



RISEDALE

A family of learners

Keep In Touch

KIT Newsletter

November 2025





RISEDALE KIT Newsletter



KIT Newsletter Issue 44: November 2025

Dear parents/carers and pupils,

Thank you for being a part of the Risedale Family! Our 'Keep In Touch' (KIT) Newsletters celebrate all the positive events that have taken place at our school. This is the first publication of the year and showcases the fantastic work our pupils and staff have accomplished since the beginning of the academic year.

Throughout this newsletter, we hope you will see and share in the wonderful and joyful moments that make our school special.

I have been pleased to see that so many of our pupils have engaged in enriching activities this term and that they are profiting from the opportunities on offer. Learning CPR, playing for a school team, taking part in expressive arts in and out of school, joining clubs - all of these are great ways to expand our skillset and broaden our horizons. More opportunities will follow in the months to come.

I am particularly proud of our CyberFirst accreditation, and I hope you will take the time to read about this below. I would also like to congratulate our Year 7 pupils, many of whom have been involved in the activities this newsletter highlights. Well done to our wonderful Year 7 footballers who seem to have made a great start for Team Risedale, too!

Please enjoy reading our KIT Newsletter. As always, please let us know if there is anything we can do to support you and your family.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Lucy Greenwood

Headteacher



#TeamRisedale ❤️💜💛❤️ **#BEST**

RESPONSIBILITY RESPECT RESILIENCE RELATIONSHIPS

Risedale School Celebrates Pupils' GCSE Achievements



Pupils at Risedale School celebrated a significant milestone on Thursday, 21st August, as they collected their GCSE grades. The atmosphere was one of celebration and relief, marking the end of a chapter filled with hard work and dedication.

Mrs Greenwood, who took up her post as the school's new Headteacher last September, expressed how proud she was of Year 11 pupils for the way they approached the examinations in the summer and the commitment to hard work evident in the results. ***"This year, we have seen a marked improvement in the number of pupils leaving Risedale with passes in the facilitating qualifications of Maths and English. This means more of our pupils will be able to easily access their chosen post-16 pathways and go on to make a real difference. I am proud of the way this***

year group has embraced the positive changes we have introduced in school over the last 12 months, and many of them have tackled their GCSEs and alternative qualifications with incredible energy and enthusiasm, even when they have faced challenges, such as attending multiple schools due to parents having important roles in the military."

Among the year group, there were many notable successes.

Mollie Thirlwell achieved grade 9s in both of her English qualifications, complemented by top grades in Geography and History, as well as a range of other subjects. Her kindness and warmth shone in all she did, and this, as well as her dedication to learning, will ensure she has a bright future.

Nathanael Hall brought zest and energy to his studies, being an incredibly articulate pupil. He performed strongly across all his subjects, including notable success in Physics, Engineering and GCSE PE.

Tallulah-Grace Tomlinson is a mature and dedicated pupil, who teachers describe as 'a delight to teach'. She was justly rewarded with high grades in Religious Studies and Design and Technology, and is absolutely delighted to have achieved grade 8s in both English qualifications.

Tyler Cassidy [PHOTO RIGHT] worked exceptionally hard across all avenues of school life, and combined academic prowess with exceptional skill on the piano, with the ability to memorise entire pieces by heart. He



achieved top grades in English, Mathematics, Science and Media Studies alongside a strong GCSE in Music.

Kalob McLoughlin is a thoughtful and considered pupil who was justly rewarded with a grade 8 in Geography and grade 7s in Science, Engineering and English, with further strong passes in other subjects.

Mrak Bakar epitomises all the values we hold dear at Risedale School: she has continually demonstrated resilience, combined with respect and kindness, while embracing the challenge of learning English as a second language after moving to the UK several years ago. She can now be proud that she has achieved strong passes in English and Mathematics, grade 6s in Science and a strong grade 7 in Religious Studies—a true role model for everyone.

Mrs Greenwood added: ***“None of this would be possible without our dedicated team of staff, who have worked hard to implement new, improved ways of working and have gone the ‘extra mile’ for so many young people. Their commitment to our pupils and genuine care shine through on a daily basis. The Risedale Family congratulates the Class of 2025 and wishes them every success in their future endeavours. We hope we have helped to shape them to be the ‘BEST’ version of themselves, and that they continue to demonstrate the Risedale values of RESPONSIBILITY, RESPECT and RESILIENCE, and prioritise building healthy RELATIONSHIPS throughout their lives.”***

As the pupils now prepare for the next stage of their lives, the future looks bright for the Class of 2025. With the support of their dedicated teachers, they are well-equipped to face new challenges and continue to embody the Risedale values in their future endeavours.



Congratulations to the Class of 2025!

Charlotte Swift Wins National "Thank a Teacher" Prize

A talented Risedale School pupil, Charlotte Swift, has won a national prize in the "Thank a Teacher" competition for her stunning painting of her Science teacher, Mr Higham.

