



Dear parents/carers and students,

This week saw the eighth Thursday where the nation came together and [clapped for carers](#). Risedale salutes all those fantastic individuals working tirelessly to look after us all in these challenging times. As you can see, we are proudly flying our 'Thank you NHS' flag to make it clear that we are so thankful every day for what they are doing. Thanks to Mrs Morrissey for this.



Y10 update letter to parents

This week we sent a [letter](#) to our Y10 parents (via text/MCAS) regarding the government's recent plan to ask 'secondary schools to offer some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of Year 10 who are due to take key exams next year'.

Within this letter we included a link to a questionnaire that we would like all Y10 parents to complete: [Y10 'face to face support' at school questionnaire](#). From your responses we hope to gauge your opinions and ideas on how we as a school will move forward. Thank you in advance for your time and your ideas; this is a fast-moving and ever-changing time for all of us and our main priority is, as always, to do our best for your children and the wider school community.

Click the link to view guidance from the government regarding [Opening schools and educational settings to more pupils from 1 June: guidance for parents and carers \(Updated 11 May 2020\)](#).



Department
for Education

'Keep in Touch' phone calls



This week has seen our focus for 'Keep in Touch' calls move to Year 8. If you have missed your phone call or need to reschedule around work/family commitments please email your child's form tutor: [Staff email list](#).

Thank you for the overwhelmingly positive feedback we've had from parents when we have rung home, with many saying how much their children are enjoying the tasks our teachers are setting and how they are very appreciative of what they now realise we 'juggle every day'.

Thanks also go to our staff who are all doing their absolute best with teaching and learning online. Believe us when we say this is a steep learning curve for us as well.

From our phone calls with parents we've given our teachers the following feedback to help with routines at home:

1. Be aware that students, even the most conscientious ones, will take longer to do the same amount of work that they would cover in a lesson at school. Some of them are trying really hard and feeling a bit overwhelmed.
2. Bank Holiday deadlines should be avoided - we want to encourage our families to have downtime too.
3. Try to make deadlines reasonable.



4. Please, as routine, make sure that you respond to any work that is turned in by giving a grade or a comment but preferably both.

We continue talking, planning and thinking about how to ensure the online provision is the best it can be as many of our students will have several more weeks at home. Do keep in touch. If there is anything you need us to know we are always here to support you.

Google Classroom - Learning from home update

Over the weeks we have suggested a number of approaches for helping your child with their online learning. This week's focus is on how to share and spend some time looking at [Google Classroom](#) with your child.



If possible, it would be great if you could spend a few minutes a day chatting to your child about a piece of learning they have been working on. Ask them to talk you through one of their online classrooms. Get them to show you what it looks like and how their teacher is communicating with them. Perhaps ask them to explain how they are organising their time. All this helps your child to take responsibility for what they need to do but also keeps you in the loop beyond the notifications you may get about deadlines.

National Online Safety course for parents/carers

The online world is posing an ever-increasing risk to children and it is important that schools, parents and carers work together to take an active role in teaching children about online dangers and how to act safely when using the internet.



As mentioned in our previous [Keep in Touch letter](#) we are now working in partnership with National Online Safety, furthering our ongoing commitment to protecting our pupils online. To promote this culture of safeguarding and educate everyone about the importance of online safety **we invite all our parents and carers to access a FREE and interactive online workshop.**

The course can be taken at your own convenience and covers:

- Information about online dangers and the newest platforms
- What online risks to look out for and how to protect your child

Please find below the [link](#) you need to register and create your account. You will need to complete your details and under the 'Account type' heading select "Parent/Carer" from the dropdown: <http://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/risedale-sports-community-college>

Once you have registered, you will be able to access the 'Online Safety for Parents and Carers' course and National Online Safety's resources area (which includes a wide range of online platform guides on the latest social media channels and games). This aims to help empower parents with the knowledge to protect their children from the dangers of the internet. If you have any questions, or trouble accessing the course, please email support@nationalonlinesafety.com and/or click the link to view a





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helpful guide for parents/carers about how to access the Learning Hub: [NOS Online Safety Parents User Guide](#)

Thank you for your continued support,

Sarah Matthewman - Acting Vice Principal

Year 11 update regarding careers and Post-16 provision

Darlington College, Richmond Sixth Form College and Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College have notified us that they are **all still accepting applications for courses due to start in September 2020**. Year 11 students - do not delay, please complete your applications online as soon as possible to enable your Post-16 providers to maintain email contact with you throughout the rest of this term and the summer holiday. If you have any issues or queries please email our Careers Leader Helen Porritt who can guide you through this process porritt.h@risedale.org.uk

Darlington College: Check out Darlington College's '[School Leavers](#)' and '[DC Pledge Place](#)' web pages for lots of useful information regarding Post-16 options. If you are still undecided as to the path you are looking to take, then why not contact Darlington College's guidance team for advice and help with your options; email guidanceservices@darlington.ac.uk



Richmond Sixth Form College: Students that have already applied for places should now have been contacted by Richmond College directly with further information and bridging work for their Post-16 courses. If you have any questions or haven't yet received your bridging work then please email The Sixth Form team at sixthformadmin@richmondschool.net



Richmond School & Sixth Form College
Being the best we can be

Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College: Students that have already applied for places should now have been contacted by QE directly. If you have any questions, or if you have applied and have not yet heard back from the College please contact Deputy Principal Laurence Job directly at ljob@qeliz.ac.uk or email qe@qeliz.ac.uk



Careers update for students in Y10

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, our planned college taster days in June to Darlington College and Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form have now been cancelled, as has the work experience week we had hoped to run in July. Our Careers Leader Helen Porritt is in the process of putting together resources for students and parents to access and further information will follow.





