



## Merry Christmas!

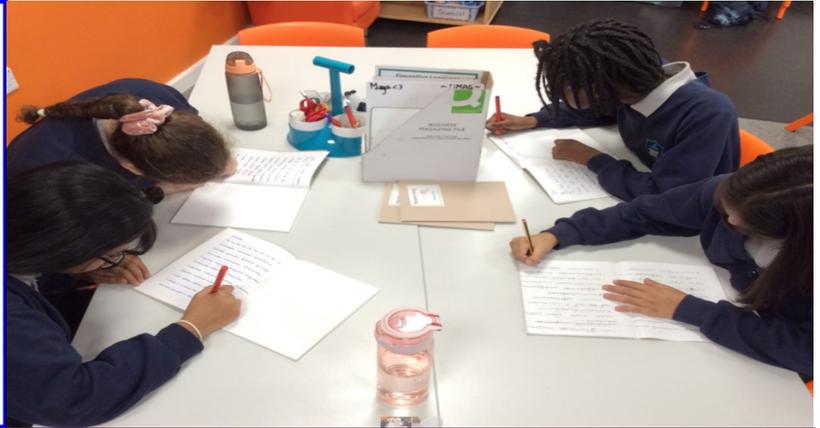
I cannot believe we are at the end of the term already!

So much has happened since September, the resuming of coffee mornings, collecting for the Barking Food Bank during harvest festival, curriculum afternoons and mathematical competitions to name a few of the things that have happened this term.

A huge thank you for supporting the events within the school.

### Handwriting.

Year 6 have been working incredibly hard in improving their handwriting. They have been trying to ensure their letter formation is of an appropriate size and they are using the joins correctly. Remember, when writing you never loop the 'g,y,j'.



### Excellence awards winners

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p>Ducks</p> <p>Yaseen<br/>Maliah<br/>Aiman</p> | <p>Swan</p> <p>Kylee<br/>Patrick<br/>Siyam</p>         | <p>Trout</p> <p>Hayley<br/>Maliha<br/>Kamilie</p> | <p>Well done to the pupils that collected the most excellence tokens for this half term. As a reward they had a movie with popcorn.</p> <p>Tokens are awarded for those students that have continuously demonstrated excellent behaviour.</p> <p>The token boxes have been emptied ready for next term. Will you be next terms winner?</p> |
| <p>Carp</p> <p>Taiwo<br/>Aamir<br/>Zainab</p>   | <p>Dragonfly</p> <p>Janaya<br/>McKinley<br/>Olivia</p> | <p>Valley</p> <p>Aman<br/>Ayat<br/>Zara</p>       |  |
| <p>Eel</p> <p>Hamza<br/>Alesha<br/>Tvisha</p>   | <p>Heron</p> <p>Gratas<br/>David<br/>Neriah</p>        | <p>Seal</p> <p>loveleen<br/>Lexi<br/>Teddy</p>    |  |

## Is your child due to start school in September 2022?

If your child was born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018, they can start school in September 2022, and you should apply for their place by Saturday 15 January 2022.

If you missed the memo, don't panic, there is still time and you can apply by visiting [www.lbbd.gov.uk/school-admissions](http://www.lbbd.gov.uk/school-admissions)

It's important to know that getting your child a place at school is not an automatic process, so you still have to apply, even if they are already at a school nursery or they have a brother or sister at that school.

If you need to apply, head to the [school admissions page](#) now. You can also check out this [Primary School Admissions Tips](#) - YouTube to help you through the process.

## Nativity



On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> EYFS and KS1 performed the Christmas Nativity for their parents. Over the past 4 weeks we have worked really hard to learn the 7 songs and our actors have worked extremely hard to remember their lines.

The hard work of our children paid off, as all 3 shows were successful with a great turn out from our parents.

We would like to say thank you to all the parents for practising the songs and lines with the children and for coming to watch the show.

We would also like to thank you for your continued support for our children.

We hope you enjoyed it as much as we have!

## Football

This month Riverside have seen our first ever boys and girls football teams play competitively. It didn't end as well as we would have hoped as the girls and boys lost both of their games.

