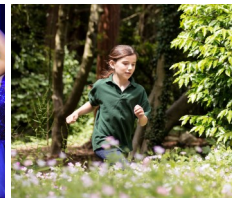




RYDES HILL

PREPARATORY SCHOOL & NURSERY

NEWSLETTER: Fri 9th December 2022



Dear Parents

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

Thank you to everyone involved in the Concert and Productions this week – you have really got us into the Christmas Spirit! The Concert on Monday evening was superb, and it was lovely to see the Friends' Hall full of parents (many of whom joined in with the performance as part of the mixed choir or as an instrumentalist!). Our children in Lower Transition, Upper Transition and Lower Preparatory treated us to two fantastic performances of 'Born in a Barn', giving us their excellent acting, superb singing and wonderful sense of humour and fun. We now look forward to the Nursery and Kindergarten Nativity as well as the Carol Concert led by Middle Preparatory, Higher Preparatory and Form One.

Continuing the festive theme, our superb FRHPS Christmas Fair on Sunday was a resounding success. Thank you so very much to everyone who helped, especially our amazing Committee. There are a final few sums to be done but the current profit stands at £3,176.68 !

SCARLET FEVER / STREP A

There has been a great deal in the news about the strain of Group A Streptococcus, that has very sadly resulted in the death of some children. A ParentMail was sent out earlier in the week with information, and the flow chart from that ParentMail is also at the end of this newsletter. Please be vigilant for signs of this disease in your child. Scarlet Fever is common in children (we had two cases in Nursery before half term), and we will be working to maintain the hygiene habits we got into during the pandemic to try to ensure that any further cases we have are well managed.

WINTERY WEATHER

As the weather is colder, we have noticed more children are wearing additional items to keep warm. Please can children wear the Rydes Hill Beanie (available in the second hand shop and at Valentino) and a plain navy or green scarf to keep warm. Gloves should be plain and ideally navy or green. Whilst the hats, gloves, scarves and ear muffs children have been wearing are lovely and warm, they are not part of our uniform and need to be kept at home.

CAROLS AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE

One of the wonderful traditions we have at Rydes Hill is for the whole School to gather around the Christmas Tree on the last day of term and sing Carols. The Crib is blessed by Father Roy before we head off for the holidays. We are very pleased that we are returning to our pre-COVID arrangements for this. We plan on all of Main School being together on 16th December. As you can imagine, space in the Entrance Hall is quite tight. However, parents of Form One girls and parents of boys in Upper Transition, are welcome to join us at 2.30pm for this lovely tradition.

AMAZON SMILE

Many of you already know about ordering through Amazon Smile in order to raise a donation for the School. If not, please register here <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/299411-0> If you go via Amazon Smile when you order from Amazon, everything will cost exactly the same, but the School receives a donation for every purchase you make. At a time when I suspect lots of us are shopping online, getting a little something back that costs us nothing is always appreciated.



ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

I am in the process of putting together our biannual Alumni Newsletter. If you are in touch with any of our Alumni who have news to share (birth, marriage, exam success), please encourage them to email me.

sarah.norville@rydeshill.com

INSET AND START OF TERM

Please remember that the School is closed on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th January for children in Main School and for Term Time Nursery children. All children are expected to return to School on Wednesday 11th January. All Year Round Nursery opens on Tuesday 10th January.

TRAVELLING NATIVITY

Children in Kindergarten and Lower Preparatory have been enjoying sharing their Travelling Nativities. Taking a Nativity home is a lovely opportunity for a family to spend some time focusing on the Christmas Story and what we can take from this in our own lives. Thank you to James in Kindergarten for sharing this lovely photo.



Diary dates for next week

Mon 12th December	Grade cards sent out to all children in Main School. 10am - Dress rehearsal for Oaks and Kindergarten classes. All Oaks children to attend please.
Tues 13th December	10am - Dress rehearsal for Oaks and Kindergarten classes. All Oaks children to attend please. Form One visit to Metro Bank. 2pm - Acorns Angels Christmas Production. Parents of Acorns children welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served after in the Dining Hall. 7.45pm - FRHPS meeting via Zoom.
Weds 14th December	Christmas Lunch. 2pm - Kindergarten and Oaks Nursery Nativity Performance.
Thurs 15th December	2pm - Kindergarten and Oaks Nursery Nativity Performance. 6.30pm - Christmas Carol Service at St Mary's Church, led by Middle Preparatory, Higher Preparatory and Form One. All families welcome.
Fri 16th December	Party Day - children may wear party clothes to School. (sensible shoes please) 2pm - Carols in the Entrance Hall. The School Day finishes at the usual time. Stay & Play will run as usual.



GHS SPLASH AND DASH BIATHLON

On Friday 2nd December we took 20 girls to the annual Splash and Dash Biathlon at GHS. This involves a team swimming relay and a team run on Stoke Park but this year was a little different! The swimming pool was out of use and so we had a bench ball competition in its place, which our U10/U11 team came 3rd in! We also came 2nd in the fancy dress parade held at the start of the event – the girls looked AMAZING!



U11 NETBALL V QUEEN ELEANOR'S

On Tuesday 6th December we hosted U11 Netball matches against Queen Eleanor's, the weather had turned really cold but the girls were still excited to play. We took an early and strong lead from the start with the girls demonstrating effective passing sequences and set plays they had practised in club. Both teams went on to **WIN** their matches;

A team WON 13-2

B team WON 5-1

Josie B and Aurelia P were given players of the match. Well done to everyone who played, thank you to all the parents who came out in the cold weather to support us, and also help with the match teas at the end.

