



# Ryhall CE Academy News

## Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Another term gone by and another extremely busy one at that. For those of you who joined us in Autumn 2019, we hope you're now feeling fully settled in and part of the Ryhall CE Academy family. Christmas always adds to the 'busyness' of school life but the recent two Nativity performances as well as Christingle Service were just so special, reminding us of the real meaning of Christmas. I know that the children loved performing to their parents and families. My thanks go to the staff for their hard work in preparing the children. Even though the holidays are now upon us, staff will be both recharging their batteries and working in readiness for January to ensure that the children's learning continues in earnest from the start of the Spring Term. I take this opportunity to thank staff for their 'over and above' efforts every day to put the needs of all of our children first. We are blessed with a wonderful team for which I am most grateful. We are also indebted to the work of so many parents and members of the local community who give up their time and energy in many ways whether it be volunteering in class, listening to children read or supporting the many fundraising events – we thank you. I wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas period and the very best wishes for 2020.

*Katy Walker*, Headteacher

### Artsmark Gold Award

Over the last two years, we have been on an Arts journey. We've always enjoyed having a very creative approach to our curriculum and it's no surprise we, as a staff, value the opportunities and learning experiences that creativity brings. In June 2017 we made a commitment to the Arts in our application for the prestigious Artsmark. This term, we presented our evidence against this commitment with an ambition to aim for 'Gold'. We were delighted to find out that we have indeed, been awarded at this level. The evidence we have submitted covers all the areas of the Arts; broadly the areas of Art, Dance, Music and Drama. We still have a desire to develop further and look to extend further our opportunities for children to develop skills and nurture talent – get in touch with us if you think you can help.



**Artsmark  
Gold Award**  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

### TERMLY AWARDS ROUND-UP

**Congratulations to all the children who have been the deserving winners of our weekly awards over the last half term:**

#### 'STARS OF THE WEEK'

Congratulations to these children who have been nominated for their significant effort or contributions:

Grace Wright, Skyla Kettle, Amelia Lidgley, Jasmine Brocklebank, Evie Heames, Isabelle Woollard, Tyler Batchelor, Tom Griffin, Isaac Rawlings, Sam Osborne, Ava Green, Isabella Gatens, William Younger, Arthur Schofield, Noah Parnell, Samuel Griffin, Sophia Epps, Ruby Lee, Leila Porter-Toufik, Fern Grice, Evie Wilkinson, Joseph Kettle, Rosie Houghton, Emily Cobb, Benjy Tinker, Anna Steel, Gabriel Jagger, Archie Day, Holly Tinker, Logan Southwood, Libby Perry, Ted Bolitho, Isla Ecclestone, Natalia Blok and Faye Favell.

#### 'MATHMAGICIANS'

IN RECOGNITION OF CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN MATHS:

William Sloss, Aggie Scrivens, Phoebe Irvine, Lizzie Oag, Robbie McIntosh, India Banks, Noah Parnell, Willow Matthew, Lilly Wyton, Joshua Clarke, Jessie-Mae Jardine, Freddie McArthur, Jacob Allwright, Iris McMullen-Kennett, Ava Green, Lizzie Oag, Chloe Finch, Jamie Bell, Skyla Kettle, Lois Etheridge, Lucas Southwood, Kailum Lester, Annabel Crichton, Jack Perry, Artemis Trotter, Elliot Wolder, Nathaniel Griffin and Amelia Peck.

#### HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Congratulations to all the following children who are deserving recipients of the Autumn Term Headteacher's Awards – all nominated for their commitment, resilience, effort and upholding the school values.

