



Friday 26th May 2023

Dear parent/carer,

**SUBJECT: Headteacher’s Letter - May 2023**

GCSE exam season is now in full swing and I feel immensely proud of our Year 11 pupils who are showing an amazing level of dedication and resilience; they will undoubtedly reap the rewards they deserve.

It has been a great year for our school community as we begin to get used to ‘normal life’ again after Covid. We are acutely aware of the support that some pupils need and the staff have worked tirelessly with them and you to endeavour to help cement progress and positivity.

I'm excited about the opportunities on offer to our pupils. As I write this Y10s are finding out what life is like out there with the Work Experience week. New opportunities can seem daunting but with the support of parents and staff, I have no doubt that our pupils' futures are bright. Thank you for your continued support, enjoy the sunshine and watch out for more exciting opportunities next half term.



**Future events / Save the date**

15 May - 28 June	GCSE Exams ( <a href="#">Timetable</a> )
29 May - 2 June	Half-Term Holiday
Monday 5 June	Start of Summer Term 2 (pupils return)
19 June - 3 July	Y10 Exams
Wednesday 21 June	<a href="#">Y10 QE Sixth Form Taster Day</a>
Thursday 22 June	Y7/8 Wellbeing Festival
24 - 25 June	<a href="#">DofE Bronze Expedition</a>
26 - 30 June	Risedale Pride Week
Thursday 29 June	Y7 Consultation Evening
Thursday 29 June	<a href="#">Y10 Darlington College Taster Day</a>
Friday 30 June	Non-Uniform Day £1 (Come as yourself day)
Wednesday 5 July	<a href="#">Sports Day (Y7-10)</a>
Friday 7 July	Y11 Prom (Blackwell Grange Hotel, Darlington)
Wednesday 12 July	House Rewards Day
Friday 14 July	Charity Day
Friday 21 July	Last day of term for pupils
Thursday 24 August	GCSE Results Day
Wednesday 6 September	Start of Autumn Term 1 (pupils return)



**The dates above are correct at the time of publication but may sometimes have to change. Please visit our school website to keep up to date with information on important [Calendar and Term Dates](#) and [Exam Information](#).**



## GCSE Exam Reminders

Year 11 pupils have now completed their first two weeks of examinations, thank you for your support in helping these run as smoothly and calmly as possible. Please do get in touch should you have any queries or concerns so we can address these promptly and ensure all of our pupils are given the best chance of success possible.

### Please take note of the following important information:

- We are running a FREE breakfast club at school from 8 am, and all Year 11s are invited each day.
- Lessons and focused revision sessions are running throughout the exam season and so we would expect and ask you to encourage your child to attend all lessons where possible to maximise their learning time and support from teachers.
- An email was sent on 23rd May to all parents/carers of Y11 pupils with a summary of exam expectations. Please ensure you review this and do get in touch should you have any queries about this. These expectations are set by the exam boards (not by us) and all pupils must follow these expectations to ensure the integrity of the exam process.
- Exams cannot be moved, they are set by the examining bodies. Pupils need to attend all exams where possible. Should there be any issues or illness, please do get in touch as a matter of urgency so we can support and guide you appropriately.

Thank you once again for your support. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the GCSE Exams, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Tonkin, Examinations Officer, at [tonkin.j@risedale.org.uk](mailto:tonkin.j@risedale.org.uk) or Mr Yates, Deputy Headteacher, at [yates.j@risedale.org.uk](mailto:yates.j@risedale.org.uk).

## Other Information for Y11 Pupils

**Prom:** The end-of-year Prom will be held on Friday 7th July 2023 at [The Blackwell Grange Hotel in Darlington](#). Photos will start at 6:30pm and the event will begin at 7:00pm, ending at 11:00pm. If you have only paid the ticket deposit so far, please ensure the remaining £10 is paid in full by Friday, June 23rd via [ParentPay](#).



