



RISEDALE

A family of learners

Keep In Touch

KIT Newsletter

April 2025





Dear parents/carers and pupils,

The last half-term was packed with events, from the annual Careers Fair to the Rotary Club Technology Tournament, World Book Day activities, Year 10 Work Experience and some fantastic commitment shown by our sports teams with some brilliant results.

Our teaching staff engaged in training linked to the importance of regular knowledge recall and how being prompted to regularly delve into our memory for both long and short-term knowledge helps us to learn more effectively. We are now, as a school, building this into all lessons alongside our more targeted questioning.

We also launched our new school Vision and Values following extensive consultation with staff, pupils, parents and governors. A reminder of these is on the next page - our assemblies and tutor time programme, in particular, will be centred on the value of **RESPONSIBILITY** this half-term.



I am immensely proud of all Risedale pupils and their achievements, but a special mention must go, in this newsletter, to cheerleaders Eva Langdale, Lacey Hanson and Sienna-Jade Hanson, who have just had yet another amazing victory at the Allstar World Cheerleading Championship in Florida. An incredible success - such excellent ambassadors for our school, showing real resilience and determination in their hard work and practice.

Please enjoy reading our KIT Newsletter, and 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



OUR VISION & VALUES

Our aspiration is that every pupil and staff member is supported to be the **BEST** version of themselves.

Members of our Risedale family will feel a strong sense of belonging and accomplishment as a direct result of attending our school. They will accumulate knowledge, cultural capital and social skills, such as empathy and kindness, enabling them to thrive in society and enjoy healthy **RELATIONSHIPS**. All our pupils will make good progress from their starting points.

At whatever stage of their education Risedale pupils leave us, they will be well-equipped to take the next steps on their journey to becoming a **RESPONSIBLE**, **RESPECTFUL** and **RESILIENT** citizen who can embrace change and learn from mistakes.

We are 'The Risedale Family' and together we are 'A family of learners'.

Careers Fair 2025

Empowering Pupils' Futures at Risedale's Successful Careers Day

On Thursday, 27th February, Risedale School's main hall was transformed into an interactive career marketplace as pupils explored a wide range of pathways at the annual Careers Fair. This event provided direct access to industry experts and further education establishments, encouraging pupils to ask questions and discover their potential.



Throughout the day, pupils broadened their horizons by engaging directly with representatives from Darlington College, Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College, Askham Bryan College, Amey, The ASK Programme, CLC Group, Gestamp, INPIPE Products, Martin Gray Football Academy, MPCT (Military Preparation College for Training), Purple Creative Studio, Tom Willoughby Ltd and the Armed Forces. They seized the opportunity to ask questions, gain valuable insights, and uncover a variety of post-16 opportunities.



This year's fair was designed to move beyond simply showcasing options, focusing instead on fostering genuine connections and sparking meaningful dialogue. Pupils were encouraged to ask questions specific to their interests and career aspirations, taking ownership of their exploration and gathering insightful information directly from representatives across the various educational and professional fields.



Risedale's Careers Leader, Helen Porritt, said, ***“We aimed to create an experience that would truly resonate with our pupils. It wasn't just about handing out brochures; it was about opening doors to real-world opportunities and empowering our pupils to visualise their***





potential futures. Our commitment to robust Careers, Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) underpins all our career-focused initiatives, ensuring pupils have the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions. We also wanted to highlight the diverse skills and pathways that are valued in today's workforce, from apprenticeships to higher education, from creative industries to STEM fields, allowing pupils to explore a wide range of possibilities."

Khusela Mbassa, Social Value Advisor for Amey, said, *"It's been fantastic seeing Risedale's future generation chart their lives! The pupils were so engaged, especially with our Gravity Maze task, and we had amazing conversations about apprenticeships. Hearing how last year's work experience with Amey helped them in their applications was truly rewarding and makes it all worthwhile!"*



Martin Heard from Gestamp commented, *"It was a pleasure to be at the Careers Day; there were some brilliant questions being asked, which showed the intelligence and engineering mindset some of the students had. Hopefully we will see you again next year!"*



The event's impact was further amplified by news coverage from Robbie Burns, Radio Presenter, Producer & Programmer for BFBS Radio, who captured the day's vibrant atmosphere. We are also



immensely grateful for the unwavering support of our Careers Advisor, Tracy Harris, whose expertise is invaluable, and to Nicola Stannard, an HR & Recruitment Manager from the North East, whose recent insights from her guest speaker session at our Tuesday lunchtime Careers Cafe proved particularly relevant for the pupils.