Belvoir: JASPER PYE  
 Rockingham: IRIS MCMULLEN-KENNETT  
 Woolsthorpe: LYLA OSBORNE  
 Hambleton: WILLIAM BROWN  
 Belton: BEAU MATTHEW  
 Burghley: ALESSIA PACITTI  
 Tolethorpe: EVIE HEAMES

### Dates for your diary

6th Jan	Start of Term Three (Spring Term One) <b>Please ensure PE Kits are in school</b>
13th Jan	Start of all clubs and activities
14th Jan	Young Voices – Sheffield (Yr 4, 5, 6)
17th Jan	Mid Year Report to parents – Year 2/6
23rd Jan	Burghley Class Assembly 3pm
28th Jan	Rockingham Trip Bombay Cottage
3rd Feb	Candlemas – St John's Church 2.30pm (Year 1-6)
13th Feb	Mid Year Report to parents Year R/1/3/4/5
14th Feb	Whole School Book Swap Shop
	Cakes at Break
	KS2 African Drumming workshops – Yr 6 Drumming Assembly 3pm
	LAST DAY TERM 3
24th Feb	START OF TERM 4
	Clubs/Activities resume
2nd Mar	Tolethorpe Trip to Grimsthorpe Estate
4th Mar	SEN Review Meetings 1-5pm
5th Mar	SEN Review Meetings 8.30am-12.30pm
11th Mar	Rockingham Visit to Stibbington
12th Mar	Rockingham Class Assembly 3pm Group Photos
18th Mar	Reception/Yr 2/Yr 6 Parent-Teacher Consultations 3-6pm (R: 4.30-6.00pm)
	Reception/Yr 2/Yr 6 Parent-Teacher Consultations 9-12
19th Mar	Reception/Yr 2/Yr 6 Parent-Teacher Consultations 9-12
20th Mar	Music Assembly 9am
25th Mar	Tolethorpe Class Assembly 3pm
26th Mar	Belton/Belvoir Visit to Hammerton Zoo
	Clubs/Activities finish
27th Mar	School Disco 5.30-7.00pm (FORA)
31st Mar	Year 3/4 Mini-Musical 2.30pm and 6pm
1st April	Spotlight Dance Dress Rehearsal
1st April	Spotlight Dance Show 5.30pm
2nd April	Spotlight Dance Show 5.30pm
	Book Swap Shop
3rd April	Awards Assembly 2.30pm
	LAST DAY OF TERM 4

TRUST

RESPECT

FRIENDSHIP

RESILIENCE

COMPASSION

## Tolethorpe News

What another great half-term Tolethorpe have had! They have stepped it up even further; really showing resilience with new learning and building upon their growth mindset when faced with a complex challenge.

This term we have welcomed two new magnificent members to our team of tigers – who have settled in sublimely.

They have all worked amazingly hard this term within maths; showing real confidence with multiplication and division, multiples, factors, prime numbers and cubed and squared numbers. They worked especially hard to create a Prime number song, which we later edited on the iPad to create a video to go alongside their new song; in attempts to remember the prime numbers to 20.

Within Literacy, we have been creating autobiographies and biographies of famous Greeks and our Greek Gods/Goddess; gaining a deep understanding of the features and the differences. They have also been practicing using parenthesis within their writing, noticing it used within other texts across the curriculum. They used this skill to create a set of instructions (adding extra information to inform the reader) considering their language choices and using effective fronted adverbials to build cohesion.

We have had a blast within science this term; setting up and undertaking many investigations into 'all things materials'. They have tested insulators and conductors (of heat and electricity) making real life links to aid understanding. They have tested various materials to find out, which are soluble or insoluble, and then done further testing to investigate which can be separated and how, and which have moved to an irreversible state.

Within RE this term, they have loved answering the question: Was Jesus the Messiah? (Incarnation) They have been considering many stories from the bible, and linking this to what it tells us about Christians and Jesus. Relating it to the modern day, making links between the two. Then making links to the impact this this made, and what impact it continues to make to Christians today.

The Great Greek Museum: Wow!

This term has been filled with lots more learning about Argonauts, Monsters and Minotaurs (All things Ancient Greece). Thank you Year 5, for yet another successful term at Ryhall!



## TIMES TABLES (TT) ROCKSTARS

This term has seen the launch of TT Rockstars and it's seen a fantastic start. The children from Year 2 to Year 6 have been incredibly enthusiastic about accessing their accounts and practising their times table facts in order to be able to gain a rock star status. TT Rockstars allows our children to practise quick recall of multiplication and division facts in a fun and engaging manner. They are able to set challenges for teachers and their school friends, play in tournaments with other children from schools all over the country and improve their own recall speed to gain a Rockstar status. Children in Rockingham are busy practising and in the New Year we will be looking at aiming for a Rockstar status. We have already seen huge improvements in recall speed with many children making progress and passing more levels in Cracking Times Tables each week. A special mention needs to go to the following children.

