



# Ripponden J&I News

## September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

September is over already! Where did it go?

It has been a lovely month and school life is busy, calm and productive. Our new class teachers, Mrs Lacy (Y4) and Mr Bell (Y5), are settling well into the Ripponden team and Trev Weaver, our new caretaker, should be joining us in the next week or so (yay – we have so many jobs for him to tackle!).

I have been showing around lots of prospective parents (for September 2027 intake) and it has been lovely to hear their comments about how friendly and kind our children are as we move about the school. We are so proud of them!

Our newsletters come out every month and will contain a round-up of things that have been going on in school. They will also share lots of information, reminders and dates etc. Dates will be frequently updated so please keep an eye on the newsletter and Dojo for current correct information.

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](mailto: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

### Parent Governor

**Type of governor:** Parent

**Term of office:** 4 years

**Time commitment:** 4-6 hours per term

**Closing date:** 20.10.2026

**Parent Vote:** 10.11.2026

**Start date:** 23.11.2026

Please note that this is an important voluntary role but you do not need to have prior experience in a governing role.

If you decide to put yourself forward you agree to be part of an election on 10.11.26

Our governing body plays an important role in setting the strategic direction of the school, holding school leaders to account and ensuring that the school's resources are used effectively.

#### **About the Role**

We are looking to appoint a committed and enthusiastic **school governor** to join our governing body.

Governors work collectively as part of the governing body and are not responsible for the day-to-day management of the school. The role involves providing **strategic leadership and accountability**, working constructively with the Headteacher and senior leaders, and helping the school to continually improve.

For further information [click here](#) or see our website: <https://www.ripponden.calderdale.sch.uk/governors>

Or contact Mrs Skotnicki: [office@ripponden.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:office@ripponden.calderdale.sch.uk) phone: 01422 823363

## Clubs

Clubs started this week and we have a lovely range on offer: KS1 multi-sports, KS2 girls multi-sports, KS1 yoga, KS2 JagTag, Y4/5/6 choir, KS2 sewing, Y4/5/6 running, Y5/6 gymnastics (for those chosen to represent school in competitions) and KS2 chess.

Some of these clubs have waiting lists so if your child no longer wishes to attend then please let us know.

We will update our clubs offer every term to take into account of staff commitments.

Some parents have asked why we don't offer more clubs. The honest answer is that clubs are run on a purely voluntary basis (other than Yoga and JagTag) so we can only run clubs that our staff have the capacity to offer. Unlike many other schools, our staff-run clubs are free of charge to everyone so we offer as many clubs as we can based on the good-will and time we have after a long day of being in the classroom!

## Parking Thank You!

Thank you for being considerate about where you park, we have noticed a difference! It makes the day to day running of the school so much easier.

As a quick reminder this is what we ask:

Please do not park in parking spaces which are marked for Greenacres Residents only. Parking here causes disruption and inconvenience to our neighbours. We would also ask that you do not park in the cross-hatched areas as these are marked to allow access for emergency vehicles.

Thank you for your understanding and support

## Growing our own food

We are lucky enough to have lots of space to grow some fruit and vegetables. Look at what we have grown and eaten recently:



Sweetcorn for lunch.



Pumpkins for soup and Halloween carving.



Apples for snack and for Y6 to make apple crumble!

## **Busy Bees – please note change back to original cancellation policy**

Busy Bees is open over half-term and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October (training day).

We have changed our cancellation policy back to being up to and including the same day of attending.

Booking is open on the app or email the office: [office@ripponden.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:office@ripponden.calderdale.sch.uk)



## **Diary Dates**

The vast majority of our important dates are published in many places:

- Class Dojo – in the calendar and automatic reminders are sent out
- Newsletters – monthly with important dates for the next few weeks
- Parents Year Overview Calendar – issued at the beginning of the year and then re-issued with every newsletter with any updates
- Website (currently being updated)

Please check dates as they may be changed from those originally published at the beginning of the year.

The Parents Overview issued today is v3 with some PTFA Halloween and Christmas updates.

## **Website**

We are currently refreshing our website. Class information should be correct by 2/10/26. Please bear with us while work our way through all of the pages on the site.

## Photographs of our children

You may have noticed that we have not posted photographs of the children enjoying activities in school on our newsletters recently. Sadly, AI can be used to create inappropriate photographs of children using photos trawled from public platforms. Current safeguarding advice is to only publish photos of children from the back of their heads or side view on an open platform. Our newsletter is published on our website which is open access. Our staff are very used to looking for opportunities to take photos of smiley, happy children so it is taking us some time to adapt. We will have new style photos on newsletters as soon as we can. In the meantime, you will find our usual happy photos on ClassDojo which is a closed platform.

## PTFA

Our PTFA are amazing! They are a group of parents who volunteer their time and energy to raise funds for lovely, extra things in school. In the past these have included ipads, interactive whiteboards and fab new things to make cosy book corners in the classroom. Their current project is to fund a whole new playground!

If you would like to help them in any way then please contact the office and we will put you in touch with them. You can volunteer to help on an ad hoc basis, be part of the regular team or even step up to be an officer on the committee. Every little helps!

There are many events over the year that need helping hands such as the upcoming Halloween Discos, The Secret Santa Shop, The Christmas Raffle and Grandparents Around the Tree.

**The PTFA Annual General Meeting is being held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm in school.** You are welcome to attend if you are interested.

## Halloween Discos



**Buy your Disco tickets now!**

**See the poster for details.**

**Every penny raised goes into the PTFA fundraising pot!**

## Dates for your diary:

### October

- Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Little Acorns Dress Down Day for Elmer's Birthday  
KS2 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm all welcome
- Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Little Acorns NHS Vision Screening  
Y5/6 Girls Football match v Greetland (H)
- Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Individual photos taken by Tempest (am)
- Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> SENDCo Coffee Morning – 8.40am-9.15am You are welcome to come and have a chat with Miss Smith, our SENDCo about anything to do with our Special Needs provision. Coffee and biscuits are served too!  
Flu vaccinations in school
- Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Reception/KS1 Celebration Assembly - 2.45pm all welcome
- Weds 14<sup>th</sup> KS2 Cross Country Event
- Fri 16<sup>th</sup> KS2 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm all welcome
- Mon 19<sup>th</sup>-Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> Y6 Bikeability (Group 1 Mon/Tues and Group 2 Weds/Thurs)
- Mon 19<sup>th</sup> KS2 Halloween Disco – 3.15pm-4.15pm
- Weds 21<sup>st</sup> KS1 Halloween Disco – 3.15pm-4.15pm
- Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> Break up for Half Term
- Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Staff Training Day – children not in school
- Mon 26<sup>th</sup> – Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Half Term

### November

- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> School Re-opens
- Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Parents Evening – 3.30pm-6.00pm
- Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Parents Evening – 3.30pm-6.00pm
- Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Reception/KS1 Celebration Assembly - 2.45pm all welcome
- Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Y5/6 Boys Football Competition at Ryburn (after school)
- Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> SENDCo Coffee Morning – 8.40am-9.15am You are welcome to come and have a chat with Miss Smith, our SENDCo, about anything to do with our Special Needs provision. Coffee and biscuits are served too!
- Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Children in Need Day – details to follow  
KS2 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm all welcome
- Mon 16<sup>th</sup> – Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Anti-Bullying Week
- Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Reception/KS1 Celebration Assembly - 2.45pm all welcome
- Fri 27<sup>th</sup> KS2 Celebration Assembly - 2.45pm all welcome

