



Dear parents and carers,
Welcome back to a new academic year! We are delighted to welcome all our new families to our school as well as our established ones. This term, we are delighted to formally welcome our new class teachers, Miss Mulvaney and Mr Willicombe who are class teachers in Year 3 and Year 4. We would also like to send out our congratulations to Miss Varu who got married in July and Miss Howells who got married in August. They both looked beautiful and had wonderful wedding days. I would also like to say congratulations to Miss Ellis in the office who got engaged in July and Miss Gower and Miss Groves who got engaged in August. It is also unlikely to have escaped your notice that Miss Howells and Miss Turner have some exciting news to share as they are both expecting their first child in November.

We have a really busy term ahead including several early events and learning opportunities. There will be a flurry of emails and letters over the next few weeks so do look out for them. The diary dates are always in the newsletter with new dates in red so you don't miss them and we also add them to the calendar on the school website.

A few reminders... please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school at all times. Although the children do have set times for PE, they often need them on other occasions during the week. Every child should also have a water bottle in school - sports' style cap please to prevent spillages and filled with water, not juice. We encourage the children to drink plenty of water during the day as it has a positive impact on their learning. Children in Early Years and KS1 are given a healthy snack daily and children in KS2 can bring in a healthy snack. As the weather changes, children should also have a coat in school as we do go out in most weathers. We are looking forward to the term ahead and hope the children are too! You will shortly be receiving class topic webs and homework overviews for the half term. Thank you to all the parents and carers that were able to attend the meet the teacher sessions.



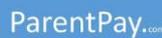
Collection of Your Children

If your child is being picked up by a person who hasn't picked up previously, please call the School Office with the details as this will save the school having to ring you at the end of the day to verify who the person is.



Nut Allergy

Just a reminder that Oasis Academy Ryelands is a nut free school. This is due to nut allergies in school. We have children and adults that are highly allergic. We must therefore ask that no nuts are put into packed lunches. That includes fruit and nut bars, peanut butter and chocolate spread that contain nuts. Products with labels which state that it 'may contain traces of nuts' are fine along with those that may have been manufactured in a factory containing nuts.



Communication Reminder

As the vast majority of our communication is done through ParentPay please ensure that you check this regularly so that your child does not miss out on any events or trips. There is a facility which will notify you of any communications you receive in ParentPay. On the home page click on the Profile tab and then alert settings. This enables you to control the notifications you would like to receive on your account. Once you have activated your account you are able to add a further email address if you wish. Go to the 'I want to...' area of your home page view/edit profile and then phone/emails. If you have any problems or queries please contact the school office.



Breakfast Club and School Meals Debts

We are spending an increasing amount of time chasing for payments on ParentPay. With immediate effect, we will no longer be chasing any debts for lunches or breakfast club. We will make one phone call only to you and we will allow you up to one week in arrears. If your account remains in debt after this period then your child will need to bring in a packed lunch or, if your debt relates to Breakfast Club, you will need to make alternative arrangements for their pre-school care.



Please Arrive on Time

School starts at 8.50am. Children should be ready to line up outside at this time with their teacher, who will bring them into school. If you are running late, please enter school at the front and see Ms McCrea in the School Office. This is to ensure that your child is registered and that their dinner choice is taken.



First Aid and Management of Medicines in School

Should your child require prescribed medicine during the school day, a permission form to request medicine administration is available from the school office. If your child has an inhaler, we must have one in school at all times. Please ensure that the inhaler is in date and is clearly labelled. Please note: - Medicines should always be provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and include the name of the child and the prescriber's instructions for dosage and administration. School will not accept medicines that have been taken out of the container nor make changes to dosages on parental instruction.



Jeans for Genes Day

Once again, we will be taking part in this national event which aims to raise money for research into genetic disorders. On 21st September, children are allowed to wear jeans to school, however, they must still wear the top part of their Oasis Academy Ryelands uniform and school shoes. Children who take part are asked to bring in £1 as a donation. For more information on how the money collected helps go to www.jeansforgenes.com



YOUNG VOICES CONCERT –
Wednesday 30th January 2019 - O2 Arena

For the first time at Oasis Academy Ryelands KS2 have the amazing opportunity to take part in this fantastic event. Your child can be part of this unmissable opportunity by attending all choir rehearsals on Thursday lunchtimes 12.30-1pm. This is when children will learn the songs and routines and gain information on how to access all this information online to rehearse with friends (and you!) at home too.

More information went home in a letter on Thursday, if you would like to sign your child up please complete the form and return it to the school office by Thursday 20th September. Miss Groves



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is now full. Should any parents wish to be placed on the waiting list, please email Miss Wilson at Sandra.wilson@oasisryelands.org.