Charlotte, a Year 11 pupil and accomplished artist, created a beautiful piece of art depicting Mr Higham enjoying his favourite hobby: fishing. Her entry was chosen as a winner by the "Thank a Teacher UK" charity, which celebrates the invaluable contributions of teachers and support staff across the country. Charlotte is currently taking GCSE Art and is a member of the school's "Art Talent Programme." For her artistic tribute, she earned a prize package from the Tate Museum, including a sketch pad, paints, brushes, and a digital gift voucher.



Mr Higham was delighted with the tribute. *"I'm extremely honoured to have such a fantastic picture painted of me doing a hobby I love. I had no idea that Charlotte had even composed this painting, let alone that she had won such a high-profile competition. She's a truly talented artist, and she perfectly captured the essence of nature and tranquillity."*

"I appreciate every single one of my teachers and all they do to help support me and my learning," Charlotte said. *"Mr Higham stood out to me for his encouragement during mock exams, and everything he has done to help me achieve the best I can. He is not only a brilliant teacher but someone I look up to as a role model."*

Charlotte's success is a source of immense pride for the school. Headteacher Mrs Greenwood commented, *"We are all so proud of Charlotte for this fantastic achievement. Her painting not only showcases her incredible artistic skill but also highlights the wonderful relationships we have here at Risedale. It's a true testament to her hard work and dedication, and to the talent we foster in our Art Talent Programme."*

Charlotte's winning artwork stands as a testament to the strong **RELATIONSHIPS** between pupils and staff at Risedale School and highlights the incredible talent within the Risedale Family.



Evalyn Gee Dances Her Way to Double Exam Success

Risedale School is celebrating the fantastic achievement of Year 9 pupil, Evalyn Gee, who recently passed two dance exams in Contemporary Modern Jazz and Ballet at The Rhythm and Shoes Dance Academy.

Louise Richmond, a teacher at the academy, shared the news, highlighting a particularly successful exam session where many pupils received top results, including Distinctions and Honours. *"I'm delighted to share with you that Evalyn recently took her dance exams. She's such a fabulous dancer who always gives 100% in all of her classes. As well as her exams, she also takes part in many of our additional events such as professional workshops, pantomimes and shows. She is an absolute pleasure to teach, and she worked so hard and achieved a fantastic result!"* she said.



Evalyn's passion for dance began at age three in Cyprus, and she has now been dancing for ten years. For the past five years, she has attended classes every Saturday at The Rhythm and Shoes Dance Academy. Her hard work and dedication in preparing for her exams paid off, and she achieved fantastic results in both subjects.

Speaking about her achievement, Evalyn said, *"I was so happy with my dance exam results. I got a Distinction for my Ballet and an Honours for my Contemporary Modern Jazz. I love dancing and always try to get the highest marks in my exams. I'm over the moon when I get top marks like this, and I definitely want to carry on in the future!"*

Her hard work has not gone unnoticed at Risedale. Her form tutor, Mr Dean, said, *"I'm incredibly proud of Evalyn's achievement, demonstrating a determination that few can match in winning awards outside school, alongside meeting deadlines and a positive work ethic in the classroom. With these values, I'm in no doubt that Evalyn will see more successes going forward."*

The whole school community is incredibly proud of Evalyn Gee's success. Her commitment to both her studies and her passion for dance is a true inspiration to her peers.

Visit [The Rhythm and Shoes Dance Academy](#) to find out more and get involved in dance and the [IDTA International Dance Teachers Association](#).

Year 7 Football Success

An Impressive Start: Risedale's Year 7 Boys' Football Team Triumphs Over Thirsk

What an incredible start for our Year 7 boys' football team! Just four weeks into the new academic year, this newly formed team has already secured a remarkable victory.

On Monday, 22nd September, the team faced Thirsk School in the first round of the cup competition, showcasing not only their football skills but also the school's core values. In a performance that truly showed their **BEST**, the boys demonstrated **RESPONSIBILITY**, **RESPECT**, **RESILIENCE**, and positive **RELATIONSHIPS**.

The Risedale boys found themselves a goal down early on from a clever Thirsk finish. However, this early setback only served to demonstrate their **RESILIENCE** and determination. Showing incredible strength of character, the team fought back, with Theo Turner pulling them level with a well-taken goal.

From that moment on, **#TeamRisedale** took control of the game. The boys showed great **RESPONSIBILITY** in their play, dominating possession and creating numerous chances. They quickly scored three goals through Luca Kelly, Cameron McGregor, and Theo again, taking a commanding lead.

Throughout the rest of the match, the boys continued to perform with skill and purpose. Jayden Duffy scored a magnificent free-kick that went in off the underside of the bar, and Jayce Henley added a brace to complete the scoring. A final result of 7-1 to Risedale was a fair reflection of their fantastic performance.

The Risedale team played with immense **RESPECT** for their opponents, embodying the spirit of sportsmanship. Their teamwork and communication on the pitch also highlighted the strong **RELATIONSHIPS** they have built as a squad.

"I am immensely proud of the boys," said Mr Lawson, Head of PE. "For a team that came together for the first time, their performance showed outstanding maturity and team spirit. This victory is a brilliant start to their time at Risedale and a true reflection of our core values in action."

