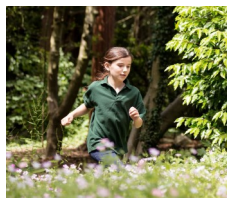




RYDES HILL

PREPARATORY SCHOOL & NURSERY

NEWSLETTER: Fri 14th January 2022



Dear Parents

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We would like to wish all our families a happy and healthy New Year. We hope you had a relaxing break. Thank you for all your generous gifts and kind words at the end of last term. Thank you, also, to anyone who has informed us that your child was COVID positive during the holidays. We are asked to record these numbers, but it also helps us for future planning to know how many children have already tested positive and when.

We are very pleased to welcome two new members of staff to Rydes Hill this term. Mrs Faye Messinger has joined us as Head of Nursery. She is also a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Mrs Georgie McEnery has been a volunteer Teaching Assistant in Upper Transition on a Monday and she is now a permanent member of staff. Mrs Appleby no longer has regular hours at Rydes Hill, but you will still see her around as she will be available to cover for us when we have staff absences. Mr Rob will retire at the end of January and we will thank him in Assembly on Friday 28th January. I am aware that the Class Reps are organising a collection for a gift for him.

At the time of writing, four members of staff are isolating (including me!) However, we anticipate that this may well change, and contingency plans are in place if large numbers of staff are required to isolate. As we have done since the start of the pandemic, we will aim to ensure that children receive exactly the same high-quality lessons as usual. There may need to be some timetable changes and, should this be the case, we will communicate this with parents at the earliest opportunity.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

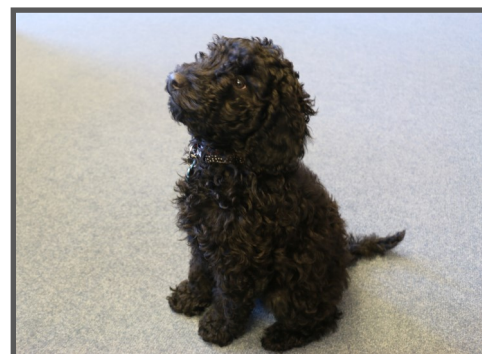
The Calendar of Events was sent out to all families prior to Christmas. There are a couple of minor changes. Swimming has resumed this week, which means that the final lesson of the term will be Thursday 24th / Friday 25th March. The Netball Tournament planned for Saturday 29th January has been postponed until later in the term. Parents Forum will now take place on Thursday 24th February at 7.30pm. Finally, the times given for Parents' Evening on 29th and 31st March are slightly incorrect. The times are 5-7pm on 29th and 4-6pm on 31st. The meetings on 31st will be held on Zoom. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

OPEN CLASSROOMS

All parents are warmly invited to come into School with their child on the afternoon of Thursday 20th January between 3.30-4.30pm to look at your child's work and to see the classroom. This is a lovely opportunity for your child to show you what they have been doing and to share their work. Teachers may be in and out of classrooms, getting ready for the next day. Please remember that this is not a Parents' Evening and if you have things that you need to discuss with the teacher, please make a separate appointment. Please ensure you have had a negative LFD before arriving in School.

CODY THE SCHOOL DOG

The children have been very excited to meet Cody this week. He came into Assembly on Monday and has been joining children in Forest School and Computing lessons. Mrs Morris is training Cody to be a School Dog. As he gets older, he will receive further training from an accredited professional. The children have been learning how and when to approach Cody and how to stroke him carefully. You will no doubt see him around School with Mrs Morris in the near future.



