



Dear Parents

A FOND FAREWELL

Today we are very sad to be bidding a fond farewell to Mrs Dennis and her family as they move to Australia. We have been so blessed to have Mrs Dennis as a teacher at Rydes Hill for 9 years and our children have flourished as a result of her wonderful teaching. We would all like to thank her for her hard work, positive presence and loyalty to Rydes Hill. She will be very much missed and we wish her and her family every success and happiness in their new life 'down under!'



EAGLE RADIO

Do make sure you are up bright and early on Christmas Eve to tune in to Eagle Radio at 7.45am. Our Chamber Choir will have the recording we made of Jingle Bells played on the radio and we could be in with a chance of winning the Eagle Radio Christmas Carol Competition. Thank you to Mrs Flude for practising with the girls and recording the performance.

CHARITY FUNDRAISING

Thank you to everyone who supported the Bake Sale on Monday. We raised an amazing £140. This brings the total for the Catholic Children's Society to in excess of £900.

We would also like to thank all the pupils and parents who braved the chill to sing carols at the Woking Christmas Market on Saturday. It was a wonderful performance and we were pleased to be raising money for Woking Hospice.

REFER A FRIEND

We are thrilled to announce that our Nursery is nearly full for this academic year as news has spread about the wonderful care we offer at Rydes Hill. From a marketing perspective we are turning our attention to attracting children into our Main School, especially from year 3 when our boys leave us. We are so grateful when our current parents sing our praises as referral is so important to the School. In recognition of this, we are looking to start up the 'refer a friend' scheme once more from the 1st January to 1st September 2020. A credit of £250 will be applied to the account of any current Rydes Hill family who refers another family who signs up. The credit will be made once the deposit from the new family has been paid. For more information on this scheme, please contact Mrs Pillar.

SPECIAL VISITOR

We were very lucky that Santa took time out of his busy schedule to visit all our classes on Monday. A special mention needs to go to Higher Prep and Form One who, rather than receiving a gift from Santa, donated the money to charity instead. Some of the girls also brought in their own money to add to the collection. Their generosity is very inspiring and shows they really understand the true meaning of Christmas.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

We are thrilled to announce that the Christmas Fair raised an impressive £4,200 this year. Thank you again to FRHPS for their hard work and especially to our Chairs; Mrs Walker, Mrs Khaldi and Mrs Fry.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Mrs Torlesse has taken lots of photographs of the Nativity performances and Carol Concert. If you wish to request any photographs of your child, please drop her an email on bridget.torlesse@rydeshill.com with the name of your child and their character in the performance and she will send you digital copies over the Christmas holidays. Please do remember not to post any photographs on social media if the photographs features any other child.

THANK YOU

On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank you for your generous gifts this Christmas. We wish you all a happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas. May 2020 bring you good health and happiness. We look forward to welcoming the children back into School on Thursday 9th January.

Mrs Norville



Splash and Dash Biathlon at GHS

On Friday 6th December we took 19 girls to compete in the annual 'Splash and Dash' festive biathlon hosted by GHS and the theme this year was Christmas food!. Nine schools took part this year which is more than ever before. The teams involved six girls from each class who competed in a freestyle relay and then out onto Stoke park for the run. The U9's ran one lap of 600m and the U10 and U11 had to run 2 laps – but they said the course was much better this year! Everyone ran and swam their very best and were treated to a hot chocolate and lots of food at the end of the event.

We had a really enjoyable afternoon and the girls looked brilliant in the Christmas food tabards they had made. The event started with a parade of fancy dress from each school and they performed their choreographed dance to 'Merry Christmas everyone' in perfect unison, placing them 2nd overall in the fancy dress parade! Well done everyone, we are so proud of you all.

Medals were awarded to the fastest runners from each school per year group. Congratulations to Maya K, Tillie T and Scarlett T for receiving medals for Rydes Hill.

And finally, a big thank you to Mrs Lappage and Mrs Taylor for helping on the day and Mr Rob for dropping us off and picking us up!