The Risedale School Year 7 team now progresses to the next round of the cup, a brilliant achievement and a testament to their hard work and dedication.



Risedale Family Spirit Shines at Packed Open Evening



Risedale School celebrated **another record-breaking year** for its annual Open Evening, welcoming over **100 families** and **300 guests** from **10 local primary schools** on Thursday, 25th September. The school was alive with activity from the moment visitors arrived, with the school's Rock Band providing dynamic live music in the entrance hall,



The evening's programme began with a welcome talk in the main school hall, led by Headteacher Mrs Greenwood. *"Last year, we did a great deal of work revitalising and embedding our school's new Vision and Values and on raising standards of behaviour for learning,"* she shared. *"Our Vision and Values were clearly on display tonight for our Year 6 Open Evening. We are committed to all pupils having the tools to develop Responsibility, Respect, Resilience and healthy Relationships so that they can succeed and have a strong future."*



Mrs Greenwood was joined by two pupils who spoke about their personal experiences and what the Risedale Family means to them. She added, *"Our curriculum is continually expanding, with new subjects like Health & Social Care and Travel & Tourism this year alone, and we utilise advanced technologies such as Virtual Reality headsets, Chromebooks, 3D printing, computerised laser cutters, and a photography studio. Tonight was a wonderful opportunity to show how our dedicated*



teachers, diverse curriculum, use of technology, and extensive enrichment programme come together to help every pupil succeed."

Following the talks, visitors had the option to either join a guided tour with a Pupil Ambassador or explore the school at their own pace. Pupils from all year groups helped in the classrooms, offering demonstrations and talking to visitors about their experiences of life at Risedale. Prospective pupils were also given an activity sheet and were encouraged to collect stamps from teachers to win a prize. Attendees also enjoyed taster menu items and refreshments provided by the school's catering staff.

The evening perfectly captured the spirit of Risedale, a place where pupils are encouraged to be their **BEST** selves, both inside and outside the classroom. Mrs Greenwood concluded, *"I am incredibly proud of our entire Risedale Family; our pupils, our staff, and the wonderful community that supports us. We are making incredible changes, and I am filled with excitement for our future. We are confident that as we continue to grow, Risedale will become the first choice for more and more families."*

For those who were unable to attend, more information about the school and its admissions process is available on the school's website: www.risedale.org.uk.



Risedale Pupils Soar with the Air Cadets



Two year 9 pupils, Carson Doak and Oscar Baker, recently had the incredible opportunity to take to the skies, experiencing the thrill of a lifetime and some exhilarating acrobatics, as part of their involvement with the [Royal Air Force \(RAF\) Air Cadets](#).

The pupils enjoyed a spectacular flight experience that few young people ever get. The flights, which took place at RAF Leeming, were a well-earned reward for their dedication to the RAF Cadets.

High-Flying Perspectives

Both boys shared their excitement about the experience:

Carson Doak (9Laheney)

"Flying is the best experience you can have at this age. The whole process, from the briefing to taking the controls, was incredible. If you manage to get the chance, it would truly be the best thing you've ever done; it was amazing. I absolutely love being part of the Air Cadets."

Oscar Baker (9Conway)

"It was great. First, we were briefed on what to do and what not to do when we got in the plane. Very quickly, my time came to fly, and it was the best experience ever. I was first taught to do some ups and downs and lefts and rights, which were great. But the real fun thing was that before we landed, we got to do some acrobatics! First, we did a barrel roll, which was super dizzy. After that, we did a stall turn—basically, we went straight up, nudged the controls left, and then turned and started going back down. But what really was the best thing we did was a loop-the-loop, and let's just say it was amazing. We pulled



up to five to six Gs, and it's just better than most of the theme park rides you'll go on in a lifetime. It's hard to explain just how unbelievable the whole experience was—it was FANTASTIC!"

This opportunity showcases the commitment of the RAF Air Cadets to providing young people with skills, confidence, and experiences outside the classroom. From flying and gliding to adventure training and recognised qualifications, the cadets programme encourages personal development and a spirit of adventure.

We congratulate Carson and Oscar on their amazing flights and look forward to hearing about their next adventures in the Air Cadets!

Risedale Pupils Land Starring Roles in Two Local Pantomimes ★



Two talented young performers from Risedale School are set to light up the stage this festive season, having successfully secured coveted roles in two separate local pantomimes. Their success highlights the dedication and theatrical talent flourishing within the wider Risedale Family.

Skai Nicholson Joins the Young Company Chorus at The Georgian Theatre Royal

Skai Nicholson (11Miller) is set for an exciting debut, having successfully auditioned for a place in the Young Company chorus for Cinderella at the historic Georgian Theatre Royal in Richmond.

The Year 11 pupil will be performing in the professional pantomime, which runs from 2nd December 2025 to 10th January 2026.

For Skai, the role is more than just a festive appearance—it's a key step towards a future career: ***"It's my first ever professional show, meaning I get to put it***

in my application for a musical theatre college course. I'm so excited."