The Risedale Careers Fair provided a memorable and impactful experience for our pupils, opening their eyes to a world of career possibilities. We are deeply appreciative of the time and expertise shared by our exhibitors, our valued guests, and the unwavering support of our school staff. The meticulous planning and execution, particularly by our Careers Team, Office and Site Teams, ensured a smooth and engaging event, allowing our pupils to fully benefit from this exceptional opportunity.

For more information on our Careers, Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme, please [CLICK HERE](#).

A Heartfelt Thank You from StoreHouse

We'd like to extend a sincere thank you to StoreHouse at Influence Church for their kind letter acknowledging Risedale's contributions to their annual school uniform event. It's truly heartwarming to know that our efforts in promoting and supporting this vital initiative are appreciated. The event's accessibility to everyone, regardless of financial circumstances, truly resonated with us.



Last year, StoreHouse achieved some remarkable milestones, including providing 33,537 meals, equipping 130 children with school uniforms, distributing 13 bundles for babies, delivering 70+ Christmas hampers, supporting 40 households through their Heating Hub, diverting 156 crates of food waste to animal sanctuaries, and distributing 5 homeless packs.

Thank you again for your recognition and for the valuable work you do in our community.

Rotary Technology Tournament 2025



Risedale School's STEM Teams Excel in Regional Challenge

Risedale School pupils showcased their design and engineering skills at the 2025 Rotary Technology Tournament held on Tuesday, 4th March. The event, a collaborative effort between the Rotary Club of Northallerton and the 1st Close Support Battalion REME, presented a unique challenge: to design and build a mechanical car capable of travelling through a tunnel and effectively moving a pile of rubble.

Three teams from Risedale, comprised of pupils from Years 8 and 9, joined 43 teams from other local schools in this demanding competition. All three teams demonstrated remarkable resilience and creative problem-solving throughout the day. STEM encompasses the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, and the tournament was designed to promote these critical subjects.

The pupils' dedication and hard work paid off, with one Risedale team, featuring Year 9 pupils Byron Dagnall, Thomas Remmer, Syaron Shrish, and Harley Waring, achieving a commendable third-place finish in the overall competition.

"I am incredibly proud of all our pupils who participated in the Rotary STEM Tournament. They represented the school brilliantly," said Mrs Vizor, Teacher of Design & Technology. *"Their creativity and teamwork were outstanding, and the third-place win is a testament to their hard work. Promoting STEM subjects is incredibly important at Risedale, and this event provided a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to apply their skills in a practical and engaging way. We are dedicated to showing our pupils how these subjects connect to a wide range of exciting future careers. I would also like to extend a special thank you to Mr Raw, our D&T Technician, who accompanied us to the event."*

Congratulations #TeamRisedale ❤️💜💛❤️

Year 8: Willow Curtis, Indi Gray, Noah Hughes and Lucy Scott.

Year 9: Jak Atkinson, Honour Bretherick, Byron Dagnall, Emily Furey, Thomas Remmer, Syaron Shrish, Harley Waring and Olivia Williams.



Head of Art's Ceramics Shine at London's Prestigious Collect Art Fair!

We are incredibly proud to share that our exceptional Head of Art, Ms Westwood, recently captivated the art world with her stunning ceramic artworks at the renowned Collect Art Fair, hosted by the Crafts Council in London!

Collect, a globally celebrated showcase for the very best in contemporary craft and design, is an incredibly selective event. Ms Westwood's inclusion is a resounding testament to her extraordinary talent, unwavering dedication, and sheer artistic brilliance.

For the exhibition, Ms Westwood presented "The Seven Sisters," a collection of seven large, hand-coiled ceramic vases that she carefully crafted over the course of a year in her home studio. These pieces explore the rich themes of myths, legends, and human stories, using lighthearted humour, wordplay, and nostalgia to highlight social contradictions. Importantly, the visible marks of the creation process, such as deliberate imperfections and fingerprints, are just as crucial to the narrative as the intricately decorated surfaces.

"The Seven Sisters" drew crowds of admirers, sparking lively conversations and earning high praise from collectors and critics alike.

