



# Ryhall CE Academy News

## Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

It has been a start to the academic year like we have never known. For some individuals and families, life may now be very different. However, it has also been one of the most wonderful first terms of the academic year. Although staff, including myself, are not going in to all different classes in the same way that we would have previously done, we have all been unanimously agreed on the way in which our children have adapted to a 'new norm' in school life. I am so proud of our/your children; every day they enter school full of enthusiasm and smiles, ready to get on with the business of the day. Well done one and all for your help in achieving this. Hopefully, by the time you are reading this, you've had your first teacher-parent consultation of the academic year and have had the necessary reassurances about how your child has settled despite all that has been taking place. Our bubbles are working well and I thank you all for your care and close adherence to the guidelines regarding attendance which will hopefully continue to keep our staff and children as safe as possible.

*Katy Walker*, Headteacher

### Loving Literacy

This term began with an exciting arrival through the post; all classes received a surprise book 'The day the crayons Quit' by Drew Daywalt, illustrated by Oliver Jeffers. We shared this book as a reader, developing our VIPERS (KS2) & Reading Dog (KS1) comprehension skills. We developed our understanding of character emotions, actions and motives. In preparation of our writing task we explored the vocabulary, punctuation and grammar used in the story, and how this has an impact on the reader. We then used this toolkit to up level our own writing. Having mastered all these skills, we then confidently wrote, having a clear purpose for writing and an intended audience. We are thrilled with our final results showcasing our talents as writers.



**UNIFORM** Please be reminded that after the half term holiday, summer uniform should no longer be worn. It is important that all children have suitable footwear and a warm, waterproof coat for social times. Please ensure all items are named.



# HOPE

## with Hambleton Heroes

We, the Hambleton Heroes, have thrown ourselves into our Year 6 learning since beginning the new term and have impressed Mrs Jesson and Mrs Johnson with our resilience, commitment and perseverance. We have had a particular focus on our new value of 'HOPE' and have thought about how we can help others through having and bringing hope. In our learning, we have already completed a whistle-stop tour of crime and punishments throughout the Roman, Saxon, Tudor and Georgian times, including all the gory and disgusting bits too! In English, we've studied the Highwayman poem written by Alfred Noyes, discovering it is a story of love, courage, jealousy and betrayal. We've completed some brilliant drama during a hot-seating activity, written our own version of the poem, in the same style, and are working towards creating a narrative text based on the story as our final 'hot' write. In Maths, we have continued to build on our knowledge of the four operations of number. Our next slice of learning will tackle long division so we will soon be able to divide 3 digit numbers by 2 digit numbers – watch this space for some 'help' videos filmed by the children. We have also looked at drawing and painting portraits using the correct proportions on the face in order to make E-fit drawings for a crime committed. The Hambleton Heroes mug shots are a real 'rogues' gallery!! ©

## ACADEMIC YEAR TERM DATES 2020-21

Autumn 2 Starts	2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2020
Autumn 2 ends	18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020
Spring 3 starts	4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
Spring 3 ends	12 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
Spring 4 starts	22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2021
Spring 4 ends	26 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
Summer 5 starts	12 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
MAY BANK HOLIDAY	3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021
Summer 5 ends	28 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
Summer 6 starts	7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
Summer 6 ends	16 <sup>th</sup> July 2020

### CLOTHING BANK

Thank you for your continued support with the clothing bank which is available on our school site. If you have any items that you wish to place in the clothing bank, please arrive at the car park gates and telephone the school office so that we can place these in the bank for you. All items donated provide a return to the school (based on weight). Please note that quilts, pillows and towels are not accepted items for the clothing bank.

### HOT MEALS ARE RETURNING

For those of you who either have children in Reception or KS1 or are in receipt of the Pupil Premium funding for your child, you may be delighted to hear that hot meals are back on the menu in Autumn Term 2. We are changing the staggered timings of our lunch so that all of the children in KS1 will eat their lunch in the hall. Children in KS2 will have hot meals delivered direct to their classrooms – still all prepared freshly on site.