Emily-Faye Fort Takes the Lead as Alice in Gilling West's Dick Whittington

Meanwhile, fellow Year 11 pupil Emily-Faye Fort (11Vizor) is preparing for a main role in Dick Whittington.

Emily-Faye has been cast as the leading lady, Alice, in the production by the Gilling West Village Players. The pantomime will run from 30th January to 31st January 2026.

She spoke about the joy of performing and the supportive environment of the community production: ***"The best part about being in a pantomime is that I've got people who can help me if I struggle, and it's so much fun!"***

Pride Across the Risedale Family

The success of both pupils has been met with enthusiasm across the Risedale Family. Their dual casting in both a professional and community production demonstrates the breadth of talent coming from the school.

Head of Drama, Mrs Southworth-Gedye, said: ***"We are absolutely thrilled for both Skai and Emily-Faye. They both performed fantastically in our latest school production, Little Shop of Horrors, so I know that panto audiences are in for a real treat. Securing roles in such high-quality local productions is a testament to their dedication, talent, and hard work. We wish them both the very best for a brilliant panto season!... Oh yes, we do!"***



Risedale Science Club Off to a Flying Start!

Risedale's Y7/8 Science Club has now had two fabulous meetings. So far, we have made lava lamps and carried out a heart dissection.

The club is jointly run by Mrs Hailwood (Head of Science) and Mrs Newall (Senior Science Technician), who are both blown away by the pupils' enthusiasm and genuine thirst for knowledge. This excitement isn't limited to the club; it spills out into the rest of the week, especially when Mrs Newall is frequently being asked, ***"When is Science Club next on?"***



The Year 7 & 8 pupils who attend the Science Club enjoy a vibrant, hands-on environment where curiosity thrives and extends beyond the regular curriculum.

Mrs Newall shared, ***"It gives me great pleasure to see our pupils so eager and excited to learn about all the different sciences, especially in their spare time. It's nice to see the pupils in a more relaxed environment where they are all passionate about the same thing."***

To find out about the other fantastic activities and clubs at Risedale, please visit our dedicated website page: [**Activities**](#).

Football: U13 Girls' v Thirsk

PROUD! Our U13 (Year 7 & 8) Risedale girls' football team celebrated a superb first match on Wednesday, 8th October, against Thirsk School. For many of our players, this was their debut in a proper competitive fixture, and they handled it with incredible spirit.

Match Report from Mrs Niblett

The girls started so well, making some great saves and showing really solid defending against a strong team. We saw lots of pace in the midfield; the girls were constantly switching quickly from attack to defence to support each other, and there were several shots on target.



After a few vital half-time jelly babies, the team showed amazing commitment in the second half and exploded into action, scoring three fantastic team goals! Even though we didn't secure the win, the girls' heads didn't drop for a second. They continued to play with smiles on their faces, and it was clear to everyone that they were having so much fun. I was so impressed with the **RESILIENCE** and spirit of **#TeamRisedale**!

Team Recognition

A big thank you goes to today's captain, Leah Metcalfe (7Shephard), who led the girls with outstanding positivity and encouragement.

The clear Player of the Match was Frankie Young (7Reid). Her contribution was immense; she brought strength, intensity, and an undeniable desire to win, showing an unbelievable work rate throughout the match! Well done, Frankie ★.

I was immensely proud to have this group of girls representing Risedale.

Risedale's Goal Scorers: Ava Sims (7Reid) – 1 goal. Ava Clifton (8Dovaston) – 2 goals.

A big thank you to Mr Lawson (Head of PE) for his support and encouragement, and to the staff and pupils at Thirsk School for hosting us.

A reminder to ALL girls that football training is on Mondays (Week 1), from 3:00–4:00 pm (indoors). Mr Godfrey (Pupil Support Manager) and I look forward to seeing the current team and extending a warm invitation to any new faces to come and join us!



— Mrs Niblett (Team Coach & Pupil Support Manager) ⚽

Year 11 Pupils Paddle to Success at Tees Barrage



Year 11 pupils from Risedale School successfully navigated the waters of the [Tees Barrage International White Water Centre](#) during a recent educational trip, directly applying the school's core values.

The practical adventure was a crucial component for pupils undertaking the Cambridge National in Sport Studies qualification, specifically supporting their coursework on



'Increasing Awareness of Outdoor and Adventurous Activities.' The two-hour sessions were successfully completed by the cohort, split across two days on 2nd October and 9th October.



For many pupils, this trip was their first experience of an adventurous activity. They pushed past initial nerves to master essential skills like paddle control and teamwork in the placid water course, demonstrating outstanding **RESILIENCE**. Furthermore, by working together to navigate and assisting their peers, the pupils reinforced the importance of strong **RELATIONSHIPS** throughout the day.

