



# March 2017 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to say a big thank you to all of the families and carers who attended our Stay and Play sessions in Nursery and Reception classes recently. It was very busy and we appreciate you reorganising your day to spend time in school with your children. I do hope you enjoyed yourself!

Please see the date for the Dance Festival below. This is a very popular annual event in our school and we are expecting it to be very busy in the hall once again. Our children are all practising hard to put on a performance they will be proud of, and we hope you can come and see us all.

This term, we have been looking at attendance and punctuality across the school. As you will see, there is a lot of information on this newsletter about attendance and punctuality for your information. I would particularly like to say thank you to the group of children who attended the 'Talk Time' sessions with our Teaching Assistants recently. They gave us a pupil's voice on what they feel about attendance and punctuality and I must say, they were brilliant!

Don't forget - our door is open if we can help you in any way, so, come in and see me if you need to.

Best wishes,  
Mrs J. Goodfellow  
(Headteacher)

## Dates For Your Diary

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March** - Year 3 and 4 Pupils to Attend Hockey Tournament at Cardinal Hume

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March** - Parents Evening

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March** - Nursery 2 Parents Consultation Day (By Appointment Only)

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March** - Year 4 RE Trip

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March** - Some Year 6 Pupils Take Part in Maths Challenges Day

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March** - Some Year 5 and Some Year 4 Pupils Take Part in Maths Challenges Day

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** - Year 6 Trip to Seven Stories

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March** - Comic Relief - Red Nose Day



**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March** - Parents & Carers Invited in to School (See Back Page of Newsletter for Details)

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March** - Parents & Carers Invited in to School (See Back Page of Newsletter for Details)

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April** - Dance Festival Day (Morning and Afternoon Performances)



**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April** - Last day of Spring Term Two

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April** - Easter Holidays

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April**- All Pupils Return To School For The Start of Summer Term

(Please Note: This return to school date was incorrect on the previous newsletter.

Pupils do return to school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April. Apologies for any confusion.)

**Earn free rewards for high street stores and improve your health at the same time!**



Dear Parent

Schools Go Smarter has teamed up with BetterPoints, a reward programme that allows you to earn points and exchange them for rewards at major high street retailers, like Tesco, M&S, Argos, New Look and Starbucks. If you travel sustainably on the school run – like walking, cycling or using public transport – you can earn rewards with BetterPoints by downloading the app and logging your journeys. By travelling more actively on the journey to school, even on one or two journeys each week, you can also help to keep you and your family fitter and healthier. **Download the app at [www.gosmarter.betterpoints.uk](http://www.gosmarter.betterpoints.uk)**



**It's easy. Log your journeys, earn points and redeem your rewards – you may even wish to donate to a listed charity!**

## Riverside Primary Academy Attendance

Governors and academy staff would like to thank our community for supporting and recognising the importance of good school attendance. The vast majority of families have good or excellent attendance at Riverside.

***Our school is currently achieving 96.7% attendance (calculated this academic year up to 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017).***

**It really is a joint effort and it does take our whole school community to achieve good attendance!**

**THANK YOU**



Please use our Riverside Primary Academy website to keep up to date with activities in school. Click on the key stage blogs at the bottom of the homepage and let us know what you think by sending us a comment. To help spread the word about our outstanding school, we would love for you to like and share our social media posts as much as possible.

**Please follow us @RiversideAcad**

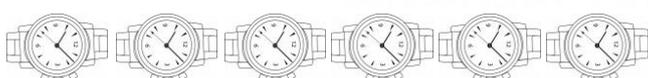


## Are you ever late for school?

**Punctuality and timekeeping is extremely important – do you know the following facts?**



5 minutes late each day	3 days lost
10 minutes late each day	6.5 days lost
15 minutes late each day	10 days lost
20 minutes late each day	13 days lost
30 minutes late each day	19 days lost



**Reminder:** Our school doors open at 8:45am and school officially starts at 8:55am. Please be on-time for school.

## Academy Attendance - Every Day Counts

Good attendance means being at school 96% of the time. Please help us to help your child succeed. Children with excellent and good attendance have more opportunity to learn and will therefore progress in all areas of the curriculum. If you are worried or concerned about your child's attendance please make an appointment with Miss Smith or Mrs Goodfellow.