Medical Appointments

Please note that all non-urgent, routine medical and dentist appointments should be made out of school hours. Whilst we appreciate that it is, on occasion, hard to get an appointment after school or in holidays, any absence is detrimental to your child's education. Thank you for your cooperation.



Safeguarding - Year 5/6

As children reach Years 5 and 6, many parents are happy for them to walk home from school alone. If this is the case, please could you complete the letter that has been sent out giving permission for your child to leave school unaccompanied.



Bring Your Child to School if You Have Doubts

If your child says that they are unwell, and you are in any doubt, please send them in and we will ring you and send them home if they don't feel better. We do not keep ill children at school, but as parents ourselves, we find that once in school the majority of children start to feel better and recover. You of course know your child best.



Golden Ticket Winners

Our Golden Ticket Winners this week:

Jahmari – Eagle	George – Hawk
Richard – Raven	Apostle – Owl
Abigail – Heron	Brianna – Chaffinch
Jamioure – Kingfisher	Noa – Starling
Quincy – Sparrow	Arlo – Woodpecker



Do Not Take Holidays in Term Time

Please avoid as even one week can disrupt your child's education. If there are exceptional circumstances and you cannot avoid taking your child out of school during term time, please complete a Leave of Absence Request form, which are available at the School Office and it will be considered. The Educational Welfare Officer will decide whether to pursue a fine. Please remember that both parents are fined if they have parental rights even if the parents are not together. There is also a fine for each individual child. While I totally understand that flights/holidays are cheaper in term time, we are seeing an increasing number of families breaking up early at Christmas, Easter and the summer holidays. Please keep in mind that the children already have 13 weeks holiday per year.



Parent and Toddler Groups
Toddlers Together

Wednesdays from 9.30 to 11.30am, £1 per adult, 50p per child. There are a wealth of activities, toys and resources for your child to explore. Refreshments available.

Musical Bumps

Thursdays from 9.45 to 10.30am. Music classes with songs and lullabies.

Rhyme and Read

Thursdays 10.30 to 11.30am – straight after Musical Bumps. Share books and rhymes with your child



Healthy Start Vouchers

Families in Croydon are being encouraged to apply for Healthy Start vouchers for free food and vitamins.

Pregnant women and families who receive certain benefits and have a child or children under the age of four can use the food vouchers for fresh or frozen fruit and vegetables, and fresh milk or formula milk.

The free vitamins are specifically designed for pregnant and breastfeeding women and growing children to boost their immune system and aid healthy development. The vitamins are available in exchange for vouchers from children's centres and some health centres.

The following vouchers are available to those who qualify: A pregnant woman is entitled to food vouchers worth £3.10 per week from when they are 10 weeks pregnant and free vitamin tablets.

Pregnant women under the age of 18 are entitled to Healthy Start vouchers – whether they are on benefits or not.

Families with a baby under one receive two food vouchers per week worth £6.20.

Those with a child or children between one and four, can get one £3.10 voucher per child per week.

Children between six months and four years are also entitled to free vitamin drops.

Parents must complete an application form to apply for the vouchers. The form and information leaflets are available online as well as from health visitors, children's centres, the Job Centre and Access Croydon on Mint Walk. You can check if you qualify on the Healthy Start website

www.healthystart.nhs.uk/healthy-start-vouchers/do-i-qualify

The free vitamins and food vouchers are being offered as part of Healthy Start – a UK-wide Government scheme to improve the health of pregnant women and families with young children receiving certain benefits.

Silver – Goldfinch	Salem - Magpie
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Punctuality

 Please remember that the children can be on our playground at 8.40am and our school bell rings a few minutes before our official start time of 8.50am to get the children ready for their learning. This week's punctuality for each class:

Robin – 0.3%	Wren – 0.6%
Sparrow – 0.3%	Starling – 0.9%
Chaffinch – 0%	Goldfinch – 0.3%
Kingfisher – 0%	Woodpecker – 0.9%
Magpie – 0.3%	Owl – 0.3%
Heron – 0%	Raven – 0.4%
Eagle – 0.7%	Hawk – 0%

Stars of The Week

 At Oasis Academy Ryelands we are driven by a powerful ethos that CAREs. It aspires to treat everyone inclusively and recognises the importance of a holistic approach to education. We have been giving out our celebration certificates in line with our school values. The children's and staff certificates have been awarded for demonstrating our values, as seen below:

