



NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2026

Living life in all its fullness,
making memories and
building futures
(John 10:10)*

Dear Families,

We hope you all had a wonderful and restful half-term break and that families were able to enjoy some time together. It has been lovely to welcome the children back into school this week with what feels like a bit more light during the day and less rainy weather! The children have returned settled, positive and ready for learning. As we move into the next part of the term, we are excited for all the opportunities and experiences ahead.

A big thank you to all parents and carers: who met with their respective child's/children's class teachers. We greatly value the strong partnership between home and school, and it was fantastic to see so many of you engaging in conversations about your child's progress and next steps. Your continued support makes a real difference to the children's success and wellbeing.

Online safety newsletter: The newsletter includes helpful guidance and advice on: Mobile phone use, VPNs, Social media, Practical tips for home amongst other things. We encourage all parents and carers to read the newsletter to see what parts might be useful or pertinent to you and your family.

Parent questionnaire: Please take a few minutes to complete our Parent Questionnaire using the link sent to your email. Your feedback is extremely valuable and helps us to continue improving our provision and support for families.

World Book Day – is on Thursday 5th March. We are looking forward to celebrating a love of reading across the school, with a range of activities planned. All the details you need are on page 3 of this newsletter and have previously been emailed.

Peterborough United paid us a special visit this week, bringing along their much-loved mascot, Peter Burrow, for a fun and lively assembly. The children thoroughly enjoyed meeting him and learning more about the club. Please look out for a separate email today with details on how families can access free tickets for an upcoming match.

We hope you have a great weekend and look forward to seeing you all next week.

Mr Reed 😊

Dates for your diary

5th March – World Book Day

6th March – Deadline for ordering FORA Mother's Day gifts

11th March – Y3 Trip to Pizza Express

19th March – Y5 Theatre Trip

24th March – Y3/Y4 Mini Musical @ 2.30pm and 6pm – details to follow

27th March – FORA Break the Rules Day

27th March – End of Spring Term 2

13th April – Start of Summer Term 1



@ryhallacademy



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ATTENDANCE

Class – Top 3	Weekly %
Tolethorpe	98.3
Woolsthorpe	98.2
Belvoir	97.8

Our overall school attendance last week was 96.8% which is slightly above the national average. Please do get in touch if you need any support with attendance.

Well done to Tolethorpe Class who won the Attendance Trophy with 98.3% attendance for all.

Thank you for the continued communication and co-operation with the different procedures in place.

STAR OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the children awarded Star of the Week in our Celebration Assembly.



Belvoir	Freddie
Belton	Maya
Rockingham	Henry
Burghley	Freddie
Woolsthorpe	Indie-Mae
Tolethorpe	Hugo D
Hambleton	Ella



WORLD BOOK DAY

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to inform you that Ryhall Academy will be taking part in World Book Day on Thursday 5th March.

The mission of World Book Day is to champion the fun of reading – something that we at Ryhall Academy wholeheartedly support. Reading for pleasure is incredibly important: children who read for fun become more confident readers, feel happier and are more successful across a range of subjects.

This year, our World Book Day theme focuses on reading and hobbies. We will be exploring:

- Reading as a hobby, and
- Hobbies as a gateway into reading – discovering that reading about a topic you love is a fantastic way to read for enjoyment.

To celebrate the day, we would love for children to dress up and bring a book to share. There are two exciting options:

- Children can showcase a hobby they enjoy and bring a book linked to it (for example: karate, gymnastics, painting, football, etc.) They can dress up in a way that links to that hobby.
- or
- Children can celebrate reading as a hobby by bringing a favourite book they love to read. They may choose to wear their favourite cosy outfit or pyjamas or dress up as a character from a book they enjoy.

Please note that some activities will take place outside, so appropriate footwear and a coat will be needed. If your child does not wish to dress up, they are very welcome to attend in school uniform.