190 School Days Each Year 190 Opportunities for Learning					
190 days of education 0 days absence	182 days of education 8 days absence	171 days of education 19 days absence	161 days of education 29 days absence	152 days of education 38 days absence	142 days of education 48 days absence
<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Very Poor</b>	<b>Serious Concern</b>	
<b>100%</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>75%</b>
THIS IS THE BEST CHANCE OF SUCCESS FOR YOUR CHILD.		WORRYING! Less chance of success, this level of attendance makes it hard to progress and could lead to fines.		SERIOUS CONCERN! This level of attendance is not fair on your child and could lead to court action or fines.	
<b>175 Non School Days in a Year</b> 175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments.					

At Riverside Primary Academy, we celebrate class attendance each week in assembly. Our pupils enjoy receiving rewards and incentives for their excellent attendance.



## Newsletter Free Draw

*This month's free Newsletter Draw was won  
By Kiera McGuire in Year 3. She has won a bottle of wine for her  
Mum and a box of sweets for herself.  
Parents must collect their prize from the school office.*

COMIC  
RELIEF

## Red Nose Day Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

On Red Nose Day pupils can make a donation (suggested £1) and come to school dressed in the colour red or perhaps they would like to dress up as their favourite Red Nose Character.

- Sneezecake
- Nose-it-all
- The Snorcerer
- Dr. Nose
- Snootankhamun
- Norse Nose
- DJ Boogie
- Snuffles
- Sniffer



We will be selling red noses during the weeks leading up to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March. They cost £1 each.

## DANCE FESTIVAL

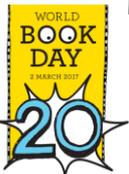
### Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April

As always our pupils are working incredibly hard in PE to produce some fantastic dance moves. We will have two opportunities for parents and carers to watch the performances in our school hall.

Morning Show 9:30am  
Afternoon Show 1:45pm

**Please be prepared to stay for the whole show.  
Leaving during the performance is not fair for  
those pupils who perform last.**

## World Book Day Celebrations



Thank you once again for your support on World Book Day.

We understand that lots of planning and preparation goes in to the wonderful costumes worn by the pupils. Your support really does help to make World Book Day special in our School.

### Academy Governance

If you are interested in working for our academy in the role of a governor, please come in and see Mrs Goodfellow. Unfortunately this is not a paid role but is entirely voluntary work. We are always interested to hear from parents and carers who can offer their time to support our school.

**Calling All Budding Artists, Writers and Magicians**

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

All Riverside Primary Academy pupils from nursery to year 6 are taking part in a **Magical Writing Project**. Some writing will be published in an anthology of work alongside pieces of writing from other schools and the local community.

We will be hosting some **fun and interactive** events in school so that family members and carers can take part. **We need your help in a range of Arts, Craft and Design activities.** Parents, carers, grandparents, older siblings, family members etc. are all welcome to take part in our school events. You can sign up for the following events with your child's class teacher.

**Nursery** – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 11:00am  
– **Making Magic Potions**

**Nursery** – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2:30pm  
– **Making Magic Potions**

**Reception** – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2:15pm  
– **Design Your Own Magical or Mythical Creature**

**Year 1 and Year 1 / 2** – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2:15pm  
– **Magic Fairy Adventure** – Design a Fairy, Wizard or Witch Door / Garden

**Year 2** – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March – 2:15pm  
– **Create An Item To Go In To A Magic Box**  
– Based on The Magic Box poem by Kit Wright

**Year 3** – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2:15pm  
– **Fold a Story / Character Activity**

**Year 4** – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2:15pm  
– **Creating Magic Potions and Wands**

**Year 5** – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2:00pm  
– **Create a Magical / Mythical Creature**  
Based on Harry Potter

**Year 6** – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 1:45pm  
– Parents meet at school and take part in an **Evacuation Role Play** walking to Dunston Railway Station

*Please complete the slip below and return it to your Child's class teacher.*

*The class teacher will send further information to those parents / carers who wish to attend the event.*

**Yes Please!** I would love to join in with the following activities.

Year group: \_\_\_\_\_

Activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent / carer: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of child: \_\_\_\_\_