



Ripponden J&I News

Friday 10th October 2025

Dear parents/carers,

We are racing towards the end of the first half term of this academic year, and it doesn't seem long since we were preparing to welcome our children back after the summer!

We have seen our Little Acorns settle beautifully into school life and there is a real buzz around school with great teaching, learning and activities taking place.

Please don't forget to get your parents evening appointments booked, an email went out with the link on earlier in the week. This is a super way to see how your child has settled into their new year group and look at the progress they have made so far this year.

As we approach half term, please remember that Busy Bees offers childcare all week – see the activities sheet below. As it stands, there are not enough children booked on to make this viable and so if no more book on by **Friday 17th October** we will have no alternative than to cancel the week. This is always a last resort, but I am sure you will appreciate, we cannot run the club at a loss. Therefore, if you do need childcare for the holiday, please book on, via the app as soon as possible. I will let you know, either way if we are opening next Friday. We are running our October Active Family Challenge again this year – see below. We can't wait to see your photos!

A reminder, please about parking and end of day arrangements. As always, please be mindful of where you park to drop off or pick up children from school. Please do not park in residents' parking at Greenacres. Additionally, at the end of the day, please ensure that you collect your children and then you leave the playground promptly. We cannot allow children to play on the equipment, on the banking or run around with sticks. This is a safety and insurance issue. We don't want to be the big grumpy adults at the end of the day, but our insurance doesn't cover if a child has an accident, due to lack of staff supervision. Also, I know I say it regularly, but the car park is for **STAFF ONLY**. Please do not come into the car park and also please use the path behind the cars to walk, rather than right through it. The car park is used by staff all day, some have different start/end times and there are times when staff are coming and going to meetings or training, so to keep everyone safe, please keep to the path. Thank you for your support with this.

A quick plea, from the PTFA – if you have any Christmas wrapping paper that you would be able to donate, please send into the office. They are already planning Elfride's – our Secret Santa shop – more information on this to follow.

Have a lovely weekend,

Headteacher

Bikeability

Our first batch of Redwoods completed their Bikeability this week. The tutors commented on how well behaved, well mannered and how good the children were out in the community on their bikes. Some of the children expressed an interest in developing their cycling further. The Bikeability team have shared that they do a two-day Level 3 Bikeability, which is fully funded, but for parents to book on. The link for it is here - [Bikeability Level 3 | Calderdale Council](#) If any parents want to get in touch to book their child on, they are very welcome to. Well done to Redwoods for being such good ambassadors for our school.

Cross Country Stars!

On Thursday 9th October, we took a team of 38 children to the annual cross-country competition at Ryburn. All the local schools competed and there were approximately 40 children in each race. All of the children were fabulous and absolutely gave their best. We had some medal winners with Harry C in year 4 winning a gold, Grace in year 6 winning a silver and Isla and Melle in year 3 also both winning silver. We also had some amazing top ten finishers. In year 3 Sienna came 7th and Seb came 10th. In year 4 Willow came 9th, Vinnie came 5th and Art came 10th. In year 5 Esme came 5th, Eevee came 6th, Evan came 6th, Elijah came 7th and Theo came 8th and in year 6 Kai came 10th. All of the top ten winners will be through to the Calderdale finals on Weds 26th November, but we will also wait to hear if any of the teams have got through. Well done to all of our amazing children!





PTFA Thanks!

A huge thank you, as always to our PTFA for supporting our school. Following the AGM, we have taken delivery of new ukuleles, glockenspiels and percussion instruments. We have also ordered two class sets of headphones for laptops and a new Samba Band kit. This will really transform our music teaching, and we are so grateful. Thank you so much. Thank you to everyone who has supported any PTFA event last year and watch this space for more events to come! First event is the Halloween Disco, and you can also join the School Lottery, with a chance to win prizes and support school! See details for both below.

PINS Project at Ripponden

As you may be aware, we are a part of the PINS Project this academic year. PINS stands for Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools and is a Calderdale pilot scheme that supports our school to enhance provision, staff training and support for children who are neurodiverse. To successfully participate, we need your involvement!

On **Tuesday 14th October**, PINS will be holding a parental engagement session from 9-10:30am in the Woodland Room.

Come along to our SEND Parent Engagement Coffee Morning!

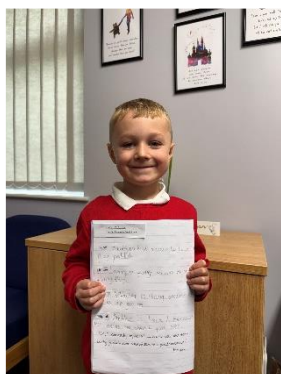
Family Voice Calderdale is running a friendly, informal coffee-morning style session for parents and carers of children and young people with SEND. We will be hosting one here in school on the 14th October from 9am – we will be providing tea, coffee and biscuits – and we'd love you to join us.

