

Risdene Academy Weekly Newsletter

23rd February 2018

As usual, it has been another busy week at Risdene Academy! Everyone has been working hard and showing P.R.I.D.E. – this was really highlighted at our celebration assembly today when the teachers spoke about great role models, fantastic independent learners and children that had found new levels of focus and determination!

It was lovely to see so many of you at our parents' evenings this week; a strong home-school partnership is essential to support your child's progress. Our book fair has also been very well supported so far, you have one more opportunity to shop on Monday after school. Remember, every purchase helps us to buy new books for our library.

Next week we have lots of exciting activities to look forward to including World Book Day (get those costumes organised) and a visit from athlete, David Smith. We can't wait!

Attendance

Our current whole school attendance week ending 23rd February 2018 was 95.09% and our target is 96.5% or higher at the end of the year. This week's results were:

1st place - Ants with 99.29%

2nd place - Red Kites with 99.17%

3rd place - Wolves with 98.21%

We are working hard to encourage everyone to arrive at school on time. As a reminder, the doors open at 8.40 and children are recorded late if they arrive after 8.50. We shut the gates at 8.55, which is why you will be directed to the office after that time to ensure your child is safely recorded as having arrived at school. If you are having any issues regarding punctuality and attendance please contact our Parent Support Advisor, Lynn Butler who will be happy to help.

Forest Points

Everyone has been working hard in lessons this week and have earned lots of forest points for their teams. Forest points are given out for a range of reasons including use of manners, positive behaviour choices and learning behaviour choices. This week's results were:

1st Place — Thetford with 933, 2nd Place — Salcey with 902, 3rd Place — Sherwood with 731 and 4th Place—Rockingham with 681

Foundation Stage

5,4,3,2,1, blast off to the Space Mission! The children have been excited to learn about space this week and have shared lots of their own knowledge. Our literacy has been linked to the story 'Aliens Love Underpants' and the children have enjoyed writing sentences about pants. In mathematics the children have continued and created repeating patterns, on pants of course! For PSHE next week we would like your child to bring in a photo/certificates/badges of what their favourite sport/exercise/physical activity is outside of school, e.g. riding a bike, swimming, dancing, etc. Thank you in advance.

Year 1/2

We have had a great first week back. The children have enjoyed writing their own stories and are creating a book. We have been doing lots of practical work on fractions and we can show a $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ of an amount. We are looking forward to book day on Thursday, don't forget to dress up as a favourite character and decorate your spoons as a character too!

Year 3/4

What a super start of the week we have had! We have dived straight back into fractions this week and we have successfully been investigating equivalent fractions. It has been great to see the light bulb moments across our phase. Our science has kicked off this term by looking at the 7 characteristics of living things by referring to MRS NERG. Ask us questions and check out our knowledge! It has been great seeing all the wonderful and fabulous shoes that everyone has brought in and we have enjoyed hearing the stories behind them.

Year 5/6

Year 5 and 6 have started the new term with great enthusiasm. We are solving word problems, using the passive and active voice within our sentences and had a fantastic opportunity to work with St John Ambulance doing first aid training.

Writing Success

On Wednesday morning, five extremely excited Year 5 girls travelled to Northampton University to spend the morning at a creative writing workshop. The room was buzzing with ideas and imaginative talk as the children were encouraged to think of story lines that could include a range of unusual objects. It was a great experience and the girls were fantastic representatives for the school as they showed great PRIDE throughout the session. Here are some of their comments,

'It was awesome. I really enjoyed it and can't wait to enter the writing competition.' Arianna

*'I can't describe how amazing it was. If I had to say what it was like in one word it would be **magical**. It really helped with my own writing.'* Gracie

'I loved it at Northampton University. We were making a plan of a story about anything you want, using an object. We also got to look at the library and at the end we all got a goody bag.' Shannon

World Book Day:

Just a reminder that we are celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 1st March and are asking the children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. All competition entries (design a book token and transforming a wooden spoon into a book character) are due in on **Monday 26th February**. Good luck to all of those taking part. We look forward to seeing you in fancy dress on Thursday.

Key Notices and Reminders

PE KITS: Please remember PE Kits should be in school for the whole term! Can we also remind you that earrings must be removed for PE.

PACKED LUNCHES: Please remember that if you send your child's lunch to school in a carrier bag it is important to name it – this week we narrowly avoided children eating the wrong lunch!

OUTDOOR COATS: With the unpredictability of the British weather, we politely ask parents to make sure that their child has a coat in school everyday as we would like the children to be outside at playtime and lunchtime as much as possible. Without the correct clothing this is not always feasible.

PARKING: Please can we politely ask that when dropping off and collecting your child/children you are not parked illegally and are mindful of where you are parking. Please do not park which would cause a hazard for our school children, residents, other road users and pedestrians. Thank you.

Key Dates for Your Diary for Term 4

Monday 26th February - Last opportunity to buy books from the book fair	Monday 26th February - Please hand in your wooden spoon book characters & book token entries by today
Thursday 1st March - Sponsor Money Due in for Sports Champion Visit	Thursday 1st March - World Book Day
Friday 2nd March - Sponsored Circuit Event	6th and 7th March - Year 6 Bikeability
Monday 19th March -Year 1 & 2 Hamerton Zoo Trip	Thursday 29th March - Last day of term
Monday 16th April - School re-opens	Monday 7th May - Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Friday 25th May - Last day of term	Monday 4th June - School re-opens
Thursday 7th June -Year 3&4 Warwick Castle Trip (Please could payment be made by Friday 29th March)	Wednesday 18th July - Last day of term