

## **Ryton Infant and Junior School Federation**

Main Road  
Ryton  
Gateshead  
NE40 3AF

Infant School Telephone: 0191 413 2776

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Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term our children have had the opportunity to take part in several activities focusing on The Arts. It has reminded us how many things we weren't able to do during Covid times and appreciate the enjoyment these things bring.

Reception, Year 5 and Year 6 have all seen amazing performances at the theatre – “Room on a Broom”, “Annie” and “An Unexpected Twist”. These trips were only made possible with grant funding to keep the costs to a minimum. We are grateful to The Community Foundation <https://www.communityfoundation.org.uk/> for their support.

Our Year 3 pupils have worked with sculptors this term to create our way-markers for the Heritage Trail. This has involved them learning about the history of Ryton, designing models and working with different materials. We can't wait to see the final sculptures. This project was organised by Equal Arts and funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund and Arnold Clark Grants.

This week our children in year 2 and the Junior Dance Club had the privilege of performing to an audience of other schools and their families at The Sage Gateshead. They have been practising hard for weeks and we were so proud of their great performances. This event is a highlight in the school calendar with 2500 children taking part over 2 days. Thank you to Salto (our school uniform provider) for donating T shirts for our year 2 children as they have in previous years.

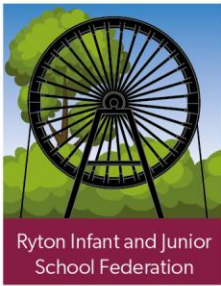
Our Choir continue to be in demand. This term they have been visiting Ryton Towers Care Home and learning new songs with the residents. Watch this space for some publicity next term! On Saturday they are singing at Barmoor Hub Easter Fayre at 11.00am (meet at 10.30am). This is a great way to start the Easter holidays – please pop in and support them.

The next half term is only 6 weeks but here are some key dates – you can also find these on the school website and subscribe so you don't miss any changes. We will inform you as more events are added

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Year 1 trip to Warkworth Castle

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April – Friends of Ryton Meeting 6.30pm via Teams (all are welcome)

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May - Bank Holiday school closed



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Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Reception Vision Screening

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May – Coronation School Meal (details to follow for bookings)

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May – Coronation Bank Holiday closed

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May – SATs for year 6

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Half Term Holiday

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Year 6 Spring Fayre supported by Friends of Ryton

Please also note that school will be closed on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

I would like to thank Parents and Carers by continuing to ensure children have regular attendance and supporting their work at home, especially with reading. Together these priorities can make a real difference to children achieving their full potential.

We know that children can become unwell and may need to stay home. Please ensure the school policy for reporting absence is followed by using Parentmail or calling the office by 9.30am. Absence figures are reported to the authorities and it is essential that accurate reasons are given for each absence. You will appreciate that the welfare of your children is our priority and if we do not know why they aren't in school then we have to raise a concern.

We also understand that there may be exceptional circumstances when you want to take your children out of school in term time. A "Request for Leave" application form should be completed and returned to the school office at least 2 weeks in advance. Full details of the School Attendance Policy can be found on the website

<https://www.rytonfederation.org/policies/>

Finally, it is with sadness that we say goodbye to Mr O'Gorman who has been working in the junior school since May last year as an Academic Mentor. We know how much our children in year 5 and 6 have enjoyed his support and want to wish him well.

I hope you have a lovely Easter break and look forward to seeing you all on 17<sup>th</sup> April.

Kind regards

Deborah Ashcroft