



RISEDALE

A family of learners

Keep In Touch

KIT Newsletter

January 2024





Dear parents/carers and pupils,

Happy New Year! I am delighted to welcome all of our pupils back. I hope everyone had a well-deserved break over the Christmas period; it is clear that our pupils have come back fresh and ready for a fantastic year ahead. Risedale is full of pupils who are respectful, well-behaved, thoughtful and empathetic. It is always a pleasure to talk with them as I walk around school and listen to their ideas, aspirations and thoughts.

It was inspiring to see so many of our pupils involved positively within the community last year, for example through the Festival of Remembrance. These young people truly embody what it means to be part of the Risedale Family. Our pupils really do make us proud, and their behaviour on external enrichment excursions such as the reward trips and sporting events was truly exceptional.



The year ahead promises to be an exciting one. Our pupils have come back focused and engaged and there is so much fantastic learning taking place within the classrooms, delivered by a hardworking, dedicated teaching staff of whom I am extremely proud. Every child has a right to learn and deserves a calm, purposeful environment to enable them to succeed. I would like to take this opportunity to reassure all parents that we will not tolerate the extremely small minority of pupils who think it appropriate to disturb the learning of others. We will be relentless in ensuring a positive learning environment for pupils here at Risedale.

With the right support, all our pupils have the potential to be extraordinarily successful here at Risedale School. We look forward to continuing to work closely with all of you. Please do not hesitate to get in touch, should you have any questions or concerns.

Best wishes to all our pupils, families and staff for the term and year ahead.

Kindest regards,

Mr J Yates - Deputy Headteacher



REMEMBRANCE AT RISEDAL

Remembrance Assembly

On Friday 10th November 2023, Risedale School pupils and staff gathered for a whole school assembly to commemorate Remembrance Day, joined by Veterans Mark Hill MBE and Paula Rogers.

Pupils were asked to think about Remembrance and share their thoughts and feelings through poetry. Pupils in Years 7-9 worked on their poems during their History lessons and some were read out during the assembly. Pupils also learnt about the significance of 'The Unknown Soldier' during tutor time.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier serves as a symbolic grave for all war dead whose remains have not been found or identified. Thousands of memorials have been created all over the UK and Commonwealth so that communities can remember the service of those in the armed forces who put their lives ahead of others in the service of their country.

During the assembly, pupils were asked to stand for a minute of thoughtful silence as a mark of respect and remembrance for those who have given their lives in conflict.

Headteacher, Mr C Scott, said, ***"We were so proud to be able to come together as a school community to remember those who have given their lives in conflict. We must pass on the story of their sacrifice to future generations."***

Veteran Mark Hill MBE added, ***"It was an honour to be invited to Risedale School to share my experiences with the pupils. It is important that we remember those who have fought for our freedom and continue to support our veterans."***

The assembly was a moving and poignant tribute to those who have served and sacrificed their lives for our country.

Lest We Forget

Lest we forget.

That's what we were taught from a young age.

But they were always right.

We must never forget the dead.

Especially when they died for our future.

Most people take their sacrifice for granted.
But those who do will never truly know the pain
and misery of the poor Wives, Mothers and
children who lost so much because of their
bravery.

We should always remember and respect
them.

Whether Soldier or their family.

Everyone has lost something dear to them.
And SHALL be remembered by the grace of
God.

For they watch over us like angels to help guide
us from making the same mistakes as before.

by Amelia-Louise Jefferson



REMEMBRANCE AT RISEDALE

Festival of Remembrance

On Friday 10th November, Risedale School staff and pupils were privileged to attend the Festival of Remembrance at Ripon Cathedral alongside other schools in North Yorkshire.

Many pupils participated in poppy mandala workshops led by Service Children's Champion Angela Campbell. These stunning creations were then displayed at the cathedral, forming a magnificent spectacle.

A big thank you to all the pupils who attended the event, particularly Navaeh Bascombe-Nakoma (Year 11), who served as the official wreath bearer, and Mason Bassett, Emily-Faye Fort, and Ria Glenn, who performed with the Service Children's Community Choir.

