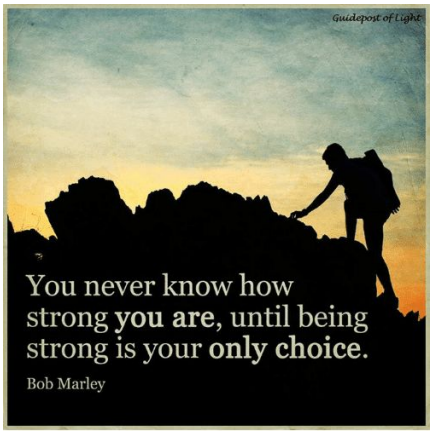
Risedale KEEP IN TOUCH!

Issue 11: Friday 17th July 2020

Dear parents/carers and students,



This is our last KIT letter. It has been a time when all of us have faced great challenges and experienced something we had never even thought about. But through adversity comes strength and the possibility of doing things differently. I have been inspired at every turn by the wonderful relationships in the Risedale community. Parents and carers have become teachers, students have worked on their resilience, and kindness and thought for others has been seen on innumerable occasions. Let us hope that the summer holiday brings some rest, recuperation and the chance to meet family and friends.

We have three staff leaving us and we wish them all the best in whatever the future holds - Rachel Balding, Sky Dickinson and Charlotte Griffiths - good luck to you all!

Stay strong and positive, Mrs Matthewman - Acting Vice Principal

September Opening Plans:

As you will now know the Government has issued guidance to help support us with re-opening school for **all** students in September. Staff have been working hard to make sure that we have a system that will allow for safety and progress for all. Our plans focus round keeping everyone safe and ensuring that all young people quickly get re-established with their learning routines. Our rationale is to empower staff and students to embrace, enjoy and succeed in their learning through a **Refreshed, Focused, Curriculum.**

It is quite possible that government guidance may change over the summer holiday and we are keen that we only send you information that we know is correct for September. Therefore we will write to you again at the beginning of September to ensure that we have considered all the latest guidance.

The following information summarises some key points about our re-opening protocols and the full detail is available in Mr Scott's letter which you can read here: https://bit.ly/RisedaleReturnToSchool

Travel to school: The first difference you will notice is that the school drive will be closed to traffic from 8.10am. Parents must not drive into the school grounds to drop their children off, nor wait in the car park for children to finish school. **The drive into Risedale's car park will be closed to all vehicles between 8:10am and 8:55am in the morning, and from 2:15pm until 3:00pm in the afternoon.** This is to avoid overcrowding and ensure a safe start to the staggered day. We are recommending that as many students as possible walk or cycle to school. If your child is travelling to school by public transport they must wear a face covering. This must then be removed on arrival at school as per the current guidance.

First Day Back - Wednesday 9th September:

- Our new Year 7 should arrive for an 8:25am start (and must start to arrive at 8:15 but no earlier). School will end for Y7 at 2:30pm.
- Our Year 8 and 9 pupils should arrive for a 10:00am start (and must not start to arrive until 9:50am). School will end for Y8 and 9 at 2:40pm.
- Our Year 10 and 11 pupils should arrive for an 11:00am start (and must not start to arrive until 10:50am). School will end for Y10 and 11 at 2:50pm.

Start and Finish times from Thursday 10th September:

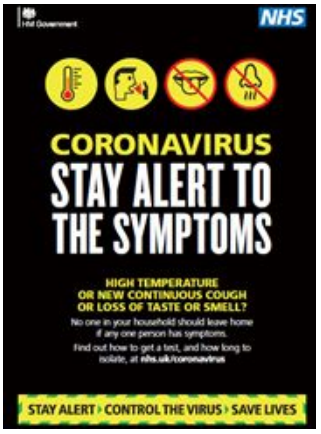
Following the different timings for our first day back, below are timings for the second day and all subsequent days thereafter until further notice.

- Years 7, 8 and 9 will arrive for an 8:25am start (and should start to arrive no earlier than 8:15am). School will finish for Year 7, 8 and 9 at 2:40pm.
- Years 10 and 11 will arrive for an 8:40am start (and should start to arrive no earlier than 8:30am). School will finish for Y10 and Y11 at 3.10pm. However, this is likely to be extended to a later finish time, and possibly to 4pm, for many pupils in GCSE groups as we develop intervention strategies to allow those pupils to catch up on lost work ready for their exams.

