



10th December 2020

Dear parent/carer,

## **SUBJECT:** Headteacher's Letter - December 2020

As the winter term draws to a close I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all pupils, parents, staff, Governors and stakeholders in the local community for your tremendous support. 2020 has been a very strange year, and for many of us, not an easy one. We've all faced many unexpected challenges and I cannot express how much admiration I have for the way in which the Risedale family has pulled together, shown astounding resilience and more than anything else, kindness. Your continued support is what makes Risedale a great school and one that I am very proud to lead on your behalf.

*Important information for you and your family...*

Notices  
for PARENTS

### **Last day of term: Friday 18th December**

In order to ensure we can learn from the experiences of this term, it is essential that I am able to meet my staff and hold a debriefing so that my Senior Team, Governors and myself can reflect over the break to ensure your children and my staff remain safe as we continue with current procedures into the new year. I have therefore decided to have a socially distanced staff meeting in the very last lesson of the day and therefore **pupils will be leaving school at 1:30pm.**

Buses and taxis will be rearranged by the school office for the slightly earlier finish and likewise we ask that you make the appropriate arrangements for your child's journey home if required.

### **Reporting positive COVID-19 cases once the school is closed:**

Following our closure on 18th December, the school will remain contactable via email up until, and including, Thursday 24th December for parents and staff to notify the Senior Leadership Team of any positive coronavirus cases where symptoms have developed within 48 hours of being in school.

- If a pupil or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, having developed symptoms up to, and including, Sunday 20th December, please email: [COVID@risedale.org.uk](mailto:COVID@risedale.org.uk) to inform the school who will assist in identifying any other pupils or staff who have been in close contact and would be required to self-isolate.
- If a pupil or staff member develops symptoms after Sunday 20th December, please **do not** contact the school. In this instance, get a test as soon possible and follow NHS guidance accordingly: [If you're told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace](#)

If you require support with any queries relating to coronavirus please contact the Department for Education coronavirus helpline on 0800 046 8687 option 4.



Headteacher: Colin D Scott BEd NPQH

Hipswell, Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire, DL9 4BD. Phone: 01748 833501 Fax: 01748 836149

## Emergency Closure Procedure: Snow Day Protocol

If the school is to be closed due to severe weather parents/carers will receive a text message on the day of the closure. The school will aim to send the message by 7:30am. We will also publish our closure on our school [website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

We report our school closure to North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) who will add us to the list of schools closed due to extreme weather on: [NYCC School Closures](#) We also inform local radio stations who regularly read out the names of schools closed due to extreme weather conditions.

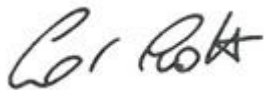
Where possible, Risedale will work with our local Catterick primary feeder schools to make collaborative decisions on school closures (and reopenings) although in some circumstances, independent decisions may have to be made by the individual schools.

If we are able to let you know when school can be reopened we will do so but please appreciate that these decisions might need to be made on a day-by-day basis and can possibly only be made in the morning. Again, we'll try to let you know ASAP and appreciate your understanding. Please do not ring the school or email - we will contact you.

## January Training Day

A reminder that we are having a staff training day on Monday 4th January 2021 and therefore **pupils will return to school on Tuesday 5th January 2021.**

I wish you, and your family, a restful Christmas holiday and look forward to seeing you in the new year,



Mr Colin D Scott - Headteacher

