



Ripley Infant School

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RIPLEY INFANT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER: Spring Term 2 2026



Dear Parents/Carers,

What an incredibly busy term we have had. There was our brilliant Book Week and our superb Science Week, which included a great day with Jokey Joel from Sublime Science and an amazing array of experiments at the Science Fair. So much learning has been crammed in to a relatively short space of time, everyone has been trying their best and having fun whilst they were doing so. We have seen some fantastic pieces of work being completed by children from across the school. Well done everyone!

Goodbye and Good Luck

Sadly, we are saying goodbye at the end of this term to Mrs Dye, who has been working as a Teaching & Learning Assistant in Ravens Class and assisting at Forest School. I am sure you will join us in thanking her for all she has done during her time with us and wishing her all the very best for the future.

Charity Fundraising – Comic Relief & Sponsored Row

Thank you so much for all of your kind donations for Comic Relief. Our 'Wear something Red' day raised a fantastic amount with the final total reaching £143.05. It was lovely to see everyone taking part and raising money for such a worthy cause.

Our sponsored row raised another amazing amount, £1220, with all proceeds going towards much needed physical development and sensory equipment for our new learning spaces, 'The Burrows'.

The top fundraisers in each year group received a prize from Mrs Start and we would like to say a huge thank you to Amber Valley School Sports Partnership who were a great support on the day.

Supporting your child with Phonics and reading at home

In order to support you in helping your children with reading and phonics at home we have a specific page on our website which provides materials and videos.

It can be found at <https://www.ripley-inf.derbyshire.sch.uk/curriculum/reading-and-phonics>. Please make use of the resources as research shows that children who practice these skills at home make the most progress.

Parking around school

I have been asked by our school neighbours including Maple Leaf Care Home to remind you once again that, for everyone's safety, it is important that cars are not illegally parked on the pavements, blocking driveways or pedestrian access, in the care home car park or on the zig-zag markings outside of school. There have also been occasions where ambulances have not been able to access the care home due to the parking situation. This is very concerning so please be mindful of others when parking around school. As the weather improves it would be good to see even more children walking, scooting or cycling to school. It's a great way to boost your health and fitness.

Other News

- Thank you to the PTA for organising the Easter Bonnet Parade and the Easter trail. These fun seasonal events help to raise funds to support the creation of our extended Forest School area and community garden.
- Mrs Start will be running sessions for our new Girls Football after school club next term. This has been offered to girls in all year groups (places are limited to 10 per year group). The club will begin on Wednesday 15th April, 3.15-4.15pm.
- Twelve of our children from Year 1 had the chance to attend a PE Fundamentals morning at Ripley Leisure Centre run by Amber Valley School Sports Partnership. They really enjoyed the session and were a credit to the school.
- Year 1 Phonic Screening – This will take place from Monday 8th June and Year 1 children and those in Year 2 who did not achieve the expected standard last year will be assessed at some point during that week. More information about the screening check will follow shortly.
- We have two INSET days remaining for this academic year. They are on 22nd May & 29th June. INSET day dates for next academic year are available on our website.
- We are still looking to appoint a new parent governor and a co-opted governor - so please help us. You might be interested, or know someone who would, if so, please contact school and ask for details! Being a school governor is a great way to support our school and community. You can find out more on the school website under governors, ask to speak to our Chair of Governors, Mr John Pearce or one of our other governors who would be more than happy to tell you about the role.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you for your continuing support and I hope that you enjoy a restful Easter break. See you all back at 8.45am on Monday 13th April!

Many Thanks

P Doleman

Mrs P Doleman
Headteacher