Risedale School's Service Children's Advocate, Mrs Porritt, said, *"It was an honour to be a part of such a beautiful service. The Risedale pupils were overjoyed to reunite with their friends from other schools and their former primary school teachers. It was a truly wonderful time to come together."*

She added, *"The Festival of Remembrance is more than just a chance to express gratitude and honour those who have given their lives to make the world a better place; it is also a chance to come together and thank those who are currently serving in the armed forces and recognise the impact on their families."*

Year 8 pupil, Joseph Sahai, said, *"I wanted to go to the service to honour my Dad, who has been on tour since September. I really miss him and can't wait for him to come home on R&R this week."*

The Festival of Remembrance was a moving and meaningful occasion for all who attended. It is important to remember and honour those who have made sacrifices for our country, and to support those who are currently serving.





REMEMBRANCE AT RISEDALE

Hipswell Remembrance Service

On Remembrance Sunday, 12th November 2023, Risedale School's Service Children's Advocate, Mrs Johnson was honoured to lay a wreath on behalf of the school at the Remembrance Service at St. John the Evangelist Church in Hipswell.

Mrs Johnson, who grew up in a service family, said that the honour of laying the wreath was even more meaningful to her because of Risedale School's strong military connections. She said, ***"Risedale School is such a close-knit community and it was truly a special time to pause and remember those who have served and sacrificed their lives for our country."***

The annual Remembrance Service is an important event in Hipswell, bringing the community together to remember those who have given their lives and to show support to the armed forces today and to the veterans and their families.

Mrs Johnson said that she was incredibly grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of such a special occasion. She said, ***"The service was beautiful and it was a privilege to be able to represent Risedale School."***



Cross Country Championships



On Wednesday 15th November, fifteen young athletes from Risedale School, in Years 7 to 9, showcased their unwavering determination and passion for running at the Hambleton and Richmondshire Cross Country Championships hosted at Northallerton Leisure Centre. Despite the challenging weather conditions, with rain and mud creating a memorable course, #TeamRisedale showcased their exceptional resilience and unshakeable spirit.

Each athlete gave their all throughout the race, pushing their limits and inspiring their teammates. The supportive cheers and encouragement from the sidelines further fueled their determination, creating a powerful sense of camaraderie and unity within the team.

Among the notable performances, Lukas Ellis came in an impressive 7th place in the Year 7 runners, demonstrating exceptional speed and agility. Rhona Bain also showed great determination, finishing 18th in the same category. Lexie Maclean, competing in the Year 8 race, displayed exceptional grit and determination, securing a well-earned 22nd place.

"I was immensely proud of the efforts of all our athletes," remarked Mr Allen, Teacher of Science at Risedale School. ***"They represented Risedale exceptionally well, demonstrating remarkable sportsmanship and a never-give-up attitude. Their dedication to training and commitment to the sport truly embody the spirit of Risedale School."***

Mr Allen - Teacher of Science #TeamRisedale 

We raised over £600.00 for BBC Children in Need

On Friday 17th November, Risedale School held a non-uniform day and a Children in Need Fair in aid of BBC Children in Need. Pupils were encouraged to come to school in their own clothes for a £1 donation, and the school hall was transformed into a bustling marketplace of activities, games, cakes and treats.

The highlight of the event was the Ice Bucket Challenge, where teachers bravely volunteered themselves to be drenched in buckets of ice water. Pupils then made donations to vote for the teacher they wanted to see get soaked. The teacher with the most votes would receive the icy treatment.



In a surprising turn of events, Head of PE Miss Brierley, who was initially nominated for the challenge, managed to evade the icy plunge by strategically donating £10 to divert votes towards her colleague, Head of History, Mr Houlgate. As a result, Mr Houlgate emerged as the most voted-for teacher and received the full force of the ice bucket.



Other popular activities included a bake sale, raffle, beat the goalie challenge, art sale, guess the number of sweets, guess the baby's name, guess the name of the bear, guess the weight of the jar and a bookstall.

The whole school community came together to support the event, and the atmosphere was one of fun and excitement. The event was a resounding success, raising £624.55 for BBC Children in Need.

