

Creating visions of the future through kindness and today's strong foundations.

'We Care, We Trust, We Believe, We Share, We Enjoy, We Achieve!'

'We Are Limitless. We Are Kind.'

'We Are 'Rivil!'



17.01.2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for all your help and continued support and many apologies for the phone line last week – it took 4 days to get it fixed!

**Congratulations to all our Seven Wonders winners:**

- EYFS: **Amy B.** – for superb perseverance in maths – Great Work!.
- Y1: **Holly G.** – for working hard all week.
- Y2: **Henry B.** – for super division work all week..
- Y3: **Toby C.** – for your perseervance in maths and working hard through challenging work.
- Y4: **Roman.** – for the fantastic improvement with your handwriting.
- Y5: **Thomas K.** – for always being ready to learn – a fantastic role-model!
- Y6: **Lukas O.** – for always maing fantastic contributions and having a great work ethic!



Happy Birthday to: **Poppy (Reception).**

**This Terms Core Value: Learning to Listen:**



**Y6 SATs Booster: Y6 children are invited to attend booster on Wednesday's at 8am and Thursday 3:15pm-4pm. All are welcome and breakfast/snacks will be provided. STARTS THIS WEEK – WEDNESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY.**

**Covid – 19 Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19:** People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time. If a pupil lives in a household where there is a positive case of COVID-19, parents should arrange for a PCR test as soon as possible. If the PCR test is negative and your child is well, they can return to school immediately. As a close contact of someone with COVID-19, they should take an LFD test every day for seven days.

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The government guidance can be found by clicking on the link below:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-householdswithpossible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-householdswithpossible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection)

Looking at the data over the Christmas period, this term will probably continue to remain challenging both for our families and the school. As always, we will keep you updated and communicate any amendments to the operation of school to you. Thank you for your continued support.

**RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch:** The Eco team are starting to get ready to take part in the annual Big Garden Bird Watch which is running from 28th – 30th January. It is free to register and participate and lots of resources are available online - you can watch at home and record your own sightings. It's a good idea to put out bird food in your garden over the next few weeks, so that birds start to visit before the count starts.

### **STEM:**

[Why you should be a science role model for your child – and three ideas to get you started](#)

The Institute of Physics' [Limit Less](#) campaign gives all children and families the chance to explore how the world works. Here are a couple of ideas to get you started over the winter break - but don't worry, you don't need to be a physics expert to enjoy these activities as a family. They're quick and easy and everything you need you'll find around the house!

### **READING**

At the Lancashire Brilliant Book Awards launch this week there was a [delightful video from Michael Morpurgo](#). I know that some of the video is specific to the Lancashire School Library Service – but the telling of the story is worth of watch in EYFS/KS1!

[Developing Informal Booktalk with Jon Biddle](#)

In this 2-minute video, Jon Biddle explains tells us how his school encourages informal booktalk. He highlights the need for initial scaffolding and teacher modelling as well as strategies (e.g. leaving post-it note comments on a display of forthcoming children's books), that help to trigger more spontaneous child-led book blether reader to reader.

**Action for Happiness:** Action for Happiness is a movement of people committed to building a happier and more caring society. They want to see a fundamentally different way of life - where people care less about what they can get just for themselves and more about the happiness of others. I have attached a link to their monthly calendars which are packed with actions you can take to help create a happier and kinder world. Click a calendar below to download - you can find other language versions there too!

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**Happier January 2022**

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Find three things to look forward to this year	2 Make time today to do something kind for yourself	3 Do a kind act for someone else to help brighten their day	4 Write a list of things you feel grateful for and why	5 Look for the good in others and notice their strengths	6 Take five minutes to sit still and just breathe	7 Learn something new and share it with others
8 Say positive things to the people you meet today	9 Get moving. Do something active (ideally outdoors)	10 Thank someone you're grateful to and tell them why	11 Switch off all your tech at least an hour before bedtime	12 Connect with someone near you - share a smile or chat	13 Take a different route today and see what you notice	14 Eat healthy food which really nourishes you today
15 Get outside and notice five things that are beautiful	16 Contribute positively to your local community	17 Be gentle with yourself when you make mistakes	18 Get back in contact with an old friend	19 Focus on what's good, even if today feels tough	20 Go to bed in good time and allow yourself to recharge	21 Try out something new to get out of your comfort zone
22 Plan something fun and invite others to join you	23 Put away digital devices and focus on being in the moment	24 Take a small step towards an important goal	25 Decide to lift people up rather than put them down	26 Choose one of your strengths and find a way to use it today	27 Challenge your negative thoughts and look for the upside	28 Ask other people about things they've enjoyed recently
29 Say hello to a neighbour and get to know them better	30 See how many people you can smile at today	31 Write down your hopes or plans for the future				

**ACTION FOR HAPPINESS** Happier · Kinder · Together



## SNOW CLOSURES

The staff at Rivington work hard to ensure the school is open every day. However we do have to prepare for the possibility of snow disruption during the winter months.