- Values**
- C - Community.** We care for our community and help others whenever we can.
 - A - Aspiration.** When you work hard and believe you can do anything you then have options.
 - R - Resilience.** We never stop trying even when it gets tough.
 - E - Enjoyment.** Developing a love of lifelong learning in our community.
- The Circle of Inclusion. (which surrounds the word CARE)** - We believe we are one family: we play together and learn together and no one is left out.
 Our stars of the week this week were:

Community Harry – Woodpecker
 Alan – Owl
 Siobhan – Eagle

**Aspiration
 Enjoyment** William – Hawk
 Ethan – Robin
 Felix – Starling
 Florin – Chaffinch
 Sergiu – Magpie
 Tahliya - Heron

Resilience Gloria – Wren
 Ethan – Sparrow
 Darian – Goldfinch

Inclusion Tori – Kingfisher
 Saro – Raven
Miss Morgan

Children's Choice
 Joud chose Laila for Inclusion
 Stanley chose Miles for Aspiration

Class Attendance Figures for this week

Robin	97.9%	<p style="font-size: small;">Green Group 97% - 100%</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Yellow Group 95% - 96.9%</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Amber Group 93% - 94.9%</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Pink Group 90% - 92.9%</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Red Group 0% - 89.9%</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Whole School Target: 97.5%</p>	Wren	98.6%
Sparrow	98.9%		Starling	98.9%
Chaffinch	94.4%		Goldfinch	100%
Kingfisher	95.4%		Woodpecker	88.2%
Magpie	96.1%		Owl	96.2%
Heron	98.7%		Raven	96.7%
Eagle	92.9%		Hawk	94%
School Weekly Total	96.1%		School Year to Date Total	96%



Autumn Term 1 Key Dates

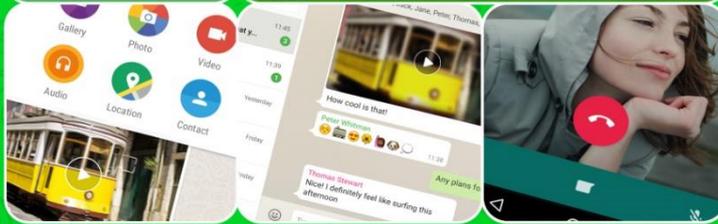
Date	Activity
Weds 19 th September	Friends of Ryelands (FOR) AGM – 18.30
Fri 21 st September	Jeans for Genes Day
Tues 2 nd October	Parent Workshop – Pants Are Private
Tues 9 th October	Heron and Hawk Parents' Evening 15.45
Weds 10 th October	Parents' Evening – 15.45
Thurs 11 th October	Parents' Evening (all classes) – 15.45
Thurs 18 th October	School Disco
Fri 19 th October	Harvest Festival at St Luke's Church – 9.30 Community Tea – 14.00
Mon 22nd – Fri 26th October	Half Term
Mon 29 th October	All children return to school
Mon 29 th Oct – Fri 2 nd Nov	Our Heritage Themed Week
Thurs 15 th November	Individual School Photos
Fri 16th November	INSET Day
Weds 21 st November	Parent Workshop – FGM
Thurs 22 nd November	Ryelands' Got Talent
Fri 14 th December	Carol Concert at St Luke's Church – 13.30
Mon 17 th December	EY & Y1 Christmas Production
Tues 18 th December	EY & Y1 Christmas Production
Weds 19 th December	Carol Singing at Whitgift Centre – 10.00 Christmas Lunch – 11.30
Thurs 20th December	Last day of term. 13.30 finish. All pupils must be collected by an adult.



WhatsApp is one of the most popular messaging apps in the world, with more than 1.5 billion people in more than 180 countries using it to send and receive text, photos, videos and documents, as well as make voice and video calls through an Internet or Wi-Fi connection. The free app offers end-to-end encryption, which means that messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient in one-to-one chats, or all members if it is a group chat. Not even WhatsApp can read them.



AGE RESTRICTION
16+



What parents need to know about



WhatsApp



AGE LIMIT CHANGE

Since May 2018, the minimum age for using WhatsApp is 16 years old if you live in the European Union, including the UK. Prior to this, the minimum age was 13, which still applies for the rest of the world. WhatsApp has not yet stated whether it will take action against anyone aged between 13 and 16 who already hold accounts under the old terms and conditions, such as closing their account or seeking parental permission.

SCAM MESSAGES

Occasionally on WhatsApp, people receive spam messages from unauthorised third parties or from fraudsters pretending to offer prizes to 'lucky people', encouraging recipients to click on a link to win a prize. A common scam involves messages warning recipients that their WhatsApp subscription has run out with the hope that people are duped into providing their payment details. Other scam messages include instructions to forward the message in return for a reward or gift from WhatsApp or another person.

