Have a Fang-tastic Half Term!



We have made it to the end of the first half term of this academic year and it has been a great one! The children have made fantastic progress in their lessons and their attitude to learning has been a joy to see. I often go in and out of classrooms during the day to see all the children and their wonderful work – it is a highlight of my job! The work being produced is to a very high standard – I could not be prouder of the children at Ryedene! We have finished the half term with a Halloween disco and this was a great way of getting us all into the spooky mood for our Halloween half-term break. The children (and staff) have truly earned a rest and I look forward to seeing us all coming back on Monday 2nd November, fully rested and ready to hit the ground running again as we lead up to Christmas. Wishing all our children and families here a lovely break and see you all on Monday 2nd November. *Mr Toomer*



Nursery and Reception's Sponsored Stroll

A HUGE thank you to all our wonderful EYFS (Nursery and Reception) families for your generous donations! Together, we have raised an incredible £1,042.00 towards our new bikes – a fabulous amount! Despite the rainy weather, the children had a fantastic time on our 'sponsored stroll' enjoying music, dancing and walking laps around the hall. Thank you for your amazing support!









Ryedene Primary and Nursery School

'Growing together to succeed'

Head's Newsletter 23rd October 2026

Diary Dates:

Friday 23rd October
LAST DAY OF AUTUMN HALF TERM

Mon 26th October – Fri 30th October
HALF TERM – SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN

Monday 2nd November
Children return to school

Monday 2nd November
Yr 6, Elder Magistrates in the Community Workshop

Monday 2nd November
4:15 - 6:00 Yr 5 and Yr 6 Movie Night (children to bring pillows, blankets etc and wear 'comfies' if they wish to, tuck shop available from 20p)

Tuesday 3rd November
Year 2 Great Fire of London workshop (children invited to dress up)

Tuesday 3rd November
3:30 Yr 5 Residential Information Meeting for parents/carer in Main Hall

Wednesday 4th November
Yr 6, Chestnut Magistrates in the Community Workshop

Wednesday 4th November
2:30 Yr 3, Larch Class Assembly to parents/carers (x2 adult family members invited to attend per child)

Wednesday 4th November
4:15 - 6:00 Yr 3 and Yr 4 Movie Night (children to bring pillows, blankets etc and wear 'comfies' if they wish to, tuck shop available from 20p)

Thursday 5th November
4:15 - 6:00 Yr 1 and Yr 2 Movie Night (children to bring pillows, blankets etc and wear 'comfies' if they wish to, tuck shop available from 20p)

Friday 6th November
1:45 Yr 2 DT Afternoon (1x adult invited to attend per child, no siblings, buggies or carriers - thank-you)

No Tricks, Just Treats at Our Halloween Discos...



As a fun end to the half term, we held Halloween discos for Reception to Year 6 children. There were so many wonderfully scary costumes on show – even some of us adults were frightened! Thank you to the school staff who helped with organising and running the event and to those children who attended. Thanks to the families who have taken the time to say such positive things about us running the events and creating memories – it makes all the hard work worthwhile! The Disco made a fantastic profit of £958 - we are looking forward to putting the money towards our next big project – the sports hall!





















Out-of-school achievements



Lottie (Yr 3) has been awarded 'Gymnast of the Week' on two occasions now – showing her positive attitude and determination to succeed in the sport. Well done, Lottie!



Belle (Yr 3) scored her first goal in her ice hockey game in Gillingham over to weekend! What an excellent achievement. I love the 'first goal' puck!

