

# Ryefield Bulletin

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## **Ryefield Primary School**

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a very busy and festive term, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Friends of Ryefield for their incredible efforts in fundraising. The Christmas Fair was a huge success, and through their hard work and dedication, they were able to provide a fantastic pantomime for our students, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

This term has been filled with wonderful performances that truly captured the spirit of the season. Our EYFS Nativity was a magical experience, showcasing the enthusiasm and talent of our youngest children. We were also proud to participate in the Trust-wide Carol Concert, which brought together schools across our trust for a memorable evening of music and song. Our KS1 Carol Concert was equally uplifting, with beautiful singing and festive cheer shared with families. Adding to the musical celebrations, our Rocksteady Rock Stars gave energetic performances, demonstrating their hard work and progress this term.

A special thank you must go to our dedicated staff, who went the extra mile to help prepare the children for these events. Their commitment and hard work, on top of their existing duties at such a busy time of year, made these performances truly memorable. We are incredibly grateful for all they do.

Looking ahead, the final week of term promises to be just as exciting. On the 18th of December, we will be celebrating Christmas Jumper Day, so please join in by wearing your most festive jumpers. We are also eagerly anticipating the inter-house fencing competition, which will provide a thrilling end to the term.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Wishing you all a restful and joyful holiday season.

**LAST DAY OF TERM: Friday 20th December**

**Please note that the last day of term is an early finish. EYFS and KS1 classes finish at 13:15, while KS2 classes finish at 13:30.**

**Nursery finishes at 11:15**

**RASCALS' finishing times:**

**Early session finishes at 14:30**

**Late session finishes at 16:00**



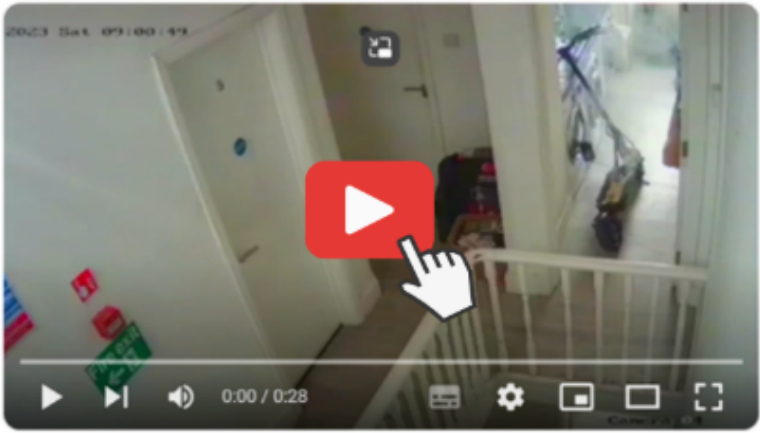
Reducing Fire Risks: E-Scooters and E-Bikes

The London Fire Brigade highlights the increasing fire risks associated with lithium batteries in e-scooters and e-bikes. In 2023 alone, London saw over 140 e-bike fires and 36 e-scooter fires, often caused by faulty chargers, damaged batteries, or counterfeit products. Fires from these devices can spread rapidly and block escape routes.

To keep safe:

- Use only correct and reputable chargers.
- Avoid charging batteries overnight or in escape routes.
- Allow batteries to cool before charging and check for damage.
- Charge devices on hard, flat surfaces and unplug chargers when done.
- Ensure your home has working smoke alarms and an escape plan in place. In case of fire: Get out, stay out, and call 999.
- For more safety advice, visit [london-fire.gov.uk/safety](https://london-fire.gov.uk/safety).

Click on the video to watch a video showing the fire risk of e-scooters.



Parental Controls on devices connected to the internet.

As Christmas approaches, many children may receive new electronic devices such as smartphones, tablets, or gaming consoles. While these can provide great educational and entertainment value, it's essential for parents to take steps to monitor and protect their children's use of these devices.

Here are some practical tips:

1. Set Parental Controls: Most devices, apps, and games come with built-in parental controls that allow you to limit screen time, filter content, and manage in-app purchases. Spend time exploring these settings to ensure they are tailored to your child's age and maturity.
2. Create Screen Time Boundaries: Set clear rules for when and how devices can be used. For example, no screens during family meals or before bedtime. You can use tools like screen time tracking apps to enforce these boundaries.
3. Monitor Online Activity: Familiarise yourself with the apps, games, and websites your child is using. Regularly check their activity and friend lists to ensure they are engaging with appropriate content and people. Encourage open communication about their online experiences.
4. Teach Online Safety: Talk to your child about the importance of privacy and security online. Ensure they understand not to share personal information, click on unknown links, or communicate with strangers.
5. Set Up Shared Accounts: Where possible, set up shared family accounts for platforms like YouTube, streaming services, or app stores. This way, you can monitor downloads and viewing history.
6. Be a Role Model: Demonstrate healthy device use yourself. Children are more likely to follow limits when they see adults balancing screen time with offline activities.

Click on the image below to learn more about how parents can help ensure that electronic devices remain a safe and positive addition to their children's lives.



Celebrating significant impact on British history.

I'm delighted to let you know that Rocket Graphics has kindly offered to provide the school with two free vinyl wall displays, similar to the one currently in our Y5/6 stairwell.

The new displays will be:

- A celebration of books – located in the KS1 area outside the Year 1 classrooms, designed to inspire our younger readers.
- A timeline of settlers and migration into the UK – this display will highlight key moments in British history and feature diverse communities and individuals who have made significant contributions to our society.

We would love your input!

We have asked children in KS1 what book characters they would like to feature on their display, however, we would welcome your input. The suggestions we have received so far include:

- Stick man,
- Frog on a log,
- Snail on the whale,
- The baby owls from Owl Babies,
- Zog,
- Caterpillar from The Hungry Caterpillar,
- We're going on a bear hunt,
- Giraffes can't dance,
- The Christmasaurus,
- Gruffalo,
- Beegu, and many more.

For the second display, we are asking parents and carers to suggest individuals who deserve to be celebrated. For example, someone like Mary Seacole, who made a significant impact on British history, would be a great choice. Her compassion, resourcefulness, and resilience earned her immense respect and admiration from the soldiers she cared for. She became affectionately known as "Mother Seacole." Despite facing prejudice during her lifetime, her contributions were recognised posthumously, and she is now celebrated as a trailblazing figure in British history. Her legacy serves as an inspiration for diversity, inclusivity, and perseverance, showing how one person's determination to care for others can leave a lasting impact on society.

If you have any suggestions, please submit them by clicking on the link below, email them to the school office [ryefield.enquiries@ryefieldprimary.org.uk](mailto:ryefield.enquiries@ryefieldprimary.org.uk) or message your child's teacher via Class Dojo by Friday the 20th of December.

Your ideas will help ensure the display reflects the diversity and richness of our shared history.

Thank you for your support—we look forward to hearing your suggestions!

