



RISEDALE

A family of learners

Keep In Touch

KIT Newsletter

July 2023





Dear parents/carers and pupils,

As I finish my career after 24 years here at Risedale my heart is full. Full of pride at the wonderful staff, pupils and parents who make our community such a vibrant and exciting place to be. This newsletter shows how we are giving so many different opportunities to the young people in our care - and what a ball they are having!

Covid felt a little like the world had been switched to black and white whereas this newsletter shines with colour, creativity and inclusion.

It is so amazing to see textiles developing as part of the curriculum with our new expert Mrs Vizer. I think this issue really showcases how many opportunities our pupils are now having *beyond* the classroom. From STEM to the Duke of Edinburgh's award, so many pupils are enjoying trying something new. Our Enrichment Curriculum trips definitely fall into this category. Each of the faculties has taken charge of a year group and produced an amazing bespoke experience for our pupils. Special thanks go to Mrs Hailwood, Mr Carter, Miss Douglas, Miss Roberts, Mr Houlgate and Ms Westwood for their tireless organisation and positivity in their pursuit to create a fantastic set of challenges for pupils.

Particular mention must go to Ethan Tress for winning the 2023 Month of the Military Child Creative Writing Competition. His poem is so bold, sensitive and thought-provoking and reminds us perfectly what life is like for so many of our young people. A special mention too for Jayden Jane who moves on from Risedale this year having reached Year 11 - we are all so proud of what he has achieved - check out his story in this edition.

I feel sure that the next academic year will see much more of this and I wish everyone the very best in achieving their hopes and dreams.

Kindest regards, **Mrs S Matthewman - Deputy Headteacher**



Textiles Workshop Day at Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College



On Monday 12th June, pupils from Risedale attended an exciting day of experimental screenprinting and fashion design at Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College's Textiles Department.

During the day, they learned about the screenprinting process and how to layer multiple colours and patterns to create unique designs.

In the afternoon, the pupils were divided into three groups and challenged to drape their handprinted fabrics onto a mannequin and design a garment. They were encouraged to experiment with form, shape, and folding techniques to create unique silhouettes. The competition was intense, with everyone vying for the coveted mannequin challenge trophy.

Mrs Vizor, Teacher of Design and Technology at Risedale, was thrilled with the results, commenting, ***"The Textiles trip at QE was fantastic! The pupils represented Risedale so well and created some fantastic prints and garments. The pupils learnt some brilliant new skills that they will hopefully take forwards into GCSE DT. Everyone had a great day and I'm super proud. I'm already looking forward to our next trip and working in partnership with QE again!"***

We extend our gratitude to Assistant Head of Art, Teacher of Textiles, Rachel Barras, for organising the day.



Mrak Bakar (9 Dunphy)

"I thought today was enjoyable. I loved the experience. I also had a lot of fun designing a dress."

Paige Doak (9 Dunphy)

"I thought today was really good and everyone was really nice and I'm considering going to QE now."

Charlotte Edwards (9 Dunphy)

"I had fun designing and creating the dress/outfit."

Mollie Thirwell (9 Houlgate)

"I thoroughly enjoyed today and learnt a lot about textiles. I really loved unleashing my creativity. It was amazing. So much fun and definitely swayed me towards DT and Textiles."

On Facebook, Rachel Barras commented, *"Such a great day with these lovely students! You're all welcome back to QE anytime, especially in Textiles! I hope to see you applying for arts courses in the future 😊"*

On Facebook, [Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College](#) commented: *"Thank you so much for coming along and visiting our Art department. We're delighted that the students enjoyed themselves!"*



Back at Risedale, the Textiles Club pupils put their newfound inspiration into action, expertly crafting stunning fashion garment collages using their hand-screen-printed textiles. The results are truly remarkable and showcase their immense talent and craftsmanship. It's clear that they could all have a bright future ahead of them in the world of fashion and textile design.

The Swaledale Festival Music - WÖR were wonderful!

A big thank you to WÖR for visiting Risedale School and performing for our Year 7s as part of the community and education programme that the Swaledale Festival provides.

On their website, WÖR (pronounced 'were') describe themselves as, *"...a band of five musicians whose curiosity, passion and talent has led to a*

niche goldmine of melodies in stunning contemporary arrangements. With their finely textured arrangements, WÖR injects new energy into 18th-century melodies from the Flanders region of Belgium. Their music shines an inventive spotlight, with a modern twist, on the melodies in these manuscripts."