"We couldn't be prouder of Ms Westwood!" exclaimed Headteacher Mrs Greenwood. ***"Her participation in Collect is a monumental achievement; a true reflection of her exceptional artistry and relentless pursuit of creative excellence. Ms Westwood's passion ignites a spark within our pupils, demonstrating what's possible when talent meets dedication. She's a true inspiration to our entire Risedale Family."***

"It was such an honour to be part of Collect," Ms Westwood shared. ***"It was an amazing experience! I'm so grateful for the opportunity to showcase my work alongside such talented artists. I truly hope this experience inspires my pupils to embrace their creativity and to follow their artistic passions with unwavering enthusiasm."***

We are delighted to celebrate Ms Westwood's remarkable achievement. We are so proud to have her as our Head of Art, and we wish her all the best in her future artistic endeavours. Ms Westwood's success serves as a shining example for our pupils, demonstrating that artistic dreams can become a reality. She embodies the spirit of creativity and encourages our young artists to explore their unique voices.



Risedale School Celebrated a Week of Literary Delights for World Book Day 2025!

Risedale School transformed World Book Day into a week-long celebration of reading, proving that the love of books is a constant source of joy and engagement for the Risedale Family. While World Book Day officially fell on Thursday, 6th March, Risedale extended the festivities, packing each day with exciting literary activities.

The library, the heart of the school's reading culture, was the central hub for all the fun. Miss Sellers, our dedicated school librarian, and her team of amazing Pupil Librarians – Kaiden Collins, Scarlett Hodgson, Harry Iddon, Oliver Lavery, Ella Naylor, Thomas Remmer, Alba Sowerby, Mabel Thirlwell, Olivia Williams, and Peighton Williams – curated a whirlwind of bookish activities that captivated pupils throughout the week:

Monday: The week kicked off with a playful "Guess the Bookworms in the Jar!" challenge. Won by Millie Ewart (7Westwood).

Tuesday: Creativity was unleashed with a "Finish the Silly Poem Competition," offering valuable Epraise points and chocolate for the most imaginative entries. Won by Ashleigh Cuthbertson (9Allen) and Ella Naylor (8Dean).

Wednesday: Literary knowledge was tested with "Guess the Book Title," complete with sweet rewards for correct answers.

Thursday, World Book Day: Pupils dove into a "Shredded Book Mystery," promising more sweet treats for those who could solve the puzzle and a school-wide "Where's Wally?" Scavenger Hunt. Every pupil at Risedale also received their £1 World Book Day token.

Friday: The week concluded with a treasure hunt and an engaging lunchtime literary quiz.

Adding to the spirit of community and giving back, Risedale hosted a Book Drive throughout the week. Pupils were encouraged to donate their preloved books to the library for a chance to win prizes or Epraise points.





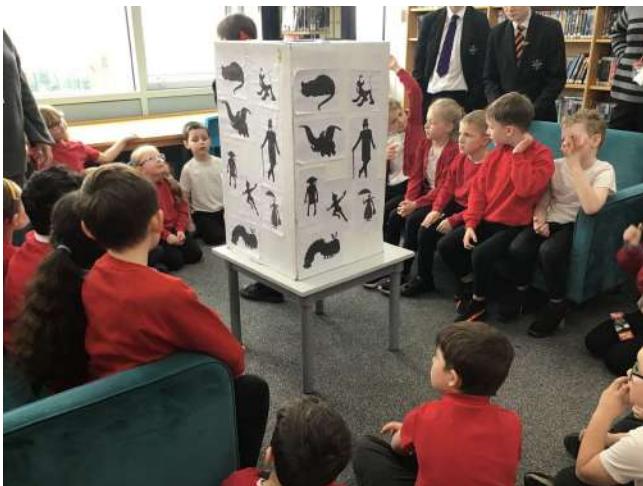
A particularly exciting highlight of the week was welcoming students from Hipswell Church of England Primary School to Risedale. Older pupils from Risedale shared their passion for reading with the younger students, reading to them and fostering a wonderful inter-school community celebration.

Mrs Regan, Deputy Headteacher and SENCo at Hipswell Primary School, thanked Risedale and said, *"All the classes enjoyed their visits over to see you, and we would definitely be interested in a similar event next year. The Hipswell children and staff said it was a lovely way to celebrate World Book Day and loved seeing the library and meeting your pupils."*



The extended World Book Day celebrations are a testament to the efforts of our school Librarian, Miss Sellers, and her team of dedicated Librarians, who created such engaging and diverse activities.

