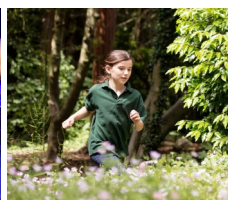




RYDES HILL

PREPARATORY SCHOOL & NURSERY

NEWSLETTER: Fri 29th January, 2021



Dear Parents

SENIOR SCHOOL OFFERS

We are so very proud of our Form One girls. In the past week they have begun to receive their offers. The process this year has been a little different, with dates and methods of assessment changing incredibly rapidly. The girls have coped admirably and the results they have achieved shows how hard they have worked and how well their teachers have prepared them. So far between them the 14 girls who have applied to Independent Schools have received 22 offers from 8 schools, with 7 scholarships. We are still waiting for results from a number of other schools, so we expect this total to rise!

REMOTE LEARNING FEEDBACK

Thank you to all the parents who completed our Remote Learning feedback. It has been wonderful to hear all the positive feedback and it has been a real boost for everyone. Generally speaking, I think we are getting things right (or as right as they can be in the current circumstances!). However, there are some tweaks to be made. One concern that came up from a number of parents was the intense screen time and the lack of a proper break in the middle of the day, especially with the pre-prep and prep children having different lunch times. From next week, lunchtime for all children will run from 12.15pm to 1.30pm. This should give adequate time for families to eat together and for children to have a break from the screen. In PE lessons, the children are given a routine of exercise that is meant to be repeated every day and could be something that is done at lunchtime.

Some comments have been made about homework. Most classes are setting spelling, times table and reading homework. This appears to be manageable for everyone and is an important routine to continue. Where other homework or finishing off is being set, this is now optional, and parents need to make the decision as to whether their child completes this or not.

The logistics of children getting from one Zoom lesson to another is proving a slight issue. With this in mind, teachers will try to finish their lessons five minutes early to allow time for children to get into the next Zoom room.

These changes may result in some timetable changes and, where this is the case, teachers will send parents an updated version as soon as it is ready.

Finally, we are at the point where staffing is incredibly stretched. We currently have one member of staff self-isolating as well as staff who are managing the illness of close family members. All staff are working full days, as well as trying to manage their own family issues at home. If there are times when a 1:1 reading session or a Zoom is missed by a teacher or teaching assistant, please bear in mind that we may not have the capacity to reschedule. We are doing all that we can and very much appreciate your patience and kindness.

ASSEMBLY NEXT FRIDAY

There will be no achievement assembly next Friday, 5th February. Achievements will be celebrated on Monday, 8th February instead.

HALF-TERM AND INSET DAY

Main School is closed for Inset Day as planned on Friday, 12th February. There will be no remote learning provision that day. Nursery will remain open to anyone usually booked in on a Friday. All Year Round Nursery will open as normal during February half-term. Unfortunately, there will be no Key Worker provision in the holidays, nor will we be able to offer half-term clubs at the current time. I am sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

Mrs Norville

Happy Birthday!

5th Feb:

Kiana A

7th Feb:

Luna H



The link to this week's 'The Wednesday Word' is below: <https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/teacher?pid=MTA101634&v=16.7>



FAREWELL TO MRS EADIE

Some of you may be aware that we had an extra teacher join Form One this term. Mrs Katie Eadie, a former Rydes Hill girl, visited Form One before the Christmas holidays to meet and get to know the girls before preparing to teach them in January. Little did she know how things would change but like a true Rydes Hill girl, Mrs Eadie has shown great aptitude at jumping in at the deep end and teaching online for the first time. Mrs Eadie has worked very hard to teach a range of lessons to Form One and we have all very much enjoyed having her as part of the team. Sadly, her time with us is a short one and we say goodbye to Mrs Eadie next week. We would like to thank her for all her hard work and enthusiasm and wish her well as she continues her teaching career.



<i>Class</i>	<i>Special Achievements</i>
Nursery	Connor for amazing Maths. Oliver — for working very hard on his cutting skills & lining up the dinosaurs from biggest to smallest.
Kindergarten	Evie – for working so well throughout the week and participating in all Zoom sessions so enthusiastically. Leah – for her consistently fantastic work, her readiness to join in on every Zoom call and for participating well during each lesson.
Lower Trans	Mia— for her amazing class participation in all lessons and working hard. George— for working hard in class showing great phonics work and much progression in his presentation skills.
Upper Trans	Ruby B — for her tenacity, positive attitude and hard work across the board. Jai — for his constant good humour, kindness, positivity and wonderful attitude to learning.
Lower Prep	Freya and Emily—both girls work with focus all the time and take pride in producing the best work they can.
Middle Prep	Aurelia for her outstanding work on the baptism of Jesus. Also, for taking the time to look at the feedback on her end of topic Maths test on time and going back and doing the corrections without being asked.
Higher Prep	Evie and Maya— for their enthusiastic production of salt dough; super tip sharing, outstanding clearing up skills.
Form One	Lola for consistent effort in her lessons this week.
<i>Award</i>	<i>Special Awards</i>
PE	Upper Transition for 100% commitment to Zoom PE and such creative movements in dance.
Music	Emily B — for her outstanding contribution during this week's lesson, showing research she has done at home and for her enthusiasm at all music lessons. Mr Parr — for doing a fantastic job tuning several violins and for being so willing to help .
French	QiaoQiao X — for excellent participation. The quality of her written work is commendable. She has adapted well to the French lesson and has so far shown a very good retention of the vocabulary related to the topics covered.
Science	Isabella D — for her beautifully presented and thoughtful work on Methods of Separation.
Computing	Sophia J— for coding a wonderful platform game, full of challenges! Maryam M — for her helpful step by step written instructions for Mrs Rowson on setting up breakout rooms on Zoom.
Forest School	Evie H— for her umbrella bird and for introducing Mrs Morris to Bird Bingo.
Kindness	Lucinda F — for kindly sweeping the snow and ice off the paths of vulnerable neighbours.
Special	All of Middle Prep who, for the first time ever, ALL got full marks in their times table test today!

Winter Wonderland 2021!



Winter Wonderland 2021!



Winter Wonderland 2021!



Winter Wonderland 2021!

