



Ripponden J&I News

Friday 14th February 2025

Dear parents/carers,

Here we are at half term – approximately half the way through the academic year!

We have been working really hard in school and having lots of fun doing it! Last week was the Children's Mental Health Week, which was a great success with different activities and workshops on the go, as well as thinking carefully about our mental health and how best to support it.

We break now for the half term holiday. Busy Bees has a fun-filled Harry Potter-themed week (see below) and if you would like your child to attend, please book on the app.

We look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 24th February! Have a great week.

With kindest regards

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

Headteacher

Children's Mental Health Week 2025

Wow! This was a fabulous and busy week. There were so many lovely activities going on around school last week, finished with a brilliant 'Dare to Be You Day!'

My favourite part of the week was to see in action the 'Random Act of Kindness' going on around school. All of the children had chosen a name out of a hat and went out of their way to do something kind for that child that week. This is something that really came to life! We saw children receiving pictures, poems, jokes, compliments, helping each other on the playground, giving hugs and showing care and respect. We have amazing children here at Ripponden!

Thank you all so much for your generous donations towards Healthy Minds Calderdale and TIMEOUT. We raised just under £200! We loved how the children took this day to really show us who they are! We had children in PJS, rugby kits, football kits, dress up clothes, favourite items, dance gear and lots of sparkle!! It was a privilege to be able to walk around school on Friday and hear the buzz of children showing off why their clothes were special to them and what they represented.

As you know, Mental Health is not just a week in our school. It's an ongoing priority for everyone and we use our Branch Out Basics, Growth Mindset Strategies and support from OpenMinds Calderdale to promote wellbeing each and every day here at Ripponden.



Children's Mental Health Week 2025



School Dinners

Now that our kitchen is fully back up working and we have two new, super-efficient ovens, Miss Baldwin has revamped the menu, which you should have received via email, and it is also on the website.

To show case the wonderful school meals, Miss Baldwin will be at both parents' evenings in March (4th and 6th) and will have a selection of meals for you to try. Please come along and have a sample of school dinners in the hall and see what your children are offered daily!

Little Acorns Police Visit

Little Acorns had a wonderful time when the police visited them this week! They got to try on some uniform, watch a drone fly, see how a stinger works and play with the lights and sirens on police cars! I think we have a lot of budding police officers in the making here.



Mindful Craft Club

Over the last few weeks our craft club has been practicing creating their own mandala and rangoli designs. They found these calming and enjoyed putting their designs on rocks. It was lovely to see how the children took pride in their work, even though unintentionally it has helped them to understand the power of mindfulness.



Music in Willows

Willows had an unexpected but fabulous music lesson on Samba drums this week! The Calderdale Music Trust came in and delivered a fantastic lesson on the history of drums with a particular focus on Samba from Brazil. The children explored a range of drums and cowbells to create their own Samba band! It was truly amazing!



School policies

School has a number of policies for different aspects of school life and these have just been updated and approved by our governors. They will go on the policies section of the website. If you need a paper copy of any of the policies, please let the office know and they will arrange this for you.

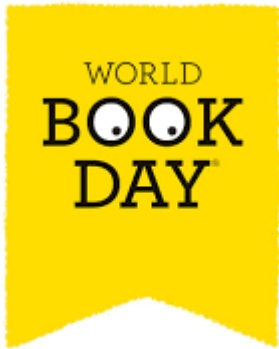
Ripponden Panto Co.
PROUDLY PRESENTS

Once upon a time
in **Pantoland**
by Alex Jackson

VICTORIA HALL, RIPPONDEN

Friday 7th March - 7pm	Friday 14th March - 7pm
Saturday 8th March - 2pm & 7pm	Saturday 15th March - 2pm & 7pm
Sunday 9th March 2pm	Sunday 16th March - 2pm

Tickets available at *ticketsource* - £12 each
Family ticket (2 adults, 2 children) £40



World Book Day – Thursday 6th March

For World Book Day, we will be inviting the children (and staff!) to come to school in their PJs and share their favourite bedtime story. We are always conscious of asking parents for things and as World Book Day should be about books, not costumes, this is a lovely way to celebrate the love of books and reading and make it accessible to all. As always, please ensure children have appropriate footwear and coats for playing out, while in their PJs.



Daily Mile Medallists

Well done to all of our Daily Mile Medallists! A group who have achieved their bronze, which is 25 miles and an ever-increasing group of children who have achieved their silver, which is a very impressive 50 miles! Well done to everyone and keep running!

Sensory Circuits

A huge thank you to those who have bought something for our sensory circuits work. We hope to bring you updates on this after the half term.

. If you would like to support the Sensory Circuits appeal, the link is here - https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3RTX721U978XP?ref_=wl_share Huge thank you, as always, for your support.

