

Richard Hill Primary

School Newsletter



"You will know them by their fruits."

February 2026

Headteacher's Message

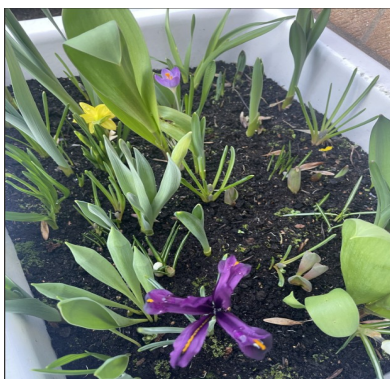
Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful half term. A very Happy New Year to those who celebrated Chinese New Year, and our warmest wishes to our Muslim families as Ramadan begins.

It has been fantastic to welcome the children back. Their wonderful attitudes and behaviour continue to make us proud every day. During recent assessments, we were especially pleased to see how much their confidence has grown, along with their resilience when faced with challenges. They are maturing beautifully as learners. We are also continuing to focus on wellbeing and mental health through our Collective Worships, helping children develop the tools they need to understand and manage their feelings.

We have an exciting term ahead, including tractor visits, planting trees in school and by the piggery, World Book Day, CUSP celebrations, welcoming eggs into school to watch them hatch, and our Easter service in March.

As spring begins, and the flowers our staff and children planted in the Autumn start to bloom, we are reminded of our children - growing, blossoming and flourishing each day.



Thank you for your continued support.

Warm wishes,
Mrs McVeigh

Dates for your diary

March

Thursday 5th March

World Book Day

Monday 9th March

CUSP Celebration Breakfast

Friday 13th March

Young Farmers Visit and tree Planting

Monday 16th March

Chicken eggs arrive at school!

Friday 20th March

Red Nose Day

Thursday 26th March

Easter Church Service

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Governor Spot

I was so pleased to stand at the gate with Mrs McVeigh the other afternoon. Most parents were rushing to take their children but I did speak to one or two. I have enjoyed my start as the Chair of Governors, meeting the teachers, the children and not surprisingly, Mrs McVeigh knows all their names. I never know how teachers remember!

This month Governors are about to carry out some governor monitoring. We are not there to critique the teaching, that is for the Trust, but we do check on the way the children are learning. Is behaviour good; are the children attentive and interested? There are a number of issues we concentrate on to monitor the 'health' of the school. It is part of our 'voluntary job'!

In a weeks time I shall be going to the Piggery to join the staff and children plant small saplings. The Piggery takes me back to when I kept pigs at school, but that is another story.....!

Patrick Rendall MBE

Chair of Governors

Richard Hill CE Primary School



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Attendance

February 2026

At Richard Hill, we believe that positive behaviour and regular school attendance are key to helping pupils make the most of their school experience. By being in lessons and fully engaged, children can achieve more, support their wellbeing, and build brighter futures. When pupils miss out on learning, they risk falling behind and facing challenges that may affect both their education and wider life. Evidence also shows that school-age education has lasting benefits for children's health and wellbeing, making it an important part of helping them thrive.

As a Trust, we are aiming for **96% or above** to ensure all of our children are given the full opportunity to flourish.

Whole School attendance so far this year:

96.2%



**If you need any support with attendance,
please contact Mrs McVeigh or Miss Moore
via the school office.**

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School Council at Richard Hill!

The school council have spoken!



Teaching staff will read their most loved books to different classes!

Children will be reading to each other across the school!

WORLD BOOK DAY

Thursday 5th March 2026

Book club (led by school council) during play and lunchtime!

Book focused activities during lessons!

The children will all design their own T Shirt for World Book Day in class!

Your child will need:
1 plain white T Shirt
Their favourite book
£1 donation (optional) towards fabric pens

Thursday 5th March

Would your child like to win a cupcake or a sticker?
Bring to a member of school council on Thursday 5th March:
3 facts about a book you have read
or
Illustrate or write the next chapter for one of your favourite book
or
Write a book review

Find out about spending your book token here

Richard Hill Primary School Preschool Places!