Make sure you have made your orders by logging in to your account (or setting up a new one) on the Kingswood site:

[www.kingswoodcatering.co.uk](http://www.kingswoodcatering.co.uk)

TRUST  
RESPECT  
FRIENDSHIP  
HOPE  
RESILIENCE  
COMPASSION

## Burghley News

It's been a wonderful start for me in my teaching career – joining the Ryhall CE Academy family has been fun – even if a little exhausting. I have taken great pleasure in getting to know all of Burghley Class, particularly finding out some of their amazing skills and talents. Whilst a lot of our Maths work has focused on recap of place value as well as the operations of addition and subtraction, there has certainly been some challenges! Our Burghley brains have had to work incredibly hard. In History, we've been 'Digging up the Past', learning all about a very long period of time in history – the Stone Age to the Iron Age – particularly looking at how life in Britain has changed. What we can learn from rocks is absolutely fascinating. I look forward to another busy term after we've all re-charged our batteries again. Thank you to you all for the great welcome. Miss Hillier.

## RE & Ethos

Our valuable work as a Church School has been continuing throughout this half term with lots of learning and reflecting happening on a daily basis. We've been able to maintain our whole school Collective Worship on a Monday and Thursday with Ms Walker and Rev Jo leading us through worship using Zoom as well as holding our own class worship on all other days. This has allowed the children and staff to reflect on Resilience and the School Values including our new value of HOPE. This has been especially important during these uncertain times and has been very beneficial for us all. Harvest has also been a special celebration this year. Year 4 and 6 led the virtual service along with Rev Jo and the children were able to bring their produce and share it on an empty table before it being taken to the Stamford Foodbank – many thanks to you all for your generous contributions! Rev Jo was also able to talk to the children about a charity close to her heart – 'Water Aid'. She spoke about the many children and families in this world who do not have running water and how lucky we are to be able to turn on a tap and drink from it. The children listened brilliantly well and, I know in Woolsthorpe Class, it sparked some really interesting thoughts and ideas that I hope the Ethos Council will be able to build on over the year as we begin to think about how we can work together for the further good of our community.



## TIMES TABLES (TT) ROCKSTARS

### TIMES TABLES (TT) ROCKSTARS

We now have some new TT Rockstars who have joined the group – welcome to all those in Burghley Class. In Summer 2020, the then Year 4 children should have undertaken the government's first 'Multiplication Tables Check' (MTC) which is in place for all children in Year 4. The idea of this check is to determine how many children are at the expected standard of being able to recall all their times tables up to 12x12 out of order and in a manner which means they're not having to rely on counting on fingers. We can safely say that TTRockstars has been a smash hit at Ryhall since its launch last year and we're now starting to see some serious battling take place!

Children do have opportunity to log into their accounts regularly at school and we would be delighted to see this continuing daily at home too. We have many children who have now secured a Rock Star status and lots of children are regularly challenging each other in the times table challenge game.

Special mentions are needed for these children for their average recall speed

Hambleton - Toby	– 1.42 seconds per question
Tolethorpe – Daniel	– 0.79 seconds per question
Woolsthorpe – Emily	- 1.46 seconds per question
Burghely – Olivia	- 1.9 seconds per question

Currently, Ryhall CE Academy are 21<sup>st</sup> (we've dropped one place) on the TT Rockstars leader board for the local schools. We can still move higher if everyone plays their part. So I have set all KS2 children a challenge for half term to help us to move up the local school leader board

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/login/20186>

**Belton News:** What an amazing start to a new year! Belton class have settled in well and taken to the challenge of being Year One with such great enthusiasm. As part of our Ourselves topic we have explored our senses in science, going on a hearing walk, conducting a smell test, tasting some different foods and using our sense of touch to guess what was in the bag. Much fun was had. In History we researched the famous Florence Nightingale and how she changed hospitals and cared of the sick soldiers in Scutari. In Literacy we have been focusing on Julia Donaldson's fabulous Gruffalo story. We labelled, described the Gruffalo and wrote a recipe for our delicious Gruffalo Crumble. We went on to create our own moving Gruffalos and drew the woodland setting. Using our design skills, we made our Gruffalo walk through the woodland. The children loved the stories so much we decided to continue with a further class favourite 'Room on the broom'. We made our own spells using adjectives, alliteration and even a little rhyme. Following these amazing and slightly disgusting spells we created our own fantastic poems using all our senses to describe 'What's in the magic cauldron?' As part of our Rainbow challenges we have enjoyed designing and making our own broomsticks, creating spells from orbeez, slime and bugs and making items to put into our cauldons from playdough. It seems Belton have awesome counting skills and have become experts in using number lines to find missing numbers and one more or less. We have started to use part-whole models to make number bonds and can even use mathematical symbols to write number sentences. Belton have enjoyed learning and retelling the Christian creation story this term. We have also thought carefully about what harvest time means and what we are thankful for. Our harvest scarecrows were fun to make too! We listened really carefully to collective worship given by reverend Jo and thought about her questions. We showed great respect when we talked about different ideas of God. We have kept very active in Belton class with our daily mile, go noodle dances and outside learning activities. Everyone has taken part with great enthusiasm in our P.E. sessions, improving our running and jumping skills as well as working as a team, following instructions and playing lots of games. Belton have loved collecting dojo points for giving school their all. Everyone has already collected over 20 points and as a class we reached our 500-point target too! I wonder how many we will get next term.

