



RISEDALE

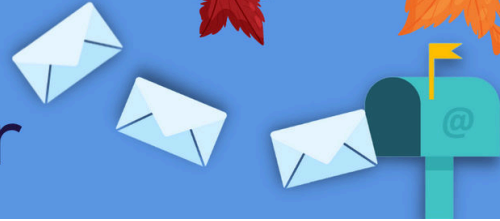
A family of learners

Keep In Touch

KIT Newsletter

November 2022





Dear parents/carers and pupils,



Thank you for being part of our family! This newsletter, the first of the academic year, is to share with you all of the positives that have happened in school since the start of the year.

This is a place to celebrate all that is good about the work the pupils and staff are doing. Throughout this publication I hope you will be able to see, and share with us, the excellent and happy times that do make our school very unique.

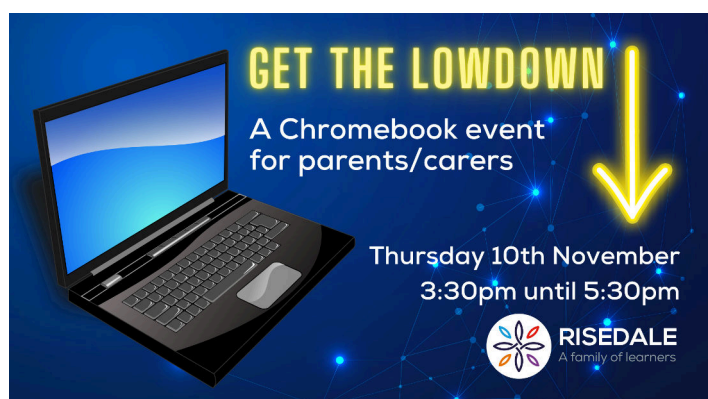
Our job is not just to help the pupils achieve their best academically, but also to grow them into strong young people able to hit the outside world with all of the challenges it can present. I hope that we do, indeed, do that. As ever your help is greatly appreciated in our endeavours to achieve excellence and turn the young people of the Catterick community into decent, independent and resilient human beings.

Kindest regards,

Mr C D Scott - Headteacher

'Get the Lowdown' - A Chromebook event for parents/carers

All Risedale School parents/carers are invited to attend our Chromebook event, '**Get the Lowdown**', taking place in the main school hall on Thursday 10th November 2022. The event will run as an open session where parents can drop in anytime between 3:30pm and 5:30pm and find out more about the Chromebook that your child uses every day here at school.



Senior Teacher, Mr Kirkbride, and Digital Officer, Mr Kay, will be available to answer any questions you may have and show you how you can best support your child's learning at home and stay safe online whilst doing so.

Everyone is welcome; we look forward to seeing you there!

For more information please contact Senior Teacher, Mr Kirkbride at kirkbride.m@risedale.org.uk

Meet the Senior Pupil Ambassador Team

Our Senior Pupil Ambassadors have hit the ground running, helping out in all sorts of ways since September. They are an absolute credit to the school and the Risedale Family. A fantastic start everyone!!!



Positive changes for Risedale working towards Eco-Schools Award

The Risedale Family is keen to do its part in creating a positive impact on our planet and school environment. We have been discussing ways of doing this with our Pupil Ambassadors and are committed to trying to make a difference by working towards an [Eco-Schools Accreditation](#).



In aiming to achieve this Risedale will be making significant changes within our catering facilities to reduce our use of plastic.

- The canteen will no longer sell drinks in plastic bottles. We will move towards canned drinks or tetra (cardboard) packaging only
- Our sandwich packaging will be made from plant-based compostable products
- Recycling bins will be installed in the dining area



We would also like to encourage all pupils to always carry a refillable water bottle with them. Numerous water dispensers are situated around the school site enabling pupils to refill their bottles during the day. We ask all parents to support the school by encouraging their children to bring a refillable bottle to school every day.

In order to further reduce the spread of litter around our school site we will soon be limiting where pupils can eat food to the dining room and quad areas only.

Faculty News

Communications Faculty:

Miss Douglas has joined the English Department. She is a complete ray of sunshine in Room 30 - welcome Miss Douglas to the Risedale Family!

Ms Knight has joined the Languages department! She currently teaches English and Media Studies but has also taken on some KS3 MFL. Bienvenue!

Paris 2023. We are taking 40 of the current Year 9 and 10 pupils to Paris next September. We'll be exploring the sights of the city, including visiting the Louvre museum, having a cruise on the Seine river, a private tour of the Stade de France and then having a full day at Disneyland Paris. The trip aims to provide KS4 GCSE pupils with an amazing insight into French culture while practising their speaking skills for their upcoming GCSE exams.

Maths Faculty:

The Maths department would like to welcome Mr Lenahan to the department, who will be covering for Miss Foreman while she is away on maternity leave.