A new exhibition of ceramic artworks by Ms Westwood

We're so proud to announce that our very talented Head of Art, Ms Westwood, has a new solo show at The Burton Art Gallery in Bideford, Devon. The exhibition will run from 17th June - 19th September 2023 consisting of a re-imagined collection of historical artefacts.

The exhibition features a collection of carefully crafted vessels, vases, bowls and coins that make direct reference to the female experience, and in particular to the physical, social, professional and domestic injustices encountered on a daily basis. At first glance, none of these objects would look out of place in a traditional museum cabinet, and yet a closer look reveals a very different story. The stories they tell cast light on the real and often disconcerting position that women have in contemporary society.

Ms Westwood is a conceptual artist and ceramicist whose work was chosen to appear on Grayson Perry's critically acclaimed Art Club on Channel 4 in April 2022. Later that year her work was exhibited in a major [national exhibition](#) at MAC (Midlands Art Centre) alongside other artists, members of the general public, comedians and popular figures who featured in the third series Art Club.



Ethan receives prestigious award for creative military competition

Year 7 pupil Ethan Tress has won the 2023 Month of the Military Child Creative Competition. This competition was organised in partnership with Never Such Innocence and the Ministry of Defence as part of their Voices of Armed Forces Children Programme.

The competition was open to all triservice and civilian children between the ages of 6 and 18 in the UK and overseas posts. Participants were asked to submit a poem or a piece of artwork, and in total 15 works were selected as winners. The theme of the competition was "Friends Near and Far," and Ethan's poem was selected as one of the winning entries.

Ethan and his parents were invited to London on Tuesday 20th June to recite his winning poem to a distinguished group of guests at the Main Building of the Ministry of Defence. After the presentation, a reception was held where Ethan and his family had the opportunity to meet with the guests and receive congratulations for his excellent work.

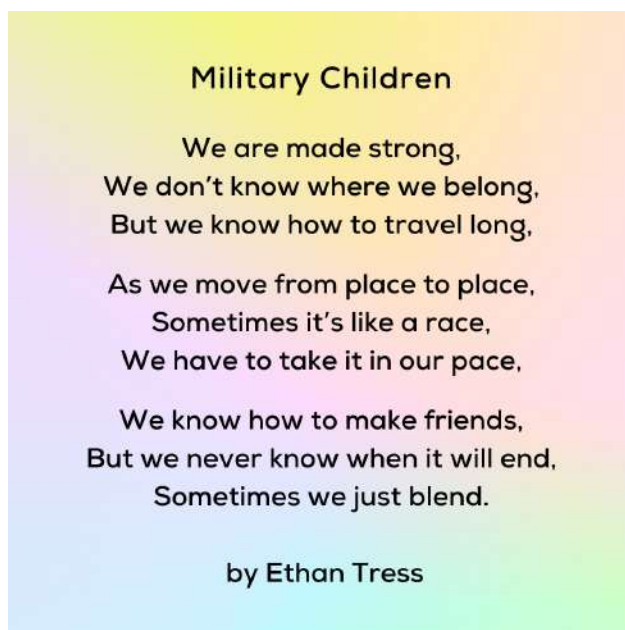
Ethan and the other winners were presented with a special goodie bag and a personalised certificate of participation. Ethan also received a Headteacher's Award from Mr Scott before the event.

When asked about the experience Ethan said, ***"I was very excited when I was told I was going to London. My dad works as a chef in the Armed forces, so I knew he would be proud of my poem. I know how hard life can be for a military child so I just wrote about what I have experienced over the years. Moving every few years and missing friends and family can be really tough but it does get easier."***

"I really enjoyed the trip, I have never been on a train before so it was fun. London was so busy with so many people in one place. It was nice meeting children who have written about how they feel, some were really good and I could relate to them all."

Ethan's proud Mum Claire said, ***"I want to thank Risedale School for entering Ethan's Poem into the competition. As a military child's Mum, I know how hard it is for them. Hearing the other children's poems and seeing their artwork brought tears to my eyes."***

Risedale English Teacher, Miss Douglas, congratulated Ethan by saying, ***"I am incredibly proud of Ethan. His poem was very moving and this is a well-deserved award for his hard work. Well Done, Ethan!"***



Jayden accepted to study Animal Care at Askham Bryan College



Year 11 pupil Jayden Jane has successfully completed an ASDAN Animal Care course. Having devoted the past two years towards this qualification, Jayden has been accepted to attend Askham Bryan College next year to continue his studies in Animal Care.

Jayden has created a stunning portfolio that has served as an outstanding component of his college application. He has displayed exceptional research skills and his proficiency in IT has proven to be invaluable.