These relaxed sessions are a great chance to:

- Meet other parents and carers in a supportive environment
- Meet the Family Voice team and learn more about local SEND services, training and support
- Share your experiences – or simply take a moment for yourself with a nice hot drink
- Have your voice heard about what matters to you and your child
- Hear updates about the PINS pilot taking place in school this year

You're welcome to drop in for as long or as little as you like.

We look forward to seeing you then!



Fabulous writing from Hiro!

A huge well done to Hiro who was sent to me with some excellent writing about the qualities of a good friend. Just beautiful, Hiro, I loved reading about the lovely friends you have!



Abbott Swim Superstars!

Patrick, Solomon and Seren completed a swimathon with their swimming club, to raise money for Calderdale Healthy Minds and for Splash Swim Academy to support children with additional needs to have swimming lessons with no financial barrier.

In a 25m pool, with a maximum of 90 minutes, they swam:

- Patrick – 156 lengths (3,900m)
- Solomon – 80 lengths (2,000m)
- Seren – 30 lengths (750m)

What an amazing achievement! Well done guys!



Every Little Helps!

We have been accepted as one of the Tesco Stronger Starts projects in Tesco Sowerby Bridge. We have asked for a grant to go towards our outdoor and gardening provision, which goes hand in hand with the work we are doing on inclusion and the Healthy Schools award, which we are working towards achieving the Diamond Status.

Every time you shop at Tesco, you can get blue tokens and then just pop them in our slot, and we then have the chance to win up to £1,500! Voting runs right up to 31st December, and it doesn't cost anything for you to enter. I will let you know how we get on, but in the meantime, shop at Tesco and spread the word!!

October Half Term Active Family Challenge

The active challenge for this half term holiday is to go on an autumn walk. On your autumn walk you could collect leaves, conkers, acorns or anything autumn related. You could then create pictures or sculptures with whatever you find. Please post photos of your walk and/or artwork on our school Facebook group or email them to school. Photos will be displayed in school also!



Ripponden J & I School

HALLOWEEN DISCO

3.15-4.15PM

**KS2 - MON 20TH
KS1 & RECEPTION - WED 22ND**

**£3 A TICKET INCLUDES
DRINK, SNACK, DISCO & GAMES.**

**KS1 & RECEPTION TO COME TO SCHOOL IN COSTUME.
KS2 TO BRING COSTUME TO CHANGE INTO AFTER SCHOOL.**

**REGISTER ATTENDANCE BY SENDING MONEY IN A SEALED
ENVELOPE WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME ON WITH THEM TO CLASS
OR BANK TRANSFER BY 17TH OCT (CASH PREFERRED)**

**RIPPONDEN J&I PTFA - 30-93-76 - 02603992
USE YOUR CHILD'S NAME AS REF**

SUPPORT OUR LOTTERY TODAY

**£1 per
week**

**Weekly
cash prizes**

**£25,000
jackpot**



**YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY**



Splitting the £1.00

How it works...

It's simple—choose 6 numbers between 0-9 and if they match the weekly lottery draw, you win great prizes. One of our players will win a cash prize every week, maybe even the £25k jackpot! Tickets cost just £1 per week and the proceeds are donated to Ripponden J & I School

Every Saturday at 8pm the numbers are drawn and posted online. Winners are notified by email and winnings paid into the account of your choice.

The easiest way to join our lottery is online by direct debit or debit card.

It's so easy to join and will make a real difference to Ripponden J & I School



- 40p** goes to our school
- 36p** goes to cash prizes
- 20p** goes to admin costs
- 4p** goes to VAT

The Maths... 100 tickets sold a week means
= **£30** weekly cash prize
= **£2,080** a year for our school



Buy A Ticket

GambleAware



Busy Bees at October Half Term - BOOK NOW!

