



The Phoenix

Newsletter for Ryecroft C.E. (C) Middle School Issue 6

Our Latest KS2 Results: 2017 Headlines

Performance at Key Stage 2 – May 2017			
% of expected standard	2016 - Ryecroft	2017 - Ryecroft	2017 - National
Reading	67%	83%	71%
Grammar & Punctuation (SPAG)	65%	78%	77%
Writing	86%	82%	76%
Mathematics	55%	70%	75%
English & Mathematics combined	43%	63%	61%

- In all English SATs tests and in the teacher assessment of writing, we had a greater percentage of pupils reaching Age Related Expectations in 2017, than national averages.
- In Mathematics, achievement was improved from 2016 by an incredible 15%.
- Our overall combined achievement were above national average.

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of another academic year I would ask pupils to consider all they have achieved this year and to really focus on their successes, of which there have been so many. We frequently receive comments from visitors to the school recognising the exemplary behaviour of our pupils. We are so proud of our pupils and they are a credit to you. As you read your son or daughters end of term report I am sure you will be very proud too.

As always it has been an incredibly busy year at the school. The start of the year was particularly hectic moving into a new school building. Our main priority was to ensure that the move did not affect the teaching and learning of our pupils and this is evidenced in the outstanding results in the recent KS2 SATs examinations as evidenced above. Our Year 6 pupils worked extremely hard and we are all very proud of their performance. As most of our 'boxes' are now unpacked and are settling in our new surroundings, we are very much looking forward to personalising the building and grounds to create a truly inspiring environment for all.

There have been many visits this year: Standon Bowers, Shugborough, St Michaels Church, Burton Albion, The Big Bang Fair, Potteries Museum and numerous Theatre visits have been some of the additional opportunities pupils have been able to access. Many additional sporting opportunities from lunchtime clubs to representing the school have provided pupils with a wide variety of extra curriculum physical education.

We have some announcements about changes in members of staff from September, as some of our staff are moving on to "pastures new" and we are welcoming some new staff too. We are very sorry to say goodbye to Mrs Parkin, Mrs Hollands and Mr White. We wish them all the best for the future.

We will be joined by Mr Brown who will be predominately teaching Mathematics, Mrs Thornton who will be teaching Science and two new Key Stage 2 Teachers, Mr John and Mrs Doyle. I know they will be welcomed into the school community and we look forward to working with them during the next school year.

July 2017

I want to finish by formally thanking the whole staff team of Ryecroft Middle School. The staff are so committed and hardworking and the school only works as well as it does due to the way the team work together. The staff at Ryecroft ALL contribute to the progress and development of your children and have certainly earned this well-deserved summer break.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 5th September for a new academic year

Yours sincerely



Miss R Baramuszcak
Headteacher

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At this time of year, we say goodbye to our Year 8 pupils. Their Middle School chapter comes to an end and we all sincerely wish them the very best as they move to their new secondary school.

These pupils should be very proud of their individual achievements during their time at Ryecroft. This past term, they have enjoyed a wide range of activities helping us celebrate all the amazing work and behaviour they have shown. This week we finally said a fond farewell and wished them good luck at their leavers' assembly.

For some parents it is also the end of a long association with Ryecroft Middle School and I do sincerely hope that your children will continue to flourish in the next stage of their education. Your support for the school has been truly welcomed.

Our Year 8 pupils have been the source of much pleasure, a little pain, but most of all, pride for us all and they will be missed.

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Sports' News



A huge thank you to F.O.R.M for their support over the year with many events including sport. They have been very kind to provide £3000 funding for the expansion of PE equipment which has included the purchase of: new football goals; basketball posts; hurdles; PE mats; hockey goal keeper kit and many more resources!

Many thanks for Mrs Robins and Mrs Adams for organising and delivering Netball sessions on a Monday evening throughout the year.