However, we are not giving up!

In the new year we have more games coming up and the start of the football club. This will hopefully help to produce better results.

## R.E- Christmas around the world.

We have certainly been getting into the festive spirit at Riverside, with the Nativity and Christmas Concert, Christmas Jumper Day and the Christmas lunch, and as the holidays approach, it has become a topic of conversation amongst some of our children, in particular during their RE lessons.

This term, Year 1 have been learning about the meaning of Christmas and why it is celebrated the way that it is, they have been learning about advent and retelling the story of Christmas, and Year 5 have been exploring the ways in which Christmas is celebrated all around the world.

Did you know?

In Iceland on Christmas eve they gift each other books and chocolate and spend the evening reading.

## Twitter

At Riverside Primary School we utilise Twitter to share and celebrate your child's learning.

With this mind, remember to follow us on Twitter.

We look forward to you joining daily reading and weekly celebration assemblies.

<https://twitter.com/RVSPPrimary>.



Wow!

What an evening Key stage 2 had at the disco last night.

There were smiles all around.

Even the staff joined in with the dancing!

Thank you to all of the children who were very excited and very well behaved.

A huge thank you to our DJ Mr Hossack!



# Returning to school and COVID-19

## January 2022

Last year as we prepared for Christmas 2020 we had no idea that we would move to remote learning in January 2021. The government has said that it is committed to ensuring that schools in England stay open in January 2022. However, this year we are better prepared should remote learning happen again. Each child already has their MS Teams log in and teachers are resourced and prepared to deliver remote teaching lessons from home so that teaching can begin on January 5th 2022.

Please follow our Twitter page and check email communications regarding any changes to the start of school in 2022.

## Returning to school.

Matthew Cole from Public Health is advising all children from years 1 to 6 to take a PCR test before returning to school after Christmas as this will help to reduce the risk of people without symptoms spreading the virus to others in the school and in their community.

Tests can be booked through the governments website: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Keep an eye on our twitter page for pop up testing centres over the holiday period.

## Masks:

The latest advice from Public Health is, although not statutory as of yet, parents should be encouraged to wear masks on the school premises which includes the playground. Taking this into consideration we are asking all parents to wear masks next term unless exempt.

## Farewell!

Miss Nanyka in Year 1 will not be returning to school with us in January 2022. Instead she will be starting a new adventure.

We wish her all the best.

Trout class will be taught by Mrs Swann. Mrs Swann has already met the class and is looking forward to starting with the Riverside Team in January. I am sure you will join me in welcoming her to our school.

## Maths

Looking forward into the new year, if you are interested in supporting your child in their maths learning or are curious as to what they are learning, then please do visit <https://whiterosemaths.com/resources?year=year-1> and select your child's year group.

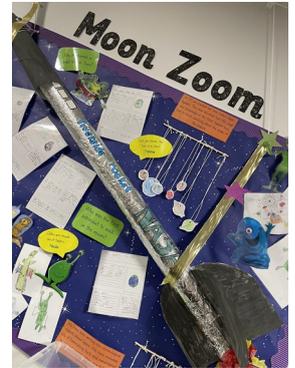
This will then show you a yearly overview and what we are teaching in school.

Here's a little summary of all the exciting learning we have been up to this half term at Riverside.



Reception have explored the differences in the world at night compared to during the day in their exciting topic 'Starry Night'.

Year 1 have been investigating planets, rockets and aliens in their topic 'Moon Zoom'.



Year 2 have been learning about historically significant people such as Rosa Parks and Greta Thunberg in their topic 'Movers and Shakers'.

Year 3 have had a 'Scrumdiddlyumptious!' time tucking into and enjoying a yummy journey of discovering fantastic fruits and tantalising treats!



Year 4 have been strong, brave and powerful whilst battling their topic 'I am Warrior!' and learning all about the Romans versus Celts.

Year 5 have been 'Stargazers' as they made their journey through space, navigating beyond the Sun and the Solar System.



Finally, Year 6 have said goodbye to their topic 'Hola Mexico'. They have had so much fun exploring this unique country, from its towering temples to its pulsing rhythms and fun festivals.