



The Trent-Rylands Federation



Trent Vale Infant and Nursery School *and* Beeston Rylands Junior School

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September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you are all well and managed to enjoy some time together as families over the summer break. These first few days have been busy but the children have settled beautifully, and the learning atmosphere has been very calm across both our schools in the Trent-Rylands Federation

We would like to extend a huge welcome to Mrs Ediriweera in Year 2 (Elm Class) and Miss Bromberger who will be teaching in Nursery at Trent Vale. Elm Class is also being taught by Ms Wilson at present for a few weeks.

Mrs Turner is taking some compassionate leave due to a family bereavement at present and Mrs Osborne will be filling in for her until her return.

To all of our families who are new to the Trent -Rylands Federation, we welcome you too and are sure that your children will settle quickly into school. As always, we are keen for you as parents, and carers, to work with us to support our children's attendance, academic learning, personal development and experiences at school throughout the course of this year. We are looking forward to working with you, and are sure that this will be a year full of many amazing achievements and accomplishments for our children.

Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

Ensuring that we continue to provide assurance for you as parents and carers and maintain the safety and wellbeing of all our children remains our priority as we welcome our children back into our school communities this term.

We start this term though with schools once again being at the centre of media attention in light of the recently announced changes in guidance relating to Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) that is present in some school buildings. The media profile and potential wider impact will, we are sure, be a source of anxiety.

In Nottinghamshire, the County Council have been aware of the issue for some time and have been working closely with schools and the Department for Education to survey education settings in line with Government guidance and the current impact of RAAC across Nottinghamshire remains low, the Council have undertaken assessments of all maintained schools and with no further concerns identified that require closure or partial closure to school buildings. Currently only one primary academy in Nottinghamshire has been required to make alternative arrangements to the start of term.

We want to reassure parents and students that RAAC is not in any part of either of our school premises.

Start and End of School Day

| | Trent Vale Infant School | Beeston Rylands Junior School |
|-------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Start time | 8.50am | 8.45am – 8.55am |
| Finish time | 3.20pm | 3.25pm |

At Trent Vale we know that our youngest children can sometimes be anxious at drop off time. As a parent this can be hard. We will continue to support children in entering school and we are confident that within a few weeks all children will be entering school independently and happily.

At Rylands Junior the gates open at 8.45am. We encourage children to arrive at this time so they can be settled and start their “wake-up” activity being ready to learn when school starts at 8.55 am.

If you have children at both schools, for a smooth start to the day for your older child, please drop your junior child off first and then your infant child. Please note the junior school gates close at 8.55am and any child arriving after this time will have to enter via reception.

Lateness

- Arrival in the morning after the start time window will be classed as late.
- If your child arrives after 9:15am this is classed as an unauthorised absence.

Attendance

We always aim for a high attendance rate at both schools so please do not book any holidays during term time.

If you do then please request a leave of absence form to inform us in writing so we know why your child is absent. Any time off school counts as an absence and taking a two-week family holiday in school time means your child cannot achieve 95% attendance; this impacts on their achievement. This will be recorded as unauthorised. We will consider fining for long or regular absence due to family holidays.

Reporting Absence – Study Bugs

In a few weeks’ time, both schools are introducing a new, more efficient and secure system for reporting your child’s absence due to illness, called **Studybugs**. **We will be sending a separate letter about this.** Until then, please continue to report your absence through email or our phone system.

Communication with Staff

- Drop off time is always busy and teachers might not always have chance to talk with you. Office staff and/or headteachers will usually be available to talk with you every morning on the school playground should you need to pass on any important information for the day,
- Alternatively, pop in at the end of the school day or email/ phone the school office.
- It is important you contact the school office to notify school if your child is absent. Please, do not email teachers directly over absence as they are often busy in the morning, and will not always check their emails before the start of school. Our answerphone is available 24 hours a day.
- Please email or phone school if you need to make an appointment to speak to a member of staff. Staff will respond to emails within 5 working days. Whilst we understand that you are busy, please try not to email teachers late at night or at the weekend.

Parent Information Meetings

We are running some short information meeting for parents straight after school. You may have already have received an email from your child/ren’s class teacher/s to invite you to these meetings. Children will be supervised and able to play on the playground during this time. If you cannot make the meeting, do not worry, the information will be posted on our website on your child’s class page.

For KS1 and KS2 these will be held during the week of 11th September
Monday – BRJS Year 5 & 6
Tuesday - BRJS Year 3 & 4
Wednesday – TV – Year 1
Thursday TV – Year 2

F2 Parents' meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th September.