Student Bubbles: Your child will be in a whole year group bubble. They will not mix beyond this bubble at any time during the school day. This is to reduce the number of contacts your child will have during the school day. Your child will remain largely in one area and teaching staff will come to them.

Keeping Children Safe in School - New Procedures to Increase Safety:

Increased cleaning in school throughout the day; hand sanitiser in all classrooms; reduced movement round school; staggered starts and ends of the day; staggered lunches in year group bubbles; longer lessons to reduce movement (4 lessons rather than 6); desks arranged in rows; no breakfast club; students must NOT arrive more than 10 minutes before their allotted start time.



If your child is ill: If your child is unwell with Covid-19 symptoms, or anyone in your household has symptoms, **you must not send your child to school.** Contact the NHS/Government website to arrange a test. Click this link Coronavirus (COVID-19): getting tested - GOV.UK Your whole household must self-isolate for 14 days. The guidance can be found at this link - Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection If the test reveals that they are negative, then your household can go back to normal and your child can and should return to school. We ask all parents to report any absence from school by contacting the office before 9am on the first morning of the absence.

Visiting the school and making appointments: Our relationships with parents and carers are central to what we do however the process in September will be slightly different. Any parent or carer wishing to visit the school site will need to make an appointment. This is another measure that

will keep staff and students safe. Appointments will be available from 9am until 2pm and again between 3pm and 4pm and only when the member of staff is available.

The Covid Summer Food Fund (Free School Meals)

An email has been sent to those families who are eligible for free school meal vouchers over the summer holiday period. FSM Vouchers will be issued in the w/c 10th August. A reminder text will be sent out on the 6th/7th August. Any questions please contact morley.g@risedale.org.uk

A message to our leavers:

Every year at this time we see staff and students move on to pastures new. Although we have had to forsake the usual celebrations and traditions of farewells we have you all in our hearts and wish you the very best on the next stage of your exciting journey - wherever that may take you. We will miss you all and thank you for your dedication to the Risedale family, whether as a colleague or student.

We wanted to share this lovely message that our Student Support Manager, Mrs Wright, received from one of our parents. It really does speak volumes about our school, our community and the positive impact we are having on young peoples' lives:

"Thank you so much for everything you and the school have done for my daughter. I have seen her grades improve dramatically since being at Risedale and can't thank you all enough for everything you have done. Anybody moving to Catterick wanting recommendations for high schools I have, and always will, recommend Risedale."

On Friday 10th July the Prime Minister Boris Johnson made an address to all school leavers. You can see his broadcast via Facebook and Youtube here:

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/borisjohnson/videos/276146363490495/

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-WsDuO6Gmw

A message about GCSE results

Year 11 leavers will receive their GCSE grades on Thursday 20th August. Due to social distancing requirements, the guidance is currently that we DO NOT hold a results day at school.

We will therefore be sending these results out by email on the day and then also sending a copy in the post. To ensure grades can be received promptly, please can EACH student personally email Mrs Tonkin on tonkin.j@risedale.org.uk from either their school email address or a personal email address and nominate a personal email address to use. A more detailed email has been sent to student school email addresses about our plan to use these email addresses.

Further information will be sent out to year 11 leavers later using these email addresses (with a copy of the information enclosed when GCSE results are posted) about support available in school after GCSE results are received, appeals and the autumn exam series.

A message about Year 11 Leaver Reports

Year 11 final reports will shortly be uploaded to MCAS and emailed out to parents. A printed copy will be sent out with the GCSE results in August.

A message from Ms Benson about Y11 Prom

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Unfortunately, due to the Government guidelines we were unable to have our Y11 Prom during July as originally planned. As you will already be aware, we have a **first reserve date of 11th September** and hopefully this will mean that our final celebration of your time at Risedale can go ahead. As a precautionary measure Ms Benson has also secured a **second reserve date of 16th October** 'just in case' so please make a note of both dates in your diary.

Ms Benson will be in touch with parents and students via email when we know more.

GCSE Exams Summer 2021

Please note that there is currently some uncertainty about the exact dates of the GCSEs next year and it is highly possible that the examinations will be delayed and will therefore not finish until July. To ensure students leave with a grade in all subjects, it is imperative that they are available for all examinations. Please, therefore, **do not book holidays at this stage during the term-time weeks of July 2021.** Thank you in advance for your support with this. Please contact us if you have already booked any holidays next July so that we can assist in this matter. Any questions please email our Vice Principal Mr Yates: yates@risedale.org.uk or our Exams Officer Mrs Tonkin: tonkin.j@risedale.org.uk

Investment into technology for all Year 7 students

Risedale Sports and Community College always invests in the young people of our family in school. As we have grown, we have been able to do even more for them. In the last two years we have invested heavily in computer technology, for example new computers in classrooms and new WiFi around the site, and we intend to ramp this provision up further to be more personal to your children.