**Leavers' Hoodies:** Pupils are allowed to wear their Leavers' Hoodies instead of their blazers after the half-term holiday. However, please remember hoodies must be removed during exams. The hoodies will be given out on Friday 26th May, at the end of the school day.

Please contact Ms Andrea Benson, Pupil Support Manager for KS4, at [benson.a@risedale.org.uk](mailto:benson.a@risedale.org.uk) for any further information regarding the Prom or Leavers' Hoodies.

**Donations of Uniform:** If you have any unwanted blazers, ties or PE kit, including trainers and football boots, we would be grateful for your donation. This request also extends to parents of pupils in Y7-10 if your child has grown out of their kit - please donate it to Risedale.





## Year 11 GCSE Exam Revision Sessions

Our fantastic staff are offering lots of opportunities for extra study/revision sessions for our Year 11 pupils before their final exams **including extra revision sessions during the May half-term holiday!** Please encourage your child to attend.

At the start of their GCSE courses, all pupils received revision guides and packs that include helpful resources for their studies. Our dedicated [Revision](#) webpage also provides links to many useful revision websites.

If you have any questions regarding the GCSE [exams](#) please contact the school - we are always happy to help.

Year 11 May Half Term Holiday Revision Sessions	
Monday 29th May	Spring Bank Holiday (SCHOOL CLOSED)
Tuesday 30th May	Science (Triple) with Mrs Hailwood 10am until 1pm Science (Combined) with Mr Allen 10am until 1pm
Wednesday 31st May	History with Mr Houlgate and Mr Hill 10am until 1pm
Thursday 1st June	Maths (Foundation) with Mr Carter 10am until 1pm Maths (Higher) with Mr Yates 10am until 1pm
Friday 2nd June	Geography with Mr Sherwood and Mr Ford 10am until 1pm



YEAR 11 REVISION SESSIONS			
TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LUNCH TIME			
Quiet revision room (Ms Blatch) English (Ms Knight)	Quiet revision room (Ms Blatch) English (Miss Roberts) Geography (Mr Ford) History (Mr Hill) Religious Studies (Mrs Laheney)	Quiet revision room (Ms Blatch) German (Mr Gückel) History (Mr Houlgate) Music (Mrs Cox)	Quiet revision room (Ms Blatch) History (Mr Houlgate)
AFTER SCHOOL			
English (Mrs Matthewman) Maths (Mr Gunnell) All Year 11 pupils welcome* Maths (Mr Yates) Religious Studies (Mrs Laheney) Science (Mr Allen) Science (Mr Higham) Science (Dr Shephard)	D&T (Mr Kirkbride) Maths (Mr Carter) Geography (Mr Ford / Mr Sherwood) Religious Studies (Mrs Laheney)	Engineering (Mr Kirkbride) English (Mr Watkinson) English (Mrs Matthewman) English (Miss Roberts) French (Mr Miller) German (Mr Gückel) Science (Ms Blatch) Triple Science (Mrs Hailwood)	



**RISEDALE**  
A family of learners

**RISEDALE SCHOOL**

Headteacher: Colin D Scott BEd NPQH  
Hipswell, Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire. DL9 4BD  
Tel: 01748 833501 | Email: enquiries@risedale.org.uk  
www.risedale.org.uk | @RisedaleSchool @RisedaleFamily

**Purchasing School Uniform**

Our school uniform provider, Schoolshop, will be visiting Risedale on Thursday 22nd June from 3.30pm if you would like to try on any uniform for sizing purposes. All uniform must then be purchased online at [Schoolshop](#).

**IMPORTANT: To guarantee delivery for September 2023, please order all school uniform online before 29th July.**

**SCHOOLSHOP**



Please visit our website for all the information and guidance you need on the Risedale School [Uniform](#) and then make your purchases from [Schoolshop](#).

**Year 9 Options**

Parents/carers of Y9 pupils,  
Thank you for all submitting the option replies so promptly, and for your patience whilst we work through all the information received. We are currently finalising the details for next year's timetable and we will be in touch the week commencing Monday 19th June to confirm every child's option choice. Should there be any issues with any of the option choices, we will have been in touch directly prior to this point.

