



Ryhall CE Academy News

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Well it has truly been an Autumn Term that we could never have imagined - a time when good hygiene and personal space has been given equal importance as teaching and learning. But that said, your children have done some fabulous work this term, made good progress and have started to show they are back on that same learning journey they were on before Lockdown 1 happened to us all. That is down to a huge number of factors, including your dedication and support with home learning of all different varieties and very importantly down to some continued fabulous teaching from our wonderful staff team. My heart sank when the government announced the proposal to close schools on Thursday 17th December as I knew that it would give an opportunity for media to show yet another negative portrayal of teaching staff and what we have named as 'teacher-bashing' to begin. Here at Ryhall CE Academy, we've never set ourselves up on a pedestal to be heroes - COVID-19 has impacted on everyone's lives - some for the better, but the majority for the worse. We know too well how children have been affected and that has changed our approaches in school. I told you in October how proud I am of your children: their resilience, attitude, empathy and how they continue to uphold our values - this continues to be the case and they show this in abundance. I want to say the same now of our staff here at Ryhall CE Academy. I thank each and every one of them for their continued dedication to our children as I know that this Autumn Term has really pushed all reserves. I wish them all, as well as yourselves and your families, a well-earned break and I hope that 2021 is a year of good cheer and happiness for each and every one of you. Good health to you all. God bless.

Katy Walker, Headteacher

Please ensure you have read the SimsMail to parents in preparation for the new term's timings. Although our school is in a Tier 2 area, many of our parents currently continue to reside in a Tier 3 area. Thank you for supporting us wearing a face covering when lining up to drop-off and collect your child as well as when entering the school gates at the end of the day. It is important that we continue with this in to the Spring Term.

Thank you again.

Ryhall CE Academy Staff Team

REPORTING POSITIVE CASES

Parents - if you have a positive case confirmed for your child on Saturday 19th or Sunday 20th December, please can you notify Ms Walker by email:

head@ryhall.rutland.sch.uk. It would be helpful if you could share the best contact telephone number on which she could speak to you (if necessary).

If you receive notification of a positive test for your child between Monday 21st December and Thursday 24th December, you should only notify Ms Walker if your child developed symptoms within 48 hours of last being in school and testing/results were delayed. Thank you.

ACADEMIC YEAR TERM DATES 2020-21

Spring 3 starts	4 th January 2021
Spring 3 ends	12 th February 2021
Spring 4 starts	22 nd February 2021
Spring 4 ends	26 th March 2021
Summer 5 starts	12 th April 2021
MAY BANK HOLIDAY	3 rd May 2021
Summer 5 ends	28 th May 2021
Summer 6 starts	7 th June 2021
Summer 6 ends	16 th July 2020

Dates for your diary

22nd Jan: In-Year reports to parents (Years 1-6)

5th Feb, 2pm: Hambleton Class Zoom Assembly (Year 6 Parents invited)
12th Feb, 2pm: Woolsthorpe Class Zoom Assembly (Year 4 Parents invited)

CLOTHING BANK

Thank you for your continued support with the clothing bank which is available on our school site. If you have any items 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. 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.

KINGSWOOD CATERING

Hot meals returned this term and we've been delighted with the take-up and the children's enjoyment of these once again. We're able to deliver a hot service to KS2 classrooms. Don't forget to make your Spring Term orders www.kingswoodcatering.co.uk

Uniform & Hairstyles

Please check your child's uniform over the holiday period to make sure all items are still clearly named. As a reminder, all long hair must be tied/clipped back - this applies to all children, including boys. Thank you.



AWARDS

Over this Autumn Term, we been enjoying Collective Worship in a number of ways, but usually being started at the beginning of the week by a whole school Zoom led by Ms Walker. Children are invited to participate through questioning and answering as well as being invited to join, if they wish, in our usual act of worship either through prayer or reflection. At the end of these sessions, we've then enjoyed continuing this gathering so that we can celebrate individual achievements through the giving out of awards. The following awards have been achieved:

GOLD AWARD - Tom Griffin

SILVER AWARDS - Isla Holroyd, Robbie McIntosh x 2, Lily Cook, Alicia Johnson, Luke Fender, Luisella Pacitti, Mary-Ann Dawkins, Nathaniel Griffin, Holly Muxlow, Anna Steel, Fin Hargreaves, Molly Fish, Maya Pye, Tallulah Sorbi, Isla Sallis, Roman Epps, Aurora Penfold, Noah Price, Holly Tinker, Isaac Rawlings, Noah Parnell, Arthur Schofield, Matteo Pacitti, Harry Glover.