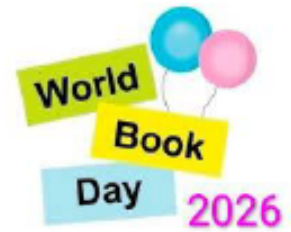
Throughout the day, children will take part in a range of exciting activities, including: sharing favourite books and authors, competing in a treasure hunt around the school grounds, seeking books and characters and taking part in our much-anticipated Reading Café.

We kindly ask that children bring in a book they would like to share with their class. In the afternoon, each classroom will host a Reading Café, where children can enjoy reading together over a drink and a slice of cake. For this, we kindly ask for a voluntary £1 donation, payable on Arbor. This can be found in the School Shop area, this is now open and can be paid anytime up to and including World Book Day. Any profits raised will go towards purchasing more exciting and engaging books for our school and class libraries, as we continue to develop a rich reading culture at Ryhall Academy.

Kingswood Catering are also providing a themed lunch that day and details are attached.

Thank you in advance for your continued support. As 2026 is the Year of Reading, we are hoping this World Book Day will be our best yet!

Yours sincerely,
The English Team



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ECO UPDATE

The Eco Councillor's last meeting was an active one. They went outside to site the rolling composter, add some fruit waste to it and test it out. Everyone agreed it was very easy to use and were keen to share this information with their classes. We look forward to reducing our waste and seeing how the compost comes out.

The next stop was the Wild Garden where we looked for suitable trees to put our bird boxes. Mr Reed helped us to get them positioned at the correct height and facing the right direction. We now have three bird boxes up with varying size entrance holes. Again, we look forward to seeing what happens with these.

To help the birds Reception Class filled some wire feeders with materials that the birds might like to take to their nests to make them nice and soft. Last year the crows took all of this from our wall planter outside Mr Reeds office, so we know they like it!



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Online Safety Newsletter

March 2026

YouTube Safety Update: New Parental Controls

YouTube have published their latest update on how parents can support their child on YouTube. YouTube will now allow parents to set the amount of time viewing Shorts – this can even be set to zero. YouTube Shorts are short videos, usually less than 60 seconds long, which when continuously watched, can lead to excessive screentime. Furthermore, parents will also be able to set bedtime and 'take a break' reminders. You can find out more here:

<https://blog.youtube/news-and-events/updates-youtube-supervised-accounts-teens/>

If you would like to find out more about supervised accounts on YouTube, then this article explains the different settings available:

https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420?hl=en-GB&ref_topic=15279060&sjid=15225282118002181205-EU

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleyrcs.org.uk/march-2026/>

Mobile phones: do you know the risks?

We know that children having access to a smartphone can expose children to risks including:

- Viewing inappropriate content
- Excessive screen time/use, which in turn can affect their mental health and sleep pattern.
- Contact from inappropriate people/grooming
- Cyberbullying
- Spending money on in-app purchases/scams

What effects do mobile phones have on children's mental health?

Compass discuss the research around this important topic, outlining the positive and negative effects that mobile phones have:

<https://compass-uk.org/services/compass-changing-lives/online-resources/what-effects-do-mobile-phones-have-on-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health/>

EE Online Safety Hub

EE has published age guidance for smartphone usage to improve children's digital wellbeing. In summary, they recommend that children under 11 should use non-smart devices, for children aged 11-13, they advise that if a smartphone is used, then parental controls should be enabled and access to social media restricted. Finally, for 13-16-year-olds they still recommend that parental controls are implemented and appropriate restrictions set up. You can read the full guidance here:

<https://ee.co.uk/internet-online-safety>

Could you delay when your child is given a smartphone with Smartphone Free Childhood?

The premise behind this movement is that all parents/carers of a class all agree not to give their children smartphones (therefore the level of peer pressure is reduced) for a set time or until a specific age:

<https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/>

What device?