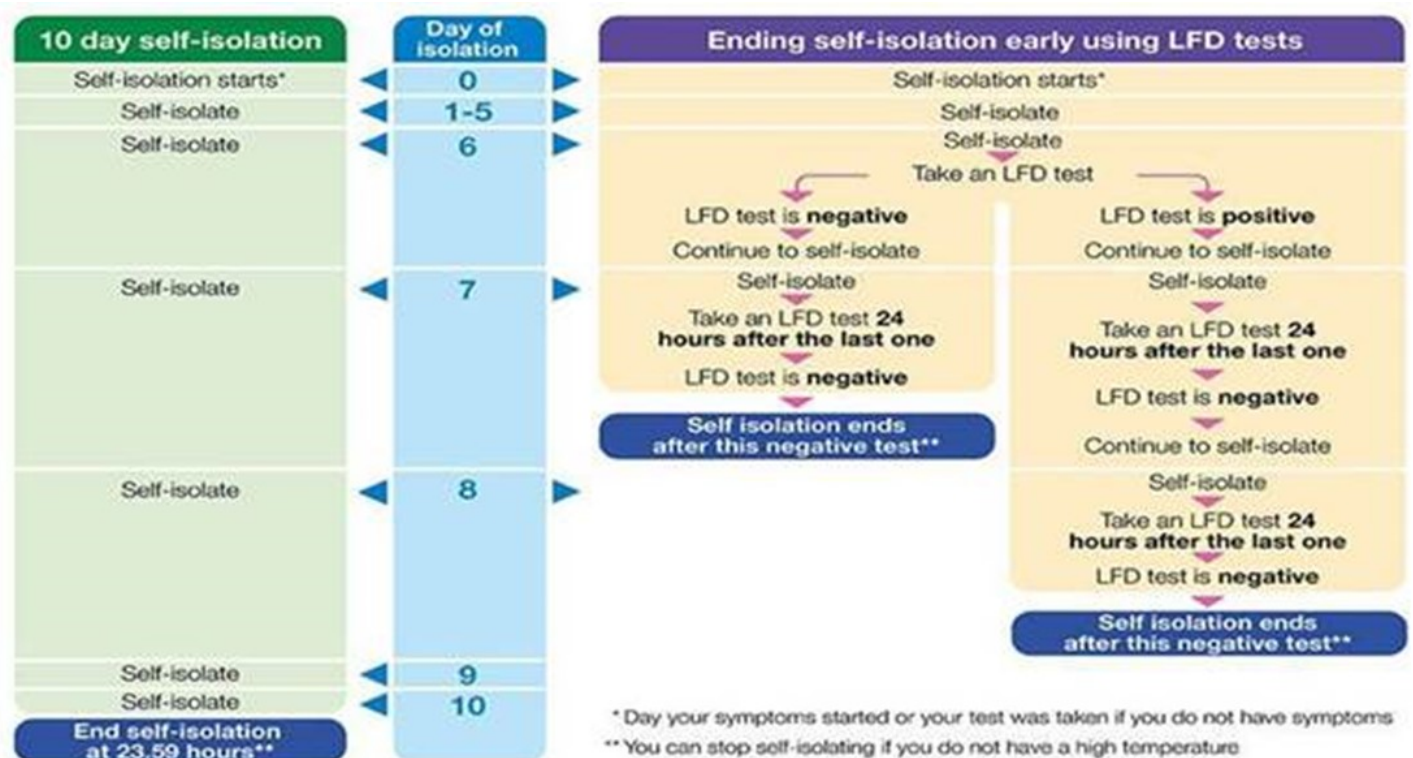
TRAIN TO TEACH

The New Year often creates an opportunity for us to take time to reflect on our aspirations and sometimes this may lead to a decision to change career. Teaching is a wonderful occupation, whether it is your first career or one that you come to later in life, with a little life experience and wisdom under your belt. At Rydes Hill we are very proud to work with St Polycarp's School as a teacher training provider. Later this month, they are hosting two virtual events on Tuesday 25th and Thursday 27th January and will be talking through the different routes into teaching, and explaining a bit more about the programme they offer. You may be interested yourself or alternatively know of someone who may be considering a career in teaching. Please feel free to share this information with them.

COVID UPDATES

Anyone who tests positive on a Lateral Flow test no longer needs to have a PCR. They need to isolate immediately and follow the stay at home guidance. Anyone with one of the three main symptoms of COVID (Loss or change to taste or smell / raised temperature / new or persistent cough) should book a PCR test and isolate until the result is known. If you receive a positive COVID result, either from LFD or PCR, you should isolate at home. Current guidance is in the flowchart below. However, since this was sent to us last Monday, it is almost out of date as the guidance changes this Monday 17th January. From this date, the isolation period is reduced. You must isolate for a minimum of 5 full days. If you get a negative LFD result on days 4 and 5, you may leave isolation on day 6.

