



Rowde CofE Academy
 Head Teacher's Letter 24
 Friday 19th March 2021