Hambleton - **Fern Grice**

Initial speed of recall is 4.88 seconds per question and now current speed of recall is 0.85 seconds

Tolethorpe - **Robbie McIntosh**

Initial speed of recall is 3.08 seconds per question and now current speed of recall is 2.36 seconds

Woolsthorpe - **Daniel Salles**

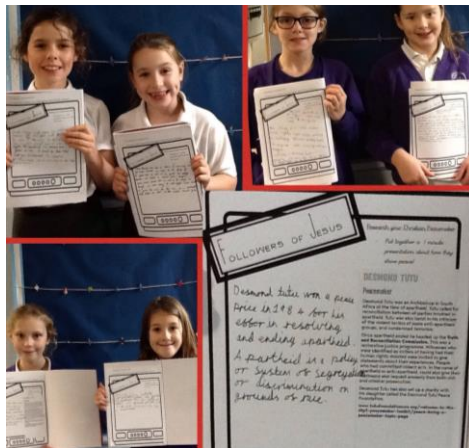
Initial speed of recall is 3.06 seconds per question and now current speed of recall is 1.09 seconds

Burghley - **Elin Evans**

Initial speed of recall is 8.82 seconds and now current speed of recall is 6.25 seconds

Please keep encouraging your children to log onto Rockstars over the holidays to keep up their brilliant effort so far.

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/login/20186>



## Reverse Advent

This year, our children chose to mark the countdown to Christmas with daily donations to our local charity, the Stamford Foodbank.

Thanks to your many generous donations we will be providing the foodbank with a significant number of items in January, at a time when resources may be lower than usual.

**Beat the Bugs:** With the cold weather approaching and illness in children beginning to rise, the 'Beat the Bugs' website offers advice to parents/carers and practical games for children to help them with prevention.

Why not take a look now: <https://www.e-bug.eu/beat-the-bugs/>

There are games, quizzes, and opportunities to learn about microbes (all aimed at different child age groups). Let your child play 'microbe mania', 'horrid hands', 'super sneezes' and 'how clean is your kitchen'.



# BEAT THE BUGS



# Ryhall Playgroup

We are open on Mondays 9:30 – 11:00am  
during term-time in Ryhall Village Hall on Church Street

We are a term-time playgroup organised and run by volunteers.  
You are most welcome to come along!  
We aim to provide a safe, enjoyable space for families to play, socialise and have fun.

Our dates and themes this term are:

## Spring 2020

6th January	Winter	24th February	Pancake Day
13th January	Sun, moon and stars	2nd March	World Book Day
20th January	Chinese New Year	9th March	Dinosaurs
27th January	Big Garden Birdwatch	16th March	Mothering Sunday
3rd February	Underwater	23rd March	Spring
10th February	Kindness/Valentines	30th March	Easter eggs

We charge £1.50 for one adult and one child, then 50p for each extra child to cover the costs of refreshments, hire of the village hall and materials for the craft activities.

However, we can only open and run if we have enough volunteers. Can you...

Help set up once in a while? Make refreshments every now and then?  
Welcome families on arrival on your day off? Make a craft activity once a term?

We rely on volunteers who give their time – please let us know if you can help with any of the above dates in whatever role you can – and you don't need to be a parent/carer to be part of this important community project.



Rev Jo Saunders 01780 480479 [revjosaunders@live.co.uk](mailto:revjosaunders@live.co.uk) or Charlotte Davis 0797 606 4410  
[charlotteneildavis@gmail.com](mailto:charlotteneildavis@gmail.com) or look for us on Facebook – "Ryhall Playgroup"

## Hambleton News

What a term we have had! We started this term by leading the Remembrance Service in church. The children participated in the Service confidently and showed respect throughout. We found it particularly poignant when thinking about the lives lost from our community. Another visit to Stamford College allowed us to try our hands at practical activities such as tiling and electrical work. We have some very accurate tilers amongst our Hambleton Heroes and today, Isabelle has been the deserving recipient of the Certificate for Plumbing out of all the many children from other schools who attended.