DOJO LEADERS - Reuben Ward, Molly Fish, Holly Tinker, Megan Cosgrove, Elin Evans, Benji Tinker, Luisella Pacitti

VALUES AWARDS - Evie Heames (Compassion), Isla Holroyd (Compassion), Rudy Maltby (Compassion), Ted Johnson (Compassion), Grace Wood (Compassion), Benjamin Gatens (Resilience), Reuben Ward (Respect), Sam Palmer (Friendship)
Well done to all children for the fantastic progress they have made this Autumn Term. They have all shown tremendous resilience.

TRUST
RESPECT
FRIENDSHIP
HOPE
RESILIENCE
COMPASSION

Hambleton News

What a brilliant term of learning Hambleton Heroes have had! We started the term as apprentices at 'Fairytale Times' where we developed our skills at journalistic writing, including writing quotes, writing in the passive voice and using technical language. When the Three Little Pigs were arrested for the murder of Mr. Alexander T. Wolf, we ensured that the people of Talletown were clearly informed of the facts of the case. As part of citizenship, we have learnt about the roles of parliament and the government. We have held class debates, learnt how laws are made and created our own manifestos when running for MP in a general election. We thought about what issues are important to us and how we can contact our MPs for support or advice. Lydia continued her learning and sent an email to local MP Gareth Davies about animal welfare. We hope to hear back from him soon. This term we have also particularly loved reading our whole class reader text 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. The interesting characters, complex plot and mystery has led to great class discussions where we have developed our VIPERS skills. In RE we continued to think about Islam and what it means for a Muslim to follow God. It's been a wonderful term and we look forward to a Happy and Healthy Spring Term in 2021.

English News cont.

In key stage two children have continued to use Accelerated Reader to track their reading progress. Children can now access and complete the quizzes at home seven days a week, between 8.50am and 7.30pm. Please can you ensure that your child carries out any quizzes independently to get a true reflection of their attainment and progress. We have seen great progress with reading this term. Huge congratulations to our top reader in each class:

Burghley: Jacob Sallis

Woolsthorpe: Lottie Hartles

Tolethorpe: Benji Tinker

Hambleton: Holly Muxlow

and to the following children for some amazing word counts:

Benji Tinker – Quintuple Millionaire
(5,396,479 words read)

Elin Evans - Triple Millionaire
(3,791,041 words read)

Luisella Pacitti – Triple Millionaire
(3,679,199 words read).

HAPPY READING!



As you know, in KS2 we have access to TT Rock Stars which is an online platform that allows our children to practise recall of the multiplication tables facts using games, quizzes and challenges. We have been logging on, both at school and at home, with so many wonderful results. The Studio game on TT Rock Stars allows children to gain a 'Rock Star' speed and be given a ROCK STAR STATUS ranging from Wannabe to Rock Hero. At the end of every game the children are given a speed, this is the average time it takes to answer each question in seconds. This then equates to a rock star status.

- Wannabe – over 10 seconds
- Garage Rocker - under 10 seconds
- Busker – under 9 seconds
- Gigger – under 8 seconds
- Unsigned Act – under 7 seconds
- Breakthrough Artist – under 6 seconds
- Support Act – under 5 seconds
- Headliner – under 4 seconds
- Rock Star – under 3 seconds
- Rock Legend - under 2 seconds
- ROCK HERO - under 1 second



Special mention needs to go to these children:

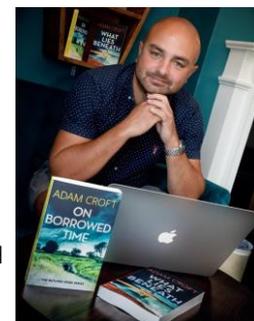
Hambleton – TOBY is a Rock Hero with an average speed of 0.97 seconds per question! His very first studio score was 5.61 seconds per question. Such a great improvement Toby. Well done.

