



**Riverwalk School**



# SCHOOL *NEWS*

*January 2024*

## ***Message from Senior Leadership Team***

Dear Parents and Carers,

We had a busy autumn term, with many changes that impacted our school. As the dust settles and we continue to emerge as a thriving community, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support, wishing our wonderful pupils and their families a Happy New Year.

Kind Regards  
Lukasz Rumanowski  
Academy Head



### **Important dates for your diary**

16th January - Parental engagement morning

### **Special Events/Activities/News/Focus**

Our commitment to you: Last term the Trust developed a commitment statement to our parents and communities. It is important that all schools, settings and staff adhere to the commitment. It can be found here:

<https://www.consortiumtrust.org/page/?title=Our+Commitment+to+you&pid=543>



Riverwalk School



# Family Support **NEWS**

*January 2024*

Happy New Year from Family Support

**Here are some numbers that you may find useful.**

Customer First:

Social Services Enquiries and Referrals - 0808 800 4005

Activities Unlimited: Short Breaks - 01473 260026

Local Offer Line: General SEND Enquiries - 0345 6061490



**Allergy & Asthma NETWORK**

## What is RSV?

RSV is a common respiratory virus. By the time children are 2 or 3 years old, most have been infected by RSV at least once, with few problems. However, for some, the virus can be life threatening and the infection sends them to hospital or even causes death.

**Who are high-risk people for RSV?**  
For some, the virus can be life threatening. High-risk groups include:

- Premature babies in first year of life
- Children under 6 months
- Children with asthma
- Babies of any age with a weakened immune system or underlying lung or heart problems

**Infants** are most severely affected by RSV. Signs and symptoms of severe RSV infection in infants include:

- Fast, shallow, and apnoeic breathing
- Struggling to breathe — chest muscles and skin pull inward with each breath
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Irritability
- Fever — temperature above 38 degrees Fahrenheit. Fever may not always be present

**Adult/Older Children:**

- Cough or runny nose
- Dry cough
- Low grade fever
- Eye irritation
- Sneezing
- Headache

RSV infection can spread to the lower respiratory tract, causing inflammation of the small airways (bronchioles) and the lungs. These signs include:

- Fever
- Severe cough
- Wheezing
- Rapid breathing or difficulty breathing
- Blue color of the skin due to lack of oxygen (cyanosis)





[www.allergyandasthma.org](http://www.allergyandasthma.org)

You can contact family support workers Jane and Lucy on 01284 76280

Email: [familysupport@riverwalk.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:familysupport@riverwalk.suffolk.sch.uk)



# Bears



# NEWS

*January 2024*

Welcome back, hope 2024 has started well for you all. The children have all settled back into school quickly and happily.

Just to remind you Anto teaches Bears on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and Anna teaches on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. They are supported by Sue, Vanessa and Megan the teaching assistants and Ruby the Midday assistant.

Our topic this term is Animals and each week we are going to be learning about different animals. We have begun this week with Artic animals and will be looking at Farm animals next week, followed by birds, wild animals, pets and sea creatures.

We will be looking at simple books, learning animal songs, listening to animal sounds and matching animal pictures.

Our sensory story this half term is 'Dear Zoo'.



Photos from Physical and Sensory activities



# Bumblebee NEWS

*January 2024*

The Bumblebees had lots of fun learning last term as you can see from the photos. This term we are learning about farms and animals. We have a tractor and a dog visiting soon, We are focussing on using the Makaton signs for : more, finished and help. To become more independent, we are practising using a spoon to eat and also learning how to take off our own coats.





# Butterflies NEWS

*January 2024*

Welcome back to the new year.  
We have introduced Butterflies to our Spring topic,  
"The Farm."

In Singing and Signing we practised the Makaton  
signs for some farm animals and listened to Farm  
songs and nursery rhymes.

Over the next few weeks we will also be exploring 2D  
and 3D shapes, listening to the names of shapes and  
finding out if they stack or roll.

In PE we joined in the action songs, learning to stop  
and start; it was a bit tricky but we will get there.  
Hayden and Reece, our lovely P.E. coaches made sure  
we all had fun.

During snack and lunch times we have continued to  
practise using cutlery, sitting while we are eating and  
exploring food.

Have a lovely weekend.



Reminders from the team

If it is cold please send in hats and  
gloves if your child will wear them.



# College **Post 16** NEWS

*January 2024*

Happy New year from College.

This term we will be working towards a selection of AQA units .

These will be . Massage & relaxation, Simple meal preporation. Shopping & Sensory number activites. Students have also made their options choices and will be working towards their chosen activity of Papier Mache Sculpture or Well-being.