Mr Lawson, Head of PE, praised the pupils' conduct and enthusiasm:

*"It's wonderful to see the pupils represent the school. The kayaking session is a key assessment event for their 'Outdoor and Adventurous Activities' module, and every pupil showed fantastic **RESILIENCE** and **RESPONSIBILITY** on the water. They were a credit to Risedale, and their commitment to becoming the **BEST** version of themselves through hands-on learning will prove invaluable for their qualification."*

A big thank you to the expert Tees Barrage instructors for their continued support, and to Mrs Price (Administration Assistant) for dedicating her time to help with the trip and for taking the amazing photos!

Well done
#TeamRisedale
 ❤️❤️❤️❤️



“Lost Atoms” GCSE Drama Theatre Trip 🎭

Our Year 10 & 11 GCSE Drama pupils had an exciting trip on Thursday, 9th October! They visited the York Theatre Royal to see Frantic Assembly's powerful production, "[Lost Atoms](#)".

This high-quality live theatre was a truly inspiring experience and a compulsory element of the GCSE Drama course. It provided an incredible opportunity for our pupils to see excellence in physical theatre firsthand.



Mrs Southworth-Gedye, Head of Drama at Risedale School, shared her thoughts on the experience:

"This was a truly inspiring experience for our Year 10 and 11 pupils. The sheer quality of the 'Lost Atoms' production, particularly the innovative staging and precision of the performers, provided a brilliant and exciting influence for them to take into their own practical work."



Alumni Spotlight: Grace Baker 🏆



We are absolutely thrilled to share the fantastic news about former Risedale School pupil, Grace Baker!

Many of you will remember Grace from her incredible performance as Dorothy in our Risedale School production of [The Wizard of Oz](#) in July 2024. She's continued that magic by receiving the prestigious District 6 Commendation Award at the NODA Awards 2025 for her magical performance as Dorothy in the Hudswell Village Players' pantomime!



The Hudswell Village Players are "over the rainbow" with joy, and so are we! Grace's success is a brilliant example of the dedication and talent fostered at Risedale. We are so proud to see her shine! ✨

A massive well done, Grace!

Photo Credit: [Hudswell Village Players](#)

💛 The Risedale Family Raised £138 on Hello Yellow Day! 💛

We are delighted to announce that our pupils and staff raised a fantastic total of **£138.00** for YoungMinds on #HelloYellow Day (Friday, 10th October), coinciding with World Mental Health Day.

The school was a vibrant sea of yellow, as pupils and staff swapped out a single uniform item for something bright and contributed their £1 donations. This simple act carries the big message that young people are never alone with their mental health challenges.

Beyond the fundraising, the real power of Hello Yellow Day lies in its visibility. Seeing the entire school community intentionally wearing yellow transforms the environment into a clear, unified message of support. It serves as a gentle, yet powerful, reminder that everyone has mental health, and it's okay to talk about it. This collective show of solidarity reinforces the notion that mental health conversations are welcome every day of the year, not just on World Mental Health Day.

The day was a huge success, generating important conversations around mental health and reflecting the supportive environment nurtured by our dedicated team of Pupil Mental Health Ambassadors, who do vital work around the school every day.

Lisa Smith, our School Counsellor, commented: *"It's fantastic to see the whole school embrace Hello Yellow Day. More importantly than the funds raised, days like this help to reduce the stigma around mental health and open up vital conversations among our pupils, letting them know that support is always available here at Risedale."*

The £138 raised will go directly to YoungMinds to fund their vital work, including their Parents Helpline. A massive thank you is extended to every pupil, parent, and carer for your generosity, which demonstrates Risedale's commitment to our core value of **RESPONSIBILITY** and our shared goal of ensuring all young people feel supported.

RISEDALE
A family of learners

HELLO YELLOW DAY RAISED

£138.00

FOR YOUNGMINDS UK

HELLO YELLOW
FRIDAY 10 OCT

#TeamRisedale 💙💜💛❤️ #HelloYellow

M&S | YOUNGMINDS

♥ Restart A Heart Day ♥

Year 7 Pupils Become Lifesavers on Restart a Heart Day!



Risedale School proudly participated in Restart a Heart Day on Thursday, 16th October, with its newest cohort of Year 7 pupils undertaking vital CPR training. This engaging and empowering annual event, delivered in partnership with the Yorkshire Ambulance Service, equipped young people with the essential skills to save a life.

Every year, Risedale School commits to ensuring its Year 7 pupils receive comprehensive CPR instruction, fostering a community of confident and capable potential lifesavers. This year was no exception, as pupils enthusiastically engaged in hands-on sessions led by dedicated off-duty staff and volunteers from the Yorkshire Ambulance Service.



The importance of early CPR cannot be overstated. A cardiac arrest patient's chance of survival dramatically increases if CPR can begin before the ambulance service arrives on scene. Initiatives like Restart a Heart Day are crucial in spreading this life-saving knowledge far and wide. This year alone, Yorkshire Ambulance off-duty staff and volunteers taught CPR to more than 40,000 pupils at secondary schools across Yorkshire, marking 12 years of this incredible campaign.