When you think it is the right time for your child to have a phone, then 'Which?' provide an overview of some options available:

<https://www.which.co.uk/reviews/mobile-phones/article/buying-a-first-mobile-phone-best-dumb-phones-and-smartphones-for-kids-aA03C3Y8aTzr>

Virtual Private Networks

A Virtual Private Network (VPN) helps make your connection between a device and the internet more secure and can help protect personal information and add privacy. However, whilst a VPN has benefits, it is important that you are aware that if your child is using a VPN, they may be able to get round Wi-Fi restrictions, access blocked or restricted websites and bypass parental controls. It may also mean that their browsing history is hidden.

The NSPCC provides a helpful overview of VPNs, plus top tips and conversation starters here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/vpns-and-online-safety/>

Social Media Algorithms

What is an Algorithm?

Algorithms influence what we see on social media platforms and predict what type of content we are most likely to interact with, thereby keeping us online for longer. The algorithm uses information such as who you follow, what you have searched for and what you have watched, liked or shared to determine what it thinks most interests you. It will then show you this content more, for example, in the explore tab on Instagram.



What do I need to know?

Whilst there are benefits to algorithms, for example it means we tend to see content that does interest us, unfortunately there are negatives as well. They can lead to increased screentime as we continue to see things that interest us. Secondly, it can lead to users being shown large amounts of inappropriate content which can for example, exacerbate negative body image or heighten access to misogyny content. It can also lead to 'echo chambers' where you are only seeing content that relates to your opinion rather than seeing a balanced viewpoint.

Further information

- <https://cybersmarties.com/behind-the-screen-how-algorithms-shape-what-kids-see-online/>
- The BBC discuss algorithms in this article about doomscrolling: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zwk3qt>

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Five Nights at Freddy's

Five Nights at Freddy's is a horror game designed to frighten players with jump scares or creepy characters. It can be accessed from several places, for example on an Xbox (PEGI rating of 12) and on the App store (age rating of 13+). There is merchandise available, which may suggest that it is child friendly. We would recommend that you preview the game first to ascertain its suitability for your child. You can view Bark's review here:

<https://www.bark.us/content-review/five-nights-at-freddys-review/>

Screen time and online harms

The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health have created a page that brings together key resources on screen time. Find out more here:

<https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/screen-time-online-harms-resources-members>

New government campaign: Is your child influenced by toxic content?

The Government have launched a new campaign providing guidance to parents on safety settings, conversation prompts and advice for tackling misinformation and harmful content. It also includes a quiz to help you and your child spot misleading or unreliable information online. You can find out more here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/is-your-child-influenced-by-toxic-content-new-government-campaign-supports-parents-to-talk-about-harmful-online-content>

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

After School Clubs for Term 4 are listed below.

- Choir is still available to book on Arbor.
- Football and mini movers are all bookable through One Touch Football.
- Dodgeball and Taekwondo can all be booked directly with the provider.

Please pay careful attention to the dates of each club as every club is different.

Club	Day	Year group available to	Time	Provider	Location	Cost	Min/Max Numbers	How to book
Eco Club	Monday 2/3, 9/3, 16/3, 23/3	Year 3 to Year 6	3:30 – 4:30	Mrs Want	Grounds	£1.00/session (£4.00 for this term)	Max 12	Full
Football	Monday 23/2, 2/3, 9/3, 16/3, 23/3.	Year 1 to Year 6	3:30 – 4:30	One Touch Football	Field / MUGA, meet in Y3 classroom	Book direct with One Touch Football www.onetouchfootball.co.uk/after-school-clubs/ Please bring a PE kit for the sessions.		
Choir	Tuesday 3/3, 10/3, 17/3, 24/3, 14/4, 21/4, 28/4, 5/5.	Year 3 to Year 6	1.00 – 1.30	Mrs Chapman	Hall	Free	No Max	Arbor Parent Portal
Please note that the choir will be learning songs to perform at our annual music concert during term 4 and term 5. The music concert will be on Wednesday 6th May at 6pm in the school hall. <u>Please only sign up if you can commit to performing in the concert.</u>								
Dodgeball	Tuesday 3/3, 10/3, 17/3, 24/3.	Year 3 to Year 6	3:30 – 4:30	Rutland Dodgeball	Hall	Book direct with Rutland Dodgeball. Please email: rutlanddodgeball@gmail.com to book a place. Please bring a PE kit for the sessions.		
Art / Drawing Club	Tuesday 3/3, 10/3, 17/3, 24/3.	Year 3 and Year 4	3.30 – 4.30	Mrs Eve	Y2 Classroom	£1.00/session (£4.00 for this term)	Max 15	Full



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Please pay careful attention to the dates of each club as every club is different.