Students will also be working towards Independant life skills and spending time in our flat, experiencing loading the dishwasher, making the bed & doing daily laundry.

Since returning in January students have settled in really well and been working hard on their individual targets, spending time with peers and enjoying lots of turn taking activites.



## Reminders from the team

Please remember to send in a snack daily.

Please keep an eye out for notification on when your child will be going shopping.



Riverwalk School



# Eagles



# NEWS

*January 2024*

Welcome to our new format newsletter for Riverwalk school. We hope you enjoy it. We hope everybody has had a lovely Christmas and a happy new year. It has been wonderful to welcome back all of our students to the school.

We have some exciting things planned this term. Our topic for the term is characters. We have already started to use our I.T skills to search for and find images of some of our favourite characters. We will then use these images to make a huge class collage that will be displayed on our wall. We will continue our cooking sessions where we will develop our fine motor skills to make some lovely things. We will also continue our fantastic art sessions where we will learn to mix colours and create some wonderful effects. We also be doing science experiments too where we will observe reactions and try to make predictions. So much to look forward too and we can't wait to show you some of the things we have done.

Here are some pictures of some of the things we got up to last term.



Reminders from the team  
Don't forget to send in snacks for your child  
so they can enjoy snack time



# Elephants



# NEWS

*January 2024*

What a great start to the New Year Elephants had! We enjoyed meeting up with our friends again and are settling back into our routines. We have been singing and signing our new winter songs and learning lots of new words about our winter topic.

In science, the children have enjoyed making gorgeously gooey slime, and using it to create some fabulous melting snowmen, by stretching it over plastic balls and adding eyes, nose and mouth. Continuing our creative mode this week, we also started making robins, using red and brown paint spread on paper plates – to be continued next week. Elephants continued to benefit from their transitions to the main site on Fridays. This term we will be practising our dancing skills in the Sports Hall and moving into different directions, taking turns in soft play with new peers from Lions class, and making choices at the communication café.



## Reminders from the team

Brrrrr.... it's winter time! Thanks to all parents that sent in waterproof clothes and welly boots for the children!



# Emus



# NEWS

*January 2024*

It has been lovely to welcome the class back after Christmas. Our topic this term is World Animals. We will be exploring different types of animals and where they live. We will also be learning some songs about animals in singing and signing, enjoying at our sensory story 'The Zoo Vet' and exploring animals through art and cooking.



## Reminders from the team

With the cold weather at the moment it would be great if you could ensure your child has waterproofs, wellies and hats and gloves to allow them to access our outside areas whatever the weather.



Riverwalk School



# Giraffes



# NEWS

*January 2024*

Happy New Year from Giraffes and welcome back! We are all still settling down in our class with our new teacher Ana and some more new faces, Nikki our midday supervisor and Harriet, our new TA. We also have Aisha, Becky and Svitlana in our lovely team. This term, our topic is "Characters" and we will be looking at Superheroes and exploring all different colours, textures and Superpowers.



Reminders from the team:

The colder weather is here and it would be great if wellies, waterproofs or spare clothes could be sent in.



# Grasshoppers NEWS

*January 2024*

Grasshopper class have had a fantastic start to the new year in 2024 and have come back with lots of energy after the christmas break. We have been putting that energy to good use in class this week as we get back to our routines and start our new class topic. This term the children will be looking at animals from around the world and have started by reading the Zoo Vet story book. We have also been pretending to be vets and thinking about how to take care of animals. As well as our topic work we have been having our regular fun weekly sessions such as turn taking with the parachute, P.E., counting, reading, cooking, sensory room, soft play and lots of playing with our friends.



## Reminders from the team

The cold weather is here! Warm coats, gloves and hats would be great if your children will wear them.

Thanks



# Kangaroos NEWS

*January 2024*

Kangaroos have been really busy since our return in January. Our new terms topic is 'world animals' which means our lessons will be planned around all kinds of cute creatures!

In English, we have been reading 'Zoo Vet' and acting out the story using puppets. In maths we have been practicing our counting skills and challenging ourselves with a range of counting activities.

We continue to love our Tuesday music sessions as they allow us to explore different instruments, sounds and rhythm.

In Art we made 'cheeky monkeys' by sponging paint, and we look forward to putting our faces on them!



Please remember that we have horse riding starting for most of the class every Thursday from this week.



Riverwalk School



# Koalas



# NEWS

*January 2024*

Happy New Year from Koala Class!  
We are looking forward to our new topic this term "World Animals" We will be visiting the Arctic, Jungle, Ocean and going on safari. Already we have enjoyed reading a story about a hibernating tortoise. Looked at how we can melt ice and also painted it. Made teddy toast in cooking and snow pictures in art.