According to Jayden, *"I have found that I excel in the research aspect and in creating presentations with Google Slides. I am confident in presenting to my*

friends and teachers, which I believe will greatly benefit me in the future."

PHOTO: Jayden with Teaching Assistant, Tracy Brown, at the Year 11 Leavers' Assembly on 20th June where he was presented with his ASDAN course certificate.

Aside from his comprehensive portfolio, Jayden has also raised awareness about the importance of animal care within the Risedale school community. He actively raised funds for the RSPCA and educated his classmates about the significance of the Purple Poppy, which is a symbol of remembrance for animals that served during wartime. These efforts have all contributed towards the successful completion of Jayden's ASDAN certificate.

Jayden has received personal support from Teaching Assistant, Tracy Brown, throughout his secondary school years. Tracy reflected, *"Jayden's dedication and interest in animal welfare have been exceptional. I am incredibly proud of him and everything he has achieved at Risedale School. I am excited to hear about his future endeavours and the adventures that await him at college."*

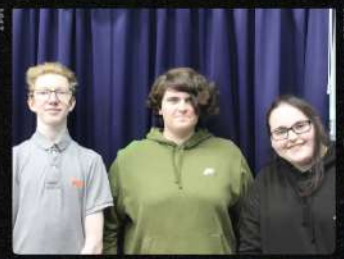
Risedale Careers Leader, Helen Porritt, commented, *"Jayden's hard work and dedication over the past two years in producing an impressive portfolio, with the guidance of Tracy, is nothing short of amazing. I wish him the best of luck as he begins his studies at Askham Bryan College this September. I have no doubt that he is destined to become an RSPCA Officer."*

On Twitter, the awarding body [ASDAN](#) commented, *"A big congratulations, Jayden! Fantastic to hear about your achievements in raising awareness and funds for the RSPCA. Thank you for sharing 🌟🌟"*

On Facebook, Jayden's Mum, Karen, commented, *"We as Jayden's parents are extremely proud of him and all of his achievements. We have to say a huge thank you to Tracy Brown as without her JJ would not be where he is today. We would also like to thank the staff that have supported JJ throughout his time at Risedale, you are all a credit to the school! Jayden is very excited to start his new adventure at Askham Bryan College and we are excited for what his future holds for him. Thank you again."*



CLASS OF
2023
 LEAVERS' ASSEMBLY



Dalby Forest Wellbeing Festival

A group of 40 pupils from Risedale School in Years 7, 8, and 9 went to Dalby Forest for the North Yorkshire Sport Wellbeing Festival on Thursday 22nd June.

The festival was enjoyed by over 400 pupils from across North Yorkshire taking part in activities such as archery, crafting, badminton, hula hooping and, to top it all off, taking part in a 2K forest course colour run.



The focus of the festival was promoting wellbeing and engaging pupils in activities they would not normally do to develop new skills and build confidence. The pupils were encouraged to try activities that were out of their comfort zones to build resilience and coping strategies.

Risedale School's Counsellor, Lisa Smith, was proud of her pupils saying, ***"Our pupils were fantastic! They all worked together as a team and encouraged each other throughout the day."***

The pupils also took part in mindfulness activities such as yoga and made badges and bracelets in the crafting tents. They rode recumbent bikes and took part in a Giant Jenga tournament – even beating the reigning Risedale Jenga Master, Mrs Vzor! They also had the chance to listen to the international public speaker and former GB Olympic Swimmer James Kirton.

Head of PE at Risedale Miss Brierley said, ***"The day was a huge success and our pupils did us proud! Thank you to all who took part, you were amazing!!!"***

Teacher of Design and Technology, Mrs Vzor, said, ***"Wow!!! What an amazing day with the most fantastic group of pupils!!"***

PUPIL FEEDBACK:

Beth Chape (7 Allen)

"I loved being able to throw up our own colours into the air, it was fantastic!"

Chloe-Paige Frew-McGill (9 Houlgate)

"I really enjoyed it. It was a good experience for everyone because there was no judgement - how can you when you're covered in colours!"

Ava Mendham (7 Blatch)

"Whether you like sport or not, a colour run is great fun!"

Mollie Thirlwell (9 Houlgate)

"A really brilliant experience - it's good for young people who just need a bit of a push in confidence!"

Scarlet Thornton (7 Allen)

"It was fun and colourful and I really enjoyed the archery."



Good Vibes



Colourful



Resilience



Confidence



Wellbeing



Friendship



Fun



Team Work



No Judgement



DofE Bronze Award Expedition

Congratulations to all the pupils who participated in the DofE Bronze Expedition on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th June. It was an amazing weekend and even though it was incredibly hot at times every pupil passed with flying colours.

