



15th October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Principal's Update – 15th October 2021

As we are nearing the end of the first half term I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for all their support this half term. The children have settled well into new routines learning and playing well. It was great that our visitor to school yesterday, Ed Miliband, commented on what wonderful pupils we have – we certainly think so.

Firstly, here are some reminders and dates for your diary:-

- Harvest Festival songs and poems will be uploaded to the school website on your child's class page by the end of the day.
- Parents' Evening
Monday 1st November for Year 1
Tuesday 2nd November for Reception, Y2-Y6
Appointments will be taking place in school face to face. However, if your preference is a telephone consultation, then these will be held on Wednesday 3rd November.
If you have not already done so, you can book an appointment via your Arbor Parent Portal until 8.00am Friday 29th October.
Parents' Evening – in school face to face. Parents with an appointment for a face to face meeting are required to wear a face covering on site and during the time in the classroom.
Reception/KS1 appointments – please enter/exit the site via the KS1 gate 5 minutes before your appointment time. You will then be able to look through your child's work in one of the year group classrooms before being invited into the adjoining classroom for your appointment at your allocated time.
KS2 appointments – arrangements as above but please enter/exit the site via the KS2 gate.
There will no access internally between key stages so parents who may have appointments in both KS1/KS2 will need to access the classrooms via the relevant gate.
- Nursery Parents' Evening is scheduled for w/c 29th November. Nursery parents will be notified when the appointment booking system is live.
- October Half Term
School closes at 3.05pm today Friday 15th October 2021
School Re-opens on Monday 1st November 2021
- School Photographs – the school photographer will be in school on Wednesday 10th November to take individual and siblings' photographs.

Visitor to Richmond Hill

Ed Miliband (MP for Doncaster North and Shadow Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) visited school yesterday to meet with Richmond Hill senior leaders together with members of the Rose Learning Trust to discuss energy and premises management.

Management of Covid-19

As a school, we continue to follow all the appropriate guidelines from Public Health England and the guidance issued by the Department of Education with regard to how educational settings should handle the current situation in regards to Covid 19. Following a review we would like to confirm that Face Coverings will continue after half term. As a protective measure for our large school, parents/carers should continue to wear a face covering at drop off/collection. Staggered entry/exits are also helping to reduce the number of people on the school site at one time, we thank you for your continued support.

KS2 Breakfast Club and KS2 Bike Storage

Unfortunately, due to the ongoing major repair works in school we will be unable to re-introduce the KS2 Breakfast Club or provide access to the KS2 Bike Storage area until further notice. Hillbillies morning session does provide a breakfast for anyone requiring this provision. Please contact Bev Flockton Hillbillies Manager to discuss availability of spaces.

Ambassadors

We are so proud of the amount of children that put themselves forward for Ambassadors this year. All who applied were treated to afternoon tea with the SLT. Pupils pitched their ideas to their classes and a secret ballot was conducted. Well done to this year's representatives.

#HelloYellow 2021

Thank you for your generous donations supporting Young Minds, we helped to raise a total of £341.70 for World Mental Health Day.

Morrison's It's Good to Grow tokens

Richmond Hill has been registered to receive the Morrison's 'It's Good to Grow' tokens. For every £10 spent at Morrisons you will receive a Grow Token which you can donate to our school so we can exchange them for free gardening equipment. We hope you can support us, just go on the MyMorrisons app under Community & Savings, click on donate tokens and search for Richmond Hill.

Visits

We were extremely pleased that earlier this week our Year 3 children were the first year group to enjoy a visit out of school since the end of 2019! They went to the Forbidden Corner in North Yorkshire and had a fantastic day. Thank you to the parent helpers who accompanied Year 3, your support was much appreciated.

Other visits arranged for the next half term:-

- Y2 Danum Museum, Doncaster
- Y5 Space Centre Leicester
- Y4 Yorvik Centre York
- Y6 Thackray Medical Museum Leeds
- Rec/Y1 Cast Theatre Doncaster – Aladdin

Clubs/Music/Drama

It has been great to see our clubs back up and running along with additional new clubs the children are enjoying. Music sessions with our specialist teachers Mr & Mrs Mellors have resumed fully along with new instrument tuition from the music service. Weekly drama sessions to complement the English curriculum are also being enjoyed by the children – we thank DARTS for selecting our school to have specialist teaching in this area.

Teacher Led Tuition – Catch up

Tuition sessions by class teachers will begin after half term for selected pupils in identified subjects. If your child is selected for these sessions it will be discussed at your Parents' Evening appointment and letters confirming the details sent out shortly after that.

Anti-bullying Week - 15th to 19th November

Our children will be involved in a range of activities with the theme this year 'One kind word'. On Monday 15th November to start the events off, children are able to come to school in odd socks. No donation required.

Children in Need - Friday 19th November

At the end of Anti-bullying week it will be Children in Need. Children are able to come to school in non-uniform £1 donation - the theme for this year is 'Together we can change young lives' - all proceeds to the Children in Need charity.

Phonics Screening - Year 2 pupils

The week commencing Monday 13th December will be phonics screening week for Year 2 pupils. This statutory assessment should have taken place in June but was delayed nationally due to the lockdown.

Resuming our links with Hill House Independent School

We have always worked collaboratively with Hill House Independent School and previously we have made use of many exciting experiences to enhance our curriculum. We are looking forward to resuming these links this year. In the near future some of our children will have the opportunity to be involved in a science learning day and also a history day – including a performance from the Horrible Histories team.

Christmas

When we return after half term, our attention will quickly turn to Christmas. We're already looking at a full and extensive programme of events for all our children to give them an extra special lead up to Christmas. Our light extravaganza will be back for Christmas – and we may have some special visitors. Any donations of lights, decorations would be gratefully received.

Performances and Parties

We are hoping that an in school Christmas performance for each year group will be able to take place this year. In order to do this safely, performances will be year group only to minimise numbers. The planned diary of events is currently as follows:

Wednesday 8 th December		10.30am Nursery	2.00pm Y2
Thursday 9 th December	9.00am Y1	10.30am Reception	2.00pm Y3
Friday 10 th December	9.00am Y4	10.30am Y5	2.00pm Y6
Wednesday 15 th December	Christmas Party day for all pupils		

Further information to follow nearer the time.

Thank you once again for all your support.

Yours sincerely



Debbie Secker
Principal

The Rose Learning Trust.



TRANSFORMING FUTURES COLLABORATIVELY