Monday 27th Breakfast served between 8-9am Hallowe'en Stress Balls 	Tuesday 28th Breakfast served between 8-9am Cotton Wool Ghosts 	Wednesday 29th Breakfast served between 8-9am Bubbling Witch Cauldron Pictures 	Thursday 30th Breakfast served between 8-9am Flying bat Craft 	Friday 31st Breakfast served between 8-9am Mummy Jar Lanterns <i>Can also come in fancy dress!</i> 
Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch Spooky Masks 	Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch Monster Muffins 	Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch Monster Moon Sand 	Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch Graveyard Pudding Cups 	Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch Hallowe'en Party and Games 
Snack between 3.30-4.30pm	Snack between 3.30-4.30pm	Snack between 3.30-4.30pm	Snack between 3.30-4.30pm	Snack between 3.30-4.30pm

RAISE FUNDS BY COLLECTING REUSABLE CLOTHES

**JOIN THE PROJECT
TO ENTER**



ITEMS THAT CAN GO IN THE BAGS

- 1 ADULT AND CHILDREN CLOTHES
- 2 BATH AND HAND TOWELS
- 3 HANDBAGS & ACCESSORIES & BELTS
- 4 PURSES AND WATCHES
- 5 PAIRED, CLEAN UNDAMAGED SHOES
- 6 JEWELLERY, COSMETICS (UNOPENED) AND ACCESSORIES
- 7 UNWANTED GIFTS, PERFUMES & TOILETRIES, SOFT TOYS

ITEMS THAT CAN'T GO IN THE BAGS

- 1 DIRTY, RIPPED OR WET CLOTHING, UNPAIRED SHOES
- 2 WORK UNIFORMS, SCHOOL UNIFORMS & SPORTS SETS
- 3 CARPETS, RUGS, MATS, CURTAINS, FANCY OUTFITS
- 4 BRIC-A-BRAC, BOOKS & CDS/DVDS
- 5 PLASTIC TOYS, BOARD GAMES & PUZZLES

IF YOU ARE UNSURE WHAT TO PUT IN THE BAGS

STOP AND THINK
WOULD YOU WEAR IT ?

PLEASE USE THE CLOTHING BAG PROVIDED.
YOU CAN ALSO USE ANY ADDITIONAL BAG IF REQUIRED.

COLLECTION DATE:

PLEASE REMEMBER - NO UNIFORM

To learn more about the Sammy's project and good causes he does, please go to www.donatedclothes4sammy.org



is launched by  **Leukaemia & Myeloma Research**

Registered charity number 1101022. Registered in England. Company number 06448000

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

Tuesday 21 st	Parents Evening
Thursday 23 rd	Parents Evening
Friday 24 th	R/KS1 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm
	Break up for half term
W/C 27 th	School Closed – Busy Bees open all week

November

Monday 3 rd	Training Day – School closed, Busy Bees open
Friday 7 th	KS2 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm
Tuesday 11 th	Coffee Morning 8.40am
Friday 14 th	Year 6 Bikeability
	Children in Need
	R/KS1 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm
Monday 17 th	Year 6 Bikeability
	Saplings and Great Oaks trip to Chester Zoo
Friday 21 st	KS2 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm
Friday 28 th	R/KS1 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm

December

Tuesday 2 nd	Coffee morning
Friday 5 th	KS2 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm
	Clubs finish for Christmas
Monday 8 th	Rock Steady Concert
Wednesday 10 th	R/KS1 Christmas Production – 10am and 2pm
Friday 12 th	Grandparents Around the Christmas Tree
Wednesday 17 th	Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 18 th	KS2 Christmas Production at St Bartholomew's Church – 2pm
	School finishes for Christmas
Friday 19 th	Training Day – school closed – Busy Bees open
Monday 22 nd	Busy Bees Open
Tuesday 23 rd	Busy Bees Open
Monday 29 th	Busy Bees Open
Tuesday 30 th	Busy Bees Open

January 2026

Friday 2 nd	Busy Bees Open
Monday 5 th	School reopens for the Spring Term

2025/2026 Calendar of main events

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.

	September	October	November	December
1	TRAINING DAY			
2				Coffee Morning
3		KS2 Celebration	TRAINING DAY	
4				
5				KS2 Celebration. Clubs finish for Christmas
6		Y6 Bikeability		
7		Y6 Bikeability Individual Photos	KS2 Celebration	
8	Welcome Evenings this week			
9	Coffee Morning			
10		R/KS1 Celebration		R/KS1 Christmas Production 10am/2pm
11			Coffee morning	
12	R/KS1 Celebration.			Grandparents Around the Christmas Tree
13				
14			Children in Need R/KS1 Celebration	
15	Clubs start			
16				
17		KS2 Celebration		
18				KS2 Christmas production – 2pm Church School closes for Christmas
19	KS2 Celebration			TRAINING DAY
20				
21		Parents Evening	KS2 Celebration	
22				
23		Parents Evening		
24	Phonics information session	R/KS1 Celebration. Break up for half term		
25				
26	R/KS1 Celebration.			
27				
28			R/KS1 Celebration	
29				
30	Staff Meeting			
31				

	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				