Parents Evenings

This year the week beginning 16th October. We would like to see all parents face to face, but will also offer telephone appointments if you cannot make it in to school.

BRJS – will be Monday and Wednesday of that week,
TV will be Tuesday and Thursday of that week.

School Rules

Our Trent-Rylands behaviour policy incorporates shared rules across the federation. The emphasis is a focus on the positive, with children being rewarded for their good behaviour. We will talk about these rules in class, during PSHE lessons and assembly time. We would appreciate it if you could support these rules at home with your children.

Trent Rylands Rules

- **We are gentle; we don't hurt others (tolerance/self-restraint)**
- **We are kind and helpful; we don't hurt anybody's feelings (empathy and compassion)**
- **We listen; we don't interrupt (respect)**
- **We are honest; we don't cover up the truth (integrity)**
- **We work hard; we don't waste our own or others' time (resilience and cooperation, determination)**
- **We look after property; we don't waste or damage things (responsibility)**

Reading at Trent Vale

Working with you to successfully teach your child to read is one of the most important roles we have during your child's time at Trent Vale. We know that those children who read at home 4 times per week are the best readers. Please write in their reading diary if they have read at home. Learning to read is also about a child being regularly read to so please remember to include story time as part of their bedtime routine. We will shortly be sending home a letter explaining our approach to reading to parents at Trent Vale.

Reading at Rylands Junior

Reading is a powerful and rewarding activity that improves focus, memory, and vocabulary. It also increases a child's creativity and imagination which is why it is so important that we encourage our children to read and share stories at home. Please ensure that you find time to read with your child and join in with the love of books and literature. For our older, fluent readers, they need to make sure they too have dedicated time to read and immerse themselves in longer books. Please record when and what they've read in their school planners as we check these regularly. Our children have the opportunity to routinely refresh their reading books in our school library and The Education Library Service van will be visiting us later in the term for children to choose a book to borrow. We also use this service to get a range of current topic related books for children to explore in each class.

Please remember to sign the planner each week along with your child; your child's class teacher will also sign it and respond to any notes or messages you may have written.

Class Newsletters/Autumn Term Curriculum overview

You will be receiving a newsletter/curriculum overview from your child's teacher describing what they will be learning this term. This is so you can support and encourage your child with their learning at home. These will also be found on our website, under each class page along with any other useful information or updates.

Other useful Information

Internet Safety

We will be continually teaching the children about the importance of E-safety, particularly when accessing the internet.

The E-safety rules at **Trent Vale** we are encouraging the children to follow are:-

1. People you don't know are strangers. They are not always who they say they are.
2. Be nice to people on the computer like you would in the playground.
3. Keep your personal information private
4. If you ever get that "uh oh" feeling, you should tell a grown up you trust.

The E-safety rules we are encouraging the children to follow at **Rylands Junior** are:-

Our E-safety code: Zip it, block it, flag it.

This code reminds us of our E-safety rules and the actions the children should take if any rules are broken.

Additionally, we would like to remind you that the age restrictions on computer games are also an important part of E-safety. For example, a game is given an 18 rating because it contains images and language that is appropriate for people aged 18 and over whether they are playing or watching an adult play on the game. We know that most of you are incredibly careful about the computer games and apps that you let your children have access to, but can we ask you to please be extra vigilant as exposure to violent games does have a negative effect on children's behaviour. On our website in the joint section, under polices and e-safety, you can find numerous National Online Safety parent information leaflets, covering a range of topics, which will support you and your child to be safe online. We regularly add to these and inform you, via teachers2parents, when we have added a new guide.

Lunch and snacks

Both schools are nut free due to children in school with severe nut allergies. This includes nut butters such as Nutella.

| Trent Vale Infant School | Beeston Rylands Junior School |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Free hot dinner provided by school or• Packed lunch provided by home• Children staying all day in Nursery can have a hot dinner for a charge of £2.50. This is paid by invoice half-termly. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hot dinner provided by school. This is free for children in receipt of Free School Meals or bought from school for £2.60 per day via sQuid.• Packed lunch provided by home. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Free piece of fruit or vegetables• Milk from Cool Milk. This is free for under 5's and those children in receipt of Free School Meals.• You will need to register at https://www.coolmilk.com/ if you want your child to have milk at school. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A piece of fruit or vegetables provided by home |

Ideally, we would like your child to have a school dinner. Over the week, they provide a healthy balanced diet and at Trent Vale the dinners are free for everyone. If your child does not eat a wide range of food, stopping for school dinners is a wonderful way to encourage them to eat more. We are very flexible; you can choose a mix of dinner days and packed lunch days, to suit your child and even let us know on the day. We will let you know if your child is not eating a great deal.