## Rockingham News

Rockingham Class have a fantastic first term "travelling around the world in our new theme "Our Wonderful World". We can now name and identify on maps the continents, oceans, hemispheres and the Equator. Using Purple Mash we created a leaflet to share our knowledge too.

Each week we have visited a country in each continent and learnt a little bit about that country. From this we have created some amazing artwork, our favourite has been recreating 'Mushrooms' by Japanese artist Yayoi Kusuma. We have been reading the book "Here we Are" by Oliver Jeffers; this has made us really think about our planet and why it is so important to look after the things on it and the planet itself. We used "What a Wonderful World" by Louis Armstrong, videos by David Attenborough and other stories to help us think about why our world is so wonderful and how we could teach others to look after it too - from this we have written a letter to Year 1 teaching them all that we have learnt. We have even been into Year 1 to read them our letters.

Our Place Value knowledge in Maths has been coming on in leaps and bounds and we have been smashing our 'Hit the Button' scores, we are now ready to move onto adding and subtracting! In RE we have been learning about Islam - the first Pillar of Islam and about why Prophet Muhammad is important to Muslims. We have had 2 children earn Star of the week certificates already: Ava A and Rudy and Ellena is currently our top scorer of Dojo Points. What an extremely busy first term we have had but with lots of fun along the way too!



**We must  
keep on protecting  
each other.**



**HANDS**



**FACE**



**SPACE**

## Woolsthorpe News

What an amazingly fast-moving and jam-packed half term Woolsthorpe Wonders have had. We have all settled in brilliantly and have been working really hard on all things Egyptian! Our Maths work has focused on the value of numbers and addition and subtraction of some really big numbers – it's really stretched our brains. In our written work we have read a story about an Egyptian Cinderella and used our expanded noun phrases and DADWAVER sentence openers to write our own version as well as writing a leaflet about an Egyptian God/Goddess. Our Science work has been focused on learning about 'Gums to Bums'; learning about the digestive system and where our food goes to and about what types of teeth we have and what their roles are. We've almost finished an investigation on which drink causes the most decay – our bets are on Cola although orange juice may well be a close second!

In RE we have looked at the story of Noah and the promises that God made to Noah as well as those that Noah made to God. This has linked well with our new School Value of Hope...Noah had to believe in God and Hope that He would keep his promises. We have learnt a lot from this theme of 'Why do people follow God?' and been able to relate it to both our family and school life.

Finally, 'Walk Like an Egyptian' has been great fun, if a little gory! So far we have learnt about Egyptian gods (as previously mentioned), the hierarchical social pyramid and, just this week, learnt about the mummification process. We will continue to learn more about this ancient civilization into Term 2.

Please ensure you have read the SimsMail to parents in preparation for the new term. We are requesting that parents continue to observe the social distancing guidelines when waiting for and collecting your child(ren). Face masks are not compulsory but we would advise the wearing of them during drop-off and collection times for the protection of our whole school community. Please ensure you are wearing one if you need a face-to-face conversation with a member of staff.

