

## OUR FOCUS VALUE THIS TERM IS HONESTY.



Congratulations to our  
Rivington

Remarkables:

**Oscar Pickering, Elliot**

**Lally, Louis Ball, Jack**

**McLaughlin, Alex**

**Marsden, Katie Houseman-Smith and Oliver**



**Freeman.**

Writing Awards: **Anya Higginson, Evie Warburton, Charlie Dagnall, Ruby Houseman-Smith, Thomas Cleworth, Gracie Bolger, Siam Barrow, Charlie Sutcliffe and Niamh McColl.**

Bronze Awards:

**Louis Ball, Harry Buckley, Jessica Bramwell, Samuel Rigby, Ted Wharton Jones, Thomas Rigby, Ruby Shepherd and Ariana Haydock.**

**Congratulations to Y1/2 who again won the attendance of the week award – enjoy your extra playtime!**

### Internet Safety:

At Rivington we aim to keep everyone safe whilst at the same time enjoying the internet. The schools Online Safety & Mobile Technology policy is available in the policy section of the website which details how we manage e-safety in school but you will also find lots of information here on how to keep your children safe on-line outside of school.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MINIMUM AGE TO USE SNAPCHAT, FACEBOOK, TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM IS 13, WHATSAPP IS 16.**

**We urge parents and carers to review and monitor what your child is accessing and discussing whilst online.**

School strongly recommends that these apps are not used until the legal age is reached.

Here is a great sites to make sure everyone has a safe time on the internet:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

**School Vacancies:** We currently have a vacancy for an After School Club Assistant and a part-time HLTA. Details can be found at:

<http://www3.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/vacancies/>

**New Gate:** New markings and signage are being placed at the top of the drive to further deter people from parking there. In addition, School is replacing the gate at the top of the drive to one that better supports pedestrians and vehicles entering the site.

**Moon:** Calling all stargazers! Set your alarm clocks extra early on Monday morning next week. At 5am there will be a full lunar eclipse. The bright full moon will fall into the Earth's shadow, darkening and turning a distinctive red colour -- a blood moon! It's sure to be an awesome spectacle, as long as the great British weather doesn't spoil things! Please send us any of your photos of this event, plus any pictures of you stargazing at such an early hour! There will be prizes for the best photo, plus opportunities for some special art and science work in the coming weeks. For the next few weeks, you will also be able to see the planets Venus and Jupiter appearing close to each other in the morning skies, and they will be the closest on Tuesday 22nd January. On the morning of the 31st January they will be joined in the dawn sky by the thin crescent moon, about 7am. Lots and lots of astronomy to watch out for!

**The BiG Shave:** Mr Cairns, our flute teacher, is taking part in the BiG Shave where he will be having all his hair shaved off in order to raise awareness of Isabel Morison and raise much needed funds for lifesaving treatment costs for a brain tumour. To read more and if you would like to donate please click on the attached link:

<https://www.gofundme.com/rzv6w-the-big-shave>

**Duathlon:** Tony Hesketh from the Horwich Harriers contacted School to ask for participants in the annual Rivington Duathlon. It is on the 25th May and in aid of the Christie Hospital, to enter please contact Tony Hesketh on 07552657789.

**Parents Evenings Spring Term:** Our Parents Evenings will take place on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February and Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February. Attendance is required and the children's interim reports will be given out. Meetings will take place in the Church Hall and you will also have the opportunity to come along earlier and have a look at the work they have been doing this year so far. Appointments will be available to book shortly. Many thanks.

**Attendance:** The happiness and educational progress of all our children are our main priorities and we believe that good attendance is a major way in which these priorities can be achieved. The pace of the curriculum is such that when your child is away from school, the learning they miss will significantly have an effect on future learning and can often not 'be made up'. Rivington Foundation Primary School follows Lancashire County Council guidelines regarding authorised and unauthorised absences. We monitor attendance every term and we will write to you if your child's attendance falls below 95%. At this stage in the year if this is due to illness this figure often increases as we progress through the year. If your child's attendance falls below 90% this is classed as persistent absence and in these cases we would like to support you as much as possible. If your child brings a letter home please do not hesitate to contact school if you wish to discuss this further. If your child does not bring a letter home this means they have achieved an attendance figure of 96% or more. We ask for your support in this matter and if you would like any advice in relation to attendance please do not hesitate to contact school.

**Change of holiday dates:** Thank you for your support in the adaption of our calendar for the academic year 2019-20. I appreciate that this may present some problems for a number of people so please come and see me and we can discuss how school can support you moving forward. School are aiming to provide holiday care on these days to support those of you who work – coming from a full-time working family I completely understand these pressures. School and its Governors whole-heartedly believe that these Inset days are crucial to school development. Many thanks once again.