Senior Teacher, Mrs Hailwood, said: *"We are incredibly proud of our pupils and staff for their generosity and support for BBC Children in Need. The event was a fantastic success, and it is heartwarming to see the Risedale Family coming together to support such a worthy cause."*

A big thank you to our roving reporters Mrs Johnson for the photos and Year 8 pupil Bailey Mayho for the video of the Ice Bucket Challenge. **You can see more photos from the event and a video of the ice bucket challenge [HERE](#).**

>> To find out more about the fantastic [Charity Work and Fundraising](#) that we do here at Risedale School please visit our dedicated website page. <<

Year 9 SLT Tutor Chat

We would like to express our gratitude to everyone who attended our Year 9 SLT Chat on Tuesday 22nd November. We hope you found the event helpful and informative. If you were unable to attend, we would like to share the presentations from the events with you:

- [Year 9 SLT Chat Presentation / Resources](#)
- [MCAS, ParentPay and Epraise Information](#)

If you have any questions or concerns moving forward, please do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor or a member of the Senior Leadership Team at enquiries@risedale.org.uk



Textiles Club

Last term, the Textiles Club went on a journey of crafting and creativity, honing their skills using the software 2D Design and the laser cutter. Their latest endeavour involved designing and creating vibrant American-style pennant flags, using felt as their artistic canvas. Each flag was meticulously laser cut and then brought to life with the delicate touch of hand embroidery.

If you're a budding artist or simply looking for a creative outlet, the Textiles Club welcomes you with open arms. Join them every Thursday from 3-4 pm in Room 34 and let your imagination run wild as you explore the world of textiles and embroidery.

Mrs Vizor - Teacher of Design & Technology




Year 8 Football News

On Thursday 23rd November our Year 8 Football Team took on Queen Ethelburga's in the ESFA Under 13 PlayStation Small Schools' Cup. Despite facing strong winds and going down 3-0 at halftime, the team showed great resilience and determination to bring the score back to 3-2 in the first 10 minutes of the second half. Although they ultimately lost the game 7-2, the Year 8s displayed great sportsmanship, led by their captain Corey Hillman (8Allen), who lined up the team and shook hands with the opposition players at the end of the match.



The team's hard work and determination were evident throughout the game, and they should be proud of their performance. They showed great resilience in the face of adversity, and they never gave up. Their sportsmanship at the end of the match was also commendable, and it is a true reflection of the values of The Risedale Family.

I am very proud of the Year 8s, and I look forward to seeing them continue to develop as players and as individuals.

Mr Pugh - Teacher of PE #TeamRisedale 

U14 Boys Football News



Risedale School's U14 boys football team faced off against Outwood Academy, Easingwold on Tuesday 28th November 2023, in their first match of the season. Despite missing some key players, the team showed great resilience and teamwork, battling until the final whistle.

Year 8 goalkeeper Zachary White (8Allen) made some great saves to keep the score line down. The team's coach, Mr J Metcalfe, was proud of the boys' effort and determination.

"I was very impressed with the boys' performance today. They never gave up, even when they were down. They showed some great teamwork and fought until the final whistle. I am confident that they will continue to improve as the season progresses."

The U14 boys football team looks forward to their next match, determined to learn from their experience and continue to develop their skills as a team.