Miss Sellers praised her team of Pupil Librarians, saying, *"I am incredibly proud of our Pupil Librarians. Their hard work and dedication throughout the year make the library a vibrant and welcoming space for everyone. They truly go above and beyond, and their love for reading is infectious. When the librarians were sharing their passion for reading with the younger Hipswell pupils, you could see how captivated they were. You could have heard a pin drop! They were captivated."*



"The Risedale School library is more than just a place to borrow books," Miss Sellers explained. *"It's a welcoming and safe space where pupils can explore their interests, study, play board games, find solace in a good story, and connect with others. We strive to create an environment that fosters a lifelong love of literacy among all pupils and a place that feels welcoming and inspiring for everyone."*



Pupil Ambassadors: Leading Mental Health & Wellbeing Initiatives



A powerful wave of positive change is sweeping through Risedale School, spearheaded by our dedicated Pupil Mental Health Ambassadors. This exceptional group of pupils is actively shaping a supportive and nurturing environment for everyone. Meeting fortnightly, these young leaders are not just discussing mental wellbeing – they're making it a reality.

Their impact is already significant. They've taken a critical role in reviewing and refining our school's Positive Mental Health and Wellbeing Policy, ensuring it truly reflects the needs of our pupil body. Furthermore, they've relaunched our Wellbeing Google Classroom, providing a space where every pupil can contribute ideas and suggestions for fostering positive mental health.

Currently, the Ambassadors are channelling their creativity into crafting a powerful mental health and wellbeing motto that will resonate throughout the school. They are also developing essential content for Social Studies lessons within the PSHCEe curriculum, ensuring that every pupil knows who their Mental Health Ambassadors are and how they can help.

Lisa Smith, our School Counsellor, shares, *"It's truly inspiring to see these pupils take such a proactive role in supporting their peers and the Risedale Family. Their dedication to fostering a positive mental health environment is making a real difference in our school community."*

This is more than just a club; it's a movement. We are committed to fostering a culture of openness and support, where every pupil feels valued and heard. The work is ongoing, and we extend a warm welcome to any pupil who wishes to join this vital initiative and become a champion for mental wellbeing.

For more information about [Health and Wellbeing](#) please visit our dedicated website page.

Year 9 Boys' Football

In a hard-fought cup semi-final on Tuesday, 18th March, Risedale's Year 9 Boys football team faced The Wensleydale School and Sixth Form. The match was a tense affair, with both teams displaying strong determination. Risedale put in a commendable performance, holding Wensleydale to a 1-1 draw at halftime.

Despite Risedale's best efforts, the final whistle blew with Wensleydale securing victory and a place in the cup final. Risedale's team can be proud of their efforts, and we wish Wensleydale the best of luck in the final.



Year 7 and 10 Boys' Rugby

On Wednesday 19th March, Wensleydale RUFC hosted a thrilling 7's tournament, and our teams rose to the challenge!

The Year 7 squad displayed tremendous spirit and determination. Despite a challenging start, they secured a well-deserved victory, finishing with 1 win and 2 losses. Every player contributed, but George Clift (7Dovaston) truly shone, demonstrating exceptional pace and skill to score a series of fantastic tries. His performance was a highlight of the day!



The Year 10 team faced a tough opening match, but they quickly rallied. After that initial setback, they found their rhythm, battling to a draw and then finishing strongly with two consecutive wins. Their resilience and adaptability were impressive, showcasing excellent rugby skills in the beautiful Wensleydale sunshine. The team's improvement throughout the tournament was a testament to the standard of rugby we strive for at Risedale.

"The Year 10s' resilience was particularly impressive," noted Head of PE, Mr Lawson. ***"To come back from a first-game loss and finish with two wins and a draw shows real character. And George Clift's try-scoring for the Year 7s was outstanding. Overall, it was a great day for #TeamRisedale".***



U13 Girls' Football: Semi-Final Showdown (20/03/25)

The first day of spring ushered in the sunshine and high stakes as the Risedale U13 girls' football team faced Northallerton School & Sixth Form College in a highly anticipated semi-final clash. An electrifying start saw Louise Savery (8 Dean) swiftly put Risedale ahead with a 1-0 lead. Savery struck again before halftime, doubling Risedale's tally and increasing the team's hopes of reaching the final.



