

Newsletter



'Do the right thing to be the best you can be'...

10th September 2021



Welcome back to all our families. We hope you have had a restful and enjoyable summer break.

How wonderful it is to have children back in school and ready for a fresh start. Walking around the school and seeing the children engaging with their peers, using chromebooks and other technologies, discussing their thoughts and ideas, challenging each other's thinking and mixing with the whole year group was spectacular. We are so proud of all our children - especially those new to Ryders Hayes' family, who have settled so well!

This week children were introduced to the new school values (**The 6Cs: Collaboration; Creativity; Critical Thinking; Citizenship; Character; Communication**) which sits alongside the school vision that remains the same, as relevant as it was when first created 7 years ago...

Vision: *To nurture and facilitate the growth of our pupils and their learning; equipping them with the skills and attributes to embrace the challenges of a rapidly changing world. To enjoy success for today and be prepared for tomorrow, by instilling the values (6Cs).*

As a school and working in partnership with all stakeholders over the years, we feel that the previous values are well embedded now in our school culture and a part of who we are. These new values (6Cs) are what we are striving to achieve in each and everyone in school through: wider opportunities; our bespoke curriculum, and highly skilled and self-reflective staff. *A child-speak version will be shared with children over the coming weeks and sent home for you to discuss together. Mr Day, our in-house graphics designer is working hard on designing the icons and other graphics to go around the school for the new 6Cs. Look out for these on the website/ Facebook and Twitter.*

Each year, having reflected on the previous year and the needs of all stakeholders we set our priorities for the next 12 months. This academic year 2021/2022, our new priorities are:

- 1. Self-improving Learning and Teaching**
- 2. Giving our children the best possible start in life**
- 3. Developing our role as innovators and collaborators and in the new school-led system.**

Our new caterers, Shire Services provided hot lunches for children for the first time in over 18 months and we must say they smelt delicious! Having personally tried the fish last week during our INSET day we would highly recommend it! The children have adjusted to the change of eating their lunch in the Hall so well - even our youngest children confidently selected their meals and carried their tray without any spillages!

We look forward to sharing the learning journeys of our children and the school across this year and working in even stronger partnership with parents to ensure that the children continue to flourish.

Sally Miner
Executive Head Teacher



Jaz Paul
Head Teacher



SPOTLIGHT

What have our year groups been focusing on this week and what the focus is next week....



Year 1

Year 1 started learning about the different seasons in Science and the features of these

Next week: We will be ordering transport by age. What do you think cars from long ago look like?

Year 2

Year 2 have been learning about kindness. They shared ideas about how they can be kind in different scenarios.

Next week: We will look at how some religious stories include acts of kindness.



Year 3

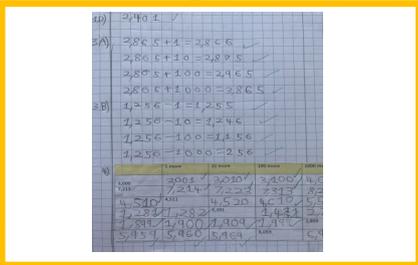
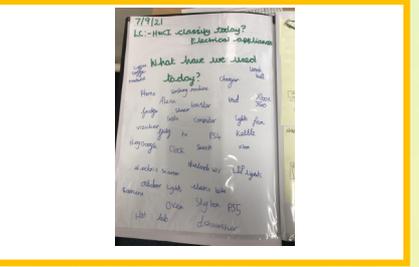
Year 3 have started their learning on Stone Age Britain. They have been really creative over the summer. They have created timelines to show when Stone Age Britain took place.

Next week: We will be linking our Science and History by learning about different types of rocks.

Year 4

Year 4 have been building on their understanding of electricity and how it is used. We generated lots of questions, many regarding the history of the discovery of electricity and it's uses.

Next week: A Now Press Play experience immersing us in electricity learning as well as tinkering with circuit components.



Year 5

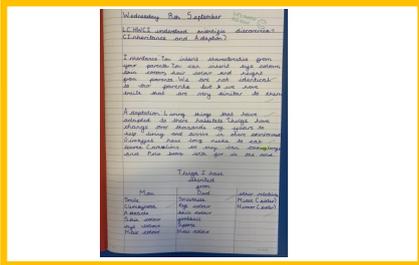
Year 5 have been developing their knowledge of place value and finding 1, 10, 100 and 1,000 more and less than a given number.