Well done Isabelle. Throughout the term we completed our learning on 'Crime and Punishment through the Ages' with an assembly presenting our work to our parents and carers which we hope you all enjoyed. Our visit to London has to be one of our highlights from this term. The Houses of Parliament were fascinating and we got to show off the amazing knowledge we had acquired through our theme work and from writing non-chronological reports about the three main parts of the Houses of Parliament. Our class text (The Executioners Daughter), was brought to life when we visited the Tower of London and saw all the places central to the story. We were amazed by the Crown Jewels and after speaking with one of the security guards, we discovered that just one of the diamonds cost millions of pounds. We are particularly proud of our letters to Boris Johnson that we hope made it very clear to him that we are opposed to his idea to ban screen time for under 12s. We are now writing to our recently elected MPs (Stamford & Rutland) so that we can share our views on issues that matter to us.

## Sporting Updates

Many children have had opportunities to participate in competitive and friendly events this term: Year 3/4 Football, Year 5/6 Basketball, Boccia and Sportshall Athletics. The children have shown many sporting qualities and particularly those needed in teamwork.

There has been real determination and a desire to do the absolute best they can. We've also seen our first Inter-House competitions of the term in Year 5 & 6 as they competed at our own Basketball event. Some of the children are now busy preparing for next term's gymnastics events and we'll be looking forward to seeing them in action.



**PTFA NEWS** We've had a tremendously busy Autumn Term but a hugely successful one thanks to all your support. The Christmas Market was the highlight of the term and was a fantastic joint venture between the school and the Friends of Ryhall Academy (FORA). This, together with Christmas Card sales, Cakes at Break, KS1 Play Raffles, a school Disco and the film night, we have managed to raise a phenomenal £2909.55. We can now happily say that the school trim trail installed in Summer is fully paid for – this continues to bring much enjoyment to all children. Finally from us this term, don't forget that if you have any last minute Christmas shopping or are planning to buy in the January sales online to do it via the Easy Fundraising website where we've already raised £1208.46 and have 49 supporters (2 more than end of Autumn Term One) – will you join us too? Thank you all for your support over this last term and we look forward to the events of Spring Term.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ryhallptfa/?campaign=vwo-aa-c>

## Woolsthorpe News

Here we are at the end of another extremely busy half term. Woolsthorpe Wonders have been working so hard this term on our continued theme of Walk Like an Egyptian. We have created our own pyramids over the half term holiday, which we then 'lit up' and 'alarmed' as part of our final work on electricity. We created our own Egyptian style necklaces and carried out our own research on Egypt to create information leaflets. In Maths we have begun our work on multiplication and division and how we can use these facts to solve problems. It is important that the children do continue to practice their times tables at home as they are an integral part of all the Maths learning that will come in next term's learning. In Science we have moved from learning about electricity to sound, including how we hear, how sound travels and how it is absorbed. It's been a bit tricky to understand but we had great fun making panpipes to demonstrate pitch. Our learning in RE this half term has been about Festivals and why they are important to people of faith. We have looked at the Sikh festival of Vaisakhi, Muslim festival of Eid-ul-Fitr, which marks the end of Ramadan and the Christian festival of Christmas. The children have had the opportunity to find out what happens at these different festivals, why they are celebrated and the impact they have on Sikh, Muslim and Christian people. The children were also able to look at how they might feel at these festivals. Finally, thank you for your continued support this year and most recently with the collection for our Reverse Advent collection. May we wish you all a restful Christmas break.



## Burghley News

What another busy term! Burghley have continued their key stage 2 attitude to their work and become a little more independent. Burghley have continued their key stage 2 attitude to their work and become a little more independent. In our topic work we have spent this term learning about the Romans. Our focus text this term has been 'Escape from Pompeii'. We have discussed this text lots and used it to write brilliant newspaper reports. We loved sharing these with Year 2. We have read a poem and found out about who Boudicca was and wrote fantastic character descriptions of her. We also heard rumours that she was loose in our school so we made wanted posters and put them up to warn everyone to be on the look-out. In our Science lessons, we have become experts in light and shadow and experimented with how the shadows of dinosaurs (and other animals) change depending on where the light source is. We made our own shadow puppets, designed sunglasses and a colour spinner to show how white light is made up of a spectrum of colours. In theme sessions, we have become Roman soldiers and discovered why the Roman Empire grew so large. We made Roman catapults and helmets as well as real tile mosaics. In RE we have learnt about baptism, the meaning of the Holy Trinity and symbols used in Christianity. We hope you all have a lovely Christmas break.

