



Ryefield Bulletin

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Transition to Arbor Management System

We are pleased to inform you of an important development in our ongoing efforts to enhance communication and streamline our school's administrative processes. By the end of this month, we will be moving from our current system, SIMS, to the Arbor Management Information System. This change will provide a more user-friendly and efficient platform for both staff and parents.

What Does This Mean for You?

As part of this transition, we will be introducing the Arbor Parent Portal and App, which will become your primary tool for accessing important information about your child. Through Arbor, you will be able to:

- ✓ View your child's attendance records – Monitor daily attendance and receive timely updates on any absences.
- ✓ Access academic reports – Stay informed about your child's progress with easy access to reports and grades.
- ✓ Update contact information – Ensure your contact details are always up to date to receive important school communications.
- ✓ Communicate with teachers – Send and receive messages directly from your child's teachers when needed.

Getting Started with Arbor

To ensure a smooth transition, we encourage all parents and carers to familiarise themselves with the Arbor Parent Portal and App. You can find detailed guidance on getting started here: [Arbor Help Centre – Parent Portal & App](#).

Key Steps to Access Arbor:

- 1 Account Setup – You will receive an email invitation from Arbor with a link to set up your account.
- 2 Logging In – Follow the instructions in the email to create your password and log in to the Parent Portal.
- 3 Downloading the App – For convenient access on the go, download the Arbor App from the App Store (iOS) or Google Play (Android).

Support and Assistance

We understand that moving to a new system may take some getting used to, and we are here to help. If you experience any issues or need further support, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

We are confident that Arbor will improve communication between home and school and make it easier for you to stay informed about your child's education. Thank you for your cooperation and support as we make this transition.

Celebrating 10 Years of VLT

Last week, we were honoured to take part in the 10th anniversary celebrations of the Vanguard Learning Trust. The event brought together schools from across the trust to reflect on a decade of collaboration, growth, and success. It was a wonderful occasion filled with inspiring presentations, powerful speeches, and a celebration of the values that unite our schools.

One of the highlights of the event was the incredible performances delivered by students from across the trust. We are especially proud of our Ryefield pupils, who truly shone with their thoughtful and passionate speeches on social justice and environmental sustainability. Their words were not only inspiring but also a powerful reminder of the importance of standing up for fairness and protecting our planet.

A huge well done to Amelie, Annushri, Hadia, and Sienna for representing Ryefield so brilliantly. Their confidence, insight, and commitment to making a difference were evident, and they received well-deserved praise from the audience. It was a fantastic way to mark this milestone for VLT, and we look forward to continuing to work together to create even more opportunities for our pupils in the years ahead.

Well done to everyone involved in this special event!

Additional Dates

Parents’ Evening will take place on:
Tuesday 11th March 2025 (short session): 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm (last appointment at 4:50 pm)
Wednesday 12th March 2025 (long session): 3:30 pm – 7:00 pm (last appointment at 6:50 pm)

End of term: Friday 4th April 2025



Equality Week at Ryefield Primary

Last week, we were delighted to celebrate Equality Week across the school. It was a fantastic opportunity for our children to explore the importance of fairness, inclusivity, and respect for others. Through a range of engaging activities, we encouraged pupils to think about how we can create a community where everyone feels valued and supported.

Equality vs. Equity – What’s the Difference?

During the week, we discussed the difference between equality and equity—two important concepts that help us understand fairness:

- Equality means treating everyone the same and giving them the same opportunities. However, this doesn’t always result in fairness because not everyone has the same needs.
- Equity means giving people what they need to succeed. This approach recognises that some individuals may require more support or different resources to reach the same goals as others.

A great way to explain this to the children was through real-life scenarios. For example, we asked them to imagine if every child in school was given the same-sized pair of shoes—some would fit, but others wouldn’t, meaning it wouldn’t be fair. However, if each child was given shoes that fit them properly, they would all be able to walk comfortably—this is equity!

What Happened During Equality Week?

Throughout the week, children took part in a range of activities designed to help them think more deeply about fairness and inclusion. These included:

✚ Puzzle activities – Children worked together to create pieces for a special Equality Week display, showing how we all fit together as part of a diverse and inclusive community.

💬 Scenario-based discussions – Pupils explored different situations and considered how fairness can sometimes mean giving extra help to those who need it.

🏫 Whole-school assemblies – We came together as a school to celebrate diversity and talk about how we can all contribute to making our community more inclusive.

It was wonderful to see the children engaging so thoughtfully with these ideas, and we hope they will continue to apply what they’ve learned in their everyday lives.

World Book Day

We had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day! It was wonderful to see so many children embracing the joy of reading and sharing their favourite books with each other. To mark the occasion, every child has received a World Book Day voucher, which can be used to get a free World Book Day book or to receive £1 off any book or audiobook of their choice at participating bookshops. This is a great opportunity to encourage a love of reading at home, and we hope children will enjoy choosing a new book to explore!

Throughout the day, we enjoyed a variety of book-themed activities, including:

📖 Story-sharing sessions where children listened to and discussed exciting stories.

🎭 Character dress-up with pupils and staff coming to school as their favourite book characters.

✍️ Creative writing and illustration tasks inspired by well-loved authors and illustrators.

World Book Day is a fantastic way to remind children of the magic of reading, and we encourage families to keep the excitement going at home by reading together and visiting local bookshops or libraries.

Happy reading!