Next week: We are looking forward to delving deeper into our Class novel 'Letters from the Lighthouse'.

Year 6

Year 6 started their Science topic looking at adaptation and evolution this week. We started by looking at what we have inherited from our parents and how it has impacted how our lives.

Next week: We will be looking at creating our own adventure stories based on Kensuke's Kingdom!



Ryders Hayes School

Covid Frequently Asked Questions- September 2021

National Guidance States: Neither people who have been fully vaccinated; nor those under 18 years of age are required to self-isolate if they are a contact of a positive case. At Ryders Hayes School we have conducted our own risk assessments and the following COVID guidance needs to be followed, some of which goes further than the national guidance, in order to protect our pupils, families, and staff.

We hope to avoid or at least minimise any outbreaks and ask families to support us in the approaches. Please read this guide carefully.

If my child has symptoms, can they come to school?

No. They should remain at home. The child with symptoms should get a PCR test. If positive, they will need to self-isolate for a full 10 days. If negative and they are well, they can then return to school.

If someone else in the household has symptoms, can my child come to school?

Yes, the child can continue to attend school if they have no symptoms. The person with symptoms should get a test and should self-isolate while they wait for the result.

If someone in the household tests positive, can my child come to school?

Yes, however the Government recommends that all members of the household get a PCR test. The child can come into school whilst awaiting results.

This enhanced measure would be invoked should cases rise in school:

Children should stay off school and get a PCR test. If the test is negative, they can return to school if they have no symptoms. **Please note: This is an enhanced measure based on the school risk assessment to protect pupils and staff.**

If my child is identified as a close contact from the community, can they come to school?

Yes, if they do not have symptoms. The child should get a PCR test outside the school day where possible.

If someone in the class has symptoms, what happens?

The child will be sent home and must get a PCR test and self-isolate while waiting for the results. The other children in the class will continue to attend school.

If someone in the class tests positive, what happens?

That child will self isolate for 10 days and the family should receive a call from NHS test and trace.

Does my child need to take regular lateral flow tests?

No, this is not a requirement for Primary schools, however, if your families would like to do this then that is fine. We would encourage all adults to take regular (twice a week) lateral flow device tests to help identify early onset of COVID.

What happens if lots of children at school test positive?

If this happens, we will involve our local health protection team and they will advise us if any additional action is required, such as implementing elements of our outbreak management plan. This may include wider testing or targeted closures of certain groups or classes and would involve the re-introduction of some enhanced measures.

What happens if the staff member tests positive?

The staff member will self-isolate for 10 days. The children will either be taught by a cover member of staff or supply teacher; or if the teacher is well enough, they may be able to teach remotely into the classroom. If the teacher is unwell, they will not be teaching remotely and will be resting and recovering.

If my child is self-isolating, will they get work?

Yes. We will implement our remote education plan for any child self-isolating at home and if they are well enough, we will expect them to complete all work set and submit this via Google Classroom or Seesaw. Staff will liaise with parents as appropriate.

Will children be in bubbles?

Although no longer a requirement, we are keeping children in year group bubbles for most of the week including break and lunch (apart from a KS2 assembly once a week and whole school assembly once a half term); we have managed to do this as part of our timetabling without it affecting our provision. There will be some mixing of some children where appropriate – e.g. buddy readers, intervention groups, sports clubs.

Will school let us know if there is a positive case?

We will aim to keep parents informed and contact those directly affected by a positive case. We may also include general updates for parents

If a parent has been a close contact and is not required to self isolate (double vaccinated) can they still bring children to school?

Yes, but we would ask that you take some additional precautions. As well as getting a PCR test, we ask that you:

- Wear a mask on the school site
- Keep physical distance from other families and staff
- NHS suggest:
 - limiting close contact with other people outside your household, especially in enclosed spaces
 - wearing a face covering in enclosed spaces and where you are unable to maintain social distancing
 - limiting contact with anyone who is clinically extremely vulnerable
- taking part in twice weekly LFT testing
- This advice applies while the person who tested positive with COVID-19 is self-isolating.

In all circumstances – please keep school updated about any symptoms, close contacts notified by NHS Test and Trace, or positive cases.

School Uniform

A gentle reminder in relation to accessories:

Jewellery is not part of our school uniform. A wrist watch may be worn and a plain earring studs, although these should be removed on the days your child does PE.

Nail varnish is not allowed and girls who wish to wear functional hair tie-backs, ribbons and bands should wear these in school colours (blue or maroon.) School does not allow extreme hair styles, this is detailed in the school uniform policy that can be found on the school website.

