

# Celebrating our school community...



As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering a welcoming and inclusive school environment, I wanted to take a moment to celebrate the incredible diversity within our school community. Each one of our children at Ryedene brings a unique background that enriches the learning experiences of all children and adults. Embracing our differences not only makes us stronger but also teaches our children the important values of respect and understanding. This week in assemblies, I read a great book named "The Suitcase," a story that brilliantly highlights

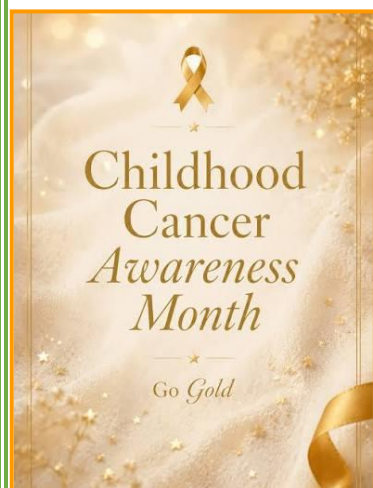
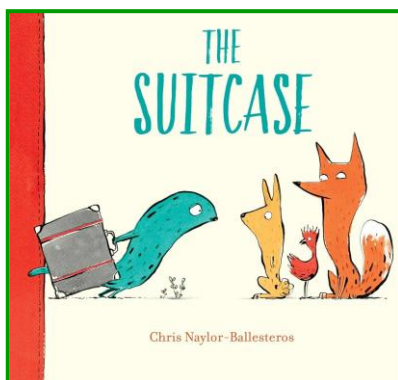
themes of friendship and kindness. Through this story, we explored the idea that differences should be celebrated, as they contribute to the richness of our lives as well as being kind to others. The story encouraged our children to show compassion and empathy to one another, regardless of their backgrounds. As we move forward, I encourage you to engage in conversations with your children about diversity and inclusion at home. Share your own experiences and perspectives and inspire them to appreciate the various cultures, languages and traditions that surround us. If you're looking for ways to reinforce these lessons at home, one thing to consider would be reading more books that celebrate diversity and kindness and discuss these themes with the children. Moreover, we are always on the lookout for parents who would like to share their own cultural heritage with our school community. If you have stories, traditions or activities that you'd be willing to share, please do get in touch! Thank you for your ongoing support in making our school a nurturing and inclusive space where everyone feels valued. Together, we can ensure our children learn the importance of celebrating our differences and building a kinder, more understanding world.

*Mr Toomer*

## Lennox Charity Assembly

This week also saw Molly from the Lennox Children Cancer Awareness charity delivering assemblies to Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 as September is childhood cancer awareness month. These assemblies focused on kindness, self esteem and confidence as well as developing the children's understanding about cancer and those who have been diagnosed with

the disease. The topics were all covered in a sensitive and engaging manner with volunteers up the front completing activities too! We are also taking part in the 'pass a ribbon' event for the charity as well as fundraising through our 'wear gold' day on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September.



Ryedene Primary and  
Nursery School

'Growing together to succeed'



Head's Newsletter  
18th September 2026

## Diary Dates:

Monday 21st September

**RECEPTION AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS  
COMMENCE**

Monday 21st September

8:45 - 9:15 Reception and Year 5  
'come and read' parent/carers sessions  
in classes

Monday 21st September

Reception Owl and Raptor Centre  
visit for 'Owl Babies' topic in school

Tuesday 22nd September

8:45 - 9:15 Reception and Year 1  
'come and read' parent/carers sessions  
in classes

Wednesday 23rd September

8:45 - 9:15 Year 2 and Year 3  
'come and read' parent/carers sessions  
in classes

Thursday 24th September

8:45 - 9:15 Nursery (am) and Year 4  
'come and read' parent/carers  
sessions in classes

Thursday 24th September

2:30 Nursery (pm) 'come and read'  
parent/carers sessions in classes

Friday 25th September

Lennox Childhood Cancer Charity  
fundraising 'non-uniform day' children  
to wear yellow or gold (£1 donation)

Friday 25th September

2:30 Yr 6, Chestnut Class Assembly  
to parents/carers in Main Hall (x2  
adults invited to attend per child)