Ms Dunphy, Head of Social Studies, shared her thoughts on the day: ***"We are incredibly proud of our Year 7 pupils for embracing this vital training. Seeing their dedication and understanding of how to perform CPR gives them a critical skill that could one***

day make all the difference. It's empowering for them, and reassuring for our community, to know they have this knowledge."

The training provided Risedale's Year 7 pupils with practical experience in chest compressions and rescue breaths, teaching them how to recognise a cardiac arrest and respond effectively in an emergency. The day was not only educational but also instilled a sense of responsibility and confidence in our young learners.

Risedale School extends its sincere gratitude to the Yorkshire Ambulance Service for their continued partnership and dedication to educating our pupils in these invaluable life-saving techniques.



We encourage everyone to become #CPRConfident. Find out more by visiting [Where can I learn CPR? - Yorkshire Ambulance Service](#)

Risedale Football Teams Shine at Bedale Tournament 🏆

Risedale was well represented at the Bedale Football 7s Tournament on Thursday, 16th October, with both the KS4 Girls' and Boys' teams showcasing great effort and skill.

Girls Take 5th Place Overall

A huge well done to our KS4 girls' football team! The squad showed exceptional defensive resilience from the start, shutting down both Stokesley and Richmond to earn valuable 0-0 draws in their opening two fixtures.

In their third match against reigning champions Northallerton, they rallied back after going two goals down, with Ria Glenn scoring a fantastic team goal to make the final score a respectable 2-1 result.

The team's determination paid off in the final league game against Easingwold. Goals from Skai Nicholson and Ria Glenn secured a crucial 2-0 victory! This was thanks in part to the tireless efforts of Ellie-Mae Reid, who was outstanding in midfield, tackling hard and driving the attack.



The Thrilling Finale: Finishing third in their group, the girls faced Bedale in the cup fixture. After conceding, fantastic defending from Mia Wilson, Holly Irving, and Daisy Kelso kept the team in the game. Ellie-Mae Reid later earned and calmly converted a penalty to

secure a 1-1 draw, winning the tie on points. This success earned them a fantastic 5th place finish overall out of 10 schools!

I am incredibly proud of the whole team. Thank you to our two captains, Charlotte Watkins and Ava Hughes-Francis. A special mention goes to our fantastic goalkeeper, Ava, who only conceded 3 goals in all 5 games and motivated the entire team throughout the tournament. A big thank you also to Charlotte's Dad for his support and for bringing the team some half-time chocolates. And thank you to Mr Godfrey (Year 11 Pupil Support Manager) for cheering the girls on at the final games.

Mrs Niblett summed up her feelings: *"I can't wait for your next fixture, girls. You are a pleasure to coach, and I'm really proud of you all!"*

— Match Report from Mrs Niblett (Team Coach & Pupil Support Manager)

Boys Compete with Determination and Class

The KS4 Boys 7-a-side team faced a challenging group full of talented and hard-working opposition.

Every game showed the tenacity and commitment of the Risedale boys, who competed fiercely and made it difficult for the opposition. The highlight of their performance had to be Aidan Mackintosh's sublime finish past the keeper after a great passage of play and a superb assist from Matthew Senivota.

Mr Lawson praised the squad's effort, saying, *"They made it difficult for every team they faced. While we definitely left some goals out there, the boys displayed great promise for the rest of the season."*

— Match Report from Mr Lawson (Team Coach & Head of PE)



Presentation Evening 2025

Risedale School Celebrates Success at Annual Awards Evening 🏆



Risedale School recently hosted its Annual Awards Presentation Evening, welcoming pupils, families, and distinguished guests to celebrate pupil excellence, perseverance, and hard work.

The ceremony, held on Wednesday, 22nd October, centred on the school's new vision and values theme: being 'our **BEST**'. Headteacher Mrs Greenwood highlighted the school's commitment to developing pupils' **RESPONSIBILITY**, **RESPECT**, **RESILIENCE**, and healthy **RELATIONSHIPS**.

Addressing the audience, Mrs Greenwood said: *"It is wonderful to be able to welcome you all this evening to celebrate the many achievements of our pupils, who are instrumental in the growing reputation and success of our school. I am so proud to work here and to have the privilege of working each day with so many amazing, kind, and hard-working pupils and an incredible team of staff. These pupils are a credit to everyone here and are deserving of all the praise they receive."*

Special guests included Catterick Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Anderson, Veteran Mark Hill MBE, Service Children's Champion, Angela Campbell, Lin Ryan from the Soroptimist Society, Chair of Governors, Nick Horn, as well as Headteachers and staff from other local schools, Risedale governors, staff, parents/carers and pupils.



The evening featured the inaugural Year 11 Graduation Ceremony, where the Class of 2025 received individual certificates of achievement. Lt. Col. Anderson gave an inspiring speech, unpicking

Risedale's values and encouraging pupils to *"continue to be curious in order to keep learning."*

A total of 24 Awards for Excellence and 18 Specialist Awards were presented, and the evening was compered by Year 11 Pupil Ambassadors **Daniel Hibbins** and **Kaydee Smith**.