Tolethorpe – DANIEL is a Rock Hero with a speed of 0.86 seconds per question. Well done Daniel. A special mention also needs to go to LIZZIE as she is now a Rock Star. She started with a score of 10.91 seconds and now has a speed of 2.59 seconds per question.

Woolsthorpe – EMILY is now a Rock Legend with an average speed of 1.5 seconds per question. Her first studio score was 11.54 seconds per question. Such a super improvement Emily.

Burghley – OLIVIA is a Rock Legend with an average speed of 1.46 seconds per question. Brilliant work Olivia as you started with a speed of 6.67 seconds. As a school we are currently 22 place on the local schools leaderboard with an average speed of 6.01 seconds per question. I wonder if we could creep a little higher up the board over the Christmas period? Keep logging on and practising at home. In the New Year, watch out for further challenges and battles.

English News: Since coming back in August we have revolutionised our teaching of English. Now each teaching sequence starts with the 'BIG REVEAL' of a new book. Children first immerse themselves in the text, developing their reading dog or VIPERS skills as well as developing a love of reading. They then analyse the text as a writer; identifying features of the genre, grammatical structures, powerful language and punctuation, before practicing and applying these skills in their writing. Once familiar with the text-type, children then write in this style showing an awareness of their purpose and audience. We are thrilled with the impact this is having on the children's writing. We have seen a reduction in reluctant writers and an increase in enthusiasm! We start each sequence with a hook. This term year 6 were lucky enough to receive a personal video message from non-other than- bestselling crime author, and writer of the Rutland Crime Series - Adam Croft. He kindly gave the children some top tips for writing their own detective story. This heavily inspired them to create and write their own murder mystery. Across the school we have not only been focusing on books, but also the authors that write them; exposing children to their catalogue of writing so they can continue choosing books from this author to further develop their love of reading. When reading with your child, please spend some time discussing the author as well as the book. We have also sent reading bookmarks home with your child to support comprehension questioning at home. This has been an especially busy term for year 2, who have just completed the phonic screening check – scores to parents will be coming out next term with reports. A big well done to all.



Woolsthorpe News

Here we are at the end of another extremely busy half term. Woolsthorpe Wonders have been working so hard this term on our continued theme of 'Walk Like an Egyptian'. We have created our own pyramids from a square based pyramid net and also in clay. We also carried out our own research on Life in Egypt to create our own presentations from display boards to information leaflets.

In our writing, we have used our whole class reader 'Varjak Paw' to write a newspaper report describing 'The Vanishings'. The children wrote this before finishing the novel and were amazed at how close they were to what had actually happened in the story!

As developing mathematicians, we have begun our work on multiplication and division and how we can use these facts to solve problems. It is important that the children do continue to practice their times tables at home as they are an integral part of all the Maths learning that will come in next term's learning.

Science has been very practical once again this term as we have moved on to learning about electricity: where it comes from, how a circuit is made and how we can turn a bulb on and off by using a switch. It's been great fun 'playing' with electricity – obviously learning about safety associated with this. We used these skills as part of our Design & Technology learning: designing a festive light decoration which we then made and lit up!

Our learning in RE this half term has been about Festivals and why they are important to people of faith. We have looked at the Sikh festival of Vaisakhi, Muslim festival of Eid-ul-Fitr, which marks the end of Ramadan and the Christian festival of Christmas. The children have had the opportunity to find out what happens at these different festivals, why they are celebrated and the impact they have on those practicing those religions. The children were also able to look at how they might feel at these festivals.

Finally, I'd like to thank you for tremendous support with the Reverse Advent this term. The children have donated a huge amount for the Stamford Foodbank and it has given them a great opportunity to think of others at this time. I'd like to wish you all a restful Christmas break and a peaceful 2021!