On a related note, Mr Carter is continuing to run the Chess Club, but it will be taking place on Wednesday lunch times. We are currently playing casual games, but there are plans to develop this into a league later on in the year.

Chess Club

- Could you be Risedale's next Chess Grandmaster?
- Learn the basic rules of the game with Mr Carter.
- Come for a friendly game or sign up for the 'Chess League' and 'Knock-out' Cup Competition.
- Try 'Blitz Chess' - 5 minutes on the clock - you had better move fast!

All year groups welcome.
Every Wednesday lunchtime. Mr Carter, Room 17.

Science Faculty:

The Science Faculty has three fantastic new team members, Mr Allen, Mr Higham and Dr Shephard. The labs are buzzing with energy and enthusiasm.

Humanities Faculty:

The start of the new school year saw us appoint a new Head of History - Mr Houlgate. Mr Houlgate comes to us with a wealth of experience from over 25 years of teaching GCSE History. GCSE pupils have recently presented an assembly tracing the development of Black History Month since its inception and highlighting their own historical figures of significance. Year 11 pupils are due to receive their revision guidance packs this week in preparation for their forthcoming internal examinations at the end of November. They contain revision guidance, revision books and super summaries that can be used to make sure pupils are well-prepared for their examinations. Pupils from Year 11 are also being encouraged to attend a revision session either Thursday after-school or Friday lunchtime, which will help them get ahead with their knowledge building. Year 11 Geographers are also being encouraged to attend after-school revision on a Wednesday in the run-up to their GCSEs.

The introduction of a certificated course for core KS4 Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE) has proven popular as well as successful - certificates have been claimed for the 2022 leavers and these will be issued during November. The content provided is relevant to our pupils in a 'real-life' context as they learn about topics such as local crime rates, causes of crime, the value of peace in society and the impact of conflict.

Creative Faculty:

The Creative Faculty has welcomed two new fantastic members to the team; Mr Lawson and Mr Pugh. The activities timetable is jam packed with lots of new clubs to get involved in. **For the full list of all the activities and clubs we have on offer at Risedale School please visit our school website [Activities](#) page.** A full timetable of PE/Sporting extra-curricular activities follows the day-by-day list.

Technology Faculty:

As the school is growing we have now introduced a new Faculty. Headed by Mr Kirkbride, the Technology Faculty encompasses Art and Design, Computer Science, Design and Technology, Engineering, Food Preparation and Nutrition and Health and Social Care.

Mr Kirkbride is incredibly proud to have such a great team working in the faculty. With the strength and depth of expertise across so many subjects that we have in the Faculty, we are looking forward to giving pupils a broad and diverse curriculum allowing them to develop new skills and helping them to move on to life after Risedale.

Risedale Centre / SEND Team:

This academic year we have opened The Risedale Centre.

We have welcomed Miss Hardstaff as our SEN & Pupil Support Administrator. Miss Hardstaff has 5 years of experience working with SEN children in a classroom setting and brings this knowledge and



experience with her. She is a qualified Level 3 Teaching Assistant which we believe will be beneficial across the school. Any SEN or Pupil Support enquiries will be handled by Miss Hardstaff.

Mrs Davies has also joined the team as our SEN Specialist Teacher. Mrs Davies trained in primary education and completed her teaching specialism in SEND. Her 10 years of teaching have given her experience across the range of SEN needs and more specifically in working with children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH). Mrs Davies has her own classroom within the Risedale Centre ready to welcome nurture groups and smaller teaching classes.

Presentation Evening - A celebration of the 2021-2022 academic year 🏆

Parents and members of the community joined pupils and staff of Risedale School in celebrating a year of fantastic achievements at the school's annual presentation evening.

The school hall was transformed with balloons and floral arrangements in the school colours adding to the celebratory atmosphere of the event with parents remarking on the 'unrecognisable' transformation of the hall.



Awards were presented by Mr Yates, Deputy Headteacher, and Lead Senior Pupil Ambassador, Ava Gleave-Jackson. Entertainment included outstanding musical performances from Grace Baker and Georgie Robertson accompanied by Mr Higham on piano.

The awards recognised both the academic achievements and the impressive contributions to the community that have been made by Risedale School pupils throughout the year.

Current pupils and Risedale School alumni received awards for outstanding performances in core subjects such as English and Maths as well as vocational subjects, demonstrating the impressive range of subjects that shape the curriculum at Risedale.



OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT KS3



OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT KS4

**Our top prize winners for Outstanding Academic Achievement;
Katie Galloway KS3 and Benjamin Fulton KS4.**

Pupil intake has increased at Risedale, allowing the curriculum to be expanded which in turn has offered young people at the school a broader range of subject paths.