**Reminders from the team**  
Please could you ensure you send snack and squash in for your child.



# Ladybirds NEWS

*January 2024*

It's lovely to see all the children back in Ladybirds after the Christmas break. Our topic for this term is Farms. We will be looking at the animals who live on a farm, learning some songs about farm animals in singing and signing and enjoying a sensory story called Farmyard Hullabaloo.



## Reminders from the team

With the colder/wetter weather at the moment it would be great if wellies or waterproofs could be sent in if you have them. If not a spare set of clothes would be useful, and a hat and gloves



Riverwalk School



# Leopards NEWS

*January 2024*

Welcome back to Leopards class. We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas!

Our topic this term is 'Characters'.

We will be exploring characters of interest such as Peppa Pig, Baby Shark, Barbie and Superheros. We will be using different characters to help us with our counting, Art work and Reading.

We will be continuing with our Asda trips so the children can ask for a drink and snack at the cafe and we also have swimming sessions on a Thursday morning for the next half term.



## Reminders from the team

PE- Wednesday mornings

Swimming Thursday mornings

Asda outings- Wednesday mornings (alternate weeks)



Riverwalk School



# Lions



# NEWS

*January 2024*

Hello to all out little lions and their families. We hope everyone had a good Christmas, it's been lovely seeing the children back in school, they have amazed us with how quickly they settled straight back into our school routines, great remembering! As the weather is turning colder we are thinking about winter time. Some of us had great fun sponge painting the windows white for the snow and others really enjoyed using brushes to paint with wintry colours, adding rock salt to make it look sparkly and icy. We are looking forward to adding to our winter window display with lots more art activities!



### Reminders from the team

Thank you for remembering to send back to school the children's wellie boots and waterproofs. We definately need them at the moment!



# Meerkats



# NEWS

*January 2024*

Happy 2024.

Meerkats had a great start of the Spring term. Our topic this term is World animals and we are using the topic to support our Maths and and Literacy learning activities.

This half term we are focussing on The Zoo vet story.

We started our cooking lessons this term and children seemed excited to learn new recipes.

I hope you enjoy the pictures from last term.



## Reminders from the team:

Please remember to send a fruit snack in everyday for your child to have at snack time.

Remember our PE lesson is now on Wednesday, if you havent yet, please send a PE kit.



# Octopus NEWS

*January 2024*

Happy New Year from Octopus class! Our topic this term is Characters. We are focussing on Doctor Who up until half term. Doctor Who is helping us with History and Science, particularly our work on Planets and using artefacts to learn about the past.

So far this term, Octopus have been working on sequencing numbers to 20 in preparation for working on addition, subtraction and number bonds. We are getting so good at our Level 2 phonics sounds that we have moved onto Level 3! The children are working hard on their reading and writing. Our classroom looks great and we have been collaging Cybermen and Daleks to help decorate it. Well done all.



Please remember to provide snacks and drinks for your child because Riverwalk no longer provides them. Thank you :) Also a reminder that horse riding starts next Tuesday. Please return your consent forms if you would like your child to go.



Riverwalk School



# Orcas



# NEWS

*January 2024*

A very Happy New Year from Orcas class! Our topic this term is Characters. We will be following the story of The Colour Monster which will tie into a number of cognition and learning activities such as our art, sensory work and story time. Orcas have swapped our TacPac for Sensology this term and the students are starting to really enjoy sensory exploration linking all of the 5 senses. Our weekly music sessions are continuing to be a huge success and the students all love selecting instruments to play. The students have also been enaging in rebound therapy, which brings much laughter and smiles from all! Wishing you a wonderful wintery January!



Reminders from the team:  
Please remember to provide snacks and drinks for your child because Riverwalk no longer provides them. Thank you :)



# Owls



# NEWS

*January 2024*

Happy New year from Owls Class. we hope you all had a wonderful holiday together. Last term our theme in class was space. We did lots of cooking and art around this topic. We made some alien faces, fruit rockets, space displays and sensory stories. We also made some beautiful christmas decorations for our trees at home.



We worked a lot on our communication skills last term. We learned to use core vocab charts and talk about what we liked and disliked. We have shown that we remember this skill in January and have used our charts independantly.



We enjoyed learning more life skills last time, focusing on identifying when something is dirty and when it's clean. We learnt that when something is dirty we need to wash it using washing up liquid and water. We got very good at this and we will continue to wash up after ourselves.