Despite a valiant and determined effort from every Risedale player on the pitch in the second half, Northallerton ultimately prevailed with a 6-2 victory and will progress to the final. We wish them well.

Team coach, Mr J Metcalfe, expressed immense pride in his team's performance. ***"As always, I am incredibly proud of the girls' unwavering commitment and sportsmanship throughout the match. They gave their absolute best, demonstrating resilience even in the face of a challenging result."*** He also extended heartfelt gratitude to Charlotte Watkins (10Vizor) for her commendable refereeing of the match.

Want to join the team? Girls' Football Training is on Thursdays after school, and we want YOU! No matter your experience, come and join the team for skills, laughs, and friendship. Everyone welcome!

Year 7 Boys' Football

Risedale School's Year 7 Boys' Football Team hosted Northallerton School & Sixth Form College on Thursday, 20th March. The first half presented challenges for Risedale, but the team regrouped effectively during the break, returning to the field with renewed focus. The second half witnessed a significant shift in momentum, with Risedale demonstrating remarkable teamwork and determination. They



matched Northallerton goal for goal, showcasing their resilience and commitment. The second-half performance was a testament to their hard work. Billy Maclean and Joey Ormston, both from 7Dovaston, delivered outstanding performances, their work rate and passing combinations proving pivotal for Risedale.

Post-match, team coach Mr Allen praised his players, stating, ***"The boys showed incredible character to bounce back like that. Their second-half performance was a testament to their hard work and determination."*** He highlighted Billy and Joey's contributions, adding, ***"They worked their socks off from start to finish and produced some brilliant passing plays between them. Well done, everyone!"***

Red Nose Day 2025



Risedale School buzzed with vibrant energy on Friday, 21st March, when pupils and staff came together to support Red Nose Day 2025. The school's annual non-uniform day proved to be a resounding success, with a sea of colourful outfits flooding the corridors and classrooms, all in the name of raising vital funds for Comic Relief.

"It's fantastic to see the whole school community come together like this," said Senior Teacher, Mrs Hailwood. *"Red Nose Day is a brilliant opportunity to teach our pupils about the importance of helping others, and they've certainly risen to the challenge."*

We're thrilled to announce that the final total raised by Risedale School for Comic Relief 2025 was £370.00!

"We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of our pupils, parents, and staff," added Mrs Hailwood *"Every penny raised will make a real difference to people's lives, both here in the UK and around the world."*

The school would like to thank everyone who participated in making Red Nose Day 2025 such a memorable and successful event.

To find out more about the fantastic [Charity Work and Fundraising](#) that takes place at Risedale School, please visit our dedicated website page.

Year 10 Boys' Football

The Risedale Year 10 boys' football team secured a thrilling 4-2 victory over Bedale High School in the cup quarter-final on Friday, 28th March, earning their place in the semi-finals. This victory was a testament to their skill and determination, but it was also a match marked by an extraordinary act of sportsmanship.

The game was a hard-fought contest, with the Risedale boys demonstrating remarkable **RESILIENCE** to overcome Bedale's equalising push. However, the true highlight of the match was the incredible contribution of Risedale's own Corey Hilman. Faced with Bedale's shortage of players, Corey, despite being a Year 9 pupil, selflessly stepped in to play for the opposition, demonstrating exceptional **RESPECT** and sportsmanship.

Despite playing against his own teammates, Corey delivered an outstanding performance, even scoring a spectacular solo goal. His brilliant strike, a powerful shot from outside the box after a dazzling run past several defenders, showcased his remarkable talent. This act of generosity and skill was truly commendable.

Risedale's goals were scored by James Pollock (10Shephard), who opened the scoring with a precise finish, Rio Regan (10Sandell), who demonstrated his athleticism with a well-earned brace, and Aidan MacKintosh (10Bennett), who sealed the victory with a perfectly executed half-volley.



The team now looks forward to their semi-final match against Wensleydale. We wish them the best of luck as they continue their cup journey.

Year 10 Work Experience: A Week of Discovery and Growth



Risedale School's Year 10 pupils recently concluded a highly successful week of work experience, venturing into the professional world with enthusiasm and maturity. The programme, which took place between 31st March and 4th April, was designed to provide invaluable real-world experience, yielded overwhelmingly positive feedback from both participating businesses and the pupils themselves.