DofE Leader and Senior Teacher, Mrs Hailwood said, ***"All the staff were in agreement that they had rarely seen such a strong display of teamwork, empathy, leadership and resilience in a group of pupils - and their map reading skills were pretty good too! We feel very proud of them all."***

Brilliant work everyone and of course a big thank you must go to the staff for giving up their weekend and making this possible.

Prior to setting off on the expedition, Finlay Addison's Dad, Chris Addison, took to social media to share his excitement. He posted a comment on Facebook and tagged renowned astronaut Tim Peake. Tim Peake responded to the post and sent his well wishes to everyone involved - isn't that fantastic!

"Morning Tim Peake, just wanting to give a shout-out to my son Finlay Addison and all his friends from Risedale School as today they walk the hills of North Yorkshire to complete their hike for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Bronze.

Good Luck!"



Tim Peake  · Follow

Good luck everyone    3

Love Reply 2 w



Pride Week at Risedale School 🏳️‍🌈

Risedale School looked absolutely beautiful for our Pride Week, 26th-30th June. We had various LGBTQ+ flags displayed around the school and flying from the main flag poles. Our 'Come as Yourself' non-uniform day raised £296, while our cake sale and movie afternoon cake sale raised £234.80.

Our nominated charity for Pride Week was [Humankind](#), an organisation committed to reducing deprivation and exclusion and improving people's wellbeing.



On Twitter, Humankind commented, *"Thanks to #TeamRisedale for their support! We hope staff and students enjoy the non-uniform day. 🏳️‍🌈💜"*

We were delighted to join forces with CrossFit Darlington, who recently organised their own Pride event and successfully raised £400 for Humankind through the sale of merchandise and brownies. CrossFit Darlington then decided to generously contribute the money they had raised to our school's total. This collaboration truly exemplifies the spirit of unity and support within our community.

Pride Month is traditionally celebrated in June around the world and is a vibrant and inclusive celebration that honours the LGBTQ+ community, their history, achievements, and ongoing struggle for equality. This annual event serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of acceptance, diversity, and love. It brings together individuals, organisations, and communities to advocate for LGBTQ+ rights and celebrate the progress made towards a more inclusive society.

Congratulations to the whole Risedale Family, in total we raised £930.80 for Humankind. Isn't that AMAZING! #TeamRisedale 💜💜💛💜

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WE RAISED
£930.80
FOR HUMANKIND
#PrideMonth 2023

humankind

Mental Health Ambassadors Update

Over the last few months, our Pupil Mental Health Ambassadors have gone from strength to strength. There are now 13 Ambassadors in the team. The group meets regularly and has some fantastic ideas to raise awareness of mental health in school.

They are in the process of developing an online Google platform for all Risedale pupils to access and have a voice in order to share ideas and promote positive mental health and wellbeing.

Mental Health Ambassadors, Issy and Janet, said, ***"It's great to be able to offer extra support for people who need it." " We're here to offer our support."***



PHOTO: School Counsellor, Lisa Smith, accompanied by some of the members of our Mental Health Ambassador Team.

The Ambassadors recently completed training delivered by the [Charlie Waller Trust](#) on peer listening and peer mentoring to be able to support their fellow pupils with low-level emotional worries. They hope to be able to promote this by designing posters for each classroom and pocket cards with useful websites and support numbers so pupils have broader access to mental health support outside of school. They also hope to contribute to an assembly in September to reach out to our new Year 7 pupils and to regularly provide updates in the school [KIT Newsletters](#) - so watch this space!

>> Please check out our dedicated [Health and Wellbeing](#) page on our school website where you'll find lots of useful information about support available in school, locally, nationally and online. <<



Forbidden Corner Enrichment Trip



On Friday 30th June a small group of enthusiastic pupils from Years 7-10 enjoyed a fantastic enrichment trip to the market town of Leyburn and the Forbidden Corner. Despite the rather grey day, we were fortunate to avoid any rain throughout the entire outing.

The group spent an hour in Leyburn completing an entertaining quiz at Leyburn Railway Station to gather information about the train times and services available to explore the beautiful Yorkshire Dales.

Our next destination was the stunning Forbidden Corner. This extraordinary place is filled with countless peculiar and captivating attractions that encouraged the group to interact and explore. Quite a few of us got soaked from the sneaky water jets but it was great fun! It was an exceptional opportunity to put our critical thinking abilities to the test while having an incredible time.

