

Ryefield's Update

19-07-2019

An amazing year

As we review the end of the 2018/2019 academic I believe it is fair to say that the school continues to go from strength to strength. At a time when teacher recruitment and retention is in crisis - Ryefield finds itself in the fortunate position of being packed with a dedicated group of professionals who are committed to ensuring **your** child is the best that they can be.



Our work on oracy continues to lead the way for local schools, for the fourth year in a row we were crowned Hillingdon champions, we remain a regular participant in the 'All London Finals' and (in the Urban Debate League) are currently ranked as one of the top 20 schools in the country.

We continue to develop a reading culture at the school - it is **the** key factor that will make a difference in your child's education and improve their life chances. This has been achieved by giving every child in the school a book for Christmas, a vending machine rewards good attendance and 'acts of awesome-ness', and book sheds are on the playground. Parents, remember there is a hut by reception for you to take books, from September this will also include bedtime books for our children in the EYFS.

Our innovative and exciting work has caught the eye of schools locally and nationally, consequently Mr Tucker has become a director for the London Children's Book Project, and has spoken in Oxford to other schools about the work we have been doing.

All children have experienced the thrill and excitement of a school production - with our youngest performing the annual nativity, KS1's Flower Festival (a long held Ryefield tradition), and a wealth of shows and productions - including Year 6's recent performance of Romeo and Juliet which was acted in its original Shakespearean English. What a show!





Striving for Excellence



A key feature of recent years has also been our enrichment work. In 2018 a dinosaur egg was discovered and all manner of adventures ensued, this year strange UFO sightings were spotted over the school. We sent a message into space and were lucky to have an alien message teleported into the school hall. Mr White has just about recovered! Who knows what next year will bring! Visit our YouTube channel to watch some of the videos.

We also had great fun encouraging our Reception pupils to embrace their inner heroes - the studio was used to produce some amazing pictures and footage which really brings a smile to one's face.



As Headteacher, I strive to ensure that Ryefield offers an education and schooling experience which is the best in the local area and produces enduring memories which foster a lifelong love of learning. I am very proud of all we have achieved and excited by our plans for the future.



Striving for Excellence

2019/2020 will include:

- Continued expansion of the school's oracy work,
- Working with staff from the Voices Foundation to develop a choral music curriculum - there is a pop star in all of us,
- Creating a science lab in the school to raise the profile and status of investigative science,
- Working with renowned expert Bob Cox on an innovative project entitled: Opening Doors. The aim is to introduce challenging and stretching texts across the school to ensure pupils are well prepared for the literary challenges of secondary school,
- Provide Mental Health and Wellbeing information workshops for parents.

This list is just the tip of the iceberg of all the amazing things that will happen next year. So have a great summer and we can't wait to see you all again in September.



Once again, Ryefield has been awarded the **GOLD** standard award for our delivery and participation of P.E. during the last year. An amazing achievement!

Congratulations to all those who have organised, officiated and competed.

A special thanks must also go to Mrs O'Donoghue who is a key part of all the sporting opportunities we offer at Ryefield.

A huge thank you too, to parents/carers for your support.

Booking opens on w/c Monday 22 July for Autumn Term clubs

They include:

- Monday:** Football (Y5&6), TAG Rugby (Y3&4)
Tuesday: Bike Balanceability - teaching your child how to ride a bike (Rec and KS1),
KS2 Dance, KS2 Basketball
Wednesday: Gymnastics (Y2-Y5), School Football Training (by invitation)
Thursday: Multiskills (R, Y1 & Y2),
Friday: Football (Y3&4), Rugby Tots (Y1&2)

All clubs are amazing value - we use the Sports Premium to subsidise the costs to make them affordable for families. Keep your children fit, active and busy!

Don't forget, parents of pupils in Year 1 (Autumn '19) will have first refusal on tickets to see [The Snowman](#) at The Peacock Theatre. Tickets are limited and do sell out quickly; the cost includes coach travel.

Farewell

The school bids farewell to the following staff:

- **Mrs Boxall** - Mrs Boxall joined us in April 2018 as maternity cover for Miss Perry. She leaves us to continue to work for the VLT at Vyners - alongside their sixth form students. Many thanks for all you have done to ensure a smooth and efficient running of the school desk.
- **Mrs Khan** - we would like to wish Mrs Khan all the best as she looks to take up a full-time teaching position in a large primary school in Stanmore. I am sure that we will keep in touch. Your new school will be fortunate to have her amongst their staff.
- **Miss Mackiewicz** - joined us two years ago and has worked across the EYFS in both Reception and Nursery. She has ensured that your children make a solid start to the education and we wish her well in her new role as Y2 teacher.

Hello

We also welcome back **Mrs Drinkwater** - at the end of last year we were sorry to see Mrs Drinkwater leave us. However, an opportunity arose and we are delighted that she returns to EYFS department to job share with Mrs Gillan.

Free summer fun!

One of the key issues any school faces is that of the 'summer slide'. After a long summer holiday many of the key skills the school has reinforced over the years have slipped. Here is a list of suggested activities that will give your child the best start to the autumn term:

Visit museums

We are lucky that many museums in London continue to be free of charge, as is Tube travel for children under 11.

Join the local library

The local library is free to join and runs an exciting summer reading challenge packed full of prizes.

Times Tables Rock Stars

If your child has been given a code to access this amazing app, then please use the times table app. Tables are vital in unlocking so many aspects of Mathematics.

Complete unfinished Moments of Triumph.

Children across the school have been set 10 challenges to complete. If they only have one or two left (tying shoe laces for example) then spend some time completing them.

Junk modelling

All parents have FREE access to the Recycling Arts Project in Northwood Hills. You just need to quote the following: Membership number: 4432, Ryefield Primary

Write to Blue Peter

Your application could be a letter, poem, picture or story for example, and must also include a message at least 50 words long, explaining which Blue Peter badge you are applying for and why you deserve to be awarded one.

BUGS! DAY at Silwood Park

Entry to Bugs! Day is free and no booking is required. Gates open at midday and activities will continue to 17.00hrs. Refreshments, including a BBQ, will be available at a small cost.

Badge owners can gain free entry into over 200 **Blue Peter Badge attractions** around the country such as theme parks, zoos and castles.

And most importantly of all have a great summer! We look forward to seeing you all in September.

Remember that September 2 is an INSET day - so the school will be closed to the children.



Term Dates 2019/2020

| Autumn Term 2019 | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Monday 2nd September | INSET: Staff only |
| Tuesday 3rd September | School opens for children |
| Friday 18th October | School breaks up for half term |
| Monday 21st October – Friday 25th October – Half term | |
| Monday 28th October | School Opens |
| Thursday 21st & Friday 22nd November | INSET: Staff only |
| Friday 20th December | Term Ends |
| Spring Term 2020 | |
| Monday 6 th January | INSET: Staff only |
| Tuesday 7 th January | School opens for children |
| Friday 14 th February | School breaks up for half term |
| Monday 17th – Friday 21st February – Half term | |
| Monday 24th February | School Opens |
| Friday 3 rd April | Term ends |
| Summer Term 2020 | |
| Monday 20 th April | School opens |
| Monday 4th May | Bank Holiday |
| Friday 22nd May | School breaks up for half term |
| Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May – Half term | |
| Monday 1st June | School opens |
| Friday 17 th July | Term Ends |
| Monday 20 th & Tuesday 21 st July | INSET: Staff Only |