Sporting News

Despite the restrictions, we found ourselves in, our Year 5 & 6 Sports Leaders have been busy helping to plan and organise a number of sporting events. All of these have been organised by Mr Thomas through the Rutland Schools Sporting Competitions fixtures and we've been working really hard on 'personal bests'. Except for one week where we had a bubble lockdown, we've entered all competitions and this means that we are now placed in 4th place in the Rutland Schools Medals table – we're delighted with this achievement. There has also been additional success in the Virtual Sportshall Athletics completion with our Year 3 achieving 1st place across all schools, Year 4 in 3rd place, Year 5 in 4th place and finally Year 6 in 5th place – these are all fantastic results and children should be extremely pleased with their combined efforts. The winning team's score for Year 3 will be compared to the other winning teams in all the other 9 SSPAN districts to determine the overall winning schools for the whole of Leicestershire, Leicester City and Rutland. We're keeping our fingers crossed for more success!



Rockingham News

We have been getting stuck into a brand new theme: 'Wings and Wonderful Things' This theme has taken us on a journey through the past and looking at the significant people that changed aviation. We began with the fictional story 'Emma Jane's Aeroplane' This led us to write diary entries in the character of Emma Jane and describing the adventures she had visiting many different countries, seeing the most famous landmarks and picking up animal friends along the way. We then learnt all about The Wright Brothers and the process they went through to become the first men to successfully build an aircraft that was engine powered and heavier than air. Their journey inspired us to make our own model biplanes with wheels and axels. Our next read was 'Little People, Big dreams: Amelia Earhart'. At first we thought the book was fictional as there were lots of lovely drawings but were shocked to learn that the book was based on an amazing significant person from the past. We learnt lots about Amelia Earhart and her life and discovered how she wanted to motivate others and inspire people to believe they could achieve anything if they put their minds to it. We used this to write a Biography about Amelia Earhart. RE this term has helped us to understand the meanings behind many of the Christmas traditions we all know so well. We have learned what Christmas pies, gifts, wreaths and Christmas carols all represent and the Christian message behind them. We have ended our busy term celebrating all things Christmas and learning the poem 'Twas the Night Before Christmas' which we have performed and are looking forward to sharing it with you all very soon.

Belvoir News

What a busy time it has been in Belvoir class! We have been looking at many areas of the world around us and also the festivals and changing seasons. We truly emerged ourselves in the celebration of Diwali and spent a whole week learning about how Diwali is celebrated. We made and wrote Happy Diwali cards to our friends and families and created firework pictures by using kitchen equipment to make firework splashes! We have seen lots of changes in our outdoors with the changing of the seasons and particularly enjoyed the recent cold weather. We were able to go out in the snow and have a short run around catching snowflakes and looking at them close up! One frosty morning we went out straight away and had a better chance to observe the changes that the cold snap brought to our surroundings. We looked at the patterns the ice had made in our tuff spots and on the equipment. Then we listened to the sound our feet made as we walked across the playing field, some great descriptive words were heard being used. We are truly into the swing of preparations for Christmas time. The end of the term has been all about the very first Christmas. Even though we have not been able to participate in a Nativity play this year, we still learned about all the important characters in the first nativity story and the very special gift of Jesus. All the children have made a Nativity bracelet; each bead represents an event or character in the Christmas story. Have a safe, relaxing Christmas, and thank you for your kind words and support.

Burghley News

Well, the children have been exceptionally busy once again and Miss Hillier has successfully made it through the longest term of the year. She has continued to set high expectations of the children and has taken them through a wonderful learning journey focusing on the counties and cities in the UK, comparing some of the human and physical features, but most importantly, improving locational knowledge; it's been interesting to compare this area of Rutland to Miss Hillier's home area of Manchester. The children are now starting to get to grips with some of the more difficult aspects of KS2 Maths learning and will continue to focus on the operations of Multiplication and Division after the holidays. Keep practicing those times tables!