Please help us to spread the word about our wonderful Richard Hill Preschool!
We have spaces for September 2026! We accept 15 or 30 hours childcare funding, and offer wrap around care from 7.45am-5.45pm!



**RICHARD HILL CE
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Proud members of Learn Academies Trust

Spaces
available for
September
2026 starters

PRESCHOOL



A VIBRANT PRESCHOOL LOCATED IN OUR EARLY YEARS SETTING

Located in the picturesque village of Thurstaston, in the borough of Charnwood, we are just moments from Swithland Woods, Anstey and Beaumont Leys, providing brilliant opportunities for children aged 3+.

Our preschool provides the perfect introduction to school life, through play and exploration. We believe in nurturing our children and ensuring they have the care and support they need, to flourish in life.

"This is a happy school where pupils are enthusiastic about their learning. Behaviour in the school is calm and orderly. Pupils feel safe and well supported. The school takes great care to include all pupils in everything that it does"

Ofsted 2025: GOOD

We have morning and afternoon spaces available - with flexible booking options to support our parents.

We offer 15 or 30 hours of free childcare through the Government funding scheme.

We run our own Wraparound Care, from 7.45am to 5.45pm each day, which is open to our preschool and Reception aged children.

Our preschool is run by an experienced teacher with qualified support staff, to ensure excellent continuity of care.

Our school was recent rated as Good by Ofsted and we provide great preparation and readiness for starting school.

We have close links to the village and wider community, including the local parish church and community groups.

We offer a warm, caring, family feel, where children are recognised, taught and supported as individuals.

We have lots of indoor and outdoor space for the children to explore and enjoy.

Book your preschool tour today

office@ric.learnat.uk or 0116 234 0212
www.richardhillschool.co.uk

Richard Hill CE Primary School, 12 Anstey Lane, Thurstaston, Leicestershire, LE7 7JA

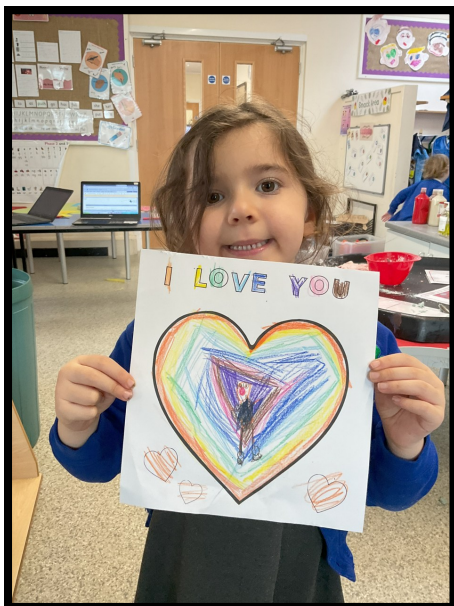


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Wren Class

In EYFS this February, we've had a wonderful month of themed learning and exploration!

During our Houses and Homes theme, children explored different types of buildings, built their own house structures using construction materials, and talked about who lives in their home. They enjoyed stories and role-play linked to family life and communities.

To celebrate Valentine's Day, the children enjoyed activities focused on kindness and friendship. They created heart themed cards, talked about the people they love, and practised using kind words and gestures.

For our Chinese New Year theme, the children learned about traditions linked to the Year of the Dragon. They made colourful lanterns, explored dragon dancing through music and movement, and tasted different foods linked to the celebration such as; Spring Rolls, Noodles and Prawn Crackers.