Among the high achievers was **Mollie Thirlwell**, who achieved an impressive double grade 9 in her GCSE English exams and secured a remarkable five awards at the Presentation Evening. Her wins included prizes for Excellence in Science, Geography, and German, as well as the Key Stage 4 BEST Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement. Mollie said, *"I absolutely loved my time at Risedale School. Since Mrs Greenwood's appointment, there have definitely been noticeable and positive changes. The school will always be a very special place to me."*

Other notable winners included:

- **Tyler Cassidy**, who received four awards, recognising his Excellence in Mathematics, Music, RPE, and Social Studies.
- **Nathanael Hall** won the prize for Excellence in Engineering as well as the Robert Stephenson's Rocket STEM Award.
- **Lucas Kirk** was presented with the Governor's Sports Award for his performance on the football field and the athletics track.
- **Lacey Hanson** received the Paddy Dunne Memorial Award for balancing academics with representing Team England at the World Cheerleading Championships.
- **Tallulah-Grace Tomlinson** was awarded the Soroptimist Cup for citizenship and outstanding leadership.
- **Dylan Hughes** received the Gill Harden Award, recognising exceptional effort, determination, and resilience.
- **Mrak Bakar** received the prize for Excellence in Drama as well as the Year 11 BEST School Values Champion Award. Mrak was praised as a true star of Risedale for quietly and respectfully developing positive relationships with everyone.



- **Calum Sankey**, who received the prize for Excellence in English. A true Risedale superstar, his pass in English Literature was an exceptional achievement, and his DJing alongside Mr Hill at the school sports day will be greatly missed!

Musical interludes showcased the talent of Year 10 pupils, including a performance of Debussy's Clair de Lune by self-taught pianist **Cain Darnton**, and a 'Classical Mash-up' by **Alex Stephenson**.



The ceremony concluded with Mrs Greenwood thanking staff and pupils, and encouraging the award winners to *"never forget the BEST version of yourselves that you have celebrated tonight."*

Feedback from Social Media:

On Facebook, Risedale Governor Beki Bulmer said:

"Tonight, I was privileged and honoured to have been invited to the Risedale School Presentation evening. What a pleasure to see the smiles on the faces of each and every young person as they graciously accepted their awards and certificates, especially the new awards introduced this year."

The musical interludes were superb - well done to both pianists."

Good Luck to everyone from Year 11 as you move off into the second chapter called 'LIFE', and I hope you remember being part of the Risedale Family favourably."

I have volunteered as a Governor at Risedale for the past year, having also volunteered for 2 years prior to Lockdown and COVID. I've always supported the local schools my children have attended, and my youngest son has always said his 2 years at Risedale were the best 2 years of his education."

Volunteering makes such a difference to schools. There are so many ways you can support: joining the Parent Teacher Association/Friends of School Group, listening to pupils reading, becoming a Governor, painting a fence, supporting at a disco, and so much more. I also volunteer at Le Cateau Community Primary School and would urge you to contact the school your children attend and get involved."

As Tesco says - "Every little helps" - any contribution, no matter how small, is valuable and useful toward achieving a goal."



**Check out all the official photos from
Presentation Evening [HERE](#), and watch our video [HERE](#)!**
#TeamRisedale ❤️💜💛❤️

PRESENTATION EVENING



*Celebrating the Accomplishments
of Risedale School in 2024-2025*



🎃 KS3 Halloween Disco: A Spooktacular Success! 🧛

Mrs Greenwood wanted to share a huge thank you following our fantastic KS3 Halloween Disco on Thursday, 24th October!

The pupils looked absolutely amazing! So much effort went into their costumes and make-up! It was wonderful to see them all dancing and having so much fun! We are thrilled that this was the first event organised by our new Parent Teacher Association (PTA), and it was a massive success thanks to incredible support.

A huge congratulations goes to the winner of the Best Halloween Costume Award:

🏆 Jasmine Mason (9Laheney) for her amazing Lorax costume! And a big thank you also goes to Julie ([Community Champion, Tesco Catterick](#)) for generously donating the Halloween bucket of goodies as a prize!



A special shout-out to the pupils, staff, and parents who helped before, during, and after the event. Your teamwork was phenomenal:

- Our amazing pupils for selling tickets and providing vital support on the night! 🎉
- Mr Hill (DJ & impressive face paint!) 🎧
- Mrs Young (Food, decorations and ticket sales) 🍌
- Mrs Dovaston (Food, decorations and support) 🍴
- Mrs Brown (Photo booth and decorations) 📷
- Lisa Smith (Ambassadors, supplies and door management) ✅
- Mr Palmer (Brilliant setting up of the hall and clearing away!) 💪
- And our wonderful parent volunteers who helped make the night run smoothly.

Keep an eye out for details of our next event, and if you're interested in learning more or would like to be involved in Risedale's PTA, please email us today at PTA@risedale.org.uk



KS3 Halloween Disco



Risedale School Earns Prestigious NCSC CyberFirst Status

We are so proud to announce that Risedale School has been officially accredited as a CyberFirst School by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC)!

