



Ripponden J&I News

Friday 12th December 2025

Dear parents/carers,

Well, this is the final newsletter of this year, and indeed my final newsletter, ever!

School, at this time of the year, is a wonderful place, with so many wonderful activities, but for me it is very bittersweet. There has been a lot of 'lasts', which is really hard, but I will take some wonderful memories with me.

Busy Bees is open before Christmas, but due to a lack of bookings, we will not be open until the new year. If you need childcare before Christmas, make sure you book on the app.

Next week, we have Christmas parties (KS2 on Monday, Reception and KS1 on Tuesday, as well as Busy Bees after school.) Remember for parties, the children don't need to bring any food or drink, we will give them a drink and snack. They can bring their best party outfits, and they can get changed ready to party! We will send them home in their party clothes at the end of the day.

We also have our KS2 production on Thursday at 2pm – down at St Bartholomew's Church. This is always such a beautiful end to the Autumn term and a super start to the Christmas holidays. This year, they will be performing Babushka. We would love to see as many of you as possible. Be prepared though, it has been standing room only in the past! Please remember that we will need to bring all the children back to school before we dismiss them at the end of the day.

I really hope I will get to see you all before we break up for the holiday.

Have a lovely weekend,

Headteacher

PTFA Fundraising

A huge thank you to our wonderful PTFA. This term is so busy, with so many activities in which the PTFA are crucial. They have run discos, served hundreds of cups of tea and coffee, bought and wrapped thousands of presents and then sold them, created and raffled off numerous hampers...the list goes on! And this is all with a smile on their faces!

With the various festive activities, including Secret Santa, bauble making, Grandparents Around the Christmas tree, refreshments at nativities and the raffle, the PTFA have raised a whopping **£2000!** A huge thank you to everyone who has contributed in any way and a huge thank you, as always to our fabulous PTFA.

Christmas Dinner – always a winner!

We had our annual Christmas dinner this week and boy, it didn't disappoint! The kitchen staff worked tirelessly to create a wonderful and traditional Christmas dinner for us all. In the words of one of the children... "Best.Day.Ever!" Thank you to Miss Baldwin and her team for fabulous food, for Christmas Dinner and always!



HEALTH AND SAFETY RATING



Outstanding

This is to certify that

Ripponden J&I School

Has achieved

Outstanding Safety Status

Following a Review from the Health and Safety Team

Signature: *L. Broadbent*

Date: 12th December 2025

Lee Broadbent
CMBC Health and Safety Manager

Calderdale
Council

We are Outstanding!

Last week we had a Health & Safety inspection by Calderdale Council Health & Safety team. They have assessed us as having a 5-star, outstanding status for Health & Safety! A fantastic achievement. Well done to #TeamRipponden, but a special mention to Linda and Damian, who oversee Health & Safety on a day-to-day basis. Well done all!

Abbott Family Singers!

The Abbott children have been in the recording studio! They did some backing vocals for a friend of the family, Danny who has released a Christmas album, out now!

The children should feel really proud of it. They feature on tracks 1, 2 and 4.

🎅 Now That's What I Call a Dan E Malone Christmas - by Dan E Malone

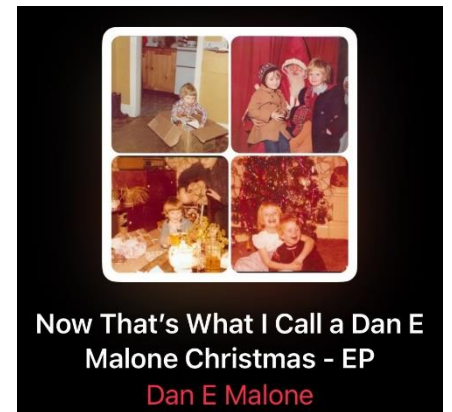
Available here and everywhere:

<https://music.apple.com/gb/album/now-thats-what-i-call-a-dan-e-malone-christmas-ep/1855097452>

<https://open.spotify.com/album/6PDURAizfHr11v8lxLkpzM?si=wqLKXelxRDqNbQboQ111Tg>

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=OLAK5uy_neTMfe1rchhgyTI0n6-NJPUBHcjeqe0dA&si=3xordVleHt_GFRWG

Well done to all three of the children (including Patrick, part of our alumni!) – we may see you making your own music in the future!



Whoops-A-Daisy-Angel

This week we had our R/KS1 production of Whoops-A-Daisy Angel, which was just beautiful. The children sang, danced and acted so well and were so happy to perform for you. Thank you, as always, for everyone who was able to attend, your support at these key milestone events means the world!



PINS Questionnaire Results

As you know, we are part of the PINS project, which involves a multi-agency approach to supporting us to support all children in school, particularly focusing on training and development to support neurodivergent children in school. There was a survey sent out some time ago and the results are in, which I am really happy to share with you. Please keep a look out for upcoming events regarding PINS, there some workshops and coffee mornings coming up in the new year.

The PINS Parent Survey Results are in...

100% parents said they feel very included or mostly included in the school community.

Over 85% of parents believe the school communicates well and regularly about their child's needs.

All families that answered the survey, who have a child with additional needs, know that reasonable adjustments are always, or often made for their child.

100% of parents said they feel that the school is a welcoming place.

Over 90% of parents who answered the survey said they know what support their child receives at Ripponden.

Grandparents Around the Christmas Tree

This morning, we had our annual Grandparents Around the Christmas Tree event, and as usual we had a full house! This is always so popular and with good reason! The children all sang beautifully and there were refreshments and a raffle – perfect morning out! Thank you to everyone who came out to support.



School Council Entrepreneurs!

A fantastic well done to our School Councillors, who ran a cake stall at both of the R/KS1 nativities this week. They are raising money to subsidise the cost of school trips, because as we know, the prices of these are going up and up. With their cake stall and by selling the remainder on the playground at the end of the day, they managed to raise a fantastic **£101!** Well done!

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.

December

Monday 15 th	Christmas Parties for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
Tuesday 16 th	Christmas Parties for Reception, Year 1 & Year 2
	Busy Bees Christmas Party
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

January 2026

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				