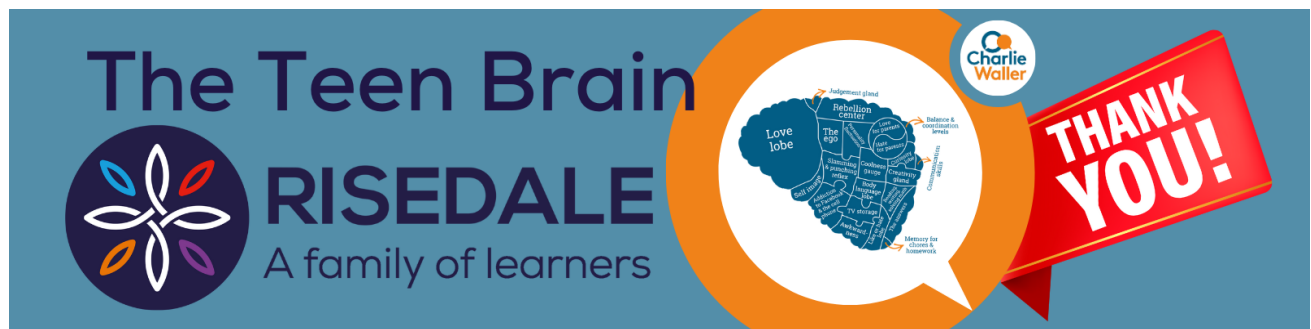


Please get in touch with Deputy Headteacher, Mr Yates at [yates.j@risedale.org.uk](mailto:yates.j@risedale.org.uk) should you have any queries.

**'The Teen Brain' Event Follow-Up**

Thank you to everyone who attended the 'The Teen Brain' parent workshop on 4th May. It was lovely to welcome some of our parents/carers into school and meet with you. Gemma Fieldsend from the Charlie Waller Trust delivered the training organised by our School Counsellor, Lisa Smith. The informative session gave an understanding of the Teen Brain and ideas/strategies to support our young people.

You can find helpful information and resources for supporting mental health and wellbeing on our school website's [Health and Wellbeing](#) webpage. It also includes a link to the [Charlie Waller Trust](#), which offers many free webinars and resources. Check it out!








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 **Join our Sunflower Competition!** 

Grow the tallest sunflower, snap a photo with the final measurement, and email it to Mr Higham by Friday 8th July. Prizes for the top 3! All pupils and staff are welcome to take part and we hope this will encourage everyone to get outside and GET GROWING! 



**SUNFLOWER COMPETITION**

Plant a sunflower, and see how tall it can grow!

All you need to do is take a photo with the final measurement of your sunflower and email it to Mr Higham by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July.

The 3 tallest sunflowers will all win prizes!

ATTENBOROUGH PANKHURST SEACOLE TURING

**Scrapbooking Competition**

To enter, collect a Reading Force reading journal from Miss Sellers in the Library and get SCRAPBOOKING! Submit your completed scrapbooks by Friday 7th July to win prizes and Epraise points.



**READING FORCE Scrapbooking Competition**

**Deadline: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July**  
**Submit to: Miss Sellers**

Creative reading journals/scrapbooks have been gifted to us by the charity 'Reading Force' who are passionate about using books to bring forces children and families together. The scrapbooking competition is open to everyone in the Risedale Family; military and non-military, child and parent, pupil and staff.

- ★ Use your reading journal to write or draw about a book/or books you are reading.
- ★ Stick pictures in, express your thoughts, be creative and say how the book(s) and characters make you feel.
- ★ Be creative, whimsical, bold, interesting and unique - it's about you.
- ★ To enter, collect a scrapbook from Miss Sellers and get SCRAPBOOKING!

**ep Win prizes and Epraise points**

Reading Force is passionate about using books to bring Forces children and families closer together. Their shared reading initiative encourages families to read, talk, and scrapbook about a book, improving communication and enriching relationships with books and each other – one page at a time.