Keep Calm and Keep Reading

Here's a great link to a daily reading blog which has a list of book based activities to encourage your children to read more and the good news is - it's FREE: [Bookish ideas if you're self isolating with the kids](#)

Millie's '100km in May' challenge

Everyone at Risedale is really proud to be cheering on Millie Hollis (9Kirkbride) who has set herself the fantastic challenge of running 100km this May. Millie absolutely loves fitness and sport, in particular football. She is the current captain of Richmond Town's U14 girls football team and aspires to play for a high league club one day. Millie's club manager set the whole team a challenge to run [30km in May to raise funds for their club](#), which Millie did, and completed within a week. To 'raise the stakes', Millie's family extended the challenge and set her a personal goal to run 100km in total, which she is now doing.



Millie was inspired to take on the challenge as many of the England Women's football team are currently taking part in a similar 100km challenge, raising funds and awareness for the [Darby Rimmer MND Foundation](#). England and Manchester City captain Steph Houghton is one of Millie's heroes and her husband, ex-footballer Stephen Darby, has Motor Neurone Disease. Stephen set up The Foundation with his close friend Chris Rimmer, a former British Forces Veteran, after they were both diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease. The charity supports people and their families living with MND, raises awareness of the disease and funds research for treatments.



By completing her 100km challenge Millie hopes to raise funds for her football club and awareness of MND just like her sporting idol Steph Houghton. So far Millie has completed 40km and we wish her well for the remaining distance.

Photo: Richmond Town FC Juniors U14 Girls; including Risedale players Jaime-Leigh Paige (goalkeeper), Olivia Dagnall, Ellie Harrison and team captain Millie Hollis.

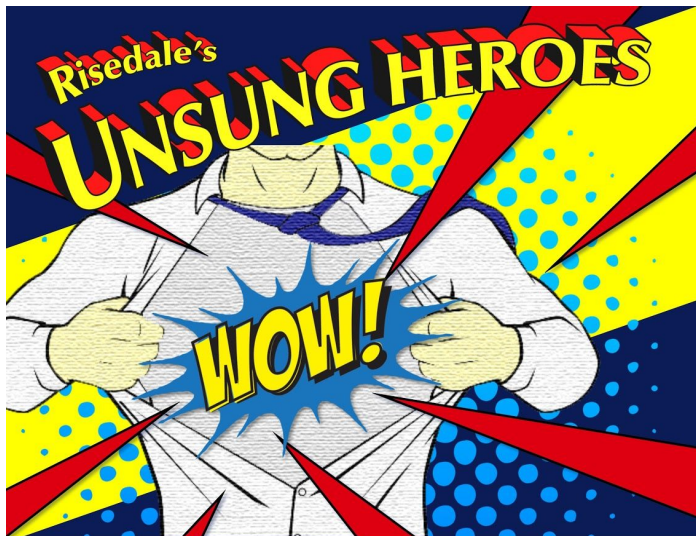
Millie's Mum Carly said, "Millie is football mad and when she saw on social media that nearly the whole of the England Women's squad were taking part in the 100km challenge, she was inspired to get involved too."

Mark Kirkbride, Millie's form tutor said, "I am extremely proud of Millie's commitment to complete the task and her thoughtfulness in doing it to highlight such an amazing charity. Everyone at Risedale is behind her to complete the 100km. KEEP GOING MILLIE!"

- [Click here to sponsor Richmond Town FC Juniors U14 Girls](#)
- [Click here to find out more about the Darby Rimmer MND Foundation](#)

Unsung Heroes

Like Millie, if you have any good news stories that you'd like to share or if your child has been taking part in any challenges or charitable ventures over the lockdown period please let us know about your 'Unsung Heroes' in the usual way, by emailing your stories and photos to news@risedale.org.uk



Are you one of Risedale's Unsung Heroes? Is your child an Unsung Hero? Then please let us know...

At Risedale we want to recognise the achievements of our students and celebrate the amazing things they're doing for our school and local community.

Do you know someone who;

- volunteers, for example, at a local organisation or care home?
- regularly raises money for charity?
- plays for a local sports team?
- has recently won a competition or is working towards an award?
- is an imaginative individual or attends a creative group e.g. music, drama, dance, writing, the visual arts.....?




Stories may be shared on Facebook and Twitter and possibly feature in our termly newsletter. The information we receive will also help us decide who should receive some of our specialist prizes for our annual Presentation Evening.

Let us know your good news by sending stories/photos/videos to news@risedale.org.uk



Mental Health Awareness Week 18-24th May



Hosted by the Mental Health Foundation, Mental Health Awareness Week will take place from 18-24th May 2020. To mark this event, Risedale students have been exploring the positive things they can do to improve their mental health; this includes researching websites and apps they could use and various other methods to support mental health and wellbeing. Click the link to find out more and how to get involved: [Mental Health Awareness Week 2020 #KindnessMatters](https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/mental-health-awareness-week-2020-kindness-matters) 

Recruitment at Risedale

We currently have 2 job vacancies available and are looking to appoint a **Senior Science Technician** and a **Project Setup Manager**.

Join our forward thinking, innovative and creative team.

APPLY TODAY at www.risedale.org.uk/recruitment





A poem of Remembrance by Cameron McNally (7Laheney)

Great Britain is proud
Courageous and strong
The place we call home
For the likes of me and you.

Our soldiers, our sailors
Our brave airmen too
They won many battles
Only lost very few.

Our prepared soldiers
Our heavily-plated tanks
Stand bravely on the fields
With all different ranks.

Our soldiers have sacrificed
To save our lives
They'll never see their children
Even their wives.

In November we wear poppy
To remember the dead
The country falls silent
And lowers their heads.

