

20-12-2019

Community Christmas



This year, Christmas has truly been a community affair. Last Saturday - staff gave up part of their weekend to put on a community Christmas for local residents: especially some of the elderly who have no family living in the area. It was a wonderful afternoon full of games, quizzes and delicious food prepared by our kitchen team. It truly showcased the kindness and generosity of spirit Ryefield demonstrates on a day to day basis.

KS1 and KS2 Choir Concert

We were delighted with the wonderful turnout for both the KS1 concert in the hall, and the Service in the Church. Behaviour was impeccable and all of the children sang beautifully.





Wednesday was especially busy as not only did we have the carol service in the church, but we also had our Christmas lunch AND the Friends of Ryefield Bazaar!

Ryefield staff can always be relied upon to go above and beyond, and everyone ensured that not only did pupils have ample time to chomp on turkey, pull their crackers and nibble a mince pie, but they were also treated to a fabulous Bazaar.

The snow globe and grotto were a particular highlight to all those who attended. We would like to say a sincere thank you to all of the Friends of Ryefield who ensured the event was such a success.



New tech for Christmas?

Here is some important guidance on how we can make sure any new technology protects your child from the worst aspects of the internet.

Family Agreement

The holidays are a great time to sit down with children and manage expectations. Some children will spend as much time online and playing games as they possibly can, but this isn't practical, there has to be a balance between family and socialisation. Here's a link to a family agreement template from Childnet

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/family-agreement>

Parental Controls

There are so many connected devices on the market now, each with their own unique way of setting up parental controls and restrictions. Equally the functionality of these devices can be daunting with chat, game downloads, in-app purchases, third party apps on the devices (such as social media, Netflix) etc.

I always advise parents two things. Firstly look up the device on YouTube using a simple 'how to' query, e.g. 'how to restrict in-app purchases on Playstation 4'. Secondly, the wonderful people at Internet Matters have a one-stop shop for setting up devices which can be found here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

Advice by age

As well as devices, parents also need advice according to the age of their children. Again, Internet Matters has this covered for children 0-5, 6-10, 11-13 and 14+

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/>

Gaming

Gaming is likely to be high on the agenda for many children this holiday period. CEOP have a nice, simple guide for parents

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/>

Internet Matters also has a gaming hub which is really useful for parents; it was updated a couple of months ago and has invaluable information

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/online-gaming-advice/>

YouTube

If you haven't seen the new YouTube app or site for children (<13) it's worth a look. This is only a few weeks old and it's quite good for the younger children



App: <https://youtube.com/kids/>
Web: <https://www.youtubekids.com/>

Social Media

Back to Internet Matters for this one; they have a really useful hub for parents which explains the risks and benefits, along with some resources that parents can use

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-advice-hub/>



Sports Update:



Club bookings - are now live on ParentPay

Are you eligible for Free School Meals and access to the Pupil Premium?

Visit: <https://myfreeschoolmeals.com/> to check for eligibility

Tuck Shop

We encourage all children in KS2 to bring in a healthy snack for morning playtime such as vegetables or fruit. Children in KS1 enjoy fruit at playtime and their parents have the option to purchase milk from Cool Milk. Children in KS2 have access to the Tuck Shop, where they can pick up a healthy snack for 50p.



ParentPay

ParentPay is now LIVE!

Once you have set up your account you will be able to book your child's Spring Term after school clubs and book RASCALS places. When we return in January 2020 all meals will need to be ordered and paid for on ParentPay.



Parents who pay with childcare vouchers should also be able to make bookings for RASCALS via ParentPay, we will send more information directly to you as we receive it.



IMPORTANT DATES:

End of Term - Friday 20th December

School finishes at 1.30pm **Infants**

School finishes at 1.35pm **Juniors**

SPRING TERM

INSET DAY Monday 6th January 2020 (SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS)

SCHOOL OPENS Tuesday 7th January 2020

Half Term - Monday 17th - Friday 21st February 2020

End of Term - Friday 3rd April 2020

School finishes at 1.30pm **Infants**

School finishes at 1.35pm **Juniors**

Term Starts - Monday 20th April 2020

Bank Holiday - Friday 8th May 2020

Half Term - Monday 25th - Friday 29th May 2020

End of Term - **Friday 17th July 2020**

School finishes at 1.30pm **Infants**

School finishes at 1.35pm **Juniors**