Mrs Norville



WELL-BEING WEDNESDAY

In our first Well-Being Wednesday session we started to learn about our breathing. We learnt a mindful breathing technique and noticed how we inhale and exhale; we also noticed when our in breath turns into an out breath. We had a lovely story about a monkey and a sloth learning to notice and appreciate the world around them and we also started some mindful colouring whilst listening to some calm music. The children were all happy and enjoyed their first session.

Next Wednesday we will be focussing on Gratitude and will be discussing the things that we are thankful for.

Mrs J Smillie



Silver Awards this week

YEAR GROUP	EXCELLENT WORK	EXCELLENT CONDUCT
Kindergarten	Wilfred M	Alan H
Lower Trans	Zihao Z	George O
Upper Trans	Evie W	Avie M
Lower Prep	Alayna K	Thea K
Middle Prep	Mehvish Y	Annabel S
Higher Prep	Mahika M	Teddy F
Form One	Evie M	Alina W-C

Special Awards this week

RE Award: Lucinda F (HP) for her thoughtful, perceptive self assessment of her RE learning.

Forest School Award: Evey S (KG) for listening and being helpful.

Science Award: Whole of Lower Transition for participating with enthusiasm during our learning of senses.

Ballet Award: Emily P (LP) for outstanding work!

Computing Award: Annabelle S (LT) for logging in quickly and getting her work done.

PE Award: Maya G (F1) for some lovely gymnastic skills.

Music Award: Wilfred M (KG) for participating so enthusiastically during music and for amazing concentration.

Special Award: Alex W (UT) for being kind, quiet and gentle with Cody!

Diary dates for next week

Mon 17th Jan	Rugby Tots for Nursery (12:30 - 1pm) and Kindergarten to Upper Transition (1- 1:30pm).
Tues 18th Jan 9am	Start of term Mass at St Mary's Church.
Tues 18th Jan 7:45pm	FRHPS meeting via Zoom.
Weds 19th Jan	Kindergarten walk to the shops.
Weds 19th Jan	Football Club for Kindergarten to Upper Transition (3:30- 4:15pm).
Thurs 20th Jan	Open Classrooms (3:30 - 4:30pm).
Fri 21st Jan 8:30am	Coffee morning for Nursery and Kindergarten parents. Please LFD test prior to arriving in School.

Happy Birthday!

12th January	Alayna K
19th January	Joshua M

House Points for this week

CAMPION	GERALD	PATRICIA	PETER
108	75	77	102



Click here to view this week's 'The Wednesday Word':

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/happiness?pid=MTA101634&v=40.3>



You can win bonus donations up to £50 for Rydes Hill every day during January in #easyfundraising's new Spin to Win giveaway.

It's completely free to enter, for your chance to win simply visit:

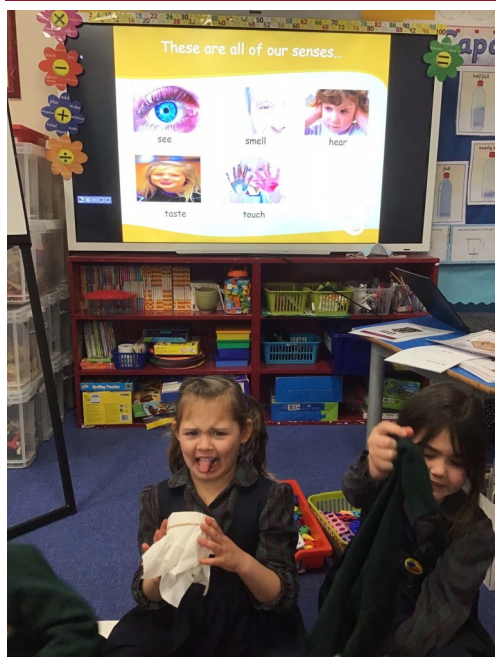
https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/spin-to-win?utm_campaign=raise-



First day of Term!



Lower Transition using their senses



Kindergarten exploring their senses in Forest School



Nursery Acorns making rockets with shapes



Nursery Oaks learning about crudites



Cody the School dog



To all the pupils and staff at
Rydes Hill Preparatory School

Congratulations

and thank you for raising an amazing
£1,256.03

by taking part in Christmas Runs
in aid of

Phyllis Tuckwell®
Hospice Care
...because every day is precious



A huge Macmillan thank you to
**Rydes Hill Preparatory School
and Nursery**
for fundraising the fantastic sum of
£220.51



Fundraising for
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