FAKE NEWS AND HOAXES

WhatsApp has been linked to enabling the spread of dangerous viral rumours. In India, for example, a number of attacks appear to have been sparked by false rumours shared on WhatsApp.

THE 'ONLY ADMIN' FEATURE AND CYBERBULLYING

Cyberbullying is the act of sending threatening or taunting text messages, voice messages, pictures and videos, with the aim to hurt and humiliate the receiver. The group chat and group video call features are great for multiple people to chat simultaneously, but there is the potential for people to hurt others with their comments or jokes. The 'only admin' feature gives the admin of a group chat greater control over who can send messages. Whilst this can be good for one-way announcements, the group admin has the power to block somebody from responding to an offensive message in a chat, which could result in a child being upset and unable to reply.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

To start a chat in WhatsApp, you need to know the mobile number of the contact you want to speak to and they also need to have the app downloaded. WhatsApp can find contacts by accessing the address book of a device and recognising which of those contacts are using WhatsApp. If your child has shared their mobile number with somebody they don't know, they can use it to get in touch via WhatsApp.

LIVE LOCATION SHARING

WhatsApp's 'Live Location' feature enables users to share their current location in real time to their contacts in a chat, allowing friends to show their movements. The feature, which can be found by pressing the 'attach' button, is described by WhatsApp as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." Location-sharing is already a common feature on other social apps, including Snapchat's Snap Map and Facebook Messenger and can be a useful way for a child to let loved ones know they are safe. However, if your child is in a group chat with people they do not know, they will be exposing their location.



National
Online
Safety

Top Tips for Parents



CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Even though somebody would need your child's phone number to add them as a contact, as an extra security measure we suggest altering their profile settings to control who can see their profile photo and status. The options to choose from are 'Everyone', 'My Contacts' and 'Nobody'. We suggest selecting 'My Contacts' or 'Nobody' to ensure their profile is protected.

EXPLAIN HOW TO BLOCK PEOPLE

If your child has received spam or offensive messages, calls or attachments from a contact, they should block them. Messages and status updates sent by a blocked contact will not show up on the phone and will stay undelivered. Blocking someone will not remove this contact from the contact list - they will need to be removed from the phone's address book. To block a contact, your child needs to open the person's chat stream and tap on the settings.

REPORT SCAM MESSAGES

Advise your child not to tap, share or forward any message that looks suspicious or sounds too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they will be given the option to report the number as spam directly inside the chat. They can also report a contact or a group as spam using the following steps: 1) Open the chat. 2) Tap on the contact or group name to open their profile information. 3) Scroll to the bottom and tap 'Report Spam.'

LEAVE A GROUP

If your child is part of a group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable or has been added to a group they don't want to be part of, use the group's settings to show them how to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once, if they leave again, they cannot be added again.

USING LIVE LOCATION SAFELY

If your child needs to use the 'Live Location' feature to share with you or a friend, advise them to only share it for the amount of time they need to. WhatsApp gives the options of either 15 minutes, one hour or eight hours. However, your child can choose to stop sharing at any time.

DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES

If your child has sent a message to the wrong chat or if a message they sent has contained a mistake, they can delete it. To do this, simply tap and hold on the message, choose 'Delete' and then 'Delete for everyone'. The app allows seven minutes to delete the message after it has been sent, but it is important to remember that recipients may have seen and screenshot a message before it was deleted.

SET TIME LIMITS

A 2017 study found that by the age of 14 the average child will have sent more than 35,000 texts, 30,000 WhatsApp messages and racked up more than three solid weeks of video chat. Although it is inevitable that your child will use technology, you can still set boundaries. This is not easy, especially since teens use their devices for both schoolwork and free time, often simultaneously.

SOURCES: <https://www.theguardian.com/comments/free/2018/apr/26/whatsapp-plans-to-ban-under-16s-the-mystery-is-how>; <https://whatsappbrand.com/>; <https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/whatsapp-update-latest-india-hoaxes-forward-messages-app-download-a8456011.html>



Secondary Schools Admissions 2019/2020



Was your child born between **1 September 2007**
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www.croydon.gov.uk/admissions

1. Find out about schools in Croydon.
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www.virgofidelis.org.uk



OPEN EVENTS

Year 6 into Year 7 2019-20 Open times:

Wednesday 19 September 2018
Open Morning
9:00-10:30 am

Wednesday 26 September 2018
Open Morning
9:00-10:30 am

Thursday 4 October 2018
Open Evening
4:30-7:30 pm

