (and have some fun as you do) by taking part in their Quiz. This will be after school on Friday 20th March 3.30pm-4.15pm. Tickets are £2 per person or £5 for a family of 4. Please send ticket money (cash only) in an envelope with your child's name and class written on so we can send tickets home. Alternatively, you can buy tickets at the school office but again this must be cash only.

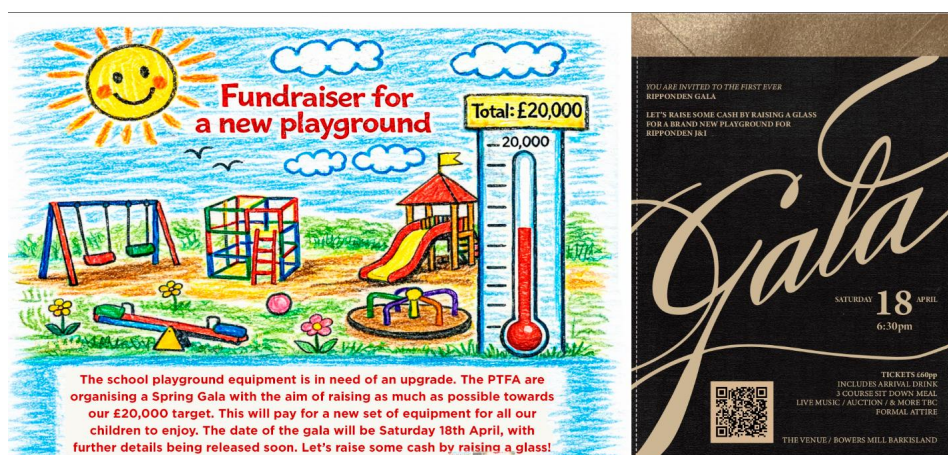


Ripponden World Book Day – FRIDAY 7TH MARCH

Officially World Book Day is on Thursday 6th March but as we have Junior Jam on Thursdays we are having our own World Book Day the day after on **Friday 7th March**. Each class will celebrate the world of books with activities throughout the day. We know that some children love to dress up and equally some don't so this year we are giving the children a choice. They can either come to school in a costume which represents a character in a book or they can come wearing pyjamas ready to curl up nice and cosy with a book. Instead of donations to school funds we are setting up a Book Wishlist on Amazon so you can buy a book (if you would like to) for our class book corners or our whole school collection in The Woodland Room. The wishlist will be published this week and emailed out as well as being put on ClassDojo.

PTFA Gala Ball – Saturday 18th April

Please support our amazing PTFA's Gala Ball! Tickets are £60 pp and this includes a 3 course dinner, live music, silent auction and a raffle. ALL monies raised will go towards the £20K target that the PTFA have set themselves to update our school playground equipment?



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.

February 2026

Mon 23th School reopens 8.40am
Fri 27th R/KS1 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm

March 2026

Tues 3rd Coffee Morning with Miss Smith (SENDCo). Members of the ADHD West Yorkshire team will be available 9:00-10:30am
Tues 3rd West Yorks cross country finals (16 KS2 children have qualified)
Thurs 5th World Book Day – details to follow
Fri 6th KS2 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm
Tues 10th Parents Evening
Thurs 12th Parents Evening
Fri 20th Clubs finish for Easter
Fri 20th R/KS1 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm
Mon 23rd 9.30 am - Rocksteady Concert
Fri 27th School closes for Easter Break

Mon 30th - Easter Break
Fri 10th

April 2026

Mon 13th School re-opens 8.40am

2025/2026 Calendar of main events (see below)

This is a summary of main events. Please keep looking at the half-termly diary dates section on the newsletter, as they get updated regularly.

	January	February	March
1			
2			
3			
4			
5	School reopens		World Book Day
6		KS2 Celebration Young Voices	KS2 Celebration
7			
8			
9			
10			Parents Evening
11			
12	Clubs restart	Break up for half term	Parents Evening
13		TRAINING DAY	
14			
15			
16	R/KS1 Celebration		
17			
18			
19			
20			R/KS1 Celebration Clubs finish for Easter
21			
22			
23	KS2 Celebration		
24			
25			
26			
27		R/KS1 Celebration	KS2 Celebration. School closes for Easter
28			
29			
30	R/KS1 Celebration		
31			

	April	May	June	July
1		KS2 Celebration	School reopens	
2				
3				Clubs finish for summer Transition Day
4		BANK HOLIDAY		
5			KS2 Celebration	
6				
7				
8			Redwoods Residential all week	
9				
10				Reports Out
11		Y6 SATs Week		
12			R/KS1 Celebration	
13	School reopens			
14				
15		KS2 Celebration.		Year 6 Production
16			Class photos	
17				School closes for summer
18				
19			KS2 Celebration	
20	Clubs restart			
21				
22		R/KS1 Celebration. Close for half term	Sports Week	
23			Sports Day	
24	R/KS1 Celebration.			
25				
26			R/KS1 Celebration	
27				
28				
29				
30				
31				