Year 9 Reward Trip to Air Trail



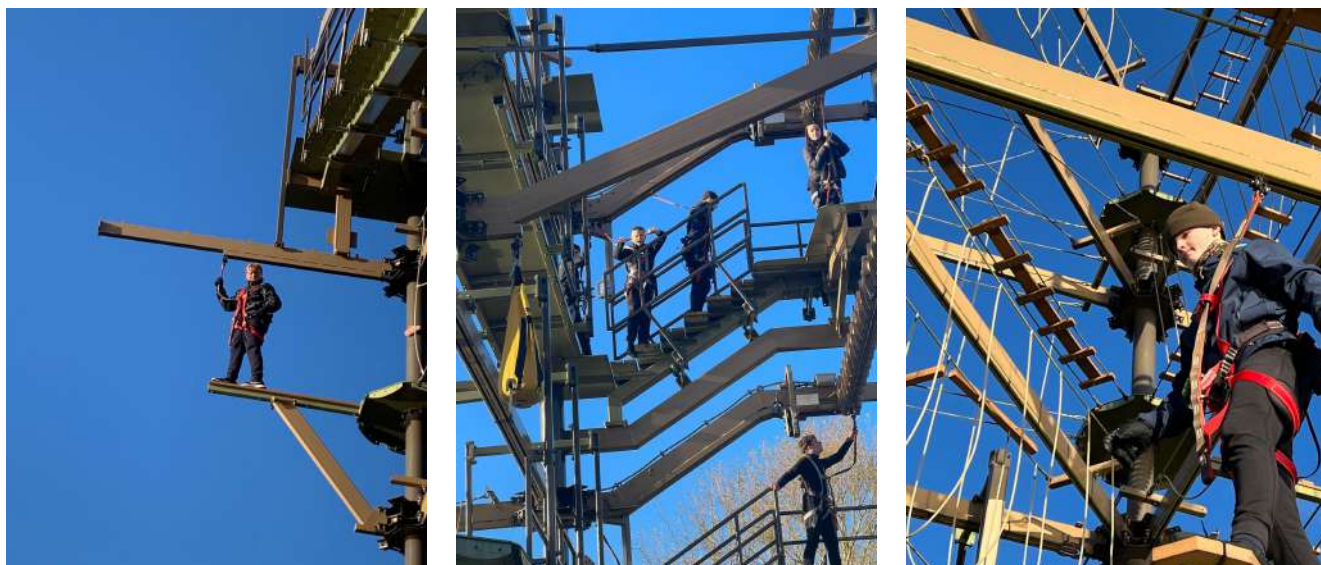
Year 9 pupils at Risedale School visited Air Trail at the Tees Barrage on Thursday 30th November 2023. Pupils were accompanied by PE Teacher Mr Pugh and KS3 Pupil Support Manager Mrs Wright. The trip was organised as a reward for all the pupils' hard work. It was a beautiful crisp and clear but cold November day and everyone had a fantastic time.

This special reward trip was designed to recognise the hard work and positive attitude of Year 9 pupils for the last half term. Pupils were selected for the trip if they had earned a high number of Epraise points, maintained zero or very few negative behaviour events and demonstrated good attendance.



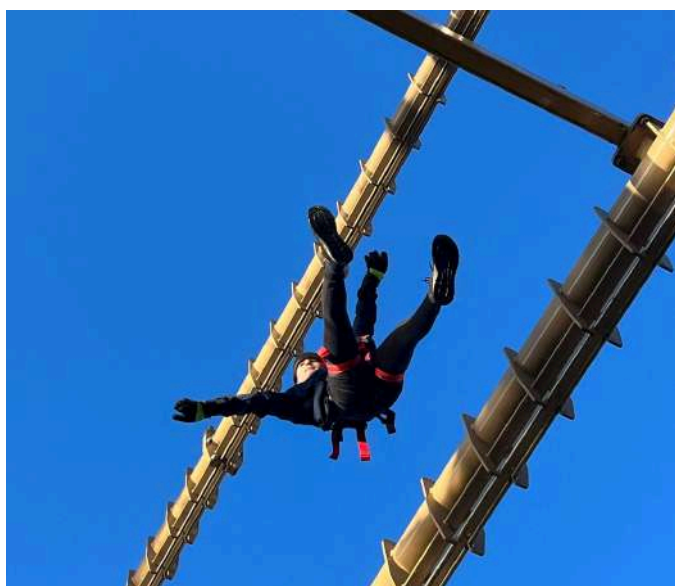
Air Trail is the UK's biggest Sky Trail adventure course. It is set over 4 levels, with over 38 unique challenges. The course is designed to test your nerves and your balance with its wobbly rope bridges, tight ropes, cargo nets and swinging stepping stones. The course also features two full-length zip rails.

PE Teacher, Mr Pugh, said, *"It was great to reward those pupils in Year 9 who have been working hard in school and acknowledge their achievements in receiving the most Epraise points in their year group. The pupils had a fantastic morning out and really enjoyed themselves. They pushed themselves out of their comfort zones to brave the heights and zip line through the air."*



KS3 Pupil Support Manager, Mrs Wright, said, *"This was a great reward for the pupils as they have all worked really hard over the last half term. It was a real privilege to accompany them on the trip and see them all enjoying themselves. And I loved it too!"*

The school is delighted that the pupils had such a fantastic time on their reward trip. And a big thank you must go to the fabulous instructors and staff at Tees Barrage for supporting The Risedale Family and making memories.