Please Note: Hair longer than shoulder length must be tied back in a colour hair tie-back.

Thank you for your continued support.



Girls Uniform

Girls Winter Uniform:

Maroon Jumpers with V-neck and school logo, Maroon Cardigans with school logo,
Grey skirt (flared or pleated)/ trousers,
Grey pinafore dresses,
Blue shirt,
School Tie, (available from School Office)
White socks or grey tights,
Black flat shoes (no trainers),
Maroon Winter coat with school logo.

School Bag

Girls Summer Uniform:

Blue gingham dresses (summer dress),
Grey skirt (flared or pleated),
White socks,

Boys Uniform

Boys Winter Uniform:

Maroon Jumpers with V-neck and school logo, Mid Grey Trousers – Tailored,
Blue Shirt,
School Tie, (available from School Office)
Black shoes (no trainers),
Maroon Winter coat with school logo.

School Bag

Boys Summer Uniform:

Blue Shirt,
School Tie,
Mid Grey trousers/shorts – Tailored, School Cap



Spark 
Young Writers

**Creative writing groups
for children and
young people in the
West Midlands**

Aged 8-17?

Learn new creative writing skills, be inspired and develop confidence at the Spark Young Writers groups.

Find out about all the opportunities available at **Sparkwriters.org**. Booking for writing groups is essential.

Saturdays

Monthly from September – June,

Across the West Midlands

£9 per session



Department for Culture, Media and Sport
**ARTS COUNCIL
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EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS @ RYDERS HAYES

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are delighted to announce the safe return of our popular after school activity programme at Ryders Hayes School in the Autumn term.

Please see the activities we will be offering below...

YEAR 1 & 2

Mondays - AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

15:30 – 16:30pm

MULTI SPORTS

13th Sep – 18th Oct 2021 (6 sessions)

Available to children in Y1&2 ONLY

Cost = £24

YEAR 5 & 6

Tuesdays - AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

15:30 – 16:30pm

DODGEBALL

14th Sep – 19th Oct 2021 (6 sessions)

Available to children in Y5&6 ONLY

Cost = £24

RECEPTION

Wednesdays - AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

15:30 – 16:30pm

MULTI SKILLS

15th Sep – 20th Oct 2021 (6 sessions)

Available to children in RECEPTION

ONLY

Cost = £24

YEARS 3 - 6 (KS2)

Thursdays - AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

15:30 – 16:30pm

GIRLS FOOTBALL

16th Sep – 21st Oct 2021 (6 sessions)

Available to Girls in KS2 ONLY

Cost = £24

YEAR 3 & 4

Fridays - AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

15:30 – 16:30pm

DODGEBALL

17th Sep – 22nd Oct 2021 (6 sessions)

Available to children in Y3&4 ONLY

Cost = £24

Keeping your children safe in our care...

We are the only children's sports provider whose coaches hold a social distancing qualification

Our Activity Professionals have been undergoing additional training in order to provide the best care to the children under their supervision, specifically the Transcend Level 2 Award in Infection Prevention, Mitigation and Management.

Book your place now at...

www.premier-education.com

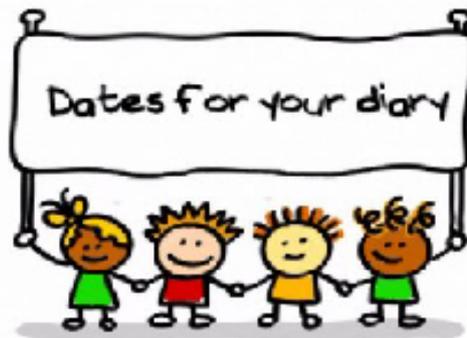
Full terms and conditions available on the website

Let's educate
and activate
the world.

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INSET DAY: Thursday 2nd September 2021

INSET DAY: Friday 3rd September 2021

Children return to school: Monday 6th September 2021 (AUTUMN Term)

INSET DAY: Friday 22nd October 2021

Half Term: Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October

Children return to school: 1st November 2021

INSET DAY: Friday 17th December 2021

Christmas Holidays: Monday 20th December – Monday 3rd January 2022

INSET DAY: Tuesday 4th January 2022

Children return to school: Wednesday 5th January 2022 (SPRING Term)

Half Term: Monday 21st February - Friday 25th February 2022

Children return to school: Monday 28th February 2022

Easter Holidays: Monday 11th April 2022 - Friday 22nd April 2022

Children return to school: Monday 25th April 2022 (SUMMER Term)

Bank Holiday: Monday 2nd May 2022

Half Term: Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June 2022

Additional Spring Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee: Monday 6th June 2022

Children return to school: Tuesday 7th June 2022

Last day of Summer Term: Friday 22nd July 2022

Summer holidays begin Monday 25th July 2022

'Do the right thing to be the best you can be'... 