This esteemed recognition highlights our unwavering commitment to fostering the next generation of cyber security talent and equipping our pupils with the essential skills to thrive in our increasingly digital world.

The CyberFirst Schools programme, a cornerstone initiative of the NCSC, identifies and champions schools that demonstrate excellence in cyber security education. Achieving this status means we have met rigorous criteria, showcasing our dedication to providing a structured and inspiring approach to computing and cyber skills.

"We are absolutely thrilled to be recognised as a CyberFirst School," said Headteacher, Mrs Greenwood. *"This accreditation is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff, particularly our Head of Computer Science, Mrs Rodgers, and the incredible enthusiasm of our pupils. In today's digital landscape, cyber security is not just a box to be ticked; awareness of it is crucial for all young people and adults in order to keep everyone safe and workspaces protected. This status will significantly enhance our ability to prepare our pupils for the challenges and opportunities of the future."*



Exciting Opportunities for Our Pupils

The benefits of becoming a CyberFirst School are extensive, promising a wealth of opportunities for Risedale pupils. These include:

- **Enhanced Curriculum:** Access to bespoke NCSC resources and guidance to further enrich the school's computing and cyber security curriculum.
- **Industry Engagement:** Opportunities for pupils to connect with leading cyber security professionals through the use of Cyber Ambassadors, amongst other opportunities.
- **Competitions and Events:** Participation in national and regional CyberFirst competitions, such as the highly acclaimed CyberFirst Girls Competition, allowing pupils to hone their skills in a fun and challenging environment.

Mrs Rodgers, Head of Computer Science and IT, commented, *"Our aim has always been to make computing engaging and relevant. The CyberFirst framework provides us with invaluable tools and connections to truly inspire our pupils and show them the real-world impact of their learning."*

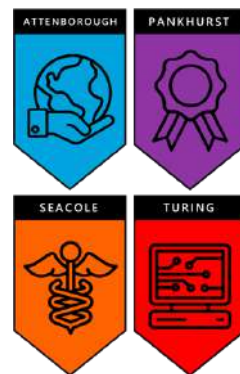
By investing in foundational cyber education, Risedale is playing a pivotal role in addressing the critical skills gap and empowering young people to become the digital defenders of tomorrow. We look forward to embarking on this new chapter and preparing our students to navigate the complexities of the digital world safely and successfully.

Positives and Rewards

It has been a fantastic start to the year with over 60,000 points already awarded to our amazing pupils here at Risedale.

There will also be a range of exciting House Opportunities being announced from the next few weeks onwards, which will provide your child with a host of exciting and different experiences to engage in.

Your child's contribution towards these events will help their House in its aim to be the **BEST** in Risedale!



The current Positive Stamps awarded to each House are as follows:

- **1st Pankhurst** ❤️ **with 15884 Reward Stamps**
- **2nd Turing** ❤️ **with 15652 Reward Stamps**
- **3rd Attenborough** ❤️ **with 14760 Reward Stamps**
- **4th Seacole** ❤️ **with 14642 Reward Stamps**

>> For more information, please visit our dedicated [House System](#) website page.

Attendance Champions: Autumn Term 1 Winners! 🏆

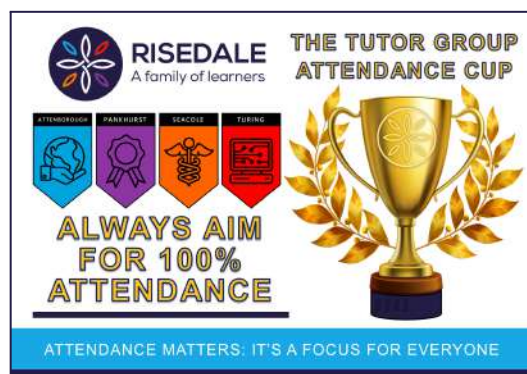
We've had fantastic attendance from our tutor groups during the first half-term of the new academic year!

Every week, we've celebrated the group with the highest combined attendance, recognising their commitment to being in school and ready to learn. These consistent efforts are crucial, as high attendance is directly linked to individual academic success and helps create a positive, productive learning environment for everyone.

Congratulations to Our Weekly Winners!

Here are the tutor groups who won the top spot each week. A special shout-out to groups who achieved a perfect **100%**!

05/09/2025	7 Reid, 7 Shephard & 7 Shergold	100%
12/09/2025	7 Reid & 9 Dean	100%
19/09/2025	7 Shephard	98.82%
26/09/2025	7 Hill	98.00%
03/10/2025	9 Dunphy	95.00%
10/10/2025	7 Shergold	98.24%
17/10/2025	7 Shergold	99.43%
24/10/2025	7 Reid	98.24%



Massive congratulations and extra recognition go to the pupils of **7Shergold** and **7Reid**! Both groups demonstrated incredible consistency by achieving an outstanding **three weekly wins each** throughout the half-term. Well done on your sustained commitment to excellent attendance!

Well done to all the winning tutor groups! Keep up the excellent work next half-term!



RISEDALE
A family of learners