

NEWSLETTER



Issue 1



Autumn
Term

NEWSLETTER



GENERAL UPDATES AND REMINDERS

Here are a few reminders and some new notices we would like to draw your attention to.

SCHOOL APP & TWITTER

ACADEMY WEBSITE - www.richmond.doncaster.sch.uk

The Richmond Hill App helps parents to keep up to date with what's happening in school, including letters home/news/photographs/calendar/term dates/notices. To download this free app please search for 'MySchoolApp' on your mobile device e.g. phone/tablet from the App Store/Google Play Store and select Richmond Hill Primary. In a bid to reduce printing/paper costs the majority of communications will be via the app/website.

The Academy Twitter account is @RichmondHillPA. Our account is protected, which means that our tweets can only be seen by people who follow the account. If you would like to follow the account we ask that you complete a 'Twitter Follower Request Form' available from our website, so that we can verify your request.

ADMINISTERING MEDICINES/INHALERS

May we remind parents that we operate an Administering Medicines Policy to ensure that medicines are managed efficiently within the school. **Only medicines that are prescribed by a doctor and labelled to be administered 4 times a day will be administered by the school.**

Pupils with inhalers have their medication located in the classroom for ease of access/on the yard at lunchtimes. Y4/Y5/Y6 pupils will be increasingly encouraged to be independent in transporting their own inhaler in preparation for their secondary phase.

Parents are welcome to come into school to administer medicines to their own child, but to avoid disrupting classes, this should only take place at 12.00 noon.

PARKING

We would like to stress to parents/carers that parking on the yellow zigzag lines outside the school gate is not permitted – even if the driver stays with the vehicle.

Community Police Officers regularly patrol the area and you could incur a fine if they find you parked on the lines. We are also in contact with the Community Police regarding the matter, as it is an issue of child safety.

We would also like to remind you that the academy car park is not for general use by parents. Our gates are locked at certain times during the day to ensure the health and safety of the children and parents walking past the gates. They will be locked at the beginning and end of the school day for this reason. We also request that parents do not enter the academy car park either by vehicle or on foot when collecting children from After School Clubs.

Doncaster Council's Safer Neighbourhood Team provide a Crossing Patrol Service outside our school. Parents should be aware that there is no obligation on the Authority to ensure that there is a daily crossing patrol. On occasions where they are not able to provide a service, it is their responsibility to let parents/carers know, which they usually do via TraxFM radio station. If they let us know in time, we will also ensure that a text message is sent to all parents/carers.

The school has a Puffin Crossing near the KS2 gate. Any child(ren) arriving/leaving school at times when the Crossing Patrol Service is not available should use the Puffin Crossing for health and safety reasons.

There is a road safety problem within the immediate vicinity of the school. Part of this problem could be alleviated if parents did not park their vehicles in the bus lay-by, on the highway and adjoining streets and within the school grounds. Courteous parking is essential to help to keep community relations positive. **Please respect local residents' property and their access to their own driveways.** We also need to stress to parents that children on their way to/from school should avoid attempting to make a detour through the Levett School grounds (next to the KS2 gate). The car park in the grounds can be very busy and we need to keep our children safe.

To ensure the safety of your children, your co-operation would be greatly appreciated

PE SESSIONS

May we remind parents that the school dress code for PE lessons is as follows:-

Black Shorts (above the knee); White T-Shirt; Leotard (if preferred – only for gymnastics); Trainers only; Tracksuit (in inclement weather/optional). A reminder that jewellery, particularly earrings, must not be worn.

In order to be flexible because of changes in weather, PE may take place outside or inside, so please ensure you send your child with their **full kit**, as outlined above, to **all** PE lessons.

<u>DAY</u>	<u>LESSON WITH MRS NIXON</u>		<u>LESSON WITH CLASS TEACHER</u>
	<u>Morning</u>	<u>Afternoon</u>	<u>Afternoon</u>
Monday	Y2	Y5	-
Tuesday	Reception	Y6	Y3
Wednesday	Y3 (alt with Y4)	Y4 (alt with Y3)	Y5 (swimming from Jan 2018 on Thursdays)
Thursday	Y1	-	-
Friday	-	-	Y4, Y6

Reception, Y1 and Y2 pupils involved in physical activities throughout the week, but no PE kit is necessary for these sessions, only the sessions with Mrs Nixon.

KS2 pupils will also need to bring long socks for football during the autumn term (up to October half term) – children may bring their own shin pads, however we do have a small supply for pupils to borrow during the lesson. Trainers or football moulded boots need to be worn. No screw-in metal/plastic studs or black pumps to be worn.

* Swimming – specific swimming kit for lessons is an Authority directive and not the school.

SCHOOL UNIFORM/EARRINGS/EXTREMES OF HAIR

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the Academy's policy on the dress code. This prepares pupils for the expectations of formal uniform in secondary phase.

Parents of children who had their ears pierced during the summer holidays, are reminded that the 6 weeks deadline has now passed and we hope not to see any children in school wearing earrings.

General Dress

Black or Grey Trousers or Skirt/Pinafore Dress

Blue Sweatshirt or Blue Cardigan

White Blouse or White Polo Top

Plain Black Shoes/Plain Black Trainers/Black Sandals – **all footwear should be black, flat, sensible and safe.**

Extremes of Fashion/Hair

At the discretion of the Principal/Senior Leadership Team, extremes of hair style/colour are not allowed.