During the pandemic, it has been apparent that many of our young people have suffered inequality in their education by being unable to access the online learning provided for them. This is going to change starting September 2020. Although steps have been taken to help the most disadvantaged with the loan of technology the school has limited numbers to lend out.

So, starting in September, all of our year 7 pupils will be issued with a personal laptop device to increase the range of high quality learning opportunities available to them,

ensuring support for learning and helping to secure rapid progress. This device will be for them to use both in school and at home. Students need to be prepared for an increasingly digital world. Research has confirmed that good home access to technology has a positive impact on a child's educational achievements; it often motivates them to do schoolwork by providing more interesting and engaging ways to learn.

We have committed to this programme of issuing personal devices every year going forward, so in September 2021 the new Year 7 then (the young ones about to go into Year 6 now) will also benefit. Within four years ALL of the young people attending Risedale will have their own personal device to help with their learning. All of this is at no cost to any parent; it represents a substantial and ongoing financial commitment by governors, senior leaders and teachers of your local community school and will last as long as we are able to afford it.

Exciting times are ahead and we welcome the support of parents to keep this and all other initiatives going for the benefit of all children who live in Catterick and attend Risedale Sports and Community College.

Essential PPE made at Risedale

To support the COVID-19 pandemic, Risedale's DT department has been busy making protective face shields for key workers. Some of those visors went to Quakers Lane Surgery in Richmond and we received this lovely letter of thanks. →

Other visors made as part of the Richmond Yorks COVID-19 Mutual Aid group were issued to ambulance crews, midwives, care homes, community nurses, animal rescue centres and other volunteers, all working together to support the COVID-19 pandemic. **!!! FANTASTIC !!!**

Quakers Lane Surgery

Jacqueline A Moon MB, ChB, MRCGP
Tim Mawer MB, ChB, MRCGP
Dan Wilkins MA, MB, Chb, MRCP(UK), MRCGP
Andrew Boothroyd BM, BS, MRCGP

Quakers Lane
Richmond
North Yorkshire
DL10 4BB

Telephone: 01748 850440
Facsimile: 01748 850802

Our Ref: TM/JW/L261

Date: 06/07/20

C/o Mr G Palmer

Mr C Scott
Principal
Risedale Sports College
Hipswell
Catterick Garrison
DL9 4BD

Dear Mr Scott

This is just a few lines to **Thank You Very Much** for the eye protection shields which Mr Palmer kindly dropped off at Quakers Lane Surgery at the commencement of lockdown when PPE was in such short supply.

At a time when we were struggling to obtain PPE here at the surgery the face shields came in very useful for our clinical staff and I can confirm that we will also be able to use them at our forthcoming flu clinics which commence in September.

Thank you once again, we very much appreciate the kindness that has been shown to us by Risedale Sports College.

Yours sincerely,

Jill Woodcock
Practice Manager

The Risedale Summer Reading Challenge

We hope you all have plenty to read over the summer holidays. Don't forget there are lots of challenges and activities on the Library Google Classroom to keep you busy. We would also like to set a challenge for you over the holidays. There are two challenge options and of course you could do both! Complete the bingo tasks, bring your evidence into school in September and be entered into the competition for your chance to win a prize. You will find the challenge on the Library Google Classroom from Monday 20th July. Good luck and have fun!

Berlin Trip - Postponed

The Berlin Trip is now **postponed until 24-26th February 2021**. If your child's place has been confirmed for this trip, please continue to make payments via ParentPay as well as submitting your child's passport details if you have not already done so. Please can you do this at your earliest convenience as without these details, we cannot book your child's flights.

- **Email Passport Details:** Please email the following (as it appears on the passport) to lodge.s@risedale.org.uk : First name, last name, DOB, passport number, passport start date, passport expiry date, country of issue, nationality, gender.
- **Check/Renew Passport:** Your child's passport must have at least 6 months left in order to travel. If it does not, you will need to renew the passport at a cost of £49 online: Get a passport for your child: Renew a child passport - GOV.UK.
- **EHIC Card:** Please can you also register for a free EHIC card: Apply for a free European Health Insurance Card (EHIC).

