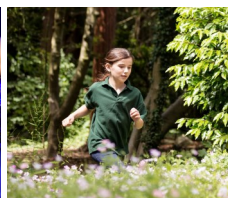




# RYDES HILL

PREPARATORY SCHOOL & NURSERY

NEWSLETTER: Fri 26th February, 2021



Dear Parents

## **BACK TO SCHOOL!**

I am sure that we all were joyful and relieved to hear that children are returning to School on 8<sup>th</sup> March. We cannot wait to have all our children back in the classroom and the teachers are busy preparing for the children to return. The procedures will be the same as they were before the Christmas break. Unfortunately, due to staffing issues, our plan to extend the day to 6pm is not going to be possible at the present time. Stay & Play will still be available until 5pm for all children and should be booked in the usual way. Government guidance for this age group of children remains largely the same. Children in other year groups may wear a mask if they choose, but care must be taken when taking a mask on or off. School meals, clubs and ballet resume as usual. All staff working in School are tested for COVID-19 twice a week. There is no requirement for children to be tested unless they show symptoms. A difference from before Christmas is that all children will need to change into PE / ballet kit for their lessons. In Kindergarten, a separate ParentMail will be sent with exact details on what to do regarding uniform and changing. An email will be sent to parents with an updated copy of the coronavirus handbook and information about arrangements for next week.

## **STAFFING UPDATE**

Sadly, Mrs Spykerman has not been able to continue working for us in Nursery. We are in the process of recruiting for a new Nursery Assistant. I have to go into hospital for surgery next week; I will be out of School and isolating next week and I will then be out of School for around two weeks to recover. I am devastated that I will not be standing at the gate to welcome you all back on 8<sup>th</sup> March, but I know that Mrs Rowson, Mrs Wood and all the staff will ably manage in my absence! Please do contact Mrs Rowson or Mrs Wood if you have any concerns during my absence. I am hoping to return in time for Founder's Day on 17<sup>th</sup> March.

## **FOUNDER'S DAY**

Rydes Hill's Founder's Day is on 17<sup>th</sup> March. Historically, this is a time of celebration and for families to come into School. It was one of the last events prior to lockdown last year and unfortunately, we are not going to be able to have our usual Open Morning and Concert. However, there will still be Mass and we have planned some wonderful, fun activities for the children. Part of this will involve collage making, so please do start collecting items of fabric, paper, card or anything that might make an interesting collage so that the children can bring it in on 17<sup>th</sup> March. The Founder's Day Concert will move to the Summer Term, when we also hope to be celebrating our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

## **PARENTS' EVENINGS**

Parents' Evenings will take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> March via Zoom. These will be available to book via ParentMail shortly. We will give more details next week but wanted parents to have the dates in their diary. Nursery will have additional sessions so that everyone can book a slot – again, more details to follow.

## **LENTEN FUNDRAISING**

Alms giving, or raising money for charity, is an important part of our Lenten journey. This year we will be supporting two charities. The first is CAFOD, who support poor communities across the world and work to end poverty and injustice. Children are encouraged to carry out small jobs around the house in exchange for 'pennies' to add to the CAFOD collection. I will be talking to the children about this in assembly next week. The second charity is the Red Nose Day appeal. We have not supported this charity in School before as there was historically an unfounded understanding that Catholic Schools could not support this charity. However, this is not the case and I believe that what our children need at the moment is some fun and laughter, which the Red Nose Day charity certainly provides! We will share further details of how we are going to support this charity shortly.

**Mrs S Norville**

**Headmistress**



## WORLD BOOK DAY

This Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March is World Book Day. Children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character, change their Zoom background to reflect their favourite book or wear a hat, glasses or other accessories to indicate their favourite book character. We are very aware that there are already a great deal of pulls on parent's time at the moment, and we don't want World Book Day to be anything other than a fun opportunity to encourage a love of reading in children. There is no requirement for the children to dress up. When they return to School on 8<sup>th</sup> March we will give them their £1 book token for World Book Day.

## CONGRATULATIONS ISABELLE

A huge congratulations to Isabella who has recently been awarded her Brownie Gold Award.

Isabella has shown great commitment and hard work during lockdown to make sure she reaches her goal. Well done Isabella!