Club	Day	Year group available to	Time	Provider	Location	Cost	Min/Max Numbers	How to book
Spotlight Dance	Wednesday 11/2, 25/2, 4/3, 11/3, 18/3.	Year 4 to Year 6	1.00 – 1.30	Mrs Vaughan	Hall	Free	Max 30	Full
Please note this club will be learning a dance routine to perform at the Stamford Corn Exchange for the <u>Spotlight Dance Shows on the 25th and 26th March 2026.</u>								
Taekwondo	Wednesday 25/2, 4/3, 11/3, 18/3, 25/3	Year 1 to Year 6	3.30 – 4.30	Taekwondo Tigers	Hall	Please contact Master Annabel Murcott, 07714323995 to book a place.		
Mini Movers	Wednesday 25/2, 4/3, 11/3, 18/3, 25/3.	Reception Year 1 and Year 2	3.30 – 4.30	One Touch	Classroom / Playground (weather dependent)	<u>Book direct</u> with One Touch. https://onetouchfootball.co.uk/after-school-clubs/ Please bring a PE kit for the sessions.		
Magical Adventures	Unfortunately, the organiser has decided to cancel this club due to low numbers. Thank you to the parents who did show an interest.							

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS



AFTERSCHOOL DODGEBALL

3:30-4:30 TUESDAYS
YEAR 3-6
3RD MARCH- 24TH MARCH

IF YOUR CHILD WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND
PLEASE CONTACT
RUTLANDDODGEBALL@GMAIL.COM
WITH THE SUBJECT 'RYHALL DODGEBALL'

TAE KWON DO

Self-Defence - Discipline - Fitness - Life-Skills
World Master & Multi World Champion Instructor



Taekwondo Tigers for Primary School age
First Months free to all of our classes.
Please ring/text 07714323995 to book a space
Every Wednesday 3.30-4.30pm
Ryhall CE Academy

Fully Insured DBS & First Aid certified Instructors as well as welfare certified officers. Safeguarding is our priority
We are not part of any franchise organisation Our clubs have been established over 30 years

Returning students always welcome, along with those that transfer from other clubs or styles, we try to keep you at the same Belt Level.

Contact Master Annabel Murcott 07714323995



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CHILDCARE RECRUITMENT EVENT

Please come along to find out more about training and employment in early years childcare!

NO NEED TO BOOK!

There will be information from local colleges, department of work and pensions as well as opportunities to chat to people employed in a variety of childcare positions.

**WEDNESDAY
25 MARCH 2026**

**DROP IN BETWEEN
9AM AND 1PM**

**RUTLAND COUNTY
MUSEUM**



Rutland
County Council



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LOCAL CLUBS AND EVENTS

£8

PER SESSION!

THE LITTLE

Vocal

CLUB

A BRAND NEW CHOIR FOR CHILDREN AGED 7-13

LAUNCHING WEDNESDAY 22ND APRIL

WEDNESDAY 4.15-5PM

UNITY CENTRE STAMFORD

EMAIL HELLO@THEVOCALCLUB.CO.UK TO BOOK A SPACE

WWW.THEVOCALCLUB.CO.UK

ROYCE RANGERS

FOOTBALL CLUB

GIRLS

FOOTBALL

EVERY SATURDAY IN MARCH & APRIL

STARTING SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

9:30 - 10:30 AM

AT THE SHOWGROUND

GIRLS U5 - U8

FIRST

SESSION

FREE!

COME TRAIN, MAKE FRIENDS & BUILD

A TEAM READY FOR NEXT SEASON!

THEN £3 PER SESSION AFTER THAT!