PE CLUBS AND FIXTURES 2023

Please find attached to this newsletter our PE Clubs and Fixtures calendar for the first half of the Spring Term. Please note **we will be alternating on a half termly basis. LP & MP will be offered Hockey in the first half term and Gymnastics in the second, HP & F1 will be offered Gymnastics in the first half term and Hockey in the second.** Cross Country **will not** take place in the Spring Term.

A PE clubs sheet for the second half of the Spring term will be sent out closer to the time, If your child is representing the school in a Netball match or other sporting event, you will receive a Parentmail permission form. Please complete this **before it expires** and let your child know they have been selected.

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).

Thank you for all your support this term in our busy sporting calendar. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year!

PE Department



Silver Awards this week			Special Awards this week
YEAR GROUP	EXCELLENT WORK	EXCELLENT CONDUCT	RE Award: Tanya A (F1) for being such a reliable and helpful Chaplaincy team leader.
Nursery	Jennifer C	Isaac Y	Science Award: Maeve W (KG) for her 5 senses work.
Kindergarten	Ruby V	Cody L	French Award: Daniyal K (LT) for completing his work promptly and helping his classmates.
Lower Trans	Charles B	Esme H	Computing Award: Isabelle H-F (HP) for her confidence in using Tinkercad.
Upper Trans	Mark M	Bella M	Music Award: Lilah B (Nursery) for fantastic singing in preparation for the Acorns Carol Singing.
Lower Prep	Myra S	Aleesha N	PE Award: Josie B (F1) for her fantastic skills in the Netball match against QE.
Middle Prep	Shayna A	Ruby S	Forest School Award: Archie C (UT) for his Whittling skills and Painting of Father Christmas.
Higher Prep	Astrid K	Stephanie I	Drama Award: All those who performed so well in Monday Night's Concert.
Form One	Flossy D	Alice M	Kindness Award: Joshua M (LT) for being very kind to Mrs Bookham.
			Special Award: All children in LT, UT & LP for their superb performances this week.



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

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

House Points for this week			
CAMPION	GERALD	PATRICIA	PETER
86	63	67	66

Happy Birthday!

5th December	Jaime P
7th December	Zoe S
8th December	Freya B
10th December	Stephanie B
10th December	Arthur L
10th December	Annabel S

FRHPS Christmas Fair



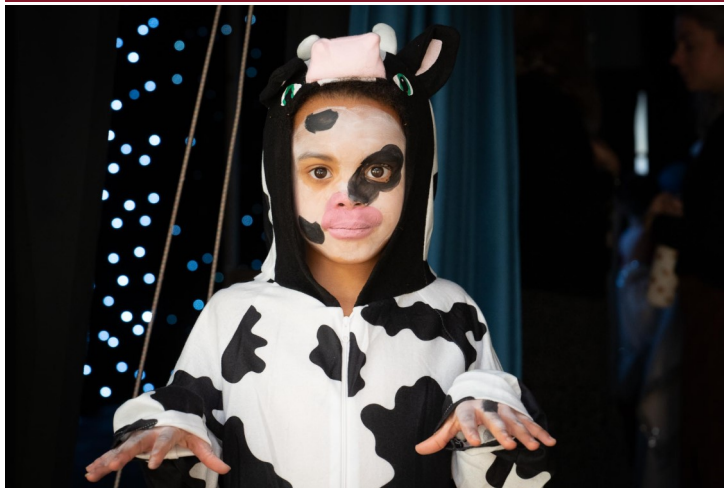
Christmas Music Concert



'Born in a barn' Nativity Performance



'Born in a barn' Nativity Performance



Mrs Leclezio's Yoga Club



When should you worry?



RED

If your child has any of the following:

- Becomes pale, mottled and feels abnormally cold to touch
- Is going blue around the lips
- Too breathless to talk / eat or drink
- Has a fit/seizure
- Becomes extremely agitated (crying inconsolably despite distraction), confused or very lethargic (difficult to wake)
- Develops a rash that does not disappear with pressure (the '[Glass Test](#)')
- Is under 3 months of age with a temperature of 38°C / 100.4°F or above (unless fever in the 48 hours following vaccinations and no other red or amber features)

You need urgent help.

Go to the nearest Hospital Emergency (A&E) Department or phone 999



AMBER

If your child has any of the following:

- Is finding it hard to breathe
- Unable to swallow saliva
- Seems dehydrated (sunken eyes, drowsy or not passed urine for 12 hours)
- Is becoming drowsy (excessively sleepy) or irritable (unable to settle them with toys, TV, food or picking up) - especially if they remain drowsy or irritable despite their fever coming down
- Has extreme shivering or complains of muscle pain
- Develops a painful, red swollen gland in their neck which is increasing in size
- Is 3-6 months of age with a temperature of 39°C / 102.2°F or above (but fever is common in babies up to 2 days after they receive vaccinations)
- Continues to have a fever of 38°C or above for more than 5 days
- If your child has recently had scarlet fever but now appears to have a puffy face/eyelids, tea 'coca-cola' coloured urine (pee), or a swollen, painful joint(s)
- Is getting worse or if you are worried

You need to contact a doctor or nurse today.

Please ring your GP surgery or out of hours contact NHS 111 for advice – dial 111 or for children aged 5 years and above visit 111.nhs.uk



GREEN

If none of the above features are present

Additional advice is also available to young families for coping with crying of well babies – click [here](#).

Self care

Continue providing your child's care at home. If you are still concerned about your child, please ring your GP surgery or out of hours contact NHS 111 for advice – dial 111 or for children aged 5 years and above visit 111.nhs.uk