Osprey Class

February has been a vibrant and creative month in our classroom, with the children immersing themselves in a wide range of learning experiences. In English, they have been busy writing recounts, focusing on sequencing events clearly and adding detail to make their work. Their reading sessions have shown real determination, as they work hard to strengthen both fluency and comprehension, sharing thoughtful ideas about the texts they explore. In Maths, the children have been practising addition and subtraction crossing ten, using different strategies to build confidence and accuracy. Our Design and Technology lessons have been full of excitement as the children designed and built their own towers inspired by the Leaning Tower of Pisa, experimenting with balance, structure, and creative problem-solving. In Art, they have been exploring bold colours and playful compositions, creating pieces inspired by the work of Karen Lederer. It has been a month full of curiosity, creativity, and impressive progress across the curriculum.



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Ravens Class

In Ravens class the children have been working extremely hard in all areas. In maths, the children have studied area and perimeter. Mr Cooper gave the children some floor plans of the school which the children meticulously measured to try and work out what the perimeter of the whole building was.

In Topic, the children have been studying Geography and looking at the four countries that make up the United Kingdom. See if your child can tell you the four countries, and for a bonus point, can they remember the capital cities?



Red Kite Class

This month, the children have shown incredible academic and personal growth, approaching every challenge with a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards learning. We have loved getting creative with messy art materials, embracing the freedom to experiment and explore. In PE, the class threw themselves into learning the Haka, showing brilliant expression (and some wonderfully scary faces!). They were so enthusiastic, that Mrs McVeigh ran into the hall to find out what the Haka noises were! They have also worked independently to write detailed biographies about the inspiring people they chose to research - showcasing curiosity, commitment and real pride in their writing. Alongside this, the children have handled mature PSHE topics with sensitivity and remarkable thoughtfulness, showing care, respect and mindfulness towards others.



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Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club continues to be a wonderful start to the day for our pupils. Children are making the most of the chance to enjoy a nutritious breakfast, ensuring they begin their morning feeling fuelled and ready to learn. After eating, they take part in a variety of games that encourage teamwork, creativity, and a positive mindset before lessons begin. It is been fantastic to see how much they are enjoying this time together.



Amazing Afterschool Club

The Amazing Afterschool Club has had a lively and joy-filled February, packed with celebrations and hands-on creativity. The children welcomed Chinese New Year with enthusiasm, learning about the traditions of the festival and the significance of the Year of the Fire Horse. They enjoyed tasting a variety of Chinese foods, comparing flavours and talking about their favourites. As Valentine's Day approached, the club was full of colour as the children created Valentine's pictures, experimenting with different materials to make thoughtful designs for friends and family. To round off the month, they embraced the fun of Pancake Day, practising their flipping skills and sharing plenty of laughter along the way. It has been a wonderful month of culture and community spirit at the club.



If you would like to book a place please contact the office.

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Parenting Expert Advice!

As parents/carers, we all have questions about our children. Sometimes this is wondering about their friendship groups, worrying about homework, wondering if they are eating enough fruit and vegetables or maybe being worried about what they are playing online.

BBC Bitesize Parenting is a place for mums, dads, carers, and the whole parenting community to find stories, expert advice and fun activities that will help you support your child in a changing world.

Parents, BBC Bitesize have got you!

[Bitesize Parenting - advice for parents from BBC Bitesize](#)



Richard Hill Charity



Charity Grants Announced!

Richard Hill Church of England School Charity is excited to announce the latest round of charity grants deadline of March 31st for young people aged under 25 whom either live in Thurcaston or Cropston or who are current or ex-pupils of Richard Hill CofE Primary School, Thurcaston



Charity number: 527935

Typical Available Grant Amounts to benefit young people aged under 25 for educational (including sports, music, culture) and Christian faith related purposes

£100 to £1000

For more information and how to apply, please visit All Saints' Church, Thurcaston www.stmarysandallsaints.co.uk or Email- office@bradgatechurches.org.uk

Any parent/carer can have support in filling in the application. Please contact Lizzie Williams, the Church's Child Welfare Lead lizziewilliams54@gmail.com



March Events at Richard Hill!