Year 8 Art: The Age of Stone

The Art department at Risedale has now launched its exciting new 'art history' based curriculum. This three-year project takes pupils on a chronological journey through art history, from stone-age art to contemporary gallery artists working today. Each era investigated will test pupils' abilities in art, creativity, analytical writing, research and presentation methods, whilst also helping them to better understand the place of art in society.

Year 8 were the first to embark on this journey, making cave-art-inspired creations. Head of Art Ms Westwood said, *"I am so pleased with how they have embraced the challenge of working on a larger scale with such tricky materials, particularly as they could only use 'stone-age' tools to draw with, like twigs and sticks. They had lots of fun learning these new art skills and crucially, they gained an appreciation for how important art was at this point in our history."*

Click the link below to see a video of the pupils' fantastic artwork:

[▶ Year 8 Artists Explore 'The Age of Stone'.](#)



Rock Climbing

GCSE PE Pupils Elevate Practical Scores with Rock Climbing Trip.

On Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th December, Risedale School's GCSE PE pupils were given the opportunity to visit ROF 59 in Newton Aycliffe to take part in an exhilarating intensive rock climbing course, to enhance their practical skills and achieve academic excellence.

"We were thrilled to provide this enriching opportunity for our GCSE PE pupils," remarked Mr Lawson, Teacher of PE. ***"We recognise the significance of practical scores in their overall grades, and we wanted to empower them with the best possible chance of success."***



This two-day intensive course encompassed a diverse range of climbing activities, including bouldering, top roping, and lead climbing. Simultaneously, pupils were meticulously instructed on safety protocols and risk assessment practices, fostering a culture of cautious yet adventurous exploration.

"The pupils wholeheartedly embraced this unique experience," expressed Mr Lawson. ***"Their enthusiasm and eagerness were palpable, leading to remarkable progress and skill development throughout the two days."***

Beyond enhancing their practical performance, this rock climbing course also played a pivotal role in boosting pupils' confidence and teamwork abilities. By pushing their physical limits and collaborating effectively, they gained valuable lessons in resilience, perseverance, and effective communication.



The school extends its heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated instructors at ROF 59 for their support and guidance throughout the trip. Additionally, a special mention must go to Mrs Price, who enthusiastically accompanied the group and took the photographs.

>> To see more photos from the rock climbing course click [HERE](#). <<

Service Pupils take part in 'The Big Conversation'

On Wednesday 6th December, three pupils from Risedale School were invited to take part in 'The Big Conversation', a new initiative aimed at raising awareness and enhancing support for Service Children in North Yorkshire. The inaugural event took place at Northallerton County Hall and featured engaging workshops, guest speakers, and opportunities for pupils to share their perspectives and experiences as members of military families.



The three pupils who attended the event were **(Photo L-R) Ollie Brend (9Shephard), Scott Meah (9Shephard) and Emily-Faye Fort (9Vizor)**. They were joined by over 60 other Service Children from across North Yorkshire, along with their teachers.

The purpose of 'The Big Conversation' was to gather input from Service Children on how to better support them during their parents' deployments and their time in North Yorkshire. The event featured a variety of interactive workshops that fostered open communication and encouraged pupils to express their thoughts, feelings, and experiences as Service Children. Creative writing exercises, group projects and discussions with guest speakers provided platforms for pupils to share their unique perspectives and connect with their peers on a personal level.

Emily-Faye Fort, one of the participating pupils, expressed her enthusiasm for the event, stating, ***"I had a really good day. The Big Conversation was really interesting and we talked a lot about what it was like to be a Service Pupil and what that meant to us. I particularly enjoyed the group project, where we worked together to create a banner representing our different experiences as Service Children."***



Mrs Johnson, Risedale School's Service Children's Advocate, who accompanied the pupils to the event, echoed Emily-Faye's sentiment, remarking, ***"It was a truly wholesome day filled with exciting activities. It was lovely to see the pupils expressing their feelings about being a military child and getting to know one another."***

"We extend our gratitude to the Service Children's Champion, North Yorkshire Youth Voice, and Children's and Families Services for organising such a fantastic event. We eagerly anticipate the next one."

The initiative is part of a broader effort to recognise and support the needs of Service Children, who face unique challenges due to their parents' military service. Events like 'The Big Conversation' are helping to create a more inclusive environment for these children and their families.