What Parents and Carers Need to Know About...

ROCKET LEAGUE

Age Restriction
PEGI 3

Rocket League is a free-to-play multiplayer vehicle football game. It was developed by Psyonix, now part of the Epic Games family (which also includes Fortnite and Gears of War). Rocket League is essentially a football game where, instead of running, the players drive rocket-powered cars. The game was a surprise hit that took the world by storm when it first released in 2015. Rocket League is available for the Xbox One, Xbox Series X, PlayStation 4 & PlayStation 5, Nintendo Switch, Windows PC, MacOS and Linux.

Fiercely Competitive Community

Competitive gaming isn't necessarily bad. However, playing purely to win (as opposed to simply having fun) can result in aggressive behaviour among some players if they're not successful in the game. Certain people can become hostile or "toxic" towards other players. Continually seeing this behaviour can cause children to think it is acceptable and lead to anger issues while playing.

Grinding and Increased Screen-time

Features like the Rocket Pass and the ranking system can make Rocket League a grinding-focused game. This means players need to spend a lot of time on the game to progress through levels and collect rewards. Grinding encourages regular long gaming sessions for players seeking to climb the rankings (meaning increased screen time) but it doesn't always result in making much headway.

Unsuitable Online Interactions

A video game's age rating cannot take player-generated elements into account. Rocket League is rated PEGI 3, but its online features mean that appropriateness can't be guaranteed. Audio and text chat, player usernames, player-to-player trades and other user-created content may not be suitable for young players. The game is moderated, but catching everything can be difficult.

Scams and Bad Trades

Player-to-player trading is common in Rocket League. The game has lots of cosmetic items to collect, and some can be very valuable. Players can trade items among themselves, but younger gamers are not always the best judges of what constitutes a fair deal. This can lead to them being swindled in trades - or to children signing up to illegitimate trading websites, where they then get scammed.

In-App Purchasing

Free-to-play games (so called because they don't cost anything to download) like this depend on players making in-game purchases to turn a profit. Rocket League's in-game currency, called credits, are used to buy items in the game. Credits can be earned by playing the game or can be bought with real money - which could prove expensive if a child lets their love of the game and desire to progress get the better of them.

Advice For Parents & Carers

Use Parental Controls

Psyonix has added some safety measures into the game. The text and voice chat can be disabled, for example, limiting contact from strangers. However, it's not currently possible to block contact from other players about trades. It's a good idea, then, to talk with your child about the possibility of scams and bad trades either before they download the game or early in their Rocket League 'career'.

Stay Aware of Spending

Free-to-play games can become money sinks without children realising. For peace of mind, make sure you don't have any payment methods attached to your child's gaming account to avoid accidental purchases. Rocket League credits can be earned through gameplay or bought with real money; encourage your child to use their earned credits first before they ask you to top them up.

Monitor Gaming Time

It's impractical to sit and watch your child every time they play Rocket League. Keeping an eye on their gaming hours is crucial, however; it's easy to lose track of time while playing (even for adults), so "one more game" can soon turn into ten more games. Helping your child to balance their gaming time with their homework, chores and other activities is a life lesson in time management.

Encourage Regular Breaks

Sitting in the same position all day while gaming isn't healthy, but it is an easy habit to fall into. A short break every hour or half hour is important. It allows players to rest their eyes, brains, hands and arms. Learning the value of an occasional break from any activity is good practice for the future. Encouraging your child to rehydrate regularly can also help to lower any rising competitive tempers!

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books. With experience in esports and content creation, Clare has seen the benefits and drawbacks of all aspects of gaming.



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SOURCES: <https://support.rocketleague.com/hc/en-us/articles/360015613074>, <https://support.rocketleague.com/hc/en-us/articles/360053542814-Parental-Controls>, <https://support.rocketleague.com/hc/en-us/articles/360039907693-How-can-I-protect-my-child-from-online-interactions->, <https://theglobalgaming.com/rocket-league/credit-system-free/>



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