## Keeping it Active

The 'Move It Boom' campaign may have now ended but that doesn't stop us from getting active and challenging ourselves. We've loved hearing all about what your children have been up to and how they enjoy keeping active. We've been enjoying our own daily challenges, whether through Daily Mile, Cosmic Yoga, Go Noodle or Joe Wicks workouts for schools – learning how to keep our hearts healthy. The new year is often a time for making New Year's resolutions and we all often make one that relates to being physically healthier – so let's make it together. We hope to also further develop our links with sporting organisations to introduce children to more physical and sporting opportunities. If you know of a club who would like to offer an activity at our school, please get in touch. If your child is in receipt of funding through Free School Meals, get in touch to find out how we can support with the cost of our extra-curricular sporting provision.

## Belvoir News

What a busy time it has been in Belvoir class! We have been looking at many areas of the world around us and also the festivals and changing seasons. We enjoyed our first visit to church and loved meeting Reverend Jo who showed us around and told us all about the different aspects of the church. When we attended the Harvest Festival and the Remembrance service we knew how to behave respectfully in church and we all made our teachers very proud.

A certain little spud called 'Supertato' took over the classroom for the week. He set us tasks and challenges to help him to capture the very mischievous Evil Pea! We eventually did stop Evil Pea's rule of terror after reading the book 'Evil Pea Rules', which gave us the idea of turning Evil Pea into an angel for our Christmas tree!

We have started voting in Belvoir class...not for a political party, but our favourite book!! Every morning we have to find our name on a block and put it in the basket in front of which book we would like to hear read to us. We really like doing this and getting to have a say in what we do in the classroom.

We are truly into the swing of preparations for Christmas time. We have joined in with the school Nativity play 'Christmas with the Aliens' everyone sang beautifully, listened to and followed our instructions like the true professionals that we all are! We hope you enjoyed it!

The end of this term is all about the very first Christmas. We learned about all the important characters in the nativity and the very special gift of Jesus by having a game of pass the parcel. All the children have made a Nativity bracelet; each bead represents an event or character in the Christmas story...has your child told you all about it yet? We can't wait to see your photos on Tapestry of you and your family playing your Christmas board games. We wish you all an enjoyable festive break.