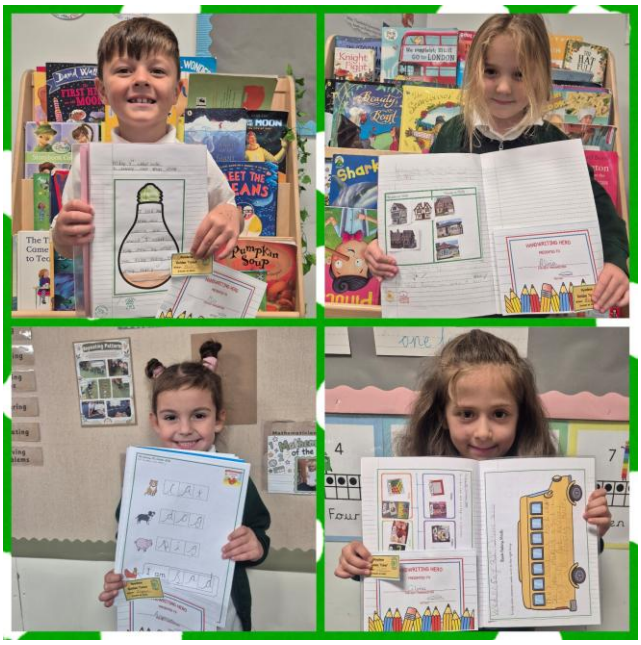


Isabelle-Rose (Yr 3) has been growing in confidence since she started her horse-riding lessons. She has been riding this little pony as well as sitting on a big 17.2h competition horse! Well done, Isabelle-Rose!



Saharsh (Yr 3) has recently been successful with achieving his next level in swimming – 10m, unaided. Great work, Saharsh!

Handwriting and Presentation Superstars



Our English Lead, Miss Short, has continued running her weekly competition to recognise the children who have made the most progress with their handwriting and presentation as well as those whose is consistently beautiful. This week's winners have been showing their skills in their books across the curriculum and have been rewarded for this hard work and determination. Well done!



Year 1 Scientists



Year 1 have been conducting their first science experiment. The children have been learning about the properties of different materials. They explored which materials would float or sink. The children collected the data and the teachers were impressed with the children's predictions such as Teddy's in Poplar Class; " The dice is more dense than the water". Great work, Year 1 Scientists!

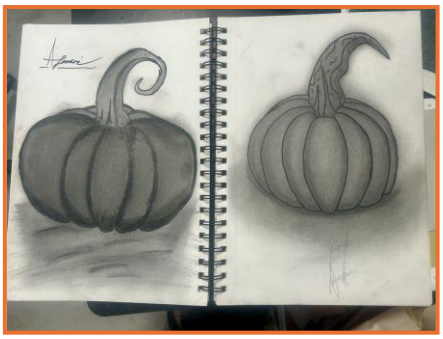


Artists of the Month

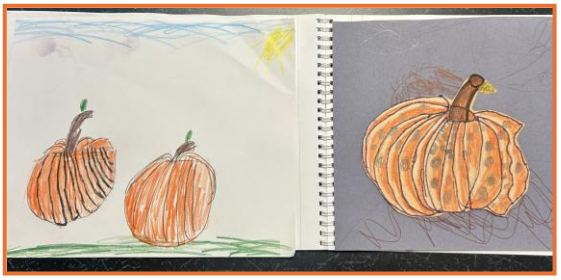
With so many talented artists at Ryedene, we like to celebrate them when we can. To do this, we have an 'Artist of the Month' award with winners selected by our specialist Art Teacher, Mrs Mack. This month's winners are below…

KS2 Art winner is Archie from Elder Class for his fantastic pumpkin drawings. Archie has shown great subject knowledge throughout this term. His use of shading, tone and texture is exceptional.

Well done, Archie!



KS1 Art winner is Marshall from Pine class for his amazing 'Yayoi Kusama' inspired pumpkin. Marshall always works so hard during his lessons and is such a natural Artist! Well done, Marshall!