Our key objective during the worst weather conditions is to open school on a site that is safe and adequately staffed. When we experience ice or snow our first priority is to assess whether we can make the site safe enough for adults and

children.

Although we keep up-to-date with forecasts and weather warnings, some snow and ice conditions can be quite localised. What appears to be 'slushy' snow at school can be compacted very quickly on frozen ground when children are walking on it, or there may be severe snow around school but little where you live.

When there is a possibility that school may not be able to open we will assess the following criteria:

- Can the site be made safe?
- Will we have sufficient staff to meet appropriate adult:child ratios?
- Can we provide meals at lunchtime?

If you wish to find out whether the school is open or not on a day when the weather is bad, please tune in to **Radio Lancashire** or **Rock FM** where information will be broadcast. Alternatively you can visit

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the [Rivington website](#), see Teachers to Parents communication, Seesaw and the Rivington Mums and Dads Facebook page for closure information.

**PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT CLOSING A SCHOOL IS NEVER A DECISION THAT IS TAKEN LIGHTLY; WE WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO STAY OPEN.**



**National  
Online  
Safety<sup>®</sup>**

**What parents Need to Know:** Replika is an artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot companion that its developers claim users can form an actual emotional connection with. Once users have created an account and chosen a 3D avatar, they select the type of relationship they want with the chatbot: friend, mentor or romantic partner. Using a neural network to hold an ongoing one-on-one

conversation, Replika gradually becomes more like the user as it gathers data from their responses. It isn't the only AI chatbot app available, but Replika pushes the boundaries of the concept to offer a highly realistic conversational experience.

In the guide attached, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as possible addiction, inappropriate content and in-app purchases.

**Vomiting and Diarrhoea:** Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should not attend school until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped and they are well enough to return. If medication is prescribed, ensure that the full course is completed and there is no further diarrhoea or vomiting for 48 hours after the course is completed.

Reminder: **Fruit ONLY Snacks/NUT ALLERGY** - As we are a healthy school and we are educating and promoting healthy lifestyles to our children, fruit and vegetable only snacks are allowed for break times from September. **Please could you also ensure that your child does not bring any food into school that CONTAINS NUTS as we do have a child with a nut allergy in school.** Thank you for your cooperation.

**PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS - APPLICATIONS REMINDER** - The closing date for Primary School Admissions is **15th January 2022**. For information about our admissions criteria please visit the school website. Applications can be made online and you should clearly state 3 preferences for your child. To apply for your child's place online please click on the link below. Supplementary forms need to be returned to school. <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/>

**Labelling Uniform:** Please could you ensure that ALL of your child's school uniform is clearly labelled including school shoes and school pumps. Thank you.

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### Free School Meals - How to claim:

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 all qualify for a free school meal (Universal Infant Free School Meal) worth up to £418 per year, per child; you do not need to apply for this.

Year 3 and above

For school pupils in Year 3 and above they could qualify for a free school meal if you receive:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get).

To apply, you should contact your [Area Education Office](#). You will be required to provide your:

- Name
- Date of birth
- National Insurance Number

If you get any of the [qualifying benefits](#), your child's school can get extra funding called pupil premium if you [register](#) with Lancashire County Council. More information can be found on Lancashire County Council's [free school meals page](#).

**Contacting school: 01204 696951 [bursar@rivington.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@rivington.lancs.sch.uk) or [head@rivington.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@rivington.lancs.sch.uk)**

**Best Wishes,**

*The Rivington Team*

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### Dates for Your Diary:

Date	Event
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	Y5/6 Assembly – to be filmed and placed on Seesaw
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Governors Visits to School
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Sponsored Event for all pupils
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Full Governors
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Y3/4 Class Assembly
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Egg Rolling and Easter Parades
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	School Closes for Easter Break
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	School re-opens for the Summer Term