



Ripponden J&I News

Friday 28th November 2025

Dear parents/carers,

Well, another busy couple of weeks here at school. We have had a number of trips and sporting activities and today has well and truly launched Christmas!!

In the past couple of weeks, we have been accredited with two prestigious awards. Firstly, we have been reaccredited with the Music Mark – for our continued work in ensuring music provision in school is inclusive, assessable and of a high quality. A huge thank you and well done to Mrs Hamilton, who spearheads music in our school.

Our second accolade of the fortnight is The Diamond Status Healthy School Award. As you know, we worked really hard last year and secured Platinum Status – well we have pushed ahead and now gained Diamond – the highest achievement we can get – and one that only a handful of Calderdale Schools have! This has been a product of lots of hard work by the whole school community, but a great big thank you and well done to Mrs Lomas, who gathered all of the evidence together to submit our application. A super acknowledgement for the work we do to support our children's physical and mental wellbeing.

We are well and truly into the Christmas period, which has started today with Christmas Jumper Day. Please make sure you have dates of various activities in your diary; we wouldn't want you to miss any! This really is the most magical time of the year in primary schools.

Have a lovely weekend,

Headteacher



Cross Country

On Wednesday 26th November, 17 of our children attended the Calderdale Cross Country Finals at Old Brodleians Rugby Club. All of the children had qualified at the Ryburn competition in October. Every child gave their absolute best and as a result we had some amazing results. Isla in year 3 came third in her race, Harry Cross came 8th, Sailor and Elijah both came 12th, Evan came 9th, Kai came 11th and Grace came 6th. There was very tough competition, and all of the children were amazing. We are now waiting to see who is through to the West Yorkshire finals in 2026.

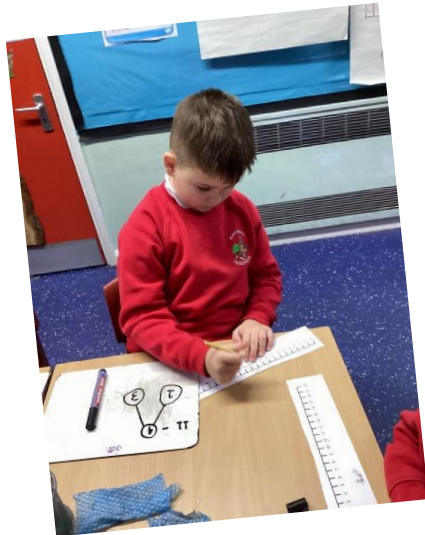


Girls' Football – report by Chloe

On Monday, the girl's football team had a match against Parkinson Lane. Although we lost 7-0, in our eyes we won. Everyone did amazingly. Lotte did great running with the ball and her skills. Lottie was always in space, and the defenders were the best! But Hannah our goalie was the best goalie you could ask for.

Great Oaks are Maths Superstars!

Great Oaks have been looking at lots of different methods to add and subtract across 10. This week, subtracting across ten included using part-whole models, number lines, rekenreks and tens frames! We have had many practical sessions breaking these steps down before doing this on our worksheet.



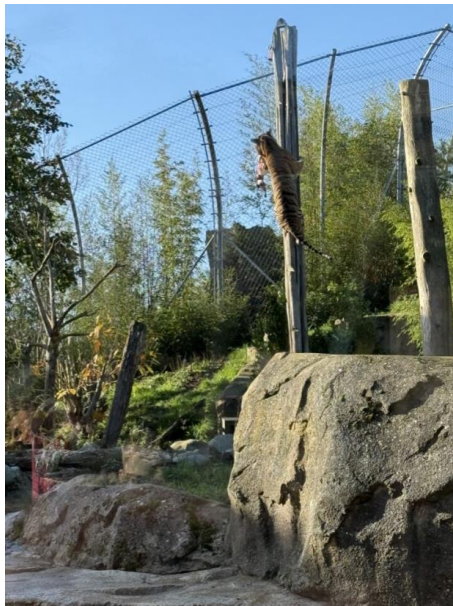
Christmas has arrived at Ripponden!

Today marks the official start of Christmas, with our annual Christmas Jumper Day! Thank you so much for your generosity – the items brought for the hampers is just incredible – you blow me away! Our fabulous PTFA will now be busy behind the scenes creating beautiful hampers to be raffled off. You can buy tickets on the Sumup shop - [Ripponden school PTFA](#) We also had the judging of the Christmas Baubles. There were some wonderful entries! Well done to the winners, but all entries are on our Christmas Tree in the hall and will be sent home before Christmas.



Chester Zoo Visit

Last Monday, we took Saplings and Great Oaks to visit the animals in Chester Zoo. This was a fantastic trip, the children learned so much about different animals, their habitats and what they liked to eat. We were incredibly lucky to see a tiger jump and climb up a big pole to get his lunch! Luckily, we didn't have to do that to get our lunch! There were a few other school groups at the zoo on the same day, but we had members of zoo staff telling us that our children were delightful and a credit to us. Well done, Saplings and Great Oaks for being such wonderful representatives for our school – you were a pleasure to take! A big thank you, too, to the staff for organising and accompanying the children – we couldn't do it without you!





Well done, Ernie!

A super well done to Ernie, who created this masterpiece at home! He incorporated some of his and his friends' favourite things (Titanic and Jaws) and created a HUGE picture and story. He was really proud of himself, and we are super proud of him too!

RIPPONDEN JUNIOR AND INFANTS

BAKE SALE

The school council have arranged a bun sale to raise money towards **school trips**. Please help to support us!

WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER

At the KS1 nativities – 10am
& 2pm

PLEASE BRING DONATIONS!

Cakes will be on sale for
50p – £1

**Any cakes left over will
be for sale on the
playground after
school.**



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

Tuesday 2 nd	Coffee morning
Friday 5 th	Secret Santa Shop KS2 Celebration Assembly – 2.45pm Clubs finish for Christmas
Monday 8 th	Rock Steady Concert Secret Santa 'mop up'
Tuesday 9 th	Christmas Dinner Day
Wednesday 10 th	R/KS1 Christmas Production – 10am and 2pm
Friday 12 th	Grandparents Around the Christmas Tree – 9am
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
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				