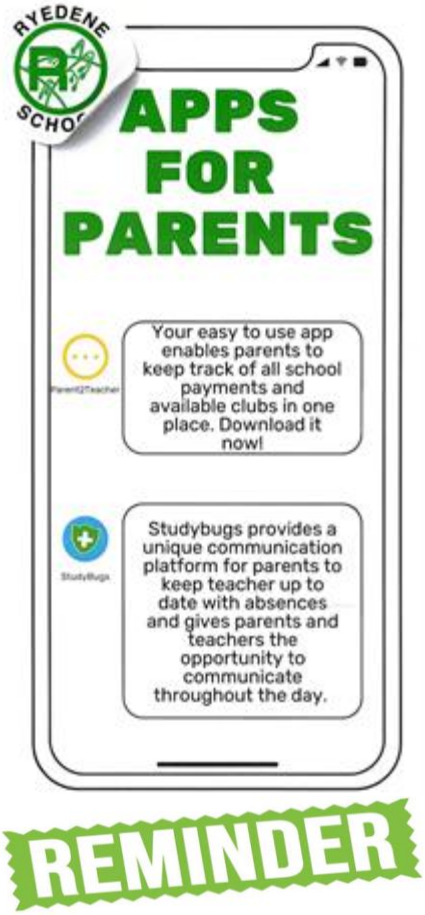


Medicines in school

As the weather worsens into the colder winter months, children may have more aches, pains, sniffles and sore throats. Therefore, we ask parents to send in any necessary medicine such as Calpol or Nurofen with their child to be kept in the main office. The school is unable to continue to purchase the medicine as it is becoming too expensive with the amount needed for the number of children in the school. Please write their name on the box or bottle but if you cannot, staff in the office will be happy to do so and keep in the medicine cupboard for your child or children. Thanks in advance for your support regarding this matter.

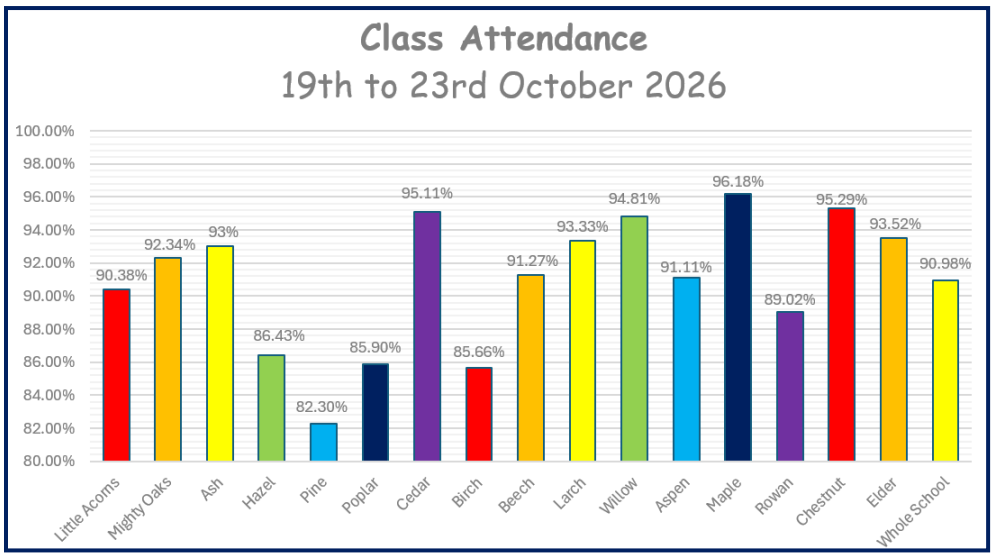


Reminder for families



Attendance matters...

This week's average attendance is **90.98%** (always aiming for the government target of 96% or above!). Even though the overall average is lower than we would expect (even at this time of year!) a huge well done to **Maple** Class (Year 5) and **Cedar** Class (Year 2) who had the highest junior and infant attendance this week! As always, well done to all the children who attend school every day, on time. It was great to see such a high number of children wearing non-uniform today for their 100% or most improved attendance half-termly reward.





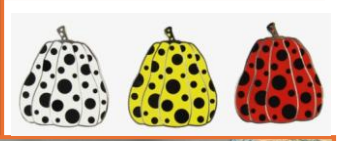


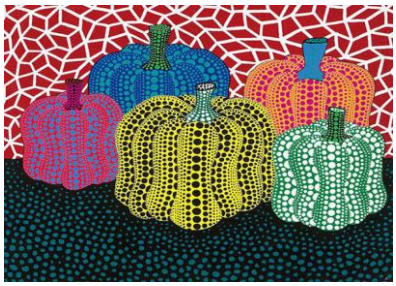
Year 3 Artists...

This week, Beech Class blew their Art Teacher, Mrs Mack, away with their 'Yayoi Kusama' inspired pumpkins. As you can see, the children's final pieces were fabulous! Well done to our Year 3 artists.











Year 1 Super Skippers!

Year 1 came together to learn how to skip. The children used their jumping skills they have been learning and refining in their PE lessons as well as some determination and patience to practice a very fun skill. Well done, Year 1.