Wednesday 4th March - Young Farmers
Tractor visits and making cream!

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day
(Please bring a white top, your favourite book and £1 optional donation to school)

Monday 9th March - CUSP Breakfast
8 - 8.45am school hall (all families are welcome)

Friday 13th March - Tree Planting
(Please bring wellies and gardening gloves (if your child has some))

Monday 16th March - Baby chicks coming to school!

Thursday 26th March - Easter Service at All Saints Church
9.30 - 10.15am (all are welcome)



CUSP CELEBRATION BREAKFAST



MONDAY 9TH MARCH
8-8.45AM
SCHOOL HALL



Science

COME AND SEE YOUR CHILDREN'S CUSP
WORK AND HAVE BREAKFAST WITH US!
THIS EVENT IS FOR ALL CHILDREN IN
SCHOOL.
THEY MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN
ADULT.

Reading

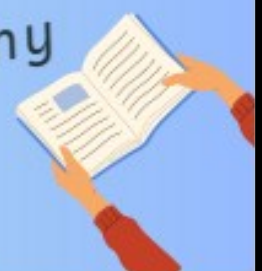
Art

History

Writing

*Design &
Technology*

Geography



How to support my child when working with them at home?



How Can I Help My Child?

Do Exercise

Exercise is a great way to reduce stress and it even releases happy hormones. Find something fun that your child likes to do and try to get regular exercise such as attending a regular sports club or activity, going for a walk, bike riding or even a computer game that involves movement and dancing. Try to encourage your child to stay active throughout the entire year and not just during the SATs period. This could include something that you enjoy doing together such as cycling or skating.

Get Outdoors

Getting outdoors helps to relieve stress, naturally lowering levels of the stress hormone cortisol. Even five minutes in nature can help reduce stress and boost mood. This could be going to the park after school for a short break or getting out at weekends.

Eat Well

Getting the right foods is vital for your child's health and can help them during the exam period. Some parents find that high-fat, high-sugar and highly processed foods (such as fizzy drinks, sweets, burgers and chips) can make their children hyperactive, irritable and moody. Let your child choose healthy food options and be involved in the meal planning where possible.

Plan a Reward

Have a reward planned for your child for when they finish this busy SATs period. This could be time in their favourite place, going to the cinema or a special meal that they like - something special to celebrate all the hard work they have put in during this period. This will also give your child something to look forward to after they have completed their tests.

Get Plenty of Rest

This is a simple yet effective way to help deal with stress and anxiety. Ensure that your child has a good bedtime routine and gets enough sleep for their age. The recommended amount of sleep for an average ten or eleven-year-old is between 9 and 11 hours' sleep per night.

Take Plenty of Breaks

During the SATs period (and in year 6 in general), children can receive lots of additional demands on their time in the form of extra homework and revision: reading, comprehension, spelling, grammar, punctuation and maths - there is lots to revise throughout this year! However, limit homework to a set amount of time each day or week and ensure your child gets lots of 'downtime'. Remember, they will have had a busy day of learning at school, so they will be tired when they arrive home. Also, encourage a mixture of breaktime activities - sometimes they may like to relax and watch television or play computer games; at other times it might be good to get active and go outdoors (weather permitting).



Getting Ready for School

It is nearly time to start school! Here are some things you can practise at home to help you get ready for school.



Self-Care and Independence

- I can wash and dry my hands.
- I can wipe my nose.
- I can put on/fasten my coat and shoes.
- I can use the toilet.
- I am learning to dress/undress – this will help me change for PE.
- I am happy to be away from my parents or carers. I know they will be back soon.

Playing with Others



- I join in games and activities with other people.
- I can share and take turns.

Speaking and Listening

- I can talk about my ideas, needs and feelings.
- I can ask a grown-up for help.
- I can follow simple instructions.

