

Richard Avenue February Newsletter



Staff: No staffing changes to report.

Important Dates:

17 th February	Break up for ½ term (Remember Fairtrade holiday homework)
27 th February	Return to school 8.55am Fairtrade week (inc Fairtrade biscuit sale Friday 3 rd - 25p) Book Fair - Tues, Wed & Thurs 3.30-5pm*
2 nd March	World Book Day- Remember to Dress Up –appropriately in character, not just favourite clothes.
7 th March	Spring Disco*
9 th March	Parents and Children Board Games Afternoon (parents enter via community room)*
13 th March	Science Focus week - STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths)*
21 st March	Dental Survey
24 th March	Comic Relief Day (we are selling Red Noses after the holidays-£1)*
6 th April	Easter Disco*
7 th April	Break up for Easter - 2.30pm.

Events: There are a number of events happening next ½ term, which you are required to be aware of. Further info will be sent out for some events* please be aware, as we would hate your child to miss out on learning or fun!!

Fairtrade: As part of our Fair trade week, children have been asked to complete discussion and research work over ½ term. We would appreciate your support in guiding your children, you never know, you may learn something yourself! Children will also make Fairtrade biscuits when we return to school, being sold for 25p on Friday 3rd March.

Breakfast: Remember if you are running a bit late, school provides a quick snack on the yard and via the office - fruit, milk and cereal breakfast bar. Just find the staff on the yard or ask at the office. Breakfast is the only way to start the day, it is SO important.

Awards: Congratulations to our Tennis Teams, Mr Spoor (Tennis Coach), Mrs Haydon (P.E. subject leader) on being awarded the Schools Award at the recent LTA (Lawn Tennis Association) awards evening held at the Stadium of Light.

Recent Visits/ Visitors: Many of our children have recently experienced curriculum enhancing visits/ visitors - which has a wonderful impact upon their learning. This cannot be achieved without parental support on the visits- so thank you so much!

- Reception- Loved their day at the tennis centre, soft play and Sainsburys - looking at Healthy Living
- Year 1 and 2 had a pirate visiting.
- Year 4 visited the Glass Centre and St Peters Church, producing their own glass painting, linking to their Art and History topic.

Appeals: Nursery are asking for donations of any Small toy cars, Cosy Coupe', dressing up clothes. Reception would also love any dressing up clothes.

phonicsplay.co.uk: Free phonics games for children to access at home- half term fun!!

SAFEGUARDING

Safer Internet Day: The day was a great success, raising the profile of appropriate safe use of the internet. However a day is not just what it takes. Children need **a)** constant reminders **b)** tight parental controls **c)** positive behaviours and habits. The aim being that children act out in their everyday usage of the internet, what they have been taught. We all need to stay vigilant to support our children.

Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat etc : It has recently been reported to school, the behaviours of some of our children outside of school. Even though by law, many are too young to be accessing such sites. School have become involved as often many of these disputes, name calling, abusive language come into school the next day. We encourage parents to inform me of any inappropriate and offensive remarks made on the internet by our, or indeed other children. Ideally e-mailing the offensive conversations. Recently we have spoken and provided evidence to a number of parents, who have been oblivious to their childrens behaviour online. The police have also been involved. Children are very brave hiding behind a keyboard, but the words used would not automatically be said or proudly spread across a T shirt. If you are unaware of what the above social media terms are, or do not really know what your child is accessing - **THEN YOU SHOULD.**

We appreciate your support.

NSPCC advice on leaving a child at home: This advice has recently been received, I am sure you will find it most useful.

- Babies, toddlers and very young children should never be left alone
- Children under the age of 12 are rarely mature enough to cope in an emergency and should not be left at home alone for a long period of time
- Children under the age of 16 should not be left alone overnight
- Parents and carers can be prosecuted for neglect if it is judged that they place a child at risk by leaving them at home alone
- A child should never be left at home alone if they do not feel comfortable with this, regardless of their age
- If a child has additional needs, these should be considered when leaving them at home alone or with an older sibling
- When leaving a younger child with an older sibling think about what may happen if they were to have a falling out – would they be safe?
- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/leaving-child-home-alone/>

Attendance to date: As you know I am a Rottweiler when it comes to attendance... teachers can't teach you if you are not here, therefore your learning is affected. Parents whose children have continually poor attendance must make appointments to discuss this with me, to see if there is any support that can be offered.

Eid is a recognised religious day for all our Muslim children, however it is classed as an authorised absence. This in turn affects individual pupil attendance and whole school attendance. Therefore we have added the impact Eid has to date in 16-17 (2.1%)

Attendance to date - National 96.1%

Nursery	92.6%	3H	95.6%
RW	95.7%	4W	96.5%
RS	93.6%	4B	95.7%
1D	93.9%	5H	95.2%
1EW	95.1%	5W	97.1%
2C	96.5%	6H	95.9%
2R	96.5%	6W	96.3%
3B	95.4%	School	95.9% + 2.1 % Eid = 98%

Congratulations- However we need to get every class above 96%, without taking Eid into consideration!!

Winter Clothing: There are a number of children who do not have gloves and are wearing hoodies instead of a winter coat. At lunchtime children are outside for at least 30mins and require adequate warm clothing.



Weather: A reminder just in case we get snow... the procedures at school.

- We will always endeavour to keep school open, text messages, website; Sun FM will inform you of any closures. Many parents have vital roles to play in their workplace, we aim to support you.
- Not all entrances may be open, as we need pathways to be safe and may have limited time in which to do so, please keep to the pathways - apologies in advance.
- Parking at the best of times is impossible; imagine what it would be like! Where possible leave the car at home or park away from school, join up with other families to help each other out.
- Make sure your child has suitable footwear - before the shops sell out!
- It is an expectation that children will attend school, even if late. However we do appreciate there are a few children who live much further away, so please take care. Children who live locally- Thelma Street, Otto Terrace, Richard Avenue etc - should be in school! Some staff travel 25miles, to be in school.
- Send children into school with spare indoor shoes, warm clothing, and change of trousers - so they can enjoy the snow and make snowmen!
- Your support and understanding is appreciated - let's hope it just happens on a weekend!

Once again thank - you for all your support,

Yours sincerely

K.L. Todd

Mrs K Todd
Head Teacher