Burton Albion collapsed curricular day was a huge success on Thursday 29th June. 190 students and 12 members of staff visited the Burton Albion stadium and training ground hosted by the Burton Albion Community Trust. Throughout the day students got to experience football, handball and dodgeball sessions as well as a tour of the grounds, a media session and aspirations talk. Despite the rainy weather it was an enjoyable day for all!

Congratulations to the 18 students who represented Ryecroft in the Middle Schools Swimming Gala, where we achieved first place. An overall score was taken for the students who participated and also represented their houses giving an overall result of Arkwright (1st), Heywood (2nd) and Sheldon (3rd).

Exciting opportunities are anticipated for September when we are finally allowed on the school field after a year of waiting! This will mean that students can begin to apply their skills into the subject being taught onto the field. There is also plans to deliver inter-school competitions at lunch times with the assistance of the new Games Captains. Lunch time activities will also be delivered on the playground by the appointed Sports Leaders. With the introduction of the Government initiative of introducing an additional daily 30 minutes physical activity within the school day, we will be working in partnership with Burton Albion Community Trust, Shobnall Sports Complex and Uttoxeter Rugby Club to deliver extra-curricular opportunities throughout lunch time.



Well done to all students and a thank you for staff and parents for their support with Sports Day on Friday 14th July at Rocester Football Club. A huge thank you to Rocester Football Club for allowing us to use their facilities at such short notice. A big thank you to F.O.R.M for their support on Sports Day and providing refreshments on the day. Also a thank you to Rocester SPAR shop for providing us with much needed bottled water. It was a very last minute event, but we managed to organise a combination of 'traditional' and 'quirky' events for all students to take advantage of competing in for their house. The overall result was Arkwright (1st), Heywood (2nd) and Sheldon (3rd).

Year 7 students have been applying their gymnastic skills in Parkour Club each week over the past term. They have learnt how to safely climb, jump off equipment and benches followed by landing safely. This is a new and exciting club which Ryecroft has offered, with the intention of bringing modern day past time activities into the extra-curricular programme to allow students to learn the skills safely and perform effectively.

Miss N Starkey
Lead for Physical Education

School Uniform

We are aware that most of you will be considering replacing school uniform items for your son/daughter over the summer holiday. I would therefore, like to take this opportunity to reiterate our uniform policy and have attached the school uniform list for ease of reference. I want to point out that trousers for girls should be black, straight-legged with waistband (not hipsters, slouch, jeggings or 'fashion style'. Skirts should be navy blue or black, knee length but not lycra.

Footwear for both girls and boys should be sensible black shoes and not trainers, boots or any other form of casual footwear. Socks must be plain black; in addition girls may also wear black tights.

Jewellery

Pupils are permitted to wear a single plain (gold or silver) stud but only one per lobe. However, these must be removed during their Physical Education lessons. Therefore, I would suggest if your child is considering having their ears pierced during the summer holidays that this is done at the beginning of the holiday. Other forms of body piercings are not permitted under any circumstances.

School Jumpers and Ties

Jumpers and ties are only available from the school office. Jumpers are £16.00 regardless of the size and ties are £3.50

Trutex (Sportland) in Meir, provides all other items of our uniform/sportswear. Parents can purchase their items by the following methods:

Online - Website: www.trutexmeir.com

Shop - Trutex (Sportland) Meir, 41 Weston Road, Meir, Stoke on Trent, ST3 6AB Tel: 01782 310111

'Pop Up' shop facility - At Thomas Alleyne's High School, Uttoxeter (Ede Studio) - on the following occasional dates during the summer holidays:

Monday 24th July	- 1.00pm to 3.00pm
Tuesday 25th July	- 1.00pm to 3.00pm
Wednesday 9th August	- 10.00am to 2.00pm
Wednesday 23rd August	- 10.00am—2.00pm

The shop will be staffed by Sportland staff and will operate as an ordinary shop with facilities to take card payments etc.



**AUTUMN TERM STARTS
TUESDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2017**



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