Careers Leader, Mrs Porritt, expressed her admiration, stating, ***"The transformation in our Year 10s was remarkable. I witnessed a surge in confidence, coupled with genuine smiles and a newfound maturity. Their enthusiasm was truly inspiring."***

One particularly impressive outcome was observed at AMEY Defence Services, where pupils delivered compelling presentations to a panel of judges, including the Garrison Housing Liaison Officer. ***"The feedback was exceptional,"*** Mrs Porritt noted. ***"The judges were thoroughly impressed by the pupils' dedication and the quality of their work."***

"I want to extend my deepest thanks to all the staff who supported this programme," Mrs Porritt added. ***"From the initial planning in October to the final visits and feedback, your dedication and willingness to go the extra mile have made a***

significant difference. Each and every one of you, regardless of your role, contributed to making this a truly positive and memorable experience for our pupils. Your support has been invaluable."

In-School Placements: Nurturing Talent Within Our Walls



Beyond external placements, numerous pupils thrived in internal roles, contributing to the school's daily operations. Miss Sellers, our school Librarian, praised Kaiden Collins' contributions, saying, *"Kaiden was an absolute delight to have in the library. His dedication and ability to connect with younger pupils were exceptional. I was particularly impressed by his creative display and engaging 'Friday Find' scavenger hunt. He even shared his love of reading by visiting Hipswell Primary School and reading to some very enthusiastic Year 1 pupils."* Kaiden's

experience extended beyond the library, as he also assisted teachers in various departments, earning numerous accolades and praise for his professionalism and eagerness to learn.

Similarly, Riley Filius made a significant impact in the school canteen. Mrs Atkins remarked, *"I thought I would let you all know how amazing Riley has been during his work experience week with us in the kitchen. He has been a pleasure to have; his attention to detail and commitment have been first-class. What a lovely lad he is!"*



Trades Day: Hands-On Learning and Future Pathways

On Tuesday 1st April, Risedale School transformed into a bustling hub of practical learning as a selected group of Year 10 pupils participated in a dynamic mini-trades fair. They were able to try out real jobs from the building and construction industry, thanks to the dedicated staff from CLC Group, Tivoli Group, and Amey Defence Services, who generously shared their expertise and passion. Trade stations were set up, transforming the hall into a dynamic learning environment. Pupils rotated through each station, gaining a valuable overview of diverse job roles. This allowed the pupils to experience first-hand what these careers would be like





Imagine the scene: pupils, wide-eyed with curiosity, carefully placing bricks under the watchful eye of seasoned bricklayers, or the focused concentration as they learned the intricacies of electrical wiring. The trade stands, covering Health & Safety, Quantity Surveying, Plumbing, Electrical, Carpentry & Joinery, Plastering, and Bricklaying, provided a comprehensive glimpse into the trades sector.

“It was a brilliant afternoon seeing our pupils engaging in all the different activities, asking lots of questions and ‘giving it a go!’ ” remarked Helen Porritt, Careers Leader. *“It was also incredibly inspiring to see former Risedale pupils, now skilled tradespeople, sharing their knowledge and career journeys, demonstrating the rewarding paths available in these areas of work.”* The presence of alumni served as a powerful motivation, showcasing the tangible success that can be achieved.



The success of the day was due to the hard work and organisation of Bob Boal, Amy Kellary and their staff from CLC Group, Dan Hiles and staff from Tivoli Group and Khusela Mbassa and Lauren Park from Amey Defence Services. Their efforts provided a real-world experience for the pupils.

This Trades Day wasn't just about trying out tools; it was about opening pupils' eyes to the vast opportunities within skilled trades, addressing the crucial skills gap, and fostering a deeper understanding of these vital professions. Risedale School is committed to providing pupils with diverse career pathways, and this event was a testament to that dedication.

#TeamRisedale ❤️💜💛❤️ **#BEST**
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Y10 Work Experience Spotlight:

Future Architect Gains Real-World Experience at Harris Irwin



A special thank you to Harris Irwin Architects for this insightful report on Joshua-Jay's week of Work Experience:

We are delighted to welcome Joshua-Jay Whitaker, a Year 10 student from Risedale School, for a week's work experience.

