



Ridgeway Primary Academy  
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Executive Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Bishop  
Head of School: Mr David Turner

7<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents,

As we enter our third week back after the summer break, we have put together some key information for the forth-coming term which we hope you will find useful.

We have welcomed Mrs Cairns as a new member of the 43 team. Mrs Jennings and I are enjoying the move from Year 2 and working alongside our support staff team of: Miss Moffatt, Miss Morris and Mrs Duffin.

The children have settled well into their new classes and many of the new routines and expectations we have needed to put in place have been well practised and are becoming a natural part of our daily life at school.

#### Curriculum Information

Our Topic for this term is called **Sticks and Stones!** This topic has a strong history focus where the children will learn about and compare what life was like during the **Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age**. There will also be a link to Art where the children will investigate the meaning behind cave paintings and use this to create their own.

In Science, the children will explore **rocks and soils**. They will also learn about how **fossils** are made and will discover who **Mary Anning** was and the discoveries she made.

The children will have PE sessions three times a week. **Our PE days are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday**. A reminder that all shoulder length hair should be tied back with a bobble and ear-rings should ideally be removed but can be covered with tape. Thank you.

#### Reading

Your child should now have brought home one or two books. For some children, this will include books from our Reading Scheme. We will be constantly assessing the children's progress in reading to ensure that all children have the phonics knowledge needed, are reading with good fluency, as well as developing a good understanding of the texts and vocabulary used in the wide range of texts they will encounter. Reading is such an important life skill as we use reading in everything else we do, sometimes without really thinking about it.

On Friday, your child should have also brought home a 'reading journal'. We are currently setting up our classes with log-ins for Read Theory, Times Tables Rockstars and GoRead (now called Boom reading). These will come home over the next few days and will be located in the back of their journals. All reading books, scheme or other, as well as the Reading Journal, should travel between home and school each day.

As part of their Homework schedule, we still expect the children to be reading at home at least 5 times a week. Research shows that 10 minutes reading a day benefits not only the children's ability to read fluently but it also develops their vocabulary power as well as promoting reading for pleasure. This does not always need to be to an adult. Reading to themselves and then talking to an adult about their

reading is a great way to develop independence and to show the children, as they older, that they are becoming more accountable for their own learning.

### French

The Year 3 children have begun to learn **French**. The children have one French session each week and this is currently being covered by Mrs Savill during Mrs Cutler's absence. We are hoping that Mrs Cutler will be at Ridgeway very soon.

### Homework

We will be using Teams as part of our weekly homework schedule. The Trust is currently setting up new class groups and more information will follow once this has been completed.

### Snacks

Snacks for break time should be either a plain biscuit or fruit. Some children are bringing to school 3 or 4 snacks. One piece is sufficient as time does not allow for this number of snacks to be consumed. Our School Council is committed to reducing the amount of single use plastic in school and asks that plastic bags are not used. Wherever possible, please use a re-usable container which is named so that it can be easily returned. Please ask your child's teacher if you are unsure about the suitability of a snack. Thank you.

**Suitable snacks** include:

Plain biscuits

Fruit

Fruit based snacks

Cereal bar - **NO NUTS**

Plain rice cakes

Cheese strings

Frubes - yogurt

**Unsuitable snacks** include:

Chocolate

Any biscuits or cereal bars that contain or are covered in chocolate

Crisps

Cakes

Sausage rolls

Pork pies

Pasties

Pastries such as pain au chocolat/cossaints

Please remember that we are a **nut free school**.



Ridgeway Primary Academy is part of Learn Academies Trust: Company Number: 08095439  
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Company Number: 08095439 | Phone: 01858 260028  
CEO Stefanie Edwards, Director of Finance and Operations Wayne Burbidge



If you are unsure about anything which may be brought into school as a snack, please speak to your child's teacher. This will avoid any child being upset. Thank you.

### **Reading Volunteers:**

With a return to normal, we would like to be able to extend reading volunteers in Key Stage 2. If you have some time to spare and are interested in being to help in this way, please do let the Office know and they will be able to advise you as to the process. Volunteers do need to undergo a DRB check before they can come into school to help. You can contact the Office directly by emailing:

[office@rpa.learnat.uk](mailto:office@rpa.learnat.uk)

We are looking forward to working with you and your child over the coming year and look forward to a very happy and productive term.

Please do not hesitate to contact either myself or your child's class teacher if you have any queries or concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Price

Emma Jennings

Claire Cairns

Mia Moffatt

Abie Morris

Jane Duffin



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