



Ripponden J&I News

Friday 26th January 2024

Dear parents/carers,

We have had another couple of very busy weeks in school. The weather has also changed considerably over the last couple of weeks, with snow, ice and rain in abundance! Please make sure that you send your child with clothing appropriate to the weather, as we will always aim to take the children out, as long as it is safe to do so.

We will be changing the way we showcase our children's work and learning moving forward. When reflecting on the previous open afternoons, they have not had the impact that we hoped they would, so we will not be continuing them in the same way moving forward. Each class will be working on a personalised showcase, which we will communicate with you as they arise. As with always, we will have the children's books out and ready for you to look at during Parents' Evenings, which are coming up after half term.

We only have two weeks until half term (very short half term, racing by very quickly!) and Busy Bees is open for booking on the app. The first day back after half term is a staff training day, so Busy Bees will not be open this day, as all staff are involved in the training.

Have a wonderful weekend,

V Bamforth

Headteacher

Book now on the app!

Busy Bees Half Term Fun				
Monday 12th February Breakfast served between 8-9am	Tuesday 13th February Breakfast served between 8-9am	Wednesday 14th February Breakfast served between 8-9am	Thursday 15th February Breakfast served between 8-9am	Friday 16th February Breakfast served between 8-9am
Minute to Win it Games 	Pancake Face Pictures 	Valentines Heart Biscuits 	Balloon Rockets 	Pipe Cleaner Snakes 
Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch	Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch	Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch	Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch	Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch
Slime 	Making (and eating!) Pancakes 	Valentines Day Cards 	Making Spinning Tops 	Bubble Paint Art 
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

Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%?

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

Attendance

I have sent out letters to the parents of children whose attendance fell below 95% in the Autumn term, as well as those who have improved between October half term and Christmas.

It is my statutory duty to monitor attendance and as such, these letters are done, at minimum, every half term. There is a big push from the government about attendance, as we all know that good attendance directly correlates with good outcomes for children.

In addition to this monitoring and considering the latest government directives, the governors have decided to refer families for fixed penalty notices (fines) for periods of unauthorised absence, such as holidays. We have never fined for holidays in the past, but given the increased emphasis on school attendance, we feel it necessary.

We are also having a clamp down on punctuality. As you know, the gates close at 8.45am and any child arriving after this time needs to enter school via the office. However, **this must be with an adult.** Adults will be asked to sign in any late comers with a reason for their lateness. This will be reviewed on a weekly basis by a member of the SLT (Senior Leadership Team) and any patterns will be investigated. While we understand that things happen, such as sleeping in occasionally or heavy traffic due to the motorway being closed, for example, persistent lateness is not acceptable. Children arriving late into class often feel very unsettled as the rest of the children are getting on with their learning. A few minutes may not seem much, but even 10 minutes a day adds up to nearly an hour a week of lost learning!

I know that our parents want the very best for their children and will understand the importance of regular and punctual attendance. Having said that, we seem to have been plagued the last couple of weeks with so many illnesses. If you are unsure whether to send your child to school, rest assured that most of the time, they are more resilient and bounce back quickly. If they are really not well enough, we will call you and send them home.

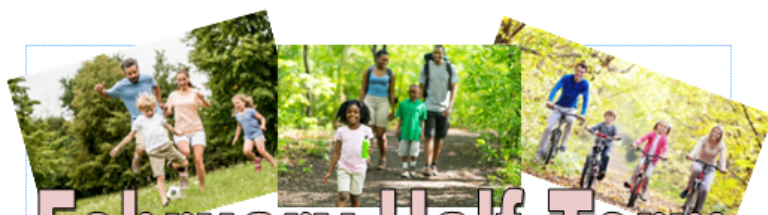
The graphic overleaf from Public Health is a really useful document to show you when you should keep your child off for different conditions and for how long. This website - <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> is also a useful reference. Thank you for working with us to ensure the best attendance and therefore the best outcomes for children.



Well done to Jack from Maples Class, who has just achieved his Bronze Medal (25 miles) for the Daily Mile!

Do I need to keep my child off school?