*Fourteen-year-old Joshua-Jay has an avid interest in design and is already mapping out his future studies in architecture. Rob McCartney, Associate and Architect, said: **"Joshua-Jay really impressed us with how much he has researched the routes into architecture, gearing his GCSE options accordingly to ensure he has the right subjects to progress at A-level to apply for university. It has been refreshing to work with such a keen young student who has the confidence to ask questions and is eager to develop and find out more about how a design evolves and how a practice operates."***

During his week with us, Joshua-Jay has been given case studies to work on, enabling him to try some of the different design software packages, which he quickly found his way around.

*Joshua-Jay added: **"The experience has shown me what a working practice actually looks and feels like, giving me a great insight into the different roles within architecture and the paths I could take. It has been such a valuable experience to work alongside and learn from industry experts, and I wish to thank everyone at Harris Irwin for making me feel so welcome. I hope that I may have the opportunity to return for some more experience when I am in Year 12."***



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Risedale School would like to extend a huge thank you to the businesses and providers who have hosted our pupils for Work Experience Week. We have been amazed by the generosity in hosting a pupil and your positive feedback for them. Well done to all our Year 10 pupils who completed work experience. I have never seen so many happy, confident young people out on placement - you have really raised the bar!

Mrs Porritt (Careers Leader)



Amey Defence Services, Armstrong Mortimer Interiors, Attire Boutique, Northallerton, Auto MC Ltd. Bradford, Barnardo's, Burneston C of E Primary School, Carnagill Community Primary School, Catterick Golf Club, Colburn Community Primary School, Delish, Doncaster & Rotherham District Motor Trades, Fetch a Friend, Georgian Theatre Royal, GLB Construction, Harris Irwin Associates Ltd., Huddersfield Bearings Ltd., Jet Aire, Kidz Day Nursery, Le Cateau Community Primary School, Michael Syddall C of E Primary School, Military Preparation College for Training (MPCT), Neeps and Tatties, Northdale Horticulture, RKG Electrical Services, Risedale School - various Departments, Running Paws, Sirona Polyurethanes Ltd., Tesco, The Wonky Tree Bookstore, Through the Looking Glass, Wavell Community Primary School, WH Malcolm Logistics

Risedale Blooms with Creativity at “Seeds of Love” Family Art Day



Young artists had a unique and inspiring opportunity this Easter holiday at Risedale School, as they collaborated with renowned artist Mackenzie Thorpe for the "Seeds of Love" Family Art Day. Held on Tuesday 8th April, the event saw Service Children and young people create individual hearts that will collectively form the "Seeds of Love: Hearts of Strength" sculpture, planned for the heart of the new Catterick Garrison town centre redevelopment.

The highly anticipated workshop provided a platform for young talent to contribute to a significant piece of public art. Each participating child had the chance to paint and decorate a large resin heart under the guidance of Mackenzie Thorpe himself. This hands-on experience allowed them to not only express their creativity but also to become an integral part of a lasting community landmark.

The day was filled with artistic energy and excitement. Attendees were thrilled to meet Mackenzie Thorpe, gaining invaluable insights and inspiration from the celebrated artist. In addition to the heart-making activity, the young participants engaged in a range of creative workshops led by Thunkit Theatre, the Service Children's Community Choir, and NY Voice. These sessions offered a diverse exploration of artistic mediums, fostering collaboration and self-expression.

A huge shout-out goes to our fantastic local Service Children's Champion, Angela Campbell, and the wonderful team at PT Childcare for their brilliant organisation of this inspiring event! A massive thank you also to the Site Team at Risedale School for their invaluable support and for hosting this memorable day. Finally, a special thank you to our dedicated Service Children's Advocate, Mrs Johnson, for her support during the event and for capturing all the wonderful memories through her photographs!



Risedale School Cheers for World-Champion Athletes!



The Risedale Family is bursting with pride following the phenomenal achievements of three exceptional pupils on the international cheerleading stage. Eva Langdale (10Vizor), and sisters Lacey Hanson (11Dunphy) and Sienna-Jade Hanson (9Lawson) have once again demonstrated their dedication and talent, bringing home incredible accolades from the recent Allstar World Championship in Florida.

Building on their previous international success, where they secured gold medals as part of Team England at the 2024 World Cheerleading Championships in Orlando, the trio continued to showcase their exceptional skills. Representing Lazer Cheer Academy in Catterick Garrison, our talented Risedale pupils faced fierce competition from teams across the globe during the championship held from 15th to 18th April over the Easter holidays.