Eating and Drinking

- I can use a spoon, knife and fork.
- I can open my lunch box as well as wrappers and packaging.
- I can drink from a water bottle, carton or open cup.



1 2 3 4 5

Numbers

- I can count a small number of items.
- I like singing number rhymes or songs.
- I am learning to say numbers to ten.
- I can recognise some numbers.

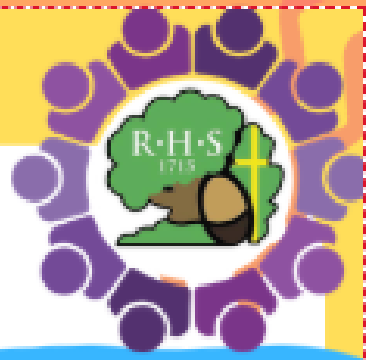
Reading and Writing

- I can recognise/read my name.
- I can hold a pencil to draw.
- I am learning to write my name.
- I enjoy listening to stories and rhymes.



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

For more details, please email the school office!



CHESS CLUB



Wednesday Lunchtimes!
KS2

GYMNASTICS CLUB

Years 1-3 with Emily
Tuesdays 3.20-4.20pm starting
4th November
Booking require through school

MULTI-SPORTS



Years 1-6
Monday 3.20-4.20pm
afterschool
Spaces available!



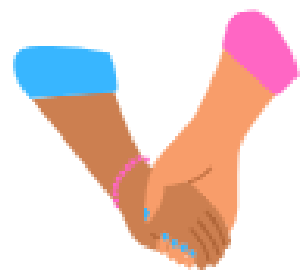
BIKEABILITY

Year 6 with Sophie

YOUNG LEADERS



Year 6 pupils at lunchtime
Supporting play for younger
children



CHOIR CLUB

Wednesday lunchtimes with
Emma
Years 1-6

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Learn to play an instrument with Claire
During the school day
Booking required through the Music teacher

SPRING TERM 2025



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"You will know them by their fruits."

Our School

WHAT SHOULD WE KNOW?

School Rules

We are Ready

We are Respectful

We are Safe



Vision and Values
"You will know them by their fruits."

Joy, Patience, Goodness, Faithfulness, Self Control
Kindness, Love, Peace, Gentleness

Six Strands

- Boundaries
- Resilience
- Focus
- Respect
- Self Regulation
- Independence

No Outsiders means....
Everyone different,
Everyone welcome,
No one is an outsider

Welcoming We say no to...

Bullying
Racism
Discrimination



Several Times on Purpose
Start Telling Other People

We are not
BYSTANDERS



We know and are respectful of
what makes each of us
unique.

Protected
Characteristics

Age
Gender
Religion
Family
Culture
Faith
Ability



Stay safe online
Sun Safety
Water Safety
Road Safety
Keeping your Privates Private

WHAT YOU COULD DO WHEN YOU FEEL WORRIED

- Talk to someone - a friend or an adult
 - Put your worry in the worry monster
 - Go outside - breathe deeply
 - Do a calming activity
 - Draw a picture of your feelings
 - Write your feelings down
- GROWN UPS IN SCHOOL ARE ALWAYS HERE TO HELP- COME AND SEE US**

TALKING WITH ADULTS

- EXPECTATIONS**
- S**HOW THEM YOUR BEST
Show the adult that you know speaking to them is important by sitting smartly and showing best behaviour.
 - M**AKE SURE TO LISTEN
The adults will ask you questions and you need to listen carefully to make sure you are answering what they have asked.
 - A**LWAYS USE YOUR BOOK
The adult wants to know about your learning make sure you show them your books!
 - R**EMEMBER TO ASK
If you are not sure of what a question means speak up.
 - T**HINK!
The adults want to hear your thoughts not just your friends. Use your brain and share YOUR ideas not someone else's!



British Values

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Tolerance
- Respect
- BEYOND
- Individual Liberty



Thank you for visiting us!



School
Website



Getting
Ready for
School