Chicken Pox Until all spots have crusted over	Conjunctivitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Diarrhoea & Vomiting 48 hours from last episode	Glandular Fever No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Hand, foot & mouth No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Impetigo Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Measles or German Measles 4 days from onset of rash	Mumps 5 days from onset of swelling	Scabies Until after first treatment	Scarlet Fever 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	Slapped Cheek No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Whooping Cough 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
	Flu Until recovered	Head Lice No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Threadworms No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Tonsillitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	



February Half Term

Family Challenge

Get outside and Get Active! This is our challenge for you over February half term. Whether it's walking, cycling, scootering, skating, running, playing football, rugby, basketball or even sledging, we'd like you share your experiences with us by taking a photo and popping it on our school facebook page or sending us an email. We'd then like to make a lovely display of your photos in school for everyone to see.

Alongside this challenge, there is a competition to design next year's Travel Tracker badges (that the children get for walking to school). The theme this year is 'Walk with imagination'. Children are encouraged to imagine what it would be like to walk to school as an animal, historical icon, etc. Let your imagination run wild! Entry forms (with more details) will be sent home for half term. Please return by Weds 21st Feb.



February Half Term Family Challenge

Following the success of last year's February Half Term Family Challenge, we are repeating it this year. Please see the poster beside for details. We can't wait to see the ways you have been active over the half term!



Mental Health Awareness Week

05.02.24



01

Join us for a Support and Share group where we can discuss your child, any challenges you are facing and offer a listening ear, advice and guidance!

Monday 5th February 5-6pm in The Woodland Room



02

Non-Uniform Day and a Dance Party at school!

Friday 9th February 2024

We will have a non-uniform day to raise money for a Mental Health Awareness Charity (Young Minds)

Please bring in a donation towards this.

Because music is good for the soul, Miss Smith will lead on a whole school dance party in the play ground during the afternoon!

03

We will have a visit from our school Mental Health Practitioner.

04

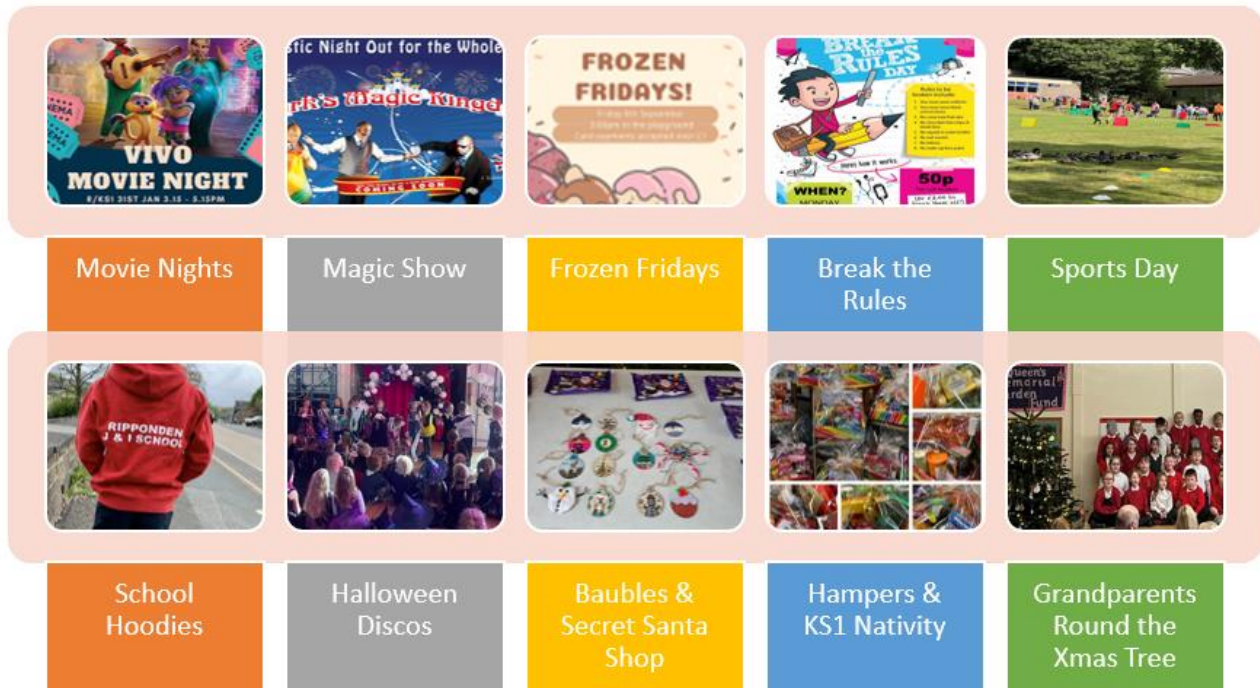
Throughout the week, we will learn strategies to cope with challenges and pressures we face. We will take part in mindfulness classes, resilience workshops and complete building positivity activities. The week will highlight skills that can last us a life time.



