



Dear Parents

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We would like to warmly welcome back all our families at the start of this New Year. We trust you had a happy and relaxing Christmas break. It has been lovely to see all our children returning to School with such enthusiasm. We welcome a number of new families this term. Upper Transition: Lena O whose sister, Emily, is in Nursery. Nursery: Frank B, Stephanie B and Zoe S whose sister, Natalie, is in Upper Transition. I am certain that everyone will make them feel part of the Rydes Hill Family.

PUPIL NUMBERS AND INCENTIVES

We have been working hard to actively market Rydes Hill, both the main School and the Nursery. We are thrilled that our efforts are paying off; we already have 15 children registered for Kindergarten 2019 (as opposed to just 8 at this point last year) and we have back to back tours of Nursery booked in for the coming weeks.

Our School is very much a 'hidden gem' and we have found that many families tell us that they were not aware that we were here. For this reason, our current families are an important part of our marketing strategy to get the word out to everyone about what an amazing school Rydes Hill is. To recognise this, we are starting a 'refer a friend' scheme. A credit of £250 will be applied to the account of any family who refers a pupil who signs up. The credit will be made once the deposit from the new family has been paid and we are currently limiting this to the first 20 pupils who sign up to any year group. For more information on this scheme, please contact Mrs Pillar.

START OF TERM MASS

Parents are warmly invited to the Start of Term Mass taking place next Thursday, 17th January at 9.15am. This Mass will be led by Higher Preparatory. All pupils are required to wear blazers and girls to wear white hair ribbons.



REINDEER RUN

Thank you so very much to everyone who sponsored the children for the Reindeer Run in aid of Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care before Christmas. A grand total of £1,538.53 was raised.

RUN TO RYDE

Many Schools across the country have, for a number of years, encouraged children to run or walk a mile every day whilst at School. There are obvious health benefits to this, but the research has also shown that this level of activity has a positive impact on how children learn. This term we will be starting a daily mile for any children who wish to take part. They can choose to run (or walk briskly) on the tennis courts before School, at break time or at lunch time (when the courts are available). Form One are in the process of calculating how many lengths a day the children will need to walk to make a mile. To make the challenge more interesting, we are going to attempt to clock up enough miles to get to Ryde, a suburb of Sydney in Australia. We are hoping to cover the 10,572 miles needed by the end of this academic year, which will be quite a challenge! Parents are welcome to join in with us in the morning when they drop their child off if they have the time. Their totals can be added on to their child's. More details on this will follow in due course.

CLUBS

Clubs will commence next week. The only exception to this is Cross Country. Unfortunately, Mrs Morris is currently in South Africa due to the health of a close family member. We will resume Cross Country Club on Mrs Morris' return. In the meantime, I would ask you to keep Mrs Morris and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Please note that there are some changes to the Clubs timetable this term and the latest Clubs Schedule can be viewed at our website on the following link: <https://www.rydeshill.com/the-curriculum-and-more/clubs>



Follow us at <https://twitter.com/>



Like us at www.facebook.com/RydesHill

IPADS

Hopefully your children will come home at some point this week talking about how they have used the new iPads in class. We had very inspiring training as part of the Inset day on Monday and so hopefully some of our new skills will have been put into practice this week. The iPads are being used to enhance the learning already taking place; we have overheard some children saying that they have been 'playing on iPads' but we want to reassure parents that there is far more to what they are doing than playing! We hope to have some opportunities to share this learning in the near future.

STAY AND PLAY

Stay and Play is now running until 6pm each day. It is very important for children to be booked in to the sessions they are attending so that we can ensure food is prepared for them. Booking forms are available from the School Office.

PARENT HANDBOOKS AND EARLY YEARS HANDBOOKS 2018-19

These have been updated and are available to view on the website. Hard copies have been distributed to Kindergarten and Nursery. If you would like a hard copy please request via email to Ms J O'Neill jacqui.oneill@rydeshill.com



Did you know you can raise money for us when you book your holiday this year? Use #easyfundraising to book your flight, package holiday or travel extras with over 250+ travel operators like First Choice, TUI, Thomas Cook, Expedia, Virgin Holidays, Booking.com and you'll raise BIG donations for FRHPS at no additional cost you. The average family holiday booking would raise over £50 for us! Find out more, visit: <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/raise-when-you-getaway>

Clear skies at Rydes Hill!



Special Awards

- French Girdle:** Zac B (UT) for consistent enthusiasm and participation in French
- PE Award:** Rebecca F (HP) for progress and great persistence in gymnastics—lovely cartwheel work!
- RE Award:** Imani T (UT) for excellent understanding of the Epiphany story
- Science Award:** Dunni B (MP) for research into materials and her talk
- Music Award:** Martha B (HP) for good participation and helpfulness
- Ballet Award:** Juliette D (LT) for an outstanding class
- Kindness Award:** Zuri T (HP) for sharing with others
- Special Award:** .Iseult R-C (LP) for her wonderful written work over the holidays

Silver Awards

| YEAR GROUP | EXCELLENT WORK | EXCELLENT CONDUCT |
|--------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Kindergarten | Jai S | Harri S |
| Lower Trans | Isabelle H-F | Annabel S |
| Upper Trans | Alice Mc | Sophia J |
| Lower Prep | Maryam M | Kate M |
| Middle Prep | Katie B | Imogen F |
| Higher Prep | Lakita T | Maya D |
| Form One | Shakthi R | Mia P |



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Diary Dates for Next Week

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Tues 15th | U10 A&B Netball Teams v St Catherine's (Home) |
| Tues 15th | 7.45pm—8.45pm: FHRPS Committee Meeting in the Lodge |
| Wed 16th | 3.15pm—3.45pm: LP Bake Sale |
| Thurs 17th | 9.15am: Start of Term Mass |

NB: Mrs Norville will be out of School at the CISC Conference on Thursday 17th and Friday 18th.

House Points for w/c 7th December

| CAMPION | GERALD | PATRICIA | PETER |
|---------|--------|----------|-------|
| 66 | 77 | 66 | 103 |

Happy Birthday!

Birthdays this week

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 8th January | Charlotte H J |
| 8th January | Alyssa M |

Easter Holiday—Netball Club

For those planning ahead to the Easter Holidays, there will be a Netball Training Camp on Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd April for Lower Prep to Form One. There will be a siblings discount and more details will follow in a flyer in due course.

Holiday fun with Code Camp



The Saundarek village children



Thank you for your kind donations of pens, pencils and other items. Emma C (Form One) and her family took these with them to Indonesia and delivered them to the Saundarek Village children who were very grateful.