To try it out contact: girlsfootball@roycerangersfc.co.uk



HOLIDAY CLUB

Age 5-12



Rutland

Outdoor

Education

Centre

£45

per day

Activities:

• EASTER ACTIVITIES

• WILDCRAFT

• CAMPFIRE COOKING

• BUSHCRAFT DAY

• MEET THE ANIMALS

HAF PLACES

AVAILABLE ON:

7 April

8 April

2026 DATES:

• 31 March

• 1 April

• 2 April

• 7 April

• 8 April

• 9 April

9am - 3.30pm

Early Drop Off + Late Pick Up

Available

Book now at:

www.roec.co.uk

E Mail: office@roec.co.uk

Address:

Wing Hall Farm, Grammas Lane, Wing,

Oakham, Rutland, LE15 8RT



Ofsted Registered

Childcare Vouchers

Accepted

HAF Places

*Please note all activities are subject

to change according to weather

conditions.*



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LOCAL CLUBS AND EVENTS

Teddy Bear Sleepover at Stamford Library



Thursday 5th March 4.30pm – 5pm

Snuggle up for a bedtime story session and bring along your teddies to join in the fun. After our stories, your teddy can stay behind for an exciting sleepover in the library!

Come dressed in your comfiest pyjamas or keep the magic going by wearing your World Book Day costume.

Come back to collect your teddies and look at the photos of what they got up to!

For more information, please speak to a team member or email stamford.library@gll.org



Follow us @lincslibraries



Mother's Day Craft at Stamford library



Saturday 14th March 10am – 11.30

Join us for a Mother's Day Card Craft!
Create a beautiful handmade tulip card to celebrate someone special. All materials are provided — just bring your creativity and imagination!

Perfect for children and families.

For more information, please speak to a team member or email stamford.library@gll.org



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WRAP AROUND CARE

WRAP AROUND CARE AT RYHALL

PROVIDING A VARIETY OF FUN AND
ENTERTAINING ACTIVITIES IN A SAFE AND HAPPY
ENVIRONMENT. BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL
WITH BREAKFAST OR A SNACK INCLUDED

BREAKFAST CLUB:

7:30AM – 8:50AM: £5.85 PER CHILD

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB:

OPTION 1: 3:30PM – 5:00PM: £6.60 PER CHILD

OPTION 2: 3:30PM – 6:00PM: £11 PER CHILD

OPTION 3: 4.30PM – 5PM: £2.20 PER CHILD (AFTER CLUBS)

OPTION 4: 4.30PM – 6PM: £6.60 PER CHILD (AFTER CLUBS)

BOOK ONLINE VIA
ARBOR



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IMPORTANT INFORMATION & REMINDERS

We are a nut free school as we have children who are allergic to nuts. Please remember this when preparing packed lunches or snacks and avoid food containing nuts such as chocolate spread and pesto.

If you need to drive to drop off or collect your child, please park with consideration of resident's drives, garages or access to roads. Please remember that parking on zig-zag lines at any time of the day is prohibited to ensure the safety of the children during the busier periods of the day.

A reminder to families to not use the staff car park when either dropping children to school or collecting them – this is purely for the safety of the children and staff. This does apply to drop off and pick up from Wrap Around Care and clubs.

If your child travels home on the bus don't forget to complete the **bus register on Arbor** before 9am on a Monday morning. Booking opens each week on a Friday afternoon.

Contact details for music teachers

Piano – Julia Lamb - jklamb@hotmail.co.uk

Flute – Julie Dearden - jules.swallowhill@gmail.com

Guitar – Jack Parkinson - jackparkinsonmusic@gmail.com

Drums – Rory Hill - rory@noisetuition.com



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Worried About A Child?

Should you have any concerns about a child, please speak to any member of school staff who can, where required, direct you to the relevant people.

Our staff trained to deal with potential safeguarding concerns and worries are:

- Mr A Reed (Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- Mrs D Jesson (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- Mrs C Hicks (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- Mrs E Jagger (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- Mrs L Garwood (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)



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