







Dear Parents

MERRY CHRISTMAS

I have no doubt that everyone who came to see the Christmas Productions this week (and last week!) are feeling fully festive and ready for Christmas celebrations. Each year group, from our Acorns Angels, right up to Form One at the Carol Service on Thursday, have given us beautiful singing, great reverence and time for thoughtful reflection on the Christmas message. Thank you to all the children and staff who worked so hard on the productions this year. I would like to wish all of our School family a merry and restful Christmas break, as well as every best wishes for a happy and healthy 2023!

THANK YOU

On behalf of all the staff, I would like to thank you for your kind and generous gifts and messages this Christmas. They are very greatly appreciated. I have also had a message of thanks from the Ukrainian family we have supported by providing furniture. The Mother has written, "I am overwhelmed with the wonderful generosity of you, the staff and the parents for all the amazing things we have been given for our new home... I arrived in England in June this year with one suitcase each and now we have, through amazing help, a home which we can be so proud of. Thank you all so much from the bottom of my heart. I am so grateful."

NEW STARTERS

We welcome some new members of staff next term. Mrs Polly Rutt will join us as Marketing Manager in January. Mrs Rutt has a wealth of experience in marketing and brings this, along with great enthusiasm, to Rydes Hill! I am very grateful to Ms Torlesse for stepping back into the role as an interim measure. We will still be seeing Ms Torlesse as she will continue to come in to take her superb photographs of the children at key points in the year.

We also welcome Miss Blake as a Nursery Assistant (part time) from January. I am aware that, due to being full in Nursery, we have had some new additions to the Nursery team recently. In January the website will be completely updated with photographs of the Nursery and Stay & Play staff so that you know who is who!

WELCOME BACK

We were very pleased to welcome Miss Holloway back to the School Office this week following her maternity leave. From January, Miss Craig will be in the office on a Monday and Tuesday, Mrs Mansi on a Tuesday-Thursday and Miss Holloway on a Thursday and Friday. Miss Canning has successfully completed her apprenticeship. She will work in the office for a few hours each afternoon before supporting in Stay & Play.

HOCKEY IN PREP PE LESSONS

In January the Prep Department will be learning Hockey skills in PE and will be using hard hockey balls. It is **absolutely essential** for all girls to have a **mouth guard** and **shin pads**. These do not have to cost a lot, you can get very reasonably priced ones online. Mouth guards will need to be put in hot water and moulded to your child's mouth. We do not have this personal protective equipment to lend out so if your child does not have them for each PE lesson, they will be unable to participate due to safety.

Due to cold weather children would benefit from wearing their **school beanie** and **gloves with a grip**, these can be bought very cheaply (Decathlon).



START OF SPRING TERM

The new term begins for All Year Round Nursery children on Tuesday 3rd January. The rest of the School return on Wednesday 11th January.

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to Frances N (UT) who was given the Gold Award in Rainbows recently. The Gold Award is a very special achievement, awarded when a Rainbow has completed all six theme awards and a final challenge.



SHOOTING STAR CHASE HOSPICE

A big thank you from shooting star chase hospice for all of the lovely gifts they received today.



Mrs Norville



FORM ONE VISIT TO METRO BANK

Our Form One girls have taken part in the Money Zone Financial Education four week Programme. The girls have learnt about Banking, Saving and Budgeting and on their fourth week they had a visit to the Metro Bank in Guildford for a tour. They got to use the magic money machine, visit the bank vault and meet the Bank Manager.







Happy Birthday!

15th December	Grace B
15th December	Ella W
17th December	Lucas M
17th December	Sebastian W
17th December	Isaac Y
18th December	Tito B
18th December	Stefania O
23rd December	Ottilie B

23rd December	Daniyal K
24th December	Esme H
25th December	Phoebe T
26th December	Aurelia P
30th December	Isabelle H-F
5th January	Leah Y
9th January	Isabella M







Christmas Carol Service



Nursery Acorns Christmas Angels Performance



Nursery Oaks and Kindergarten Nativity



Visit from Father Christmas









Staff Pantomime