All the pupils conducted themselves in an exemplary manner and were fantastic ambassadors for the school. We would like to extend special recognition to two Y10 pupils, Manar Barazan and Leona Sahai, who went above and beyond in taking care of their fellow classmates and wholeheartedly embraced the spirit of fun.

Mrs Deighton and Mrs Carlisle - HLTAs



Teesside University STEM Challenge Day



On Tuesday 4th July, a group of ten pupils from Years 8 and 9 participated in a Science and Technology Challenge Day at Teesside University. The pupils engaged in three out of four activities designed to provide them with a practical understanding of how STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) is applied in real-life situations.

1. Police forensic insight: Pupils were able to see how observations help the police, and were given access to e-photofit software to allow them to produce photofit images.
2. Robot programming: Allowing a Lego car to work its way around a series of obstacles using its colour sensors and proximity sensors after being programmed.
3. Car design: Using mechanisms and motion to build the fastest vehicle along a short course.
4. Medical diagnosis: Being shown by medical students how to ask the right questions, and look at medical history to be able to diagnose a patient.

During the day, the pupils collaborated with students from another school to form small teams and compete for a chance to advance to a nationwide final.

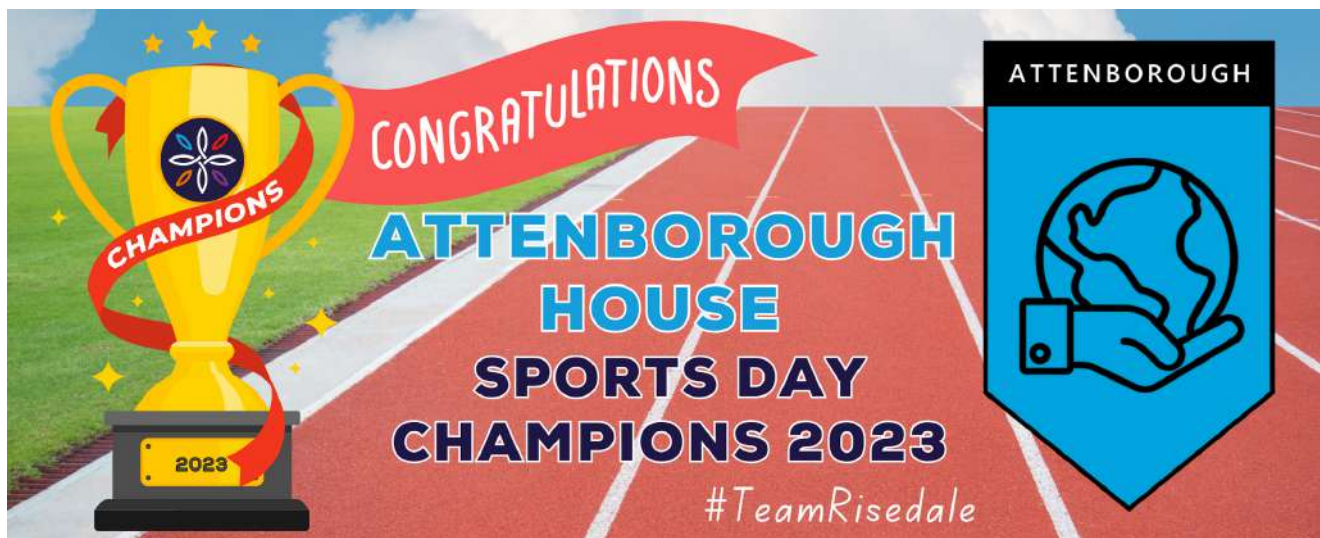
Senior Teacher and Head of STEM, Mr Kirkbride, expressed pride in the pupils' ability to work as a team and use their knowledge to successfully complete the activities. One specific team, led by Ollie Brend (8Shephard), won the robotics activity. Well done to them!



Sports Day 2023 #TeamRisedale 🌈❤️

Risedale pupils were out in force at the Catterick Athletics Stadium on Thursday 6th July. As well as the traditional track and field events, pupils could participate in a whole host of other exciting activities including an inflatable assault course, sumo wrestling, jousting, zorb football, cheerleading, gymnastics, a gun run, tyre drag and more! It was a fabulous occasion watched by lots of VIP parents and carers.

Congratulations to [ATTENBOROUGH HOUSE](#) on their first-ever Sports Day victory!