'A Spot on the Wall' for Risedale's Budding Artists



In December, two bright young stars of Risedale School, Year 9 pupils Oliver Lavery and Charlotte Swift, were given 'A Spot on the Wall' at Richmond's biggest open art exhibition.

Every year The Station Gallery gathers together work from a fantastic range of talented artists, photographers and craftspeople for their annual exhibition 'A Spot on the Wall'. Whether the artist is a first-time exhibitor, or they have been exhibiting for years, their work sits side by side on the walls of the beautiful old railway building in Richmond.

Risedale pupils Oliver and Charlotte were chosen to have their work exhibited as part of the exhibition and while their work is not available for purchase, it has been displayed alongside pieces from a diverse range of established and emerging artists, creating a vibrant and engaging showcase of artistic creativity.

Oliver's pencil-on-paper drawing, "The Life of Koi," was inspired by the first time he saw a blue Japanese koi fish. Oliver is particularly interested in nature and was inspired to draw the koi carp because of their beautiful colours and the way that light reflects on their bodies. He commented, ***"I think that whenever I hear someone say that something in nature is rare or complex, I often take interest in it. The blue koi is a rare and beautiful species, and I thought it would be fitting to use Japanese wave patterns around them, capturing their fluid movements in my drawing."*** He added, ***"Art means so much to me, so much so that I've decided to opt for it at GCSE. I feel that my art skills have developed over time, and I really enjoy researching other***



artists online and watching videos about how they use materials to create lines, forms, textures, and effects."

Charlotte's artwork is called "Immortality" and it was inspired by a poem about quantum entanglement that she had written for a close friend. Charlotte said, *"Having my artwork displayed in Richmond Station has been such an exciting and slightly daunting experience. Being able to have a chance at gaining recognition in my local area is going to help me massively in the future (fingers crossed), and I am very grateful to the people who have given me this opportunity."*

Head of Art at Risedale, Ms Westwood said, *"Both Oliver and Charlotte are incredibly talented artists, and I am thrilled that their work will be showcased at this prestigious exhibition. Their dedication and passion for art are truly inspiring."*

The exhibition, running from 8th December 2023 to 16th January 2024, provides a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in the vibrant artistic landscape of North Yorkshire. From the evocative works of experienced artists to the fresh perspectives of budding talents like Oliver and Charlotte, 'A Spot on the Wall' promises to captivate art enthusiasts of all ages.

Success for Risedale's Young Writers



PHOTO: L-R Renesmee Bascombe-Nakoma Y7, Skyla Stamper Y8 and Ruby Taylor Y7.

Risedale School's aspiring poets have once again excelled in the Young Writers poetry competition, with some of their work being selected for publication.

"It was a phenomenal term for our talented writers," remarked Teacher of English, Miss Douglas. *"The entries for the 'This is Me' competition were truly inspiring, and I couldn't be more proud of our pupils. Some of their pieces have even been chosen to be published, which is an incredible achievement!"*

The 'This is Me' competition encourages young writers to explore their identities and express their individuality through poetry. Risedale's pupils enthusiastically embraced this challenge, submitting a remarkable array of heartfelt and thought-provoking poems.

Miss Douglas commended the high standard of submissions, highlighting the pupils' ability to capture complex emotions and convey them with clarity and sensitivity. ***"Their poems are a testament to their creativity and passion for poetry,"*** she said. ***"I'm thrilled that some of their work will be shared with a wider audience."***

The selected poems will be featured in the Young Writers' anthology, which will be distributed to schools and libraries across the country. This exposure will not only allow the pupils to showcase their talent but also inspire and encourage other aspiring writers.

Risedale School is committed to nurturing the creative talents of its pupils, and the Young Writers competition has once again demonstrated the school's commitment to providing a platform for aspiring poets to flourish. With such impressive results, it is clear that the future of Risedale's poetry scene is bright.

Christmas Giving - Parcels for the Community

We were absolutely brimming with gratitude to the whole Risedale Family for your incredible generosity in donating items to the 2023 House Food/Care Parcel Competition! Your collective efforts brought in literally hundreds of items, a heartwarming testament to the incredible spirit of our community. Risedale, you truly outdid yourselves!