@reallygreatsite

PTFA Update – Part 1

This year has yet again been an incredibly busy year for PTFA activities. We have either owned or contributed to the following activities and events:



All these events are focused on 2 things...

- 1 – Creating fantastic experiences for our children and their families
- 2 – Raising funds to invest back into the school to support our children's education through resources

What happens to the funds raised?

During the last 18 months the PTFA have provided funds which have enabled the purchase of the following:

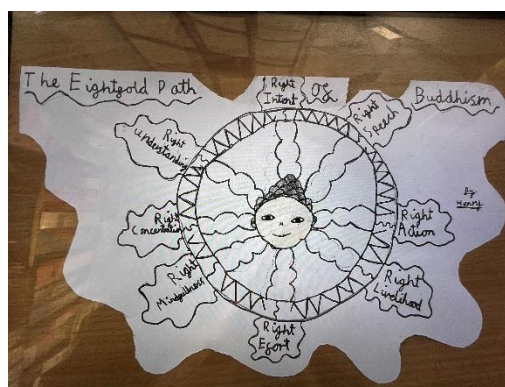
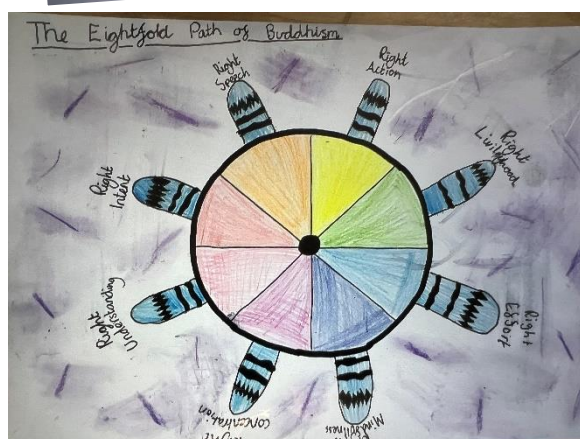
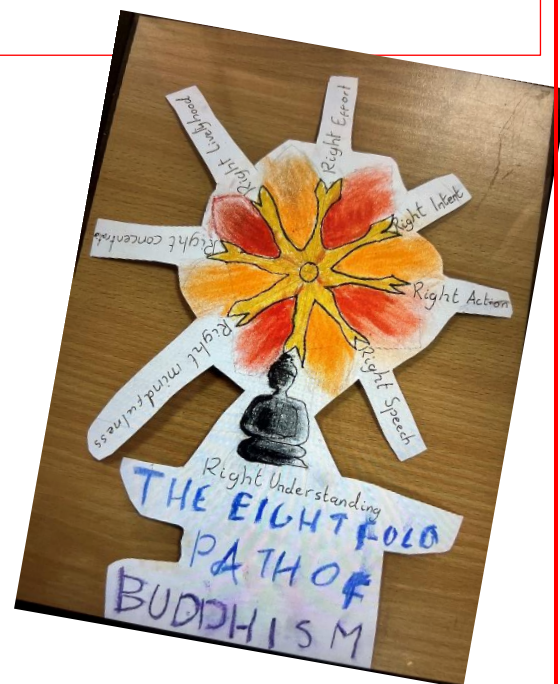
- 25 Apple iPads and Cases (Project Complete)
- Smart Screens in every classroom
- Christmas Books
- Coronation Bookmarks
- Water Bottles for Little Acorn Pupils

The PTFA, working in partnership with school, plays a crucial role in many of the things that as parents we would consider 'expected' during the year. You may not have been as aware of what these events go on to provide for all our children.