Timeline Challenge

This week, we launched our Timeline Challenge, where we asked children to design pictures for various significant historical periods, that Damian will then paint onto the main corridor in school. Children can enter as many pictures as they would like for as many eras as they would like and can bring entries into school, any time between now and Friday 28th February. In addition to the eras we sent out, we would like to add some more in, with either national or local significance. These are:

- The Suffragette Movement
- The signing of the Magna Carter
- The English Civil War
- War of the Roses
- Ripponden School opens
- The Bridge Pub opens
- St Bartholomew's Church opens
- The Bridge in Ripponden is built

These events in history are not taught in the National Curriculum but are significant to the country or the settlement of the village. Some of the eras may need a bit of researching, but this is why it is called a challenge! The other categories are below as a reminder. We are really excited to see the children's entries and I will keep you updated in the process.

Dinosaurs become extinct	Stone Age	Iron Age	Vikings
Bronze Age	Ancient Egypt	Ancient Maya	Romans
Ancient Greece	Anglo-Saxons	Norman Conquest	Tudors
Islamic Golden Age	Columbus	Great Fire of London	WWI
Crimean War	Industrial Revolution	Victorians	WWII
Rosa Parks	Martin Luther King	Space Age	Covid
Queen Elizabeth II	King Charles III and Queen Camilla		





The Great Fire of Ripponden!

THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON! Great Oaks have finished their history work on The Great Fire of London, by creating cardboard houses and setting fire to them. This almost became the Great Fire of Ripponden because of the wind... this was definitely exciting and proved why the fire spread so fast!



This Sunday and Beyond...

We would love to see you at the

FAMILY COMMUNION Service – at Ripponden

on the theme of **The Beatitudes**

9.30am on Sunday the 16th of February



With guitar-led songs, a simple Communion thoughtful prayers and times for joining in.

There are toys at the back for the small and distracted – followed by refreshments and **TOAST**.

But also... have you thought about **CONFIRMATION ?**

There be preparation sessions for **children** (at 3pm) and **adults** (at 5pm) on every Sunday in March leading up to a **Confirmation Service at Halifax Minster on Easter Eve – Saturday the 19th of April**

We very much hope to see you – *Stephen.* stephen.southgate@leeds.anglican.org

The RINGSTONE BENEFICE of Barkisland + Deanhead + Ripponden + Rishworth

Parking Around School

Please can I ask that when collecting children after school or from after school clubs that parents do not park in Greenacres car park. This is an age-old problem, which we understand is difficult for parents, but please remember that this is a resident only car park and access needs to be available at all times for healthcare workers and emergency vehicles.

I have also been made aware that some parents have been swearing or using verbal abuse towards residents of Greenacres, although appreciate it has been from both sides at times.

Please refrain from this, there really is no need for it.

. If parents could allow a little more time to collect their children and park elsewhere and walk round to the school that would be appreciated.

Harry Potter Week

<p>Monday 17th February Breakfast served between 8-9am</p> <p>AM – Butterbeer Cupcakes</p> 	<p>Tuesday 18th February Breakfast served between 8-9am</p> <p>AM – Potions Class and Potions Necklace</p> 	<p>Wednesday 19th February Breakfast served between 8-9am</p> <p>AM – Make your own wand</p> 	<p>Thursday 20th February Breakfast served between 8-9am</p> <p>AM – Edible Sorting Hats</p> 	<p>Friday 21st February Breakfast served between 8-9am</p> <p>AM – Triwizard Tournament Games</p> 
<p>Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch</p> <p>PM – Wanted Wizard Posters</p> 	<p>Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch</p> <p>PM – Harry Potter Hama Beads</p> 	<p>Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch</p> <p>PM – Invisibility Cloak</p> 	<p>Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch</p> <p>PM – Harry Potter Felt Ties</p> 	<p>Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch</p> <p>PM – Hogwarts Wizarding Party</p> 
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

Busy Bees at Half Term – book on the app!

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

Monday 24th

School reopens

Young Voices – Coop Arena, Manchester

Friday 28th

KS2 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm

March

Tuesday 4th

Parents' Evening

Thursday 6th

World Book Day

Parents' Evening

Friday 7th

R/KS1 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm

Wednesday 12th

Parent Coffee Morning

Friday 14 th	KS2 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm
Monday 17 th	Saplings Calderdale Book of the Year Workshop
Friday 21 st	R/KS1 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm
Friday 28 th	Clubs finish for Easter
	KS2 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm
Monday 31 st	Rock Steady Concert

April

Wednesday 2 nd	Parent Coffee Morning
Friday 4 th	Break up for Easter

2024/2025 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.



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Growing Together, Reaching for the Sky

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

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