



Ripponden J&I News

Friday 30th January 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Good afternoon,

Yay, we are at the end of January so Spring must be on its way! We are definitely ready to see some blue skies and sunshine after all the grey days we have had recently. The children's smiles are always around us though so at least we have those to brighten our days!

We have lots to look forward to over the coming weeks such as our annual trip to Young Voices at The Co-op Live Arena next Friday. I have never been before so I'm really excited about accompanying our enthusiastic singers who have been practicing hard for weeks now. I'll take lots of photos to share in our next newsletter.

We also have Children's Mental Health Week starting on Monday 9th February. There will be lots of workshops and activities in school as well as a dress down day to kick it all off.

Don't forget we break up on Thursday 12th February for our half-term break as Friday 13th is a staff training day. Busy Bees is open on the Friday and all the following week (see below for activity schedule).

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 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 Kenny

The School Council are Fund Raising



The School Council are a very keen bunch this year and have decided they want to raise money for school. They haven't got a particular focus for their fund-raising and simply want to "buy lovely things for all the children in school to use!" What a fabulous group of thoughtful young people they are!!

Please support them (and have some fun as you do) by taking part in their Quiz. This will be after school on Friday 20th March 3.30pm-4.15pm. Tickets are £2 per person or £5 for a family of 4. Please send ticket money (cash only) in an envelope with your child's name and class written on so we can send tickets home. Alternatively, you can buy tickets at the school office but again this must be cash only.

Attendance

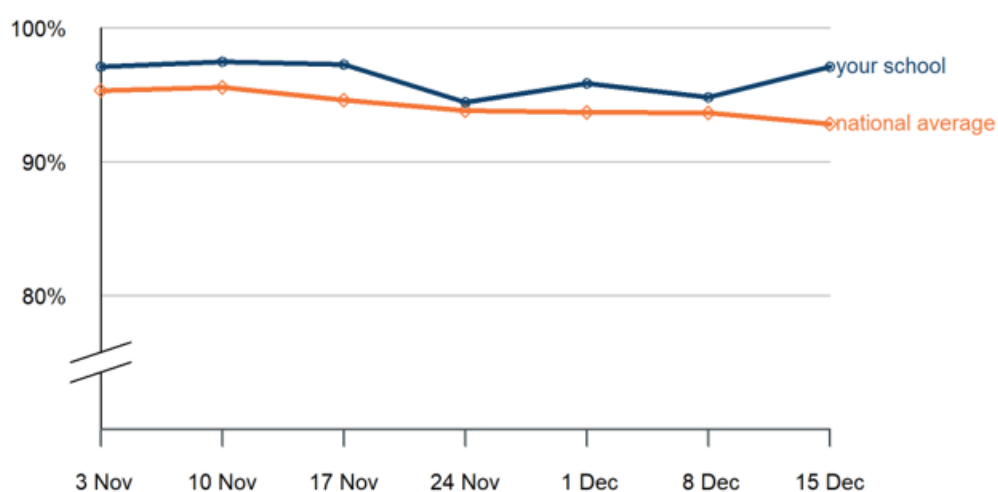
The DfE monitor our attendance rates very closely and publish comparison data every half-term.

I am really pleased to share with you the most recent data summary which shows that we (our families and our staff) are all doing a fabulous job of making sure that Ripponden children get the best start in life. Thank you for all your continued support.

Please note that holidays in term time cannot be authorised unless under exceptional circumstances.

Weekly attendance comparison for the autumn term 2025 to 2026

Figure 1: Graph showing the overall attendance percentage each week during the second half of the autumn term, compared to the national average. Results are for pupils in years 1 to 6 from Monday 3 November 2025 to Monday 22 December 2025.



Your overall attendance
96.9%

You are in decile 1, the top
0-10% of schools

Decile ⓘ	Decile description ⓘ	Number of schools ⓘ	Lowest in decile ⓘ	Highest in decile
1	Top 0-10%	1666	96.6%	100.0%

Dress Down day – Monday 9th February

INVICTUS
well-being

**West Yorkshire's
Children & Young Person's
Mental Health Charity**
Supporting and improving the mental health & wellbeing
of children and young people across West Yorkshire.

We are having a non-uniform day on Monday 9th February to raise money for Invictus well being: <https://www.invictuswellbeing.com/>

Please send in your donation of £1.00 or whatever you can on the day.

Measuring Up!

Chestnuts have been learning how to measure in mm, cm and m this week using different measuring equipment.



Children's Mental Health Week 9th-15th February



This is an important part of our school calendar every year. We do a lot of work in school to support any of our children who are experiencing mental health and wellbeing issues. These may include anxiety, low self-confidence and emotional dysregulation to name a few.

During Children's Mental Health week all children will be taking part in assemblies and activities to help highlight some of the support and strategies which are available to them. These include a Transition workshop for Y6, Worry Management workshops for Y2-5 and a Yoga session for Reception – Y2. We will also be encouraging everyone to do "Little Acts of Kindness" so we get to experience the warm feeling of giving or receiving some kindness.

Busy Bees at Half Term

Booking is open on the app now

	<p>Friday 13th February Breakfast served between 8-9am Valentines crafts Lunch 12-1pm Please bring a packed lunch Valentines crafts Snack between 3.30-4.30pm</p>	
---	--	---

Movie Week

Monday 16th February  Breakfast served between 8-9am	Tuesday 17th February  Breakfast served between 8-9am	Wednesday 18th February  Breakfast served between 8-9am	Thursday 19th February  Breakfast served between 8-9am	Friday 20th February  Breakfast served between 8-9am
AM – Edible microphones 	AM – Beware of the Ogre signs 	AM – <u>SpongeBob</u> sponges 	AM – marmalade sandwiches with <u>home made</u> bread 	AM – Trolls chalk art 
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
PM – Decorate your own sunglasses 	PM – swamp slime 	PM – pineapple pine cones 	PM – make a Paddington Bear suitcase 	PM – Troll cupcakes 
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

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 2026

Fri 6th	Young Voices Coop Live Manchester
Fri 6 th	KS2 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm
Mon 9 th – Fri 13th	Children’s Mental Health Week
Mon 9 th	Dress Down Day – we will be collecting donations for Invictus Wellbeing Charity
Thurs 12th	Break up for half term
Fri 13th	Training Day (Busy Bees open)
Mon 16th – Fri 19th	Busy Bees open all week
Mon 23th	School reopens 8.40am
Fri 27 th	R/KS1 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm

March 2026

Tues 3rd	Coffee Morning with Miss Smith (SENDCo). Members of the ADHD West Yorkshire team will be available 9:00-10:30am
Tues 3 rd	West Yorks cross country finals (16 KS2 children have qualified)
Thurs 5 th	World Book Day – details to follow
Fri 6 th	KS2 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm
Tues 10 th	Parents Evening
Thurs 12 th	Parents Evening
Fri 20 th	Clubs finish for Easter
Fri 20 th	R/KS1 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm
Mon 23 rd	9.30 am - Rocksteady Concert
Fri 27 th	School closes for Easter Break
Mon 30 th - Fri 10 th	Easter Break

2025/2026 Calendar of main events (see below)

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.

	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				