Mr Scott said: ***“I started at the school in 2016. In my first year we had 412 children, we have now got exactly 600, so in the space of 5 years, we have grown by 50%.”***

“I like to think that is because the community is really starting to believe in what Risedale has got to offer.”

“The kids are great, the staff are great, and I have been able to put a lot more on the timetable as a result.”



The support of the community and parents of Risedale pupils was in full view with rapturous applause as recipients made their way to the stage to be presented with their awards.

Amongst the proud recipients was Matilda Melody, previously the school's Lead Senior Pupil Ambassador. Matilda presented last year's awards alongside fellow award winner Kingsley Green.

Matilda returned to attend the awards at Risedale after recently starting college at Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College in Darlington and said: ***“I am so happy to be back, I have such good memories of this school; I just love it!”***

During the ceremony, Matilda was able to meet with the new Lead Senior Pupil Ambassador, Ava, who has since confidently picked up the mantle of the role and said: ***“The new Lead Senior Pupil Ambassador [Ava] came over and said I need your advice on something and it just makes me so proud and it's so sweet to know that they want that advice.”***

Like many of the recipients on the evening, Matilda was a multi-award winner receiving three awards at the presentation including the Soroptimist Cup awarded for her contribution to the school community.

Margaret Clayson and Barbara Hunt of the Soroptimist Society were in attendance to see the award presented and share the importance of recognising not just the academic performance of girls at Risedale School, but also the positive impact they have made.

Margaret said: ***“If there is a girl who has gone beyond the call of duty to do something for her school, her friends or her family, she is awarded this cup.”***

Alongside academic awards, pupils were also recognised for sporting achievements. Grace Hall-Twist, goalkeeper and captain of the Risedale School girls' football team shared how her passion for the sport led to her receiving the Key Stage 3 award for girls PE: ***“I like the practical side of PE; I am always athletic and I'm in the school's girls' football team”***

“I have played football all my life and went to see the [England women's team] finals at Wembley.”



EXCELLENCE IN KS3 GIRLS PE



Following the awards, Mr Yates, the host for the evening, reflected on the confidence of the pupils receiving awards and said: ***“Our whole curriculum is built on the 5 pillars that include resilience, confidence and being yourself.”***

“The importance of being yourself is one that is modelled by pupils and staff alike with Mr Scott being one of the first openly gay headteachers of a state secondary school. “

Mr Yates explained: ***“The staff themselves are not robots, they are themselves.” “Mr Scott himself, during the assembly where he came out to the audience, showed how you shouldn't be afraid to be yourself.”***

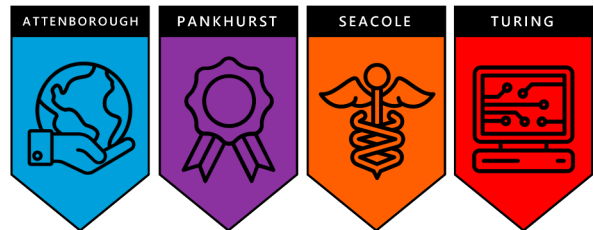
“Because pupils see this, it gives them the confidence to also be themselves.”

You can watch a video of our Presentation Evening by visiting [Risedale's YouTube Channel](#). You can read the article in full [HERE](#) and view a gallery of photographs from the night and view the full list of our award winners [HERE](#).

House System News from Mr Hindhaugh

At the end of the last half-term, each House celebrated the achievements of its pupils. Individual pupils were rewarded for having a 100% attendance record, a tutor-nominated award for going above and beyond expectations and for being one of the top 5 highest Epraise scorers.

Tutor groups were rewarded for having the highest tutor group attendance and the highest overall Epraise points total for the half term. All pupils with 100% attendance and a tutor nominated award received a certificate. 10 randomly selected pupils in these categories were also rewarded with a 'Golden Ticket' giving them special permission to skip to the front of the lunch queue; a sports hall takeover session; a positive phone call home and a Risedale pen. Congratulations everyone!



Well done to all the pupils that took part in the Risedale Big House Quiz, European Languages, Black History Month and 7-a-side football House competitions. It was great to see pupils and staff representing their Houses with pride! #TeamRisedale

For more information about the Risedale House system and Epraise rewards please visit our dedicated website page > > [House System](#)

Restart a Heart Day ❤️

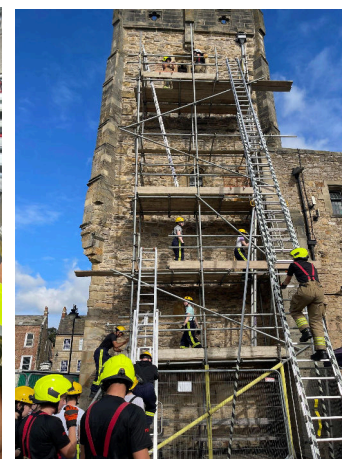
Congratulations to the 231 Year 7 and 8 pupils that took part in Restart a Heart Day on Friday 14th October. A huge thank you to Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust for teaching our pupils the crucial life-saving skills of CPR.