On Tuesday 19th December, Mrs Hailwood and Miss Hardstaff had the privilege of delivering your generous donations to Colburn Hub & Community Cafe & Foodshare Zero Waste. These vital organisations work tirelessly to support those in need within our local community, and your contributions will have undoubtedly made a positive difference in the lives of many.

Congratulations to Seacole House who made the most donations. Every single item donated represented a helping hand extended to someone in need. Thank you, to The Risedale Family, for proving that together, we can truly make a difference.

- 1st Seacole House 🧡 = 100 points**
- 2nd Pankhurst House 💜 = 75 points**
- 3rd Turing House ❤️ = 50 points**
- 4th Attenborough 💙 = 25 points**



Year 7 Area Football News

On Wednesday 20th December, boys and girls from Year 7 at Risedale participated in the Hambleton & Richmondshire Area 5-a-side football competition.

The boys' team was the first to play whilst the girls gave them huge support from the sidelines. Lukas Ellis (7Metcalf) scored the goals for the boys but the whole team worked extremely hard and Kaiden Moore (7Metcalf) pulled off some outstanding saves in goal.



In the afternoon, it was the girls' turn to shine. Renesmee Bascombe-Nakoma (7Laheney) proved unstoppable, finding the net with impressive accuracy whilst the boys cheered them on from the sidelines.

Beyond the competitive spirit, the day fostered a sense of camaraderie and sportsmanship, with both teams receiving enthusiastic support from their peers.

Overall, the event was a resounding success, providing a valuable opportunity for our Year 7 pupils to develop their skills, build friendships with pupils from other schools, and represent Risedale with pride.



Mr Pugh - Teacher of PE #TeamRisedale    

Christmas Disco

Lights flashed, feet stomped, and laughter rang through the halls of Risedale School on Wednesday, 20th December as the Christmas Disco brought festive cheer to pupils and staff alike.

Music for the night was provided by 'Smooth Sounds Around Town' who spun a mix of festive holiday classics and chart-topping hits, keeping the dance floor packed from start to finish.



"The Christmas Disco was absolutely fabulous!" said Senior Teacher, Mrs Hailwood. *"It was a chance for pupils to let loose, celebrate with their friends, and create memories that will last a lifetime. Seeing their faces light up as they enjoyed the music and each other's company was so special."*



It was a magical night from shy wallflowers taking their first tentative steps to seasoned groove-meisters busting out their signature moves; the night was a celebration of inclusivity and joy. Everyone was welcome, everyone was encouraged to have fun, and everyone left with a smile on their face and a heart full of Christmas spirit.

A huge thank you to Mrs Hailwood, our dedicated school staff, Smooth Sounds Around Town, and of course, the pupils of Risedale School for making this year's Christmas Disco a truly unforgettable night! And a special thanks to Mrs Price for capturing all the festive fun in her brilliant photos!

>> You can see more photos from the Christmas Disco [HERE!](#) <<

Elf Olympics

Hard work and kindness paid off for a group of Risedale School's KS3 pupils as they were whisked away to a magical world of festive challenges at the annual Elf Olympics on Thursday 21st December. Queen Elf herself, entrusted by Father Christmas with the task of identifying his future helpers, handpicked these pupils for their exemplary efforts throughout the past half term.



Earning a coveted spot in the Elf Olympics wasn't just about wishful thinking. Pupils had to prove their elf-worthy credentials by working hard and keeping negative behaviour

events to a minimum. Their dedication and positive attitude earned them a trip to a winter wonderland of festive fun, where they put their elf skills to the test.



From delicately devouring sugary snowballs without using their hands to stealthily crawling through present-shaped tunnels without jangling bells, these future elves tackled each challenge with Christmas cheer and determination. Even modern elf dilemmas, like crafting the perfect pair of spectacles, were met with ingenuity and resourcefulness.



Queen Elf (the ever-festive Ms Blatch) was ably assisted by a team of seasoned "Chief Elves" – Year 11 pupils Archie Bassett, Kiera Laver, Robin Mcilveen, Lucy Thornton, Jake Wills and Isabelle Young. Their guidance and encouragement helped the young trainees navigate the North Pole-worthy tests, while their infectious festive spirit kept the laughter flowing throughout the afternoon.