## RYHALL CE ACADEMY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (AGC)

The governing body of Ryhall CE Academy (AGC) have now had their first meeting of the academic year. Mrs Amanda Rogers has been re-elected for the fourth year and Rev Jo Saunders as Vice-Chair. We still continue to have the pleasure of Miss Gale Waller (Church Governor) and thank her for her many years' service as Vice-Chair as well as Mrs Paula Carlton (Staff Governor), alongside Mr Kev Fryett who will be moving from parent governor to community governor. At the end of the academic year, we said a fond farewell to Mrs Kimberley Griffin who had served the school for a number of years in various roles which included Chair of the PTFA, parent governor and a parent who supported many classes in their class trips and sporting events. We all thank Mrs Griffin for her number of years' service to the school and wish her and her family well now and in the future. On a personal note, it has been a massive privilege to have worked with her and it has been a real inspiration to have witnessed the enormous amount of time and effort that she has dedicated over the many years. In Autumn Term 2 we will be putting out details of nominations and elections for two new parent governors to join the AGC. For more details on the Academy Governance Committee and the role of governors, including how this fits in with the PDET Trust Board, please see the Governors page on our school website. If you would like to discuss the role in more detail, please don't hesitate to make contact. Kind regards, Ms Walker.

### Tolethorpe News

WOW! New Year 5 have come back to school with the most amazing attitude. They have shown such passion for our current theme: 'Argonauts, Monsters and Minotaurs!' Within History, we have really engrossed ourselves in everything Ancient Greek; looking closely at Greek Vases (and the stories they hold) as well as looking at 3D sculptures by Svend Bayer and Greyson Perry in contrast. We've designed and created our own vases as well as finding out all about the 'weird and wonderful' thing that is the Greek Democracy and finding out the most bizarre and peculiar facts about the Greek Gods and Goddesses.

We have also become quite the mathematicians this term already, by building upon and recapping skills and knowledge learnt in Year 4; challenging ourselves to use this and to carry on expanding our understanding and reasoning skills. Within Science, the children have become very curious and fascinated with materials and their uses! We carefully put together two investigations, to test the properties of materials and to test which materials are insoluble and which are soluble. We then wrote a clear report on these showing our fantastic Year 5 science understanding whilst using our amazing science vocabulary. Despite the changes made to the school day given the current situation, Year 5 have adapted and settled in very quickly to the 'new normal' and have shown amazing resilience and determination to make this year a great one for them. Well done Tolethorpe Class on such a great start to Year 5!



As we approach the month of November some of you may be starting to think about your Christmas shopping. This year, in the absence of being able to run some of the usual fundraising events, we would really appreciate your support. You can help raise money for Ryhall CE Academy using [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) – click the link to be taken direct to our school's linked fundraising page. Use this link to do your online shopping: food, gifts (birthdays and Christmas), holidays & travel and much, much more – take a look now. Thank you as always for your support.



For parents of children in Years 1 to 6, we hope you're now 'getting to grips' with using Seesaw for Schools for online learning. We found this to be an invaluable resource in the Spring & Summer term lockdown as well as during reintegration to full term school life. This is set up for use should there need to be a 'bubble' lockdown as well as in the case of a child's absence for COVID-19 related reasons i.e. self-isolation and we will continue to use this for the setting of home-based learning activities (homework).

This is a learning focussed resource and is not used for general messages or messaging staff members. Teachers will continue to use Class Dojo for general class reminders, messages and updates. We kindly ask that you use email to get in touch with your child's class teacher – all email addresses have been sent on email and can also be found on our school website under Pupil Zone (in your child's class page). We realise that the number of different communication lines can be confusing but each has their own purpose.

### Belvoir News

The children have truly settled into full days in school and are coping admirably with all the new routines and expectations. They are also coming in 'super-confident' in the mornings; thank you for supporting us with this. They have been busy making new friends and it now feels like we have always known each other!! Daily phonics sessions have begun and your child will have received their phonics folder detailing the sounds and tricky words learned so far. Please keep these at home, we will we send out the new sounds and words at the end of each week to be added to the folder. Also, please take some time to share these with your child, practise saying the sounds and writing the letters with them, but keep it short and fun! It has been lovely seeing on Tapestry all the different ways in which you have been completing the phonics homework and some of the other activities that you have been getting up to. You can add observations of your child to Tapestry at any time, especially if you think it was a special 'wow' moment in their life! Please take the chance over the half term break, to check that ALL your children's uniform and bags are named in some format to enable us to ensure that nothing is mislaid. Thank you for all your support and understanding this term - have a restful and relaxing break.