Belton News

What another busy term! Belton have worked incredibly hard and become even more independent. In our History work we have spent this term learning about Castles. Alongside this, we have been reading lots of stories about dragons and were shocked when a mystery egg arrived in our classroom. We wrote questions and interviewed a dragon named Zog and made our own egg box dragons. Then there were more strange goings on including giant footprints, burnt books and noises coming from the nature garden. We designed wanted posters, dragon traps and wrote excellent instructions for how to capture a dragon although we haven't yet been successful.

In Maths, we have continued to work on addition, subtraction and place value but also investigated 2D and 3D shape. We love using equipment like numicon to help us explore numbers and our shape work has also inspired our castle art work this term when we designed castles made from 2D shapes inspired by the work of Paul Klee. Our Science lessons have allowed us to become experts in materials and their properties. Last Monday we received a letter from one of Santa's Elves asking for our help! They had a huge hole in their sack and couldn't decide which material would be best to help fix it. We used our knowledge to draw up a list of properties the material needed to have to fix the hole. We then went on to design our own experiment to test the chosen few fabrics. We drew conclusions after looking at the findings of our experiments and then wrote to the chief elf to let him know our ideas! Hopefully, they will be used. We love our PE sessions and we have enjoyed developing our ball skills this term though throwing, catching, rolling and bouncing challenges. Our RE focus this term has been about exploring what it means to 'belong' and discovered how Christians, Muslims and Jews show they belong to their faith. We have found out how babies are welcomed into religions through ceremonies and studied Christenings in particular.

Christmas is almost here and we have been participating in a KS1 workshop, learning more about the Christmas story and the meanings behind Christmas traditions through making gifts, mince pies and Christmas decorations. We were so excited as on Monday Santa sent us a video message from the North Pole! He knew we were in Belton and Rockingham class! We have all been very good and are on his 'nice' list! We hope you all have a lovely Christmas break and come back ready for our next exciting learning journey to AFRICA!



WHAT'S ON?



Introduction to

A U T I S M

Has someone you know just received a diagnosis of Autism? Is someone you know suspected of having Autism?

Our brief Introduction to Autism course aims to give you an insight into Autism, this is for parents, carers, relations, PAs, anyone that is involved in you child's or young person's life and you think would benefit from learning more about Autism and advice on how to understand and support anyone with a diagnosis or ASD behaviours

Tuesday 19 January 2021
7.00pm - 9.00pm
On Zoom

Please email the Aiming High Team to book your place.
aiminghigh@rutland.gov.uk
FREE OF CHARGE

Quotes from parents who have attended the training: Parent reported to support worker that she learnt so much about her little boy in 2 hours.
A Dad reported - I have a better understanding of where X is coming from, understanding he can be over-stimulated and gets a distracted and therefore can't pull him away from something. I now know how to talk to him, and understand that he is not doing something on purpose. It has changed my perspective of him and I'm not just shouting at him. I have lowered my expectations which has helped.
A Mum reported - I know X a bit better, I feel I can work with him rather than it being a battle, I feel more confident in handling him and understanding him and not thinking he's being awkward.

For more help and support or to discuss further, contact Ms Walker at school.

Rutland Adult Learning

The new Spring Term Rutland Adult Learning brochure is now available to view and has lots of exciting learning opportunities including formal English/Maths courses, Arts & Crafts, Creative Writing, Apprenticeships and other courses. Take a look now:

<https://www.ralss.org.uk/>

Peterborough Cathedral

Christingle Nativity Trail

21-23 December 2020

To find out more information visit their website or the following link:

<https://www.peterborough-cathedral.org.uk/userfiles/Christingle%20Nativity%202020.jpg>

Tolethorpe News

Firstly, we're delighted to share with you that Miss Kime, on Thursday 10th December, gave birth to a healthy (and very gorgeous) baby girl they have named Quinn. We wish all the family well as they begin to enjoy parenthood for the first time. Tolethorpe Class have ended the term meeting their new, temporary class teacher, Miss Watson, who is looking forward to really getting stuck into work with them in the new term as they begin their new topic 'I'm a Year 5 pupil, get me out of here!'.

This term's topic has been all about everything Ancient Greek and they were able to end their Autumn term time with Miss Kime by sharing some delicious modern day Greek food – it went down very well with many children trying some new flavours.