

November 2023



Riverside Academy

'Learning together, achieving excellence'
friendship, resilience, excellence



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Riverside Academy

Newsletter

Dear Parents/ Carers,

This week in school, the children have been learning about the story of Diwali and finding out about how Diwali is celebrated around the world. We would like to wish the members of our community that celebrate this festival, a very happy Diwali.

The first part of the autumn term has been busy with lots of enrichment experiences and visits happening throughout the school. All opportunities are an integral part of our school curriculum and are designed to enable children to learn through exciting and interesting experiences.

Year 6 have travelled to London, where they were able to learn about democracy during their visit to the Houses of Parliament. They were also able to travel by boat along the River Thames, where they saw a number of iconic landmarks.

Year 2 had a fantastic day when they visited Warwick Castle. They arrived back to school with lots of new knowledge to support them in their learning about how a castle was defended, the different parts of a castle and about day-to-day life in a castle.

Year 1 learnt about different animals and their habitats when they visited Twycross zoo. They represented the school brilliantly.

11 before 11

One of our 11 experiences that all of the children take part in throughout their time with us at Riverside is '10 good deeds'.

Year 2 carried out an 11 before 11 good deed when they cooked chocolate cake and shared it with members of the community at St Botolph's Church. They took inspiration from the book that they had been reading 'George and the Royal Chocolate Cake'.

Through our good deed experiences, the children learn about how to be kind and respectful members of their community.

We were very impressed with the children in Year 5 that took part in the bikeability course. They showed great resilience when having to complete the course in the rain and demonstrated excellent road safety skills to the instructors.

Year 3 and Year 6 represented us fantastically at an inter- schools Tag Rugby event, where they had the opportunity to practice skills and participate in friendly games.

Bio-diversity

We are continuing our work with the Woodland Trust to rewild some areas of the school grounds and will be planting some more trees and hedgerows in the coming months. In addition to improving the range of plants within the school grounds, we are taking part in a project that asks schools to consider how bio-diverse their school site is. In assemblies, the children have been learning about biodiversity and have shared ideas about how we can improve biodiversity at Riverside. There were lots of suggestions put forward by the children, so we decided to put it to a vote! Thank you to those of you who took part in the online poll. The overwhelming majority voted for a pond to improve biodiversity at Riverside. We have applied for a grant and a STEM technology partner to help us with this exciting project. We will keep you updated with our progress.

Anti Bullying Week

Throughout the autumn term in assemblies, we have been talking about how to be kind to one another and how to respond if people are not kind to us. The children have learnt about the different type of bullying - Face to face and online and the differences between friendship fall outs and persistent unkindness that leads to bullying.

To support this, in assemblies this week, we are taking part in Anti Bullying Week 2023 and the theme is make a noise about bullying. The focus of this is to encourage everyone to consider what bullying means to us and how we can stop bullying by working together.

Friends of Riverside

A huge thank you to the Friends of Riverside for organising the Halloween disco. They raised £548.00 all of which goes to supporting trips and visits across the school. The next event planned is the Christmas fair. Friends of Riverside are always looking for people to volunteer to help them organise and run these events. If you would like to find out how to become involved, please contact the school office.

Curriculum open afternoon

Throughout the year we will be running our curriculum open afternoon. These afternoons are an informal opportunity for you to be able to join your child in their class so that they are able to share their curriculum learning with you.

Open afternoons start at 2:15 and you are welcome to join us from this time onwards and stay for as long or as little time as you wish. *We ask that the children remain in school until 3:15.*

Tuesday 21st November – Year 2 & 3

Thursday 23rd November – Year 1 & 6

Friday 24th November – Year 4 & 5

Children in Need

We will be supporting Children in Need on **Friday 17th November** by taking part in the BBC fundraising event. We are asking the children to come to school in spotty clothing or bright colours for the day. We will then be going on a whole school walk and talk around Newbold Quarry.

If you wish to make a donation to Children in Need, you can do this on your School Money account. Please make sure you send in outdoor shoes/ wellies and a coat for your child on this day.

Dinner Money

Due to rising costs, we are having to increase the cost of school dinners from the 1st January. Dinner money will be going up by 10p meaning dinners will be £2.40 per day or £12.00 per week. Dinner money should be paid in advance on your School Money account.

Christmas Pantomimes

It is due to the fantastic fundraising efforts of the Friends of Riverside that we are able to take the children to see a pantomime this year. The Friends of Riverside have paid for every child to be able to enjoy this exciting visit.

Reception, Year 1, 2, 3 and 4 are going to watch 'The man who wanted to be a penguin.'

Years 5 and 6 are heading to De Montford Hall to watch 'Jack and the Beanstalk.'

We have lots more planned to develop and extend the experiences the children have whilst they are with us at Riverside. December is going to be a busy month and we will keep you up to date with dates and times of Christmas performances and events!

Date	Event
Tuesday 21 st to 24 th November	Curriculum Open afternoons
Monday 27 th November	Ricky Dance Day
Friday 1 st December	Non-Uniform – bottle donation
Thursday 14 th December	R-Year 4 – The Man who wanted to be a penguin
Tuesday 19 th December	Christmas Performances Reception & Year 1 10am Years 2 – 6 2pm & 6pm
Wednesday 20 th December	Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 21 st December	Yr 5 & 6 – Jack & the beanstalk
Friday 22 nd December	Church service & Christmas party celebrations
Friday 22 nd December	Last day of term