**PTA Classlist:** This is a great communication tool for all parents to find out about school events and PTA events. Please go to Classlist and search for Rivington to sign-up.

**Data Collection Sheets:** We still have a few of the Data Collection, Medical and ICT Acceptable Use Policy forms outstanding – found in the front of the school planners. If you have not completed your forms you will have had extra copies sent home this week. Please could these be completed and returned to school as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Lost uniform:** We have a basket of lost/unclaimed uniform. Please come and see Ms Redmayne if you have lost any items – they may be in there! Unclaimed uniform will be placed on a stall at the Christmas Fair.

**PE Kits:** Children are to wear School PE kits for PE lessons: Purple shorts, white/black t-shirt, socks (if tights need to be taken off), tracksuit bottoms and top (dark if possible) so that PE can be carried out outside if required.

**PLEASE CAN ALL UNIFORM BE LABELLED SO THAT IT HAS A LITTLE LESS CHANCE OF THINGS GOING MISSING.**

**Attendance:** Being at school is the most important way to ensure that our children make great progress. We have an attendance target of 97% because we believe hitting this target will improve the progress of all children. We ask you to do all you can to support us with this issue.

**NEW WEBSITE:** Our new website is live! Mr King (Bella's Dad in Y2) has done an outstanding job in creating our site – it looks amazing and is so easy to use – a blessing for staff! Thank you Mr. King - you have worked so hard to create a 'first-rate' product!

Have a look at: [www.rivingtonprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.rivingtonprimaryschool.co.uk)

**Class Assembly Dates:** 8th February Y3/4, 15th February, 29th March Y1/2, 5th July Rec.

**Appointments to see teachers** - Although we operate an 'open door policy', we hope you can appreciate that it may not always be possible to see parents without notice. In the morning teachers are usually making preparations for the day ahead and after school may be involved in meetings or afterschool activities. If you need to see your child's teacher, please arrange an appointment before or after school to ensure they are available to see you and can give you the time and privacy you require. Messages can also be passed to teachers via the school office to be passed to class teachers and don't forget we can be contacted by email.



**Twitter** – This is an invitation to our new and existing parents to join us. Please follow the instructions below to follow us.

To access our school Twitter account please follow the following steps:-

- 1) Set up your own Twitter account if you don't already have one.
- 2) Send an email to [twitter@rivington.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:twitter@rivington.lancs.sch.uk) with your Twitter @name, your full name, the name of your child and the class they are in.
- 3) Search for @rivington

We linking our Twitter account to our new website which means it would be available to view without having to go through the steps above. This would also make it available to the public and we would obviously continue to omit those children who cannot be included in photographs. We have lots of lovely tweets posted by our staff throughout the week. Please join us as you are missing a treat!

**Contacting school** – [bursar@rivington.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@rivington.lancs.sch.uk) or [head@rivington.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@rivington.lancs.sch.uk)

### **Holiday Leave:**

Please note our policy on the Leave of Absence. In line with Government instructions, we can no longer authorise Holiday Leave as a matter of course. Government are placing great pressure on schools not to authorise holidays during term times. Both I and the governors do want to work with parents. We will look at holiday requests which fall into exceptional circumstances and where attendance **is above 97.5%**. Please read the attendance policy on the website before submitting an application.

### **Sickness and hair:**

If your child is sick or has had diarrhoea please do not send them back to school **for 48 hours** after symptoms have passed.

Your child's hair should be of a natural colour no shorter than a number 2 and contain no steps or lines – sorry! Remember when you chose Rivington you chose our rules as well – we embrace them, we are proud of them – please keep them.

Please do not let your child come to school wearing nail varnish, anything other than stud earrings or trainers.

If you require a new tie these are now available in the school office.

### **Planners:**

Please can you ensure that you have **read and signed the home-school agreement and e-safety agreement** in the front of the school planners. There is also a section for you to read and sign with your child – all this goes towards strengthening and sharing our school's values and ethos. Many thanks!

**Suggestion Box** – We now have a suggestion box in the reception area just outside the school office. We welcome your suggestions and comments.

### **Clubs and Activities:**

If you would like your child to learn to play the piano, flute, guitar or ukulele please see Ms Redmayne in the office.

**Free School Meals:** All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 automatically qualify for Universal free school meals. However children in the infants and the juniors may qualify for free school meals because you are in receipt of certain benefits, in which case you need to register your eligibility. If you are eligible your child could qualify for Pupil Premium funding



from the Government which will come into school to improve pupil attainment or provide additional opportunities. If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact the office.

**Parent Pay:** Please can you ensure that parent pay accounts are up-to-date.

Thank you to all parents, carers and families for your continued support.  
Have a lovely weekend!  
Mrs. Annette

