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Executive Headteacher – Mrs P Atwal

As January is always a period of reflection, the staff team and I have looked back on our achievements over the past year and been heartened to see so many positive things that the children at Richardson Endowed have been experiencing.

It is difficult to believe how quickly the time is going and the team and I thought it might be beneficial to share our reflections with you.



- Over the past 18 months, the team has been working tirelessly to further develop the school's brilliant curriculum, driven by inspiring and exciting texts and underpinned by 6 global themes. Take a look at our curriculum long term plans here: [Long Term Plans | Richardson Endowed Primary School](#)

• In the past year, we have implemented a completely new phonics scheme in response to our commitment to early reading and the impact is already so evident for our children. Our class teachers, Mrs Reckless, Miss MacDonald, Mrs Rodgers and Miss Abbott, together with the Key Stage 1 support team, have worked wonders for our children's progress. This was a key priority for the school and I am delighted that this important work is being so ably delivered so all our children get the very best in their learning journey towards fluent reading and writing.

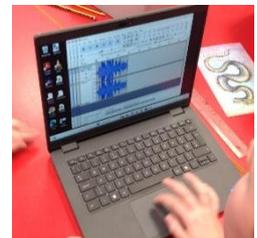


- As a team, we have been working hard to improve our practice and educational offer through a structured CPD programme, with a key focus on curriculum subjects, the most up-to-date teaching and learning approaches as well as fulfilling statutory CPD requirements on safeguarding, behaviour and SEND.



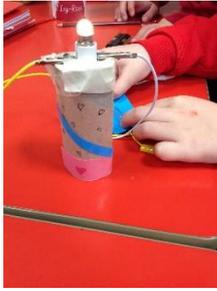
- We have implemented new lunchtime clubs in response to children's needs and these are very well attended, providing a great alternative to outdoor playtime activities. The library club is especially popular and it is always lovely to see our children enjoy the space on the train and pursue a love of reading.

• We have purchased a new set of school computers to be used for our Computing curriculum and to enhance learning in other subject areas. These have been a great addition to further improve the school's technology.



- Our extra-curricular offer is wide-ranging, covering sports, yoga, gardening, science, coding and music. We are looking to further strengthen this with an afterschool film club, Forest School club and scooter club in the coming half term (Spring 2).
- We participate regularly in sports competitions. Last term, our school won the inter-school handball competition with local schools in Amber Valley. We have also sent teams to events such as football, dodgeball and athletics.
- Working successfully with Horsley Woodhouse Primary School – we have enjoyed a multi-sports competition with our friends and will continue this each half term. Year 3 will soon attend the fantastic forest school at Horsley Woodhouse for 3 sessions after February half term. Details on this will be sent shortly. This will be extended to other classes over the course of the year.





- Theme days – we have enjoyed a Divali day as a school where children learnt to bhangra dance with visiting teachers and learnt all about this festival. Classes have enjoyed project days and this has given them focused time to complete their projects and children have enjoyed their learning enormously.

- Class trips – all classes will attend a class trip this year as this is an important part of enhancing our learning. Class 3, 4, 5 and 6 have already been to

Chatsworth, Derby Open Faith Centre and Cromford Mills to fit into their curriculum. Your class teacher will be in touch for further visits to the farm, wildlife centre, Sudbury Museum, Roman experience day and the Space Centre. We will have tough runner in the summer and further forest school provision. Classes 1 to 6 have visited the local church for Christmas.



- We regularly have visitors into school too – we always work closely with our local PCSO team, the Fire and Rescue Service, Air Ambulance and Rescue, Valley Kids and our local vicar.
- We have developed our links to the community, working with the local care home for Boogie Beats for our reception children and with the Salvation Army for harvest.



- We have a Gold Book celebration assembly every Friday. Children's achievements are celebrated and we collect team points from each class. Team point groups are established and the children work hard to add points to their weekly totals. The teams are Kestrels, Eagles, Hawks and Falcons. The winners each half term are given extra play time.

- In our hall, we have a tree of kindness, where children who have shown kindness to others are celebrated. These children attend a

'tea party on the train' with the head and deputy head as a reward.

- We celebrated Christmas as a school family including nativity performances from Reception and Class 1 and a carol concert from Year 2 and Year 3. Every class had a Christmas party and we thank the PTFA for their support for this.
- Embark Award folders – this has been relaunched and I am delighted that our first bronze awards will be presented by our trust's CEO, Matt Crawford, on the 7th February. It was wonderful to see so many of our fantastic children and their families at the Embark Awards Ceremony in October.



You will be pleased to know that we are not resting on our laurels! Our next steps/events are:

- NSPCC Rocks TTRS competition (online – 7.2.25)
- Matt Crawford's Embark Award assembly (7.2.25)
- World Book Day & our pop-up library event (6.3.25)
- Scholastics Book Fair (12.3.25 – 19.3.25)
- TTRS Rock Star day on Maths Day (14.3.25)
- Red Nose Day (21.3.25)
- Bikeability – Class 4 (24.3.25) & Class 5 (25.3.25 – 27.3.25)
- Residential trip to PGL for our year 6 children (30.3.25 – 2.4.25)
- Easter Parade – R & KS1 (4.4.25)
- Termly inter house competitions. Spring term's competition focus will be art.
- Termly Friday Coffee mornings
- School trips
- PTFA events
- Sports competitions – we will continue to strive for success and enjoyment for all age groups in a range of sports. Coming up are competitions in dodgeball for KS1 and KS2.
- Further development of Forest school provision, including training for our staff and use of both our grounds and of Horsley Woodhouse.

- Year 6 end of year performance
- Tough Runner
- Sports day

Information regarding the above events will be communicated in due course.

Looking towards the further, our long-term goals for our school are:

- Improve the school's grounds
- Further develop community links
- Develop an on-site Forest School area and access required training
- Develop a sensory space within the school

If you feel you could help or support our school in achieving any of our goals, please do get in contact with the school office as any help would be greatly appreciated.

As always, we are extremely grateful for your continued support and look forward to another year of working together to make our school and our community the best it can be for our children.

If you have any worries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact school.