Lazer Cheer Academy entered two teams into the prestigious competition, and both achieved remarkable success by not only making the finals but also executing flawless "zero runs" on the second day – a testament to their precision and composure under pressure. Integral to the success of both teams were Risedale pupils Eva, Lacey and Sienna-Jade.

The "Ice Queens" delivered a breathtaking performance, securing an outstanding **2nd place out of 40 teams** and earning a well-deserved silver medal 🥈.

The "Pink Princesses" soared to victory, being crowned **Allstar World Champions** with an impressive score of 98.1 🏆! This monumental achievement highlights their exceptional talent, unwavering teamwork, and the dedication they have poured into their sport.

The excitement and pride are palpable, with Lazer Cheer Academy expressing their gratitude on social media, stating, *"Thank you for all the love and support that we are receiving from back home, this is an incredible achievement for our little club from Colburn."*



Risedale School extends its warmest congratulations to Eva, Lacey, and Sienna-Jade on their remarkable accomplishments. Their hard work, passion, and commitment serve as an inspiration to the entire school community. Mrs Greenwood, Headteacher, said: *"We are incredibly proud to have such talented athletes representing Risedale on the world stage"*. Well done, girls and Team Lazer Cheer!

A Royal Performance: Risedale Musicians at Durham Cathedral



Risedale School proudly congratulates Ms Dunphy and Alex Dunphy, members of the Durham Miners' Association Brass Band, on their extraordinary honour of performing at Durham Cathedral for the Maundy Thursday visit of His Majesty the King and Queen on 17th April.

Ms Dunphy, a seasoned Eb Bass player with 36 years of dedication to brass bands, and Alex, the band's talented drummer of 8 years, represented both the ensemble and their school on this significant royal occasion.

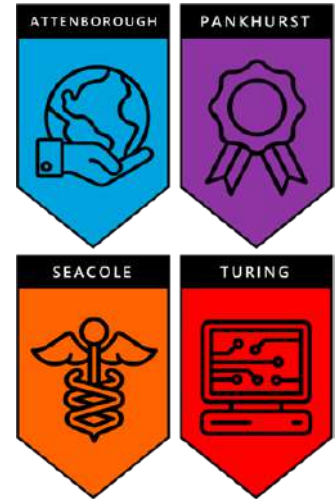
Reflecting on the experience, Alex shared, ***"Being chosen to take part in such a historic and meaningful occasion was a true privilege, and it was an amazing experience for us to represent the band and the school as part of this special royal visit."***

Risedale School extends its warmest congratulations to both Ms Dunphy and Alex on this remarkable achievement and is incredibly proud of their involvement in such a special event.



House System News

April has been a busy month for the House System! We celebrated pupils with excellent attendance and those who have earned positive points through their hard work in lessons, participation in extra-curricular activities, and positive behaviour. A particular highlight was Mr Allen's 'Tricky Towers' House competition, which saw Attenborough 🇧🇷 and Pankhurst 🇵🇰 reach new heights to claim a joint victory! Well done, everyone. Great Work!



The current House Point totals are as follows:

- 1st Seacole 🇨🇦 with 33,683 points
- 2nd Pankhurst 🇵🇰 with 33,150 points
- 3rd Turing 🇩🇪 with 33,112 points
- 4th Attenborough 🇧🇷 with 30,236 points

To view the most up-to-date house point totals and see how each house is progressing throughout the term, please visit our dedicated [House System](#) website page.

Celebrating Attendance 🏆

Last half term, we had some great attendance figures from our tutor groups. Each week, we celebrated the group with the highest combined attendance, recognising their dedication and commitment to their studies. These consistent efforts not only contribute to individual academic success but also foster a positive and productive learning environment for the entire school community.

A special mention must go to the pupils of **7 Westwood**, who won the Tutor Group Attendance Cup an impressive **4** times for **Attenborough House** 🇧🇷. Their exceptional dedication sets a fantastic example for the entire school community.

Well done to all the tutor groups and especially to those who claimed the weekly prize!

Congratulations to our winners:

28/02/2025	7 Westwood	98.70%
07/03/2025	7 Westwood	98.26%
14/03/2025	11 Houlgate	98.26%
21/03/2025	7 Westwood	98.64%
28/03/2025	7 Westwood	97.27%
04/04/2025	7 Dovaston	95.85%



#TeamRisedale 🇧🇷🇵🇰🇨🇦🇩🇪 #BEST

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A family of learners