Please ensure that your child's packed lunch has a healthy balance.

At Trent Vale, we will ensure that children with a packed lunch will eat the healthiest part of their lunch first. The children will always bring home their uneaten food, so you can see what they have eaten.

Our Fabulous Parents Groups

Last year our Parent Groups worked hard together to raise money for our schools and provide great enrichment experiences for our children. If you feel as though you can spare some time, to help this group, please let the school offices know

Baby Group

We have a baby and toddler group at Trent Vale. It runs on a Tuesday at 2pm, in the school hall. It is a small and very friendly group, and our young ones really enjoy it.

Parking outside school

We are keen to make drop off and pick up times as safe as possible. Try to walk to school, if possible. If not, please park away from the main pick-up points to keep the areas clear. The safety of our children is all our responsibility.

Dogs & Smoking

Please remember the school, including the playground, is a non-smoking site. This includes e-cigarettes. Also, dogs are not allowed on the premises for health and safety reasons.

Dates

At the end of this Newsletter we have included a list of important dates for the school year. Please put these in your diary or on your calendar; they are also on the calendar on both schools' website.

Thank you for your continued support and please remember if you have got any questions or concerns then please come in and talk to us.

Janine Barratt, Catherine Turner & Sue Osborne

Diary Dates Autumn 2023

Also See Main Calendar Attached for INSETS and Holiday for the full year.

Forest School

TV – Parents have already had a letter conforming dates

BRJS

| | am | pm |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Thus 14 th Sept | Oak | Pine |
| Thurs 21 st Sept | Ash | Birch |
| Thurs 28 th Sept | Willow | Sycamore |
| Thurs 5 th Oct | Ash | Oak |
| Thurs 12 th Oct | Sycamore | Pine |
| Thurs 19 th Oct | Birch | Willow |

Other Dates

Mon 11th Sept BRJS Y5 & 6 Parent information meetings
Tue 12th Sept BRJS Y3 & 4 Parent information meetings
Tues 12th Sept BRJS Weekly Year 4 swimming

Wed 4th- Thu 5th Oct BRJS Y4 residential (group 1-to be assigned)
Thu 5th- Fri 6th Oct BRJS Y4 residential (group 2-to be assigned)
Wk 9th Oct TV and BRJS Harvest week – collecting food and toiletries
Wed 11th Oct TV Harvest Festival
Nursery and F2 – 2.00pm
KS1 - year 1 and 2 – 2.30pm

Fri 13th Oct TV Bikeability - Beech Class- Further information to follow
Mon 16th Oct BRJS Parent Evening 3.40- 6.00pm
Wed 18th Oct BRJS Parent Evening 3.40- 6.00pm
Tues 17th Oct TV Bikeability - Lilac Class - Further information to follow
Tue 17th Oct TV Parent Evening 3.30- 6.00pm
Thur 19th Oct TV Parent Evening 3.30- 6.00pm
Thur 19th Oct TV STOMP Dance Workshops (whole school – further details to follow)

Thur 19th Oct TV and BRJS Last day at school
Fri 20th Oct TV and BRJS **INSET DAY**
Mon 23rd Oct- Fri 3rd NOV **HALF TERM (2 weeks)**
Mon 6th Nov Children return to school

TV -Further Dates

Wed 15th Nov Y2 Residential meeting via Zoom 6.00pm
Thurs 7th Dec TV Christmas Dinner day (wear your Christmas Jumpers)
Wk beginning Mon 11th Christmas Performances – we will confirm dates soon.
Wed 20th Dec TV Party Day
Thurs 21st Dec TV – Pantomime in School

BRJS- Further Dates

Weds 8th – 10th Nov BRJS - Year 6 residential- information to follow
Wed 22nd Nov BRJS Individual photo's (photos with TV siblings 8.30am) letter to follow
Nov/Dec – tbc – Y5&6 provisional trip to National Holocaust Centre
Dec – tbc – Christmas dinner day (and wear your Christmas jumpers!)
W/B Dec 18th – Upper and lower school Christmas Party day – we will confirm dates soon
Dec – tbc – visit to Beeston cinema for a Christmas movie
Dec – 18th Dec – Carol concert at St John's Church, Beeston
Dec – tbc – Lower school Christmas performance

Fri 22nd Dec TV and BRJS Last day at school
Mon 25th Dec – Wednesday 3rd Jan 2022 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Thurs 4th & Friday 5th Jan - INSET DAY
Mon 8th Jan First day of Spring Term - Children return to school