"I see Reading Force as promoting resilience through good communication within the family. Resilience is not something that is innate, it has to be learned, and we see first-hand that sharing and chatting about books helps develop that inner strength."  
Alison Boverstock, founder of the charity Reading Force





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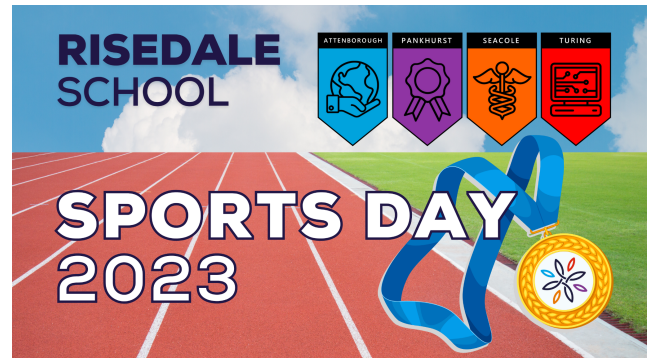
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**Sports Day 2023**

Join us for Risedale School's Sports Day on **Wednesday 5th July at Catterick Athletics Stadium**, Leyburn Road, next to Catterick Garrison Golf Club. (Reserve Date: Thurs 6th July).

The event runs from 8:25am to 3pm, and we welcome family spectators. We hope to see you there! For more information, please check out the **LETTER**: <https://bit.ly/RisedaleSportsDay2023>.



**Civic Awareness Competition**

All pupils are invited to enter the Richmond and District Civic Society 'Civic Awareness Competition' by sending an image of the town or village where you live that tells you something about its history and/or buildings. It can be an old or a more modern building/ a street view/ a farm or military building, or an object ... just about anything that makes you pleased to live where you do! Write a short description of the image (no more than 50 words). For example...Where is it? What is it? What does it tell you about the place where you live? Why have you chosen it? What is the story behind the image?

The best images in each category will have the chance to win £50.

The closing date for submissions is Friday 2nd June.

Download an entry form **HERE**: <https://richmondcivicsociety.org/about-3>

Wishing you and your family a pleasant half-term holiday.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr Colin D Scott**  
Headteacher

**RICHMOND AND DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY**

## Civic Awareness Competition

- DO YOU LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE?
- A CHANCE TO WIN £50!
- RICHMOND AND DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY WANT STUDENTS OF ALL AGES TO TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT WHERE THEY LIVE

So, we are running a Civic Awareness Competition. There will be 3 entry groups...

**1** Key Stage 1 and 2 Under 11yrs **2** Key Stage 3 11-14yrs **3** Key Stage 4 and 5 14-18 yrs

Find an image of the town or village where you live that tells you something about its history and/or buildings. It can be an old or a more modern building/ a street view/ a farm or military building, or an object ... just about anything that makes you pleased to live where you do!

**Look UP and DOWN!**

Above is an example of the kind of image that you might send... but, it can be of anything where you live, however BIG or small.

- **Take a still photograph of it.** Using a mobile phone is fine or even a digital camera. If this is difficult, see if you can borrow a phone to take the image.
- **Write a short description of the image** (no more than 50 words). For example...Where is it? What is it? What does it tell you about the place where you live? Why have you chosen it. What is the story behind the image?

• **Send your image and description by email** to richmondcivicsociety@gmail.com

**Choose the highest resolution that you can send it...** ask somebody for help if you are not sure.

Whether you send in your image by email from a mobile phone, or digital camera, **write your name; your age group (KS 1 and 2; KS3; KS 4 and 5); and contact information – telephone/email/address/school.**

**The closing date for submitting your image is Friday 2nd June 2023.**

*All entries will be judged and WINNERS in each group will be informed before the end of the Summer Term. The winner of each group will receive a cash prize of £50. We will want to post some of your images onto our website and put the winner(s) into the local newspapers and into the Civic Society Review. To do this, we will be asking for your permission.*