House System and Rewards Manager, Mr Hindhaugh said, *"It was a brilliant day and I was so proud of all the pupils. A fantastic effort everyone! Seeing so many pupils willing to 'give it a go' to earn points for their House was great, especially those who took part in the dreaded 800m!"*

The final Sports Day results were as follows:

1st Attenborough 🌈 with 1640 points

2nd Pankhurst 🌈 with 1305 points

3rd Turing 🌈 with 1288 points

4th Seacole 🌈 with 1173 points

Deputy Headteacher, Mr Yates expressed his gratitude by saying, *"Thank you all for your support in making our Sports Day such a lovely event, and in particular to the PE department and the team around them whose organisation was, as always, absolutely spot on. It was great to see so many happy, smiling pupils, engaged in such a wide range of activities."*

Head of PE, Miss Brierley wanted to say, *"Thank you to EVERYONE from the PE department, we couldn't do it without everyone pulling together. Every member of staff at Risedale has an input into the planning and running of a long day. Thank you to Catterick Athletics Stadium for hosting us, to all the parents/carers that came along and showed their support and to the Army who always help to make the day such a great event for our pupils. Huge congratulations to the competitors - you were all AMAZING!!!"*

A big thank you must also go to Tesco and [Julie, Community Champion Catterick](#) for the donation of water for our Sports Day.



CLASS OF 2023 PROM



THE
Blackwell Grange
HOTEL



House System News from Mr Hindhaugh



I am delighted to announce the results of this year's House System competition. After a closely fought race, it gives me great pleasure to declare Pankhurst the 2023 House Champions! The final standings were as follows:

- **1st Pankhurst** 🍷 with **21,734 points**
- **2nd Attenborough** 🍷 with **21,623 points**
- **3rd Turing** 🍷 with **20,004 points**
- **4th Seacole** 🍷 with **18,887 points**

Congratulations to Pankhurst for their outstanding achievement, and a special mention must also go to Attenborough for their remarkable effort on Sports Day. In the end, there were only 111 points between first and second place!



Pankhurst pupils enjoyed a thrilling Rewards Day to celebrate their success, featuring an inflatable assault course, wrecking ball and gladiator joust.

I would also like to highlight the recent Cinema Reward Trip, which recognised the exceptional efforts of pupils who went above and beyond this school year. It was a wonderful opportunity to reward their dedication and commitment.

Additionally, I am proud to announce that our pupils have demonstrated their compassion and empathy by donating their positive points to charity. With 1 point equalling 1 penny, a total of 2630 positive points were donated, amounting to £126.92 for our selected House charities.

On a personal note, I wanted to let you know that this is my last year at Risedale School. It has been an absolute privilege to serve as the House System and Rewards Manager and as a member of the fantastic Risedale PE department. I am grateful for the support and involvement of parents, staff and pupils throughout my time at Risedale.

Thank you for your continued support of the House System and our incredible pupils.

#TeamRisedale 🍷🍷🍷🍷





Thank
you!

A big thank you to the Pupil Librarian Team from Miss Sellers

I would like to express my gratitude to all the Pupil Librarians who have worked so hard this year. It is remarkable to see that our team has grown from only twenty pupils in previous years to the current number of 46! I understand that this can bring its own challenges at times, especially when everyone wants to undertake 'the fun tasks', but there is limited space, time, seating, and jobs available each week. Nonetheless, you have all shown remarkable resilience, contributing to a fun and lively environment in the library, where pupils can spend their leisure time.

I am proud to work with such exceptional young people every day. I appreciate your consistency in showing up every week, and your team spirit in working together. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone, but I would like to give special thanks to Leona Sahai (10 Pankhurst) and Manar Barazan (10 Higham), our Senior Librarians, for keeping the library organised and in order. Manar, for looking after our pupils and putting the books away, and Leona, for managing the library time, keeping order, and maintaining a detailed log of pupil misdemeanours throughout the year! Additionally, I thank Josh Macloed (9 Hill) and Ryan Davies (9 Watkinson) for their tidiness, even if it is not their duty, and to those who regularly find my keys and glasses.

Finally, I wish you all a fantastic summer and look forward to working with you again in September. Remember, Batman will be eagerly waiting for your return!

Miss Sellers - Risedale School Librarian

Catterick Camp Railway

Heritage & History Trail

Mark Hill MBE tells us all about the first adventure for our #RisedaleExplorers.

“What a fantastic day it was! The dedicated members of our Veterans Heritage & History Group provided valuable support to students of Risedale School, creating a thoroughly enjoyable, educational, and enlightening experience.



Our adventure commenced in the Lidl car park. It was there that we had the privilege of being joined by Col. John from The Station in Richmond, who astounded us with the original blueprints for the Catterick Camp Railway – an absolute marvel.