In 2024 we will be focusing on replacing the Audio-Visual equipment in the hall plus acquiring books for KS2 pupils

Maples Explore The Eightfold Path of Buddhism

Maples have been looking at Buddhism in RE and examining the belief of the eightfold path. The children have then created their own representations. I am sure you will agree, there are some excellent designs!



Parent Support and Share Group at Ripponden J&I School Spring Term

Come along to our support group! Whether you have a child with additional needs, need some advice, or just want to talk to us, please come to see us! We will have staff, governors and outside agencies available to give specialist advice and most importantly, listen. We found in Autumn, sometimes the best advice you can receive is from other parents going through the same thing.

Come and chat to us and know you are NEVER alone ☺

Refreshments provided! Who can say no to a biscuit and a brew?

Wednesday 17th January- 8:40-9:30am

Monday 5th February- 5-6pm

In the Woodland Room, located by Year 2.



Connect with other parents and
share experiences

Get advice and support from
specialists

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.

January 2024

Tuesday 30th EYFS Maths open session

February

Friday 2nd R/KS1 Celebration Assembly 2.45pm

W/C 5th February Children's Mental Health Week

Wednesday 7th Young Voices – Manchester

Friday 9th Non-Uniform day in aid of Young Minds

KS2 Celebration Assembly 2.45pm

Break up for half term

Monday 12th Busy Bees Open all week

Monday 19th Staff training day

Tuesday 20th School reopens

Wednesday 21st PTFA Meeting – Silk Mill – 7.30pm

Thursday 22nd Cross Country

Friday 23rd R/KS1 Celebration Assembly 2.45pm

March

Friday 1st KS2 Celebration Assembly 2.45pm

Monday 4th Bags to School Collection

Tuesday 5th Parents' Evening

Thursday 7th World Book Day

Parents' Evening

Friday 8th R/KS1 Celebration Assembly 2.45pm

Friday 15th Clubs Finish for Easter

KS2 Celebration Assembly 2.45pm

Tuesday 19th Maples School Visit to Temple Newsham

Friday 22nd School Closes for Easter



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Growing Together, Reaching for the Sky

	January	February	March
1			KS2 Celebration 2.45pm
2		R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm	
3			
4			
5			Parents Evening
6			
7		Young Voices	World Book Day Parents Evening
8	School reopens		R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm
9		KS2 Celebration 2.45pm School Closes for Half term	
10			
11			
12		Busy Bees Open all week	
13			
14			
15	Clubs restart		Clubs finish for Easter KS2 Celebration 2.45pm
16			
17	EYFS Maths Information Session		
18			
19	R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm	TRAINING DAY	
20		School reopens	
21			
22			School Closes for Easter
23		R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm	
24			
25			
26	KS2 Celebration 2.45pm		
27			
28			
29			
30	EYFS Maths Open Session		
31			

	April	May	June	July
1				
2				
3		R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm	School reopens	
4				
5				Clubs finish for summer Transition Day
6		BANK HOLIDAY		
7			Class Photos R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm	
8	School reopens			
9				
10		KS2 Celebration 2.45pm	Y6 Residential all week	
11				
12				Reports Out
13		Y6 SATs Week		
14			KS2 Celebration 2.45pm	
15	Clubs restart			
16				
17		R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm		Year 6 Production 2PM & 6PM
18				
19	R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm			School closes for summer
20				
21			R/KS1 Celebration 2.45pm	
22				TRAINING DAY
23				
24		KS2 Celebration 2.45pm School Closes for half term	Sports Week	
25			Sports Day	
26	KS2 Celebration 2.45pm			
27				
28			KS2 Celebration 2.45pm	
29				
30				
31				