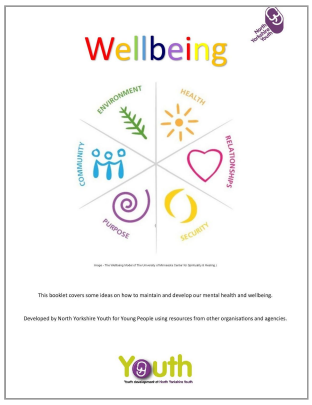
Please email lipinski.a@risedale.org.uk if you have any further questions.

Thank you and keep safe.
Mr Lipinski - Head of History

Confidential and impartial support line for young people, parents and families

MIND in Darlington now offers a support helpline giving information and advice to children, parents and families on a variety of topics relating to children and young people aged 11-18. To access this FREE and confidential service please contact 07432 843161 between 10.00-12 noon each weekday Monday-Friday. If the telephone line is busy or unavailable please make contact with MIND via email crew@darlingtonmind.com . A member of the support team will be monitoring incoming messages and will make contact with you either immediately or at an agreed time later that day. The service may ask for some of your details in order to record your information to assist them in making informed decisions around the appropriate type of support for your concerns.

Wellbeing Booklet produced by North Yorkshire Youth



A wellbeing booklet has been developed by North Yorkshire Youth for Young People using resources from other organisations and agencies. It covers some ideas on how to maintain and develop our mental health and wellbeing. You can view the booklet here: [Wellbeing Booklet by North Yorkshire Youth]

Crafty Corner with Mrs Plews -Wiggly String Bowls

Summer Holidays are here! And here's a messy, crafty idea to keep you creative over the summer.

Here's are the things you'll need:

- Paint or felt tip pens
- String or garden twine
- Scissors
- Cling film
- A bowl
- PVA glue

And here's how you do it:

1. Cut out lengths of string or garden twine and colour with watery paint or felt tip pens, then leave to dry.
2. Choose a suitable bowl, turn it upside down and cover with cling film.
3. Cover the string in PVA glue and drape it in wriggly lines all over the bowl overlapping and making swirly patterns.

You could make it really colourful or in tones of the same colour - it's up to you.

Leave it for 48 hours (I know - you just can't resist, but you have to!). Lift and peel away the cling film. There... you have your own string bowl to keep your bits and bob's in or give away as a present.

Have a brilliant summer!

OUR GALLERY

Examples of great work completed by our students learning from home and our 'Key Worker' students at school:

Well done to all our students who are working so hard and producing such fantastic work across all subjects. You are a credit to yourselves and the school.

Headteacher's Poetry Challenge

Congratulations to Ben Bekani (8 Hindhaugh) and Matilda Melody (9 Blatch) who have been chosen as joint winners of Mr Scott's Poetry Challenge. Both students will receive a prize and here are their winning poems for you to enjoy...

Ben's entry:

We are on our way back to school,
Teachers have no fear,
You will welcome us grinning,
From ear to ear.

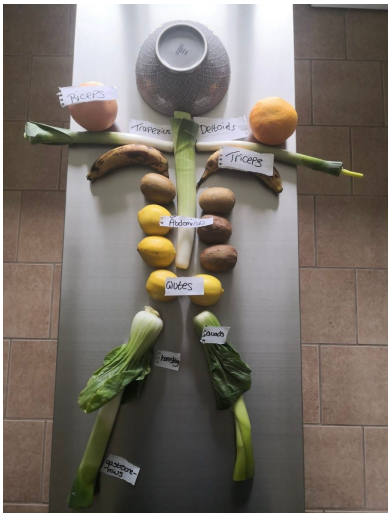
No hugs, no cuddles,
No high-fives,
Just be glad,
We are all Alive.

Your ears will get used to the noise,
Just put on a smile,
Be glad,
And Rejoice.

Your pupils are returning,
Be at ease,
No rows or detentions, sir
Please!

Matilda's entry:

September is finally here,
and it's back to school for another year,
after many months of working from home,
I cannot wait to go back to school,
working in classrooms and more research on Chrome,
excited to see my teachers and friends,
Looking forward to getting back to the use of paper and pens,
awake at 6:30 back into my routine,
no more sleep ins for me but at least I'm very keen,
to at last be back at Risedale straight into the canteen!



Amazing anatomy for PE:

Another fantastically creative display for **PE** by Léa Weston (8 Ahmed), of the muscular system. A huge well done goes to Olivia Dagnall and Emily Barratt for all the effort they've put into their **BTEC in Sport** home learning.

Well done everyone! Miss Brierley - Head of PE