(Lines/shapes or patterns cut into hair and extreme hair colours are classed as 'extremes' as are braids/corn rows).

Earrings/Jewellery

Earrings and other jewellery (except a simple watch) are not to be worn at school. If pupils come to school wearing jewellery we ask them to remove it themselves which may lead to accidental loss. For this reason it is much simpler if jewellery is not worn to school. If ears are newly pierced, pupils will be monitored and then we will ask them to remove earrings after six weeks. Earrings must be covered with tape during this six week period for health and safety reasons.

(Note:- please ensure any ear piercing is carried out during the long summer break to ensure earrings can be removed in September. Parents may be interested to note that Ridgewood School currently operates a zero tolerance policy on earrings which states that no earrings at any time are permitted.)

Make-up and Nail Varnish/Nail Art/Children's Temporary Tattoos

Make-up/nail varnish/nail art/children's temporary tattoos – must not be worn in school.

Thank you in advance for your continued support for ensuring our pupils are smart and ready for learning.

PUPILS' DIARIES – AGREEMENTS (Reception-Y6)

Your child's school diary contains the following agreements. If you have not already done so, could we please ask you to sign and date each one as soon as possible. Home School Agreement; Photographs/Video Agreement; Internet and Technology Agreement.

VISITS

In the current climate of budget cuts to schools nationally, we have had to make the decision to inform parents that if visits are not fully supported by ALL parents and paid for in full by a given deadline date, then it will be necessary to cancel the visit.

Unfortunately, at the beginning of term, we had to cancel a visit into school for Y1 and Y2 as it was not fully supported. However, subsequent Y3 visits to the High Melton Forest School and Y5 visits to Austerfield and Hill House have been fully supported and have gone ahead. Thank you for your continued support.

START OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Foundation & KS1

For safeguarding purposes we strongly insist that parents do not enter the main part of school via classrooms or take children to the toilet areas and either wait for them outside the toilets or actually go in with them. All our pupils regularly go to the toilet independently throughout the day. Staff will challenge any parent found in these areas. If you wish to go to the Academy Office, you must enter school through the main school entrance.

Foundation (Nursery/Reception)

For a prompt start to the morning session and to encourage children to be more independent, parents of pupils in Foundation are asked to help children to settle in their classroom setting as quickly as possible. Once children are left in the care of the teaching staff, parents should leave the classroom area by 8.55a.m. at the latest (9.00a.m. for Nursery). For safeguarding purposes (for both children and adults), parents should enter and exit Reception/Nursery via the external classroom door only.

KS1 (Y1/Y2)

Y1 and Y2 children enter the classroom independently. There will be a member of staff on the KS1 playground to organise and supervise the children lining up prior to entering. Members of staff will be available on the playground for parents to share any information with. It would be greatly appreciated if pupils could arrive in the playground for the warning bell at 8.50am to enable them to be settled in class ready for their prompt 8.55am start.

KS2 (Y3-Y6)

The gates to the KS2 playground are open from 8.25am and Rocky's Breakfast Club opens at 8.30am-8.45am. Please note the KS2 playground is unsupervised until a member of staff is on duty from 8.45am.

MILK IN SCHOOL SCHEME

Just a reminder that it is parents' responsibility to register with the Cool Milk Scheme. If your child would like to receive milk in school you will need to complete an application form, obtainable from the wall mounted stands near the school office, or the quickest and easiest way is to apply on line at www.coolmilk.com. If parents have any questions about their Cool Milk account please call them on 0844 854 2913. Payment and registration deadline is 5pm on a Tuesday for the following week. Please note all pupils under 5 years of age will automatically be registered by school.

PARENTS' GUIDE TO RICHMOND HILL PRIMARY ACADEMY

All parents are advised to view a copy of our Parents' Guide, available on the website and app.

HEALTHY SCHOOLS

As we are a Healthy School we encourage children to bring a drink of water in a drinks container to keep in their classrooms. May we remind all parents (including Nursery) that drinks should only be **water** and not juice/squash. Pupils on packed lunches should either bring their own drink of **water** to accompany their meal or we will provide one. Pure fruit drinks can be brought in packed lunches as part of your child's 5-a-day.

CHANGE OF DETAILS

Have you changed your contact details - mobile number/address? Do you need to tell us about any important changes affecting your child – for example have they recently been prescribed an inhaler? Please contact the Academy Office as soon as possible, so we can update our records.

PUPILS WITH ALLERGIES

May we politely remind you that we have a number of children in school who have severe allergies. Nuts and other food products – for example – certain types of biscuits that contain nuts and such things as **Nutella spread on sandwiches and breakfast cereal bars, are not allowed** in school for the safety of these pupils. This applies, not only at lunch-time, but also if your child brings birthday/holiday treats into school to share with their class mates. Thank you for your co-operation.

ACADEMY OFFICE OPENING HOURS

8.30am-4.15pm Monday-Thursday and 8.30am-4.00pm Friday

PARENTPAY

Activation codes to enable parents new to school to access Parentpay are issued on their child's admission date. Could we please remind **ALL** parents (including Nursery) to ensure their Parentpay account is activated to enable payment for all items such as school dinners, visits, after school clubs etc.