As these Chief Elves graduate to even greater elven heights, Queen Elf has already begun her search for next year's crop of talented helpers. So, young Risedale pupils, keep up the hard work and positive attitude! Your efforts could land you a spot in the next Elf Olympics, where you'll have the chance to prove your elf-tastic potential.

>> You can see more photos from the Elf Olympics 2023 [HERE!](#) <<

Christmas Lunch



Our hearts were full of gratitude for the incredible Christmas Lunch we enjoyed on the last day of term! Thank you to our exceptional canteen staff, who not only provided the delicious Christmas feast but also for taking care of the Risedale Family all year round - We love you, ladies!

A special shoutout to Ms Benson, Mrs Wright, and our Senior Pupil Ambassadors for transforming the dining hall and making everything so special and to all the staff members who volunteered to serve dinner, thank you for going the extra mile.

>> You can see more photos from the Christmas Lunch [HERE!](#) <<





RISEDALE

A family of learners



Careers Education Information Advice Guidance

Careers News Round-Up

KS4 Careers Overview

There has been so much happening at Risedale School as pupils across Years 10 and 11 prepare for their next steps after GCSEs. With a focus on both apprenticeships and traditional sixth-form routes, the school is buzzing with activities and resources to help pupils make informed choices about their futures.

Year 11: A Year 11 Apprenticeship workshop took place on the 14th of November, delivered by the ASK Programme, to pupils who had expressed an interest in pursuing an Apprenticeship as a possible Post-16 career pathway. Pupils were given helpful information, tips, resources and guidance on the Apprenticeship application process, paving the way for exciting post-GCSE career options.

Year 11 pupils should have now completed their College applications in readiness for their College interviews, which are taking place from January to May 2024. Richmond Sixth Form and Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form interviews will be held at Risedale School. Darlington College interviews take place at Darlington. We're confident you will shine!

Calling all aspiring engineers! AMEY PLC has an incredible opportunity: a hybrid work experience during the February half term (12th February 2024). You'll spend 1 day exploring online learning and 3 days gaining hands-on experience with AMEY PLC. Sign up by 12th January and inform Mrs Porritt to secure your spot!

Year 10: Our Year 10 pupils aren't far behind! They also participated in the ASK Programme Workshops, delving into the world of Apprenticeships and exploring potential career paths. Mrs Porritt also conducted individual Start Careers interviews with Year 10, issuing personalised Action Plans (via their school email) packed with resources and upcoming events for this academic year designed to help support them as they navigate their future pathways.

Get ready, Year 10! Mark your calendars for Work Experience Week, happening between 3rd June – 7th June 2024. Pupils should be actively sourcing their own placements which spark their interests. Once your child has secured a placement, all paperwork must be completed and returned to Mrs Porritt as soon as possible. Copies of the Work Experience packs were sent to parents/carers and pupils electronically at the end of September however please do contact Mrs Porritt directly at Porritt.H@risedale.org.uk if any further copies or guidance is required.

KS3 Careers Overview

Year 9: This half-term pupils in Year 9 will be receiving Careers Education Information Advice Guidance (CEIAG) during their Social Studies lessons which will support their GCSE

Option choices in the Spring. It will be an exciting time and we look forward to supporting your child in their next steps.

Year 8: Last half term saw Year 8 tackle an exciting Mini-Enterprise Challenge, putting their entrepreneurial skills to the test. They poured their creativity and teamwork into the project, and the results were truly impressive! From innovative ideas to polished presentations, our Year 8 pupils showcased what it means to be a budding entrepreneur.

Careers Leader, Helen Porritt said, *"I was blown away by their ingenuity and passion! They tackled the challenge with such enthusiasm and resourcefulness, and their presentations were truly captivating. Well done Year 8!"*



Their learning journey didn't stop there. Utilising their Unifrog accounts, Year 8 delved into exploring various job sectors, subject options, and potential career pathways post-16. This proactive research sets them well on their way to making informed decisions about their future and upcoming Year 9 Option choices.

Year 7: Our newest members of the Risedale Family have now embarked on their Careers journey and have all been issued their Unifrog logins to access a wealth of CEIAG resources.

Risedale School is buzzing with exciting career opportunities for every pupil. Stay tuned for more updates, and remember, your future starts here!

>> For more [Careers](#) information please visit our dedicated website page. <<

Happy New Year from everyone at Risedale School



RISEDALE
A family of learners