Double Donation Week is back! Raise twice as much for FRHPS when you shop online using #easyfundraising. John Lewis & Parnters, Apple, notonthehighstreet and more are doubling donations until 28th February. Every donation makes a difference! Click: <http://efraising.org/i3l0kwJgmh>

# Happy Birthday!

29th February

Hannah C



The link to this week's 'The Wednesday Word' is below:

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/community?pid=MTA101634&v=15.6>

Class	Special Achievements
<b>Nursery</b>	Mille for settling in so beautifully to Nursery. Olivia H for recognising numbers 1 to 5 and saying their names in English. A fantastic achievement. Good girl!
<b>Kindergarten</b>	Zoe for being focussed during our Zoom sessions and for completing some fantastic work. Fenella for participating in Zoom lessons and always trying her best and working so hard.
<b>Lower Trans</b>	Serenna for her excellent Holiday News writing showing she can use not only adjectives and conjunctions but time connectives too! Avie for her consistent hard work in all of our tasks and for always trying her best in all lessons.
<b>Upper Trans</b>	Shayna for amazing work in English and being focused and organised in class. Violet Mae for incredible Maths work understanding how division and multiplication work together, and beautiful art work to help get the classroom ready for everyone returning.
<b>Lower Prep</b>	Jaime for trying hard to understand the learning this week. Isabelle for taking much more care to produce neater and more accurate work.
<b>Middle Prep</b>	Mahika for her excellent Creative Writing this week. Her vocabulary, grammar, sentence structure and sentence openers were outstanding! All of Middle Prep for consistently uploading their work on time and never having to be reminded to hand in a piece of work.
<b>Higher Prep</b>	Beth for superb progress in creative writing and spelling and her inciteful comments in discussion. Cara for excellent work in maths and very good progress in creative writing.
<b>Form One</b>	Angel for her positive attitude, participation and super work ethic.

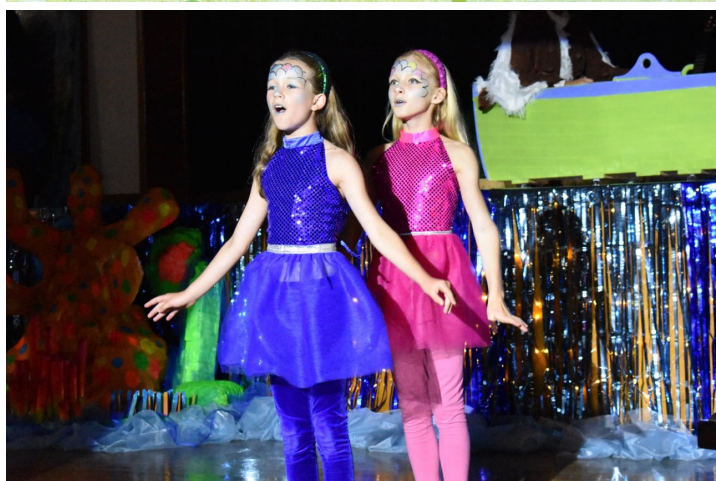




<i>Award</i>	<i>Special Awards</i>
<b>PE</b>	Kate and Felicity (HP) for their hard work PE this week.
<b>Music</b>	Dunni (F1) for doing extra research into the topic we are studying in music and for excellent participation in class discussions.
<b>French</b>	Evie (KG) for her excellent focus and participation during the lessons this term. She has engaged positively during all lessons and shown an excellent retention of the vocabulary taught.
<b>Drama</b>	Tito (UT) for her excellent Porridge Rap.
<b>Science</b>	Maria (MP) for designing a zip wire and basket as part of our topic on machines.
<b>Kindness</b>	Lola (F1) for offering to set up a Book Club for Higher Prep and Form One. Daisy (F1) for hosting a Cooking Club for her friends last night – they made jam tarts!
<b>Special</b>	Isabella (HP) for completing Brownies and for achieving her Gold Badge.

## *Summer on the horizon!*

We have loved receiving all your pictures from home over the past several weeks. Thank you for sharing them with us. On the back of the recent announcements, we thought we would look to a brighter future this week and a summer at Rydes Hill filled with outdoor play, sports fixtures, the summer production, Sports Day, Crowning of our Lady, Prize Giving and all the other traditions we love. We can't promise everything will be exactly as normal, but we can certainly give it our best try!





*Summer on the horizon!*





*Summer on the horizon!*





*Summer on the horizon!*





*Summer on the horizon*

