



Ridgeway Weekly Update

Friday 10th January

This Week:

- Happy New Year to all of our families and welcome back to school! On behalf of all the Ridgeway staff, I would like to thank you for all of your Christmas cards, gifts and well wishes. We very much appreciate your generosity and support.
- Our Christmas Extravaganza has once again been a huge success! A big thank you goes to our Friends of Ridgeway team and Mrs Whitehead. I am delighted to say that we managed to raise £940.72!
- This week we have had to say a sad farewell to Miss Mc'Intosh as she leaves to take up a new post. We thank her for her huge contribution to the pastoral care of our children and wish her lots of luck in her next adventure.
- We have already had a few people become lucky winners of our school lottery! If you have not yet managed to get your tickets, it's not too late! You can sign up for tickets at the website below. Remember, you've got to be in it to win it! Tickets cost £1.00 and can be purchased at:
<https://www.yourschoolottery.co.uk/lottery/school/ridgeway-infant-school>
- This term you may see a few new faces around school. As part of our work to develop our children's mental health provision at Ridgeway, we have teamed up with Derby University who have agreed to provide a number of students to school to offer support for our staff and children. This work will enable staff to gain expertise in supporting children in a more holistic way and also will allow some children to work directly with trained colleagues. We have students working with us from a wide range of backgrounds, for example, Mental Health & Wellbeing, Dance Movement Psychotherapy, Occupational Health, and Child, Family, Health & Wellbeing. If you would like to know more about this project, please contact Mrs Harford-Smyth at kharford-smyth@ridgeway.derby.sch.uk
- Before Christmas our Year 1 children wrote letters to recruits in the Royal Navy. I was delighted to receive this message from the recruits' mentor at HMS Raleigh in the holidays: *"The recruits all loved the letters and the chief will be replying to you with a thank you letter. I've had messages this morning from recruits' parents saying that their recruit had told them about the letters and they were thrilled. One Mum said her and her husband cried to think that young children would see their own children as heroes. After Christmas, please thank the children for all their wonderful letters, they were gratefully received by our sailor recruits here at HMS Raleigh."* A fantastic response! Well done Year 1!

Coming Up Next Week:

- The Fire Service are visiting Year 2 classes on Tuesday next week to deliver fire safety workshops to all of our Y2 children.
- All staff will be undertaking training in teaching for memory next week. This intensive training will continue for the rest of the school year and involves looking in more detail about short and long term memory, looks at strategies to help children remember more and also includes a visit to a good practise school in Nottingham.
- Parents and Carers are welcome to stay and read with children in class on Friday morning from 8.45-9.10am. Please just enter school with your child through their usual door. We hope to see you there!

Upcoming Diary Dates:

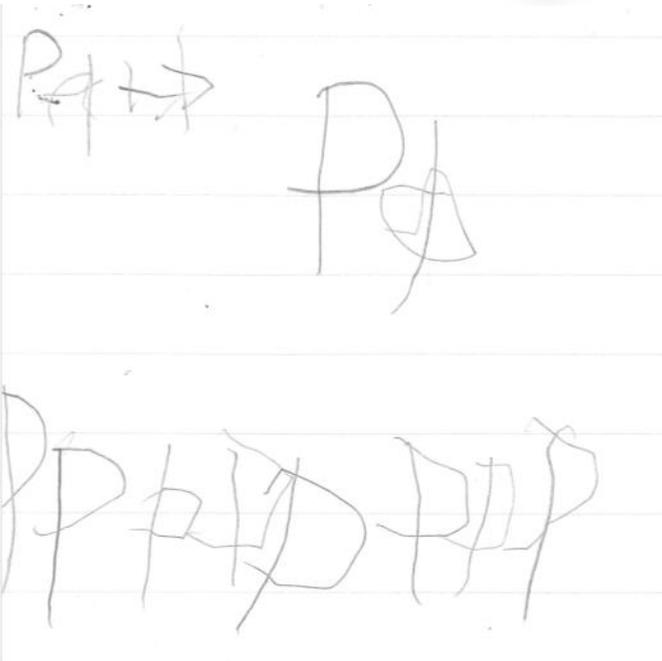
Mon 20 th Jan	Phonics Open Week
Fri 23 rd Jan	Stay and Read 8.45-9.10am
Mon 10 th Feb	Computing Day
Tue 11 th -Thu 13 th Feb	Class 1,2,3 heights/weights checks
Thu 13 th Feb	Valentine Discos
Fri 14 th Feb	Tea & Toast 8.15am School Closes for half term

Writing Showcase

This week's writing is by Prabhjot in Class 2.

Prabhjot has been learning how to write his name and he has now started to learn how to write the correct letters for the sounds in his name. He has remembered what a letter P looks like and has written these letters all by himself!

Well done Prabhjot! You have impressed us very much and we are very proud of you!



BOOK LOOK!

This week Miss Bailey and Class 6 have chosen **“You’re Called What?”**, a very funny book by Kes Gray and Nikki Dyson for our weekly Book Look.

Miss Bailey says “The children in Class 6 would like to recommend this story for the Newsletter Book Look. It is new! We loved the series of “Oi!” book by Kes Gray (Oi Dog! Oi Frog! Oi Cat! Oi Duck-billed Platypus!) and this book gets 5 stars from us.”

The characters in the story are all real animals with the most unusual names, so as well as being a hilarious story, it also teaches the children something new! It has a lovely little non-fiction section at the end of the book which gives more information about these lesser-known creatures, just in case you don’t believe there is such an animal as a ‘Monkeyface Prickleback’!

Seb in Class 6 says “We loved all of the funny names and we didn’t know they were real animals!”

From Miss Bailey and Class 6 ☺