From there, we embarked on a walk towards where the Walkerville Crossing once stood, accompanied by Bill, whose extensive knowledge left us in awe. Following our newly created heritage map, we headed back towards Lidl, delving deeper into the history of the Lidl site, particularly the former Hotel Walkerville

that once stood there. Along the heritage trail, our knowledgeable Veterans provided insightful commentary as we made our way towards Colburn, we observed signs of the former railway line along the way. We eventually reached the location that was once home to 60 Squadron, a big thank you to Knile for enriching our understanding with his knowledge.



The old railway line led us to a crossroads known locally as the White Shops, where we met Paula, who told us about the history of the area.



Thank you to Paula for her vast knowledge, the students expressed their heartfelt appreciation to Paula for her extensive knowledge and learned about the surrounding area of the junction and the wider vicinity, which is steeped in rich heritage and history. We want to thank Paula for her knowledge; the kids learned about the surrounding region of the junction and the wider vicinity, which is rich in tradition and history.

Our heritage route map contained both current photos and images of what used to be there, making it an excellent visual aid for navigation and learning. We continued in an easterly direction toward Camp Centre.

We arrived at Piave Lines after being picked up by our community minibus and had lunch at The Centenary Hub. This structure is steeped in history, with portraits and pictures dating back decades, making it an appropriate setting to relax and enjoy our lunch.

Following lunch, we travelled to Shildon to meet with Senior Explainer, Anne Hopps, and her crew at the Locomotion Railway Museum. What a fantastic experience for everyone, Anne gave a brilliant presentation about the Catterick Camp Railway. After receiving briefings from her staff, we were given a guided tour of the museum, and after a little stroll, we came upon engineers laying a new line.

A fantastic day was had by all, thank you to everyone involved."

Mark Hill MBE | Veteran





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Careers Education Information Advice Guidance

A Careers News Round-Up from Mrs Porritt

It's hard to believe that another academic year has come to an end. Our pupils were fortunate to have been presented with numerous career-oriented opportunities, starting from the STEM Careers Fair held last November, all the way up to the college Taster Days at the end of June 2023.

At Risedale, all pupils have access to their own [Unifrog](#) account, which will continue to provide thousands of resources on career pathways available after secondary school.



New guidelines from the Department of Education were released in January 2023 regarding Technical Pathways and this information was sent to all parents/carers in February: [2022 - 2023 - Technical Training Student booklet - Your Options](#)

PHOTO: Senior Teacher, Mark Kirkbride and Careers Leader, Helen Porritt, at the STEM Careers Fair November 2023.

KS3 Careers Overview

During Tutor Time, KS3 pupils completed careers-related tasks for their personal development and had access to further careers information, advice and guidance during their dedicated lessons within the Social Studies programme. KS3 pupils were also able to visit the Careers STEM Fair giving them the opportunity to talk to employers and learn more about future careers in the world of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

In Year 9, pupils have completed the Options process and are ready to begin their next educational milestone at KS4. I would like to personally thank all the pupils who completed a Reception Duty this year. You were fantastic ambassadors for the school and made this programme a great success. Seeing you all gaining confidence, resilience and developing your employability skills has been truly amazing.

KS4 Careers Overview

For Year 10 pupils, the focus shifted to the World of Work at the start of the summer term. They participated in the Big Enterprise Day, explored Higher Education with a visit to York St. John University, attended an Apprenticeship workshop, and completed a week of Work Experience. Once again I'd like to offer my sincere thanks to all the businesses and

establishments, locally and nationally, that supported our Year 10 pupils with their Work Experience placements. At Risedale we see Work Experience as a crucial part of a young person's development. For many of them it's the first time they have experienced life beyond the school gates and had the opportunity to be independent and responsible young adults in society as well as honing their employability and transferable skills.

In June, Year 10 attended Taster Days at Darlington College and Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College, in preparation for them making informed choices about their college applications. This process will continue in Year 11.

Photos: Y10 pupils had a brilliant time on their Taster Day at Darlington College.

All Year 11 pupils received their final 1:1 careers interview during the Autumn term and went through the college application process. Pupils attended post-16 interviews throughout Year 11, before focusing on their GCSE examinations. I look forward to catching up with them again on Results Day to confirm their next destinations for September.

Congratulations to all of our pupils! It truly has been a wonderful year, and I am pleased that I had the opportunity to witness every one of you benefit from the Risedale Careers programme and grow as individuals.



Scrapbook Competition Winners

Congratulations to all the pupils who participated in the Reading Force scrapbooking competition. Miss Sellers, our Librarian, had a tough time selecting the winners as all the entries were so thoughtful and creative. Amazing work everyone!