Did you know... that when someone goes into cardiac arrest their chances of survival drop by 10% a minute if CPR isn't started. **You can learn this life-saving skill too by checking out this fantastic video >> [Restart a Heart Day - CPR training](#)**



Fire Cadets take part in Charity Ladder Climb

Congratulations to the Richmond Firefighters and Risedale School Fire Cadets who raised £600 from their charity ladder climb on Saturday 24th September. The money will be shared between The Fire Fighters Charity, Yorkshire Air Ambulance and other local charities. Amazing work everyone!!!!



Risedale pupils take part in 'LIFE' Course

'LIFE' is a 5-day course, for young people aged 13 to 17 run by North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service. The scheme provides an intense work experience within a tightly structured and focused team environment giving young people the chance to work with real firefighters, following a set programme of activities. The course is specifically designed to put young people in challenging situations just like real firefighters have to deal with every day. The course aims to build confidence and self-esteem, improve communication and teamwork skills and encourage the pupils to make positive choices and take responsibility for their actions.

Temporary Youth Engagement Officer, Alyson Down, said: ***"We deliver 6 LIFE courses a year so places are limited. We work with our partners in Education and Youth Work to identify young people who would benefit from engaging in an activity that provides an opportunity to challenge themselves, build self-resilience and ultimately gain skills that are genuinely transferable into their personal lives, school lives and beyond."***

"Our instructors are Operational Firefighters who undertake additional work to deliver these schemes because they really enjoy teaching and mentoring young people and they have a real sense of pride when the pupils demonstrate the practical skills they have learned in the final Combined Drill in front of family and professionals."

"The young people also take away Water, Road and Home Safety messages with the latter demonstrated by them undertaking a Fire Safety assessment of their own home which improves safety for the whole family. Not all pupils pass the course and those that do, work really hard, and we see a difference in them by the end of the 5 days. We hope this continues after the course and invite them back for a catch-up 4 weeks later."

Congratulations to Keira-Leigh Chape Y9, Ronnie Hubbard Y8 and Ryan Kirkby Y9 who all passed the course!



Emma Hollinshead selected for prestigious Rugby development programme 🏉

Year 11 Risedale School pupil, Emma Hollinshead, has been selected for the Yorkshire Development Player Programme (DPP). Emma attended trials and a training day in the summer holidays and was successfully selected from over a hundred girls across the county.

Proud Mum, Laura, said: ***"This is a new programme created by England RFU as part of the women's performance pathway in Rugby Union."***

“Emma is extremely passionate about rugby and aspires to play professional Rugby in the future so this is an exciting opportunity that she has worked so hard to achieve and a step closer to making her dreams come true.”

As part of the Yorkshire DPP Emma will receive around 3-6 hours of training per month focusing on core skills and physical development.

Well done Emma from everyone at Risedale School. Keep up the great work!

Area Schools Swimming Gala 🏊

Congratulations to the following pupils who took part in the Area Schools Swimming Gala at Bedale pool on Monday 10th October. 9 local secondary schools entered and here are Risedale's results (L-R in photo):

- Thomas Leighton: Junior Boys 50m Backstroke 1st place
- Alfie Hollis: Intermediate Boys 50m Butterfly 8th place
- Harvey Guy: Intermediate Boys 50m Freestyle 3rd place
- Ben Leighton: Intermediate Boys 50m Breaststroke 6th place
- Léa Westen: Senior Girls 50m Breaststroke 1st place



Well done to all of you!

Miss Brierley - Head of PE #TeamRisedale 💙💜💛💖

Marathon Man Mr Yates



Huge congratulations to our Deputy Headteacher, James Yates, who successfully completed his 4th London Marathon on Sunday 2nd October.

Mr Yates ran the marathon supporting The British Forces Foundation; a charity that helps support the morale and mental well-being of armed forces personnel in operational theatres all around the world.

Mr Yates said: ***"The atmosphere was amazing, what an incredible day! I was delighted to run the marathon for such a worthwhile cause, and one of relevance to so many of our pupils, families and staff. Thank you all for your support."***

It's not too late to make a donation, simply follow the link to the British Forces Foundation here >> <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/James-Yates19>

Remembrance at Risedale School ❤️

In a moving and thought-provoking video filmed and produced by Chris Kaye of BFBS Catterick, Service Children from Risedale spoke about what Remembrance means to them as military kids, their experiences of military life and why it is so important that we remember.

You can watch the video via YouTube here >> [Risedale Remembrance Video](#).



This video was produced in collaboration with Cheryl Pocknell, Youth Voice Creative Engagement Officer at North Yorkshire County Council, Jess Greenhalgh, Service Children's Champion and Risedale School's Service pupils and staff.





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