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September

9:00 Reception Phonics and Reading  
information meeting

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September

Year 5 Trip to Maeldune Heritage  
Centre, Maldon

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October

Black History Month commences

# Ryedene's Stars of the Week...

Teachers have been given the VERY difficult task of selecting / nominating pupils to receive the 'star of the week' trophy and certificate in the Celebration Assembly. Here, you will see this week's winners looking suitably impressed and happy to have received their trophy and certificate. I am hoping that many more children will impress their teachers and me during the course of the year and take that trophy home to keep and show off! Keep up the hard work, Ryedene



# Year 1 DT Afternoon

In their first DT Afternoon of the year, children in Year 1 hand-stitched and designed their very own puppets! They showed fantastic perseverance and creativity throughout the project. Thanks to the adults who were able to come along and help the children - it was very much appreciated!



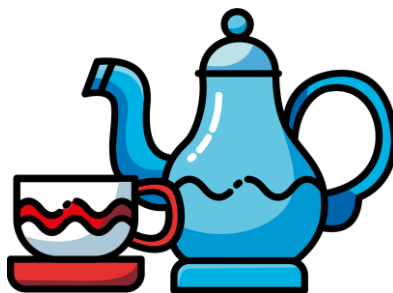
# Ryedene's values...



At Ryedene, our agreed school values are vital to ensuring our children strive to be the best they can be. Although academic success is important, being a child and future citizen of the world with strong, positive values is crucial. Our values of honesty, excellence, aspiration, respect, responsibility and determination are looked for in each and every child during the school day. When the children have demonstrated one of the six values, they are added to their class 'recognition wall'. Once a child has been added, they are in with the chance of attending an afternoon 'tea' with me where they can have drinks, cakes and biscuits! We had our first reward



of the year this week and children from each class met with me in the set room and enjoyed the treats while we discussed what they liked about Ryedene, why they were added to the values wall and everything else in between. Well done to all of the children who have demonstrated these values and I am already looking forward to the next meeting with the next set of lucky children - I had better order some more cakes and biscuits!



# Out-of-school achievements

Albert (Yr 4) had a very successful weekend at his football match and training - impressing his coaches



with his skill and attitude. Well done, Albert!

Olly (Yr 5) took part in the Basildon Junior race, running for Breast Cancer on Sunday, alongside another 91 children up to age 13. Olly did fantastically well to run the 800m race and managed to come 3rd out of all 92 entrants! He topped his age group with 1st place to and 2nd amongst all

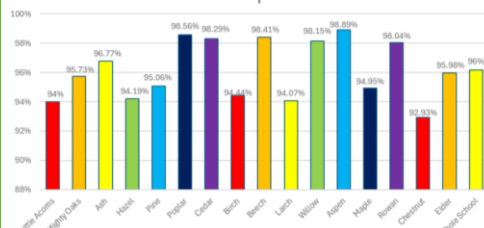


the boys, securing a time of 03:07. Very impressive! Well done, Olly - we are all very proud. It's also not too late to sponsor Olly if anyone wanted to via the QR code...



# Attendance matters...

Class Attendance  
11th -18th September 2026



Well done to all the children that have been in school and on time, this week. We have achieved some very pleasing overall class attendance percentages and the government target of 96% was met for whole school average attendance! Great work, Ryedene!

# TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

Since the start of term, the certificate winners are:

**Year 3:** Praneesh - Unsigned Act, Breakthrough Artist, Kiki - Headliner, Meyiwa - Rock Legend, Aramide - Support Act **Year 4:** Riley N - Gigger, Unsigned Act, Breakthrough Artist, Charlie - Wannabe, Heidi - Rock Star, Chloe - Gigger, Unsigned Act, Breakthrough Artist, Edas - Support Act, Oliver - Garage Rocker, Sophie L - Busker, Gigger, Chidubem - Busker **Year 5:** Reggie R - Support Act **Year 6:** Maya - Rock Legend

Well done to all of the children learning their times tables using TT Rockstars!



Kayleigh-Rose (Rec) was awarded a certificate of achievement in her recent swimming lessons for her hard work and positive attitude to learning how to swim. Well done, Kayleigh-Rose! An excellent achievement!