## Reminders from the team

Please could we ask that you send spare clothes with students daily as we have very limited spares. Also if your child has been sent home in a school spare that they be washed and returned.



Riverwalk School



# Pandas NEWS

*January 2024*

Hope you have had a magical Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

We have all settled back into Panda's well and looking forward to exciting plans for the term.

Our topic for the beginning is Winter and world animals.



This half term, we are learning about winter and the animals that live there.

We are starting phonics this term.

We will be finding out information about Burns Night as Kat was born in Scotland. May even try some Haggis and shortbread.

We will also celebrate Chinese New Year and create some beautiful crafts.

## Reminders from the team

Please remember to send my photographs or a short sentence from your weekend on Sunday, for our weekend news on Monday.



Riverwalk School



# Rabbits NEWS

*January 2024*

**Happy New Year from little Rabbits!**

**It was truly lovely to see your children's excited faces and clapping hands coming back to school after the Christmas break.**

**We have so many exciting things to look forward to this term. Our topic is Farms and we will have lots of material, objects and equipment to explore in all areas of learning.**



**Thank you for sending a variety of snacks for snack time for your children.**



Riverwalk School



# Raise *Raise* NEWS

*January 2024*

After having a festive Christmas break, Raise students are getting back into their structure and routine at school.

This half-term students will be working on their ability to communicate preferences, this will be worked on during cooking, music, communication time etc.

Exploring first aid items, how they are used and communicating if parts of their body hurt.

Creating items Viking themes items for our enterprise projects in arts and crafts /DT.





# Sharks NEWS

January 2024

*First of all, Happy new Year from Sharks! Our topic this term is Characters. We are focussing on Super Heroes characters and will be using this to help us with our Literacy and Numeracy.*

*So far this term, Sharks have been working on counting up to 20 and in some cases up to 50 too. Sharks are also working on simple additions and subtractions and using this in practical situations. We are doing well in Phonics and can recognise some graphemes.*

*The children are working hard on their reading and writing. In Science we will look at changes in the weather and how they affect our life. Children are engaging in activities and enjoying working alongside peers. Well done Sharks. Enjoy the pics from last term 😊*



**Reminders from the team**  
*Please remember to send a snack in everyday and if you haven't yet, a PE kit too. Walk to Nowton is now on Tuesday and Shopping trip on Thursdays.*



# Tigers NEWS

*January 2024*

We would like to wish all our Tiger families a very Happy New Year.

Our new topic this term is 'Farms' and Tigers have got off to a great start! Our first sensory story was 'Oh Dear' and there were some very enthusiastic (and loud!) animal noises made by the children for the adults to guess! They particularly enjoyed eating the scrambled eggs at the end of the story! We enjoyed tracing over farm animal words in chalk using a wet paintbrush and watching the letters disappear! Some of the children have also worked hard trying to take turns playing snakes and ladders and simple throwing games, rolling the dice and counting on with great enthusiasm. In art we have been exploring colours that make us feel hot and colours that make us feel cold.



Reminders from the team:

Now that the weather has become colder - please remember to send your child with a named coat, gloves, hat and wellies to keep them warm.



Riverwalk School



# Wolves



# NEWS

*January 2024*

We are all ready to start our new topic 'Characters'. This will mostly evolve around our sensory communication story which will include characters from Winnie the Pooh and Pikachu. Using these characters will help us expand our vocabulary a little more. We will continue with our individual learning targets to help us progress in the things we most need to develop and strive towards.



Wishing Everyone a  
very Happy New Year!



Riverwalk School



# Zebras



# NEWS

*January 2024*

Happy New Year from everyone in Zebras. We've had a busy start to the term by growling, roaring and croaking into our new topic of Animals around the World. Our story is Brown Bear, Brown Bear and we are embracing communication, cooking and art through this text. We've been trying out some board games, counting objects in maths and exploring rough and smooth in science. We screwed nuts and bolts together to practice our fine motor skills and make our hands strong and we had more 'starting and stopping' fun with Music Dave. We embarked on tennis for the first time ever and everybody got stuck in hitting, balancing and aiming with David. An amazing and enthusiastic start to the year!



Thanks you for sending in healthy snacks for our Zebras students.



Riverwalk School



# Music Dave



# NEWS

*January 2024*

Welcome back everyone, and a Happy New Year to all our wonderful musicians.

Steph and I are looking forward to starting the signing choir very soon - all are welcome and singing is also encouraged! I am introducing new songs with many classes, and Sharks are starting a composition project and have learnt about musical elements so they can use them effectively in their compositions.



Reminders from the team  
Signing Choir: Monday lunchtime in  
Sharks / Leopards.