1st Leona Sahai - 10Higham 

2nd Tiegan Bennett - 10Southworth-Gedye 

3rd Janet Bellew-Philips - 9Watkinson 



Army Work Experience

On Monday 10th July 2023, a group of Year 10 pupils travelled from Risedale to Otterburn Training Camp in Northumberland for a four-day work experience with the Armed Forces. The Outreach Team based at Marne Barracks in Catterick delivered the course.

As soon as the pupils stepped off the minibus they were immediately treated as if they were new recruits in the Army and were expected to follow all instructions with military precision and due diligence. They marched to their classroom and received their first briefing, informing them about course expectations and conduct guidelines followed by a delicious lunch in the cookhouse.



The pupils received classroom-based lessons including learning the six-section battle drills and practical lessons in the field where they could put their newfound knowledge into action. They learnt how to create shelters using ponchos and took part in section attacks in some pretty gruelling weather conditions. They cooked meals for themselves using traditional Army ration packs, wore combat uniforms, including helmets with scrim and applied camo cream to their faces. They also received medical training, which taught them vital battlefield and everyday life skills.

The pupils had to work in sections, where they were mixed with another school as a team to overcome and adapt to the different scenarios and obstacles they were presented with. As a result of their team-building experience, the pupils developed many life skills likely to benefit them in the future regardless of whether they choose to pursue a military or civilian career.

Isabelle Young (10 Brierley) was not initially sure about a career in the military but reflected by saying, "The course has been really good. It has taught me a lot about the medical side of the military. It was a great experience, everyone was very supportive and we all had a laugh too."

The pupils also had the opportunity to participate in a Q&A session with recruits who attend the Army Foundation College in Harrogate. The session provided a real insight into life after school for those heading for a career in the Army.

Katie Hill (10 Higham) had already shown an interest in the forces and said, "I think it was a really good experience. I liked how we were able to talk to the recruits from Harrogate because I was able to ask them



lots of questions and I am now a lot more confident about what I want to do."

Lewis Littler (10 Southworth-Gedye) said, "It was a really good course. I already knew I wanted to go to Harrogate, but being able to ask questions and find more information has made me want to do it even more."

Oliver Cooke (10 Higham) said, "After taking part in the Army Work Experience programme I know now that I would definitely like to pursue a career in the Army."

Risedale Administrator Miss Hardstaff said, "Despite the course being both mentally and physically challenging the pupils excelled and put their all into everything that was thrown at them."

"The reality of being away from home and school was something that all our young people found challenging but they proved that they were more than capable of conducting themselves in a positive manner which they should be extremely proud of."

"The feedback I have received from the instructors was outstanding! I am delighted that all the pupils enjoyed the course and I am hopeful that we will be able to work in partnership with the military again to support further opportunities like this in the future."

Thank you once again to the Outreach Team in Catterick for delivering such a brilliant experience and huge congratulations to the pupils for successfully completing the course.



Fire Cadets Passing Out Parade

Congratulations to Risedale School pupils (past and present), Riley Harrison, Katie Rowell, Grace Hall-Twist and Llinos Jones. After two years of dedication and hard work, they have successfully completed a Level 2 BTEC qualification in Fire & Rescue Services in the Community.



On Monday 17th July, a passing out parade was held where the cadets showcased their impressive drills and skills. The event was attended by an enthusiastic audience consisting of family members, friends, and esteemed guests.

We would also like to give special recognition to Grace Hall-Twist (10Southworth-Gedye) who was presented with a well-deserved award for Most Improved Cadet by Deputy Lord Lieutenant David Kerfoot CBE alongside Deputy Chief Fire Officer Matt Walker.

Congratulations once again to all the cadets! Your achievements are truly remarkable and reflect your hard work and commitment to the Fire Service.





Ceramic robot heads inspired by the sculptures of Eduardo Paolozzi, made by Year 8.



Ceramic tile installation about 'communication', made by all pupils in Year 9. It is a contemporary twist on Ming Dynasty pottery, using personal text messages sent and received by the pupils.

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 team-focused 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.

Congratulations to Kiera Clark (8Sandell), Daniel Sharp (8Knight/Dickson) and Kyle Stretch (8Pugh) who all passed the course!

Mrs Wright - KS3 Pupil Support Manager



YEAR 7 ENRICHMENT TRIP RICHMOND CASTLE





YEAR 8 ENRICHMENT TRIP - NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM





Year 9 Enrichment Trip Yorkshire Wildlife Park





Wish you were here...

WHITBY

YEAR 10 ENRICHMENT TRIP





RISEDALE
A family of learners