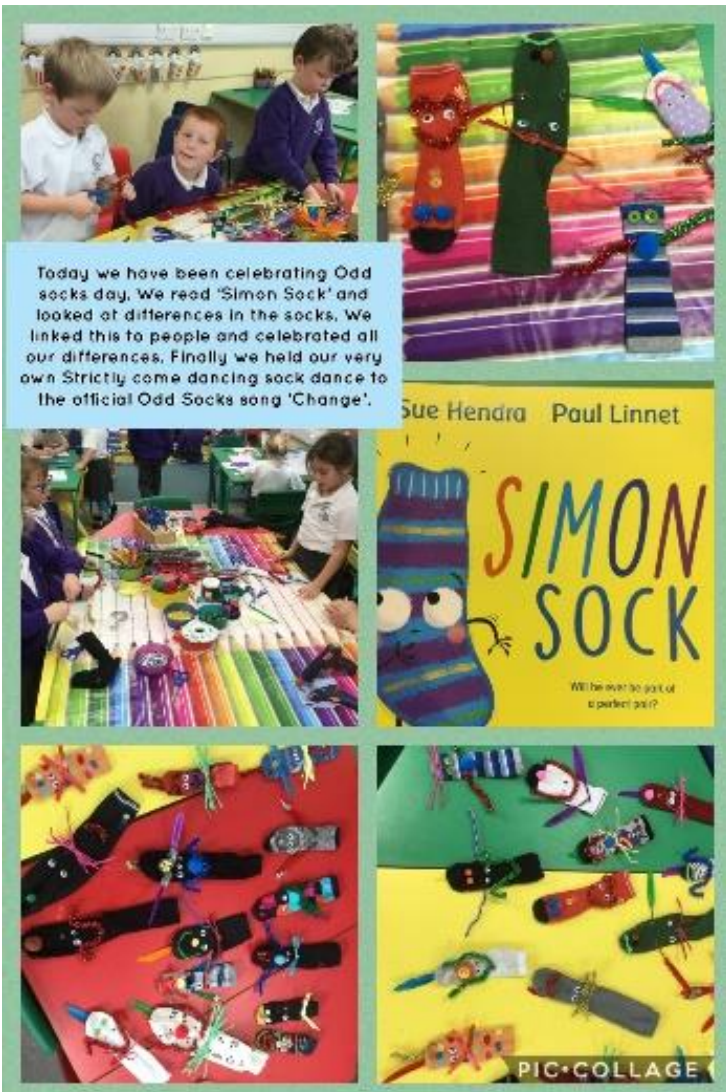




## Belton News

Belton Class have been back in time investigating and exploring Castles. We researched who made the first castles, what were they made of, why were they built on mounds and hills and why we needed castles at all. We explored how castles changed the way they were built over time from wood to stone. Many of us decided we would not have enjoyed living in medieval times once we started to explore the jobs children had, where they slept and what they ate! We made jam tarts and wrote a set of instructions to help the Queen of Hearts. We used our ICT skills to design and create our castle pictures using purple mash.

As part of 'Odd sock day and Anti bullying week' we read and discussed a great deal of similarities and differences within our class, how to treat people and how we like to be treated. We linked this to our RE learning that Jesus forgave others and led by example. This is now a focus for our classroom. We created 'Odd Sock' puppets to celebrate our differences but also to show you can be a pair no matter what you look like as long as you are kind! In science we investigated materials, what objects are made of and why. We received a letter from Chief Elf asking for our help as his sack had ripped. We designed and carried out an experiment to see which materials would be perfect for the job. We then wrote back to the Chief Elf with our suggestions – we hope he listened! Finally, we have been working extremely hard on our amazing Nativity! We hope you enjoyed the performances as much as we did performing! Thank you for your support this term and we look forward to seeing you in 2020.



## Rockingham News



Rockingham Class have travelled back in time to 1666 this term. We put ourselves into the streets of London at the time. We discovered how the houses were built so close together and made from different materials to what we use today. We used this to write a setting description. We learnt all about the Great Fire of London; how and when it started and what happened during those three days. We created a newspaper report and used the green screen to put ourselves in the fire for our photo on the report. Samuel Pepys wrote a diary about the events that unfolded and we used this to write our own version of his diary. We designed a Tudor house which we then built following our plan using junk modelling materials. To get a real understanding of how quickly the fire spread we then went out onto the field and set our houses on fire- this was extremely exciting!

Our maths lessons have been developing our multiplication skills. We used equal groups to begin multiplying, we then used this to help us mentally multiply in 2's, 5's, 10's and 3's. Our time on TT Rockstars has really helped us to develop our speed of recalling multiplication facts. We then took this skill to begin to share by dividing into equal groups. Finally, we have started to look at money and making the same amount using different coins.

We learnt how the fire damaged St Paul's Cathedral and used a step by step guide to sketch a picture of the new St Paul's Cathedral that we know today after it was rebuilt. We have really enjoyed our Science learning this term, we have carried out many experiments to test the suitability of materials from the best material to make an umbrella to keep the queen dry, best material to protect the baker's eggs, best material to absorb Samuel's Pepys wine and the best material to muffle sound for the royal baby. We have learnt a lot about fair testing too. We've even squeezed in baking bread rolls! All amongst learning many lines and staging directions to put on the Nativity production. Wow what a busy term!

## Uniform Reminder

Please remember to check all of your child's uniform over the holiday to ensure it is named. Please be reminded that nail polish should not be worn and that a child in KS2 should either wear the white logoed polo shirt or shirt with tie.