Merry Christmas from the PE Department



Father Christmas comes to Rydes Hill





AUTUMN TERM PRIZE GIVING

As discussed at the beginning of this term, we have decided to give out some of our cups and awards at the end of each term so that we can celebrate the wonderful work our children do each term. On Monday we held our Autumn Term Prize Giving Assembly and were pleased to celebrate the achievements of the following children:

ART

The Higher Prep Cup for Art	Morayo F
The Belinda Baker Cup for Art	Evie M
SPEECH & DRAMA	
The Cup for Backstage Contribution to Drama	Charlotte C
The Shelagh Roberts Award for Speech & Drama	Flossy D
MUSIC	
The Munday Cup for Singing	Alice L
The Kathleen Brady Cup for Pianoforte	Chloe R

easyfundraising feel good shopping

You can support Friends of Rydes Hill Preparatory School when you do your Christmas shopping this year - at no extra cost to yourself. Just use #easyfundraising when you shop online and 4,000 shops and sites will donate for FREE. You can raise donations when you shop with John Lewis & Partners, Argos, Etsy, Boots, Very, M&S and many more!

Silver Awards for last week

hap py.	Difinday
18th Dec	Tito B
20th Dec	Alyssa MD
21st Dec	Joshua L
26th Dec	Aurelia P
26th Dec	Inês R
30th Dec	Isabelle HF

Henry C

Ava B

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YEAR GROUP	EXCELLENT WORK	EXCELLENT CONDUCT
Nursery	Charlie N	Theo T
Kindergarten	Alex W	Rosie W
Lower Trans	Kara H	Emily P
Upper Trans	Hugh L	Emily B
Lower Prep	Alice M	Mary K
Middle Prep	Felicity F	Lily B
Higher Prep	Tillie T	Mia L
Form One	Scarlett DG	Lakita T

Special Awards for last week

Music Award: The whole Choir, including mums and dads for singing in such good spirits throughout the week.

31st Dec

5th Jan

Science Award: Joshua (KG) for his excellent general knowledge about the senses

PE Award: Inês R (F1) for some excellent interceptions on the netball courts.

French Award: Astrid K (UT) for finishing her work promptly and helping others to finish theirs.

Special Award: Alina W-C (MP) for increased confidence and hard work this term.

Kindness Award: Rosie W (K) for being so kind when a child was upset.



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Father Christmas comes to Rydes Hill!



















Wonderful Carol Concert









Wonderful Carol Concert on Thursday evening



Wonderful Carol Concert on Thursday evening



Staff Panto-we wish we had taken photos of the childrens' faces!



Holiday Clubs Update

Christmas Holidays

CODE CAMP-IMPORTANT NOTICE

Unfortunately, Code Camp have informed us that they will need to cancel the 3 day camp to be held during the Christmas Holidays as we only had 3 bookings for both classes.

HAPPY SMILES

Mrs Smillie and Miss Hobson will be running the 'Happy Smiles' club on Friday 20th December from 9am to 4pm. It will be fun-filled day with festive arts and crafts, cooking, Christmas karaoke and a disco! All children from Kindergarten to Form One are welcome to attend. A booking form is available in the School Office.

February Half Term

SYNERGY DANCE

Following the popularity of Synergy Dance during the recent half term, they will be returning to Rydes Hill during February half term on Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th February. Monday's theme is 'Frozen' and Tuesday's theme is 'The Secret Life of Pets'.

FOREST SCHOOL

The wonderful Forest School with Mrs Morris will be returning on Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th February at a cost of £42.50 per day (9am—4pm) including lunch. Booking will be available soon via ParentMail.

Synery Dance and Forest School are open to siblings, friends and external pupils.

Easter Holidays

NETBALL CAMP

We would like to give advance notice that Mrs Bowles and Mrs Luscombe will be running three Netball Camp days over the Easter holidays for children in Upper Transition to Form One on the following dates:

Thursday 2nd April

Monday 20th April

Tuesday 21st April

The camps will run from 9am to 4pm and the cost is £45 per day, £80 for 2 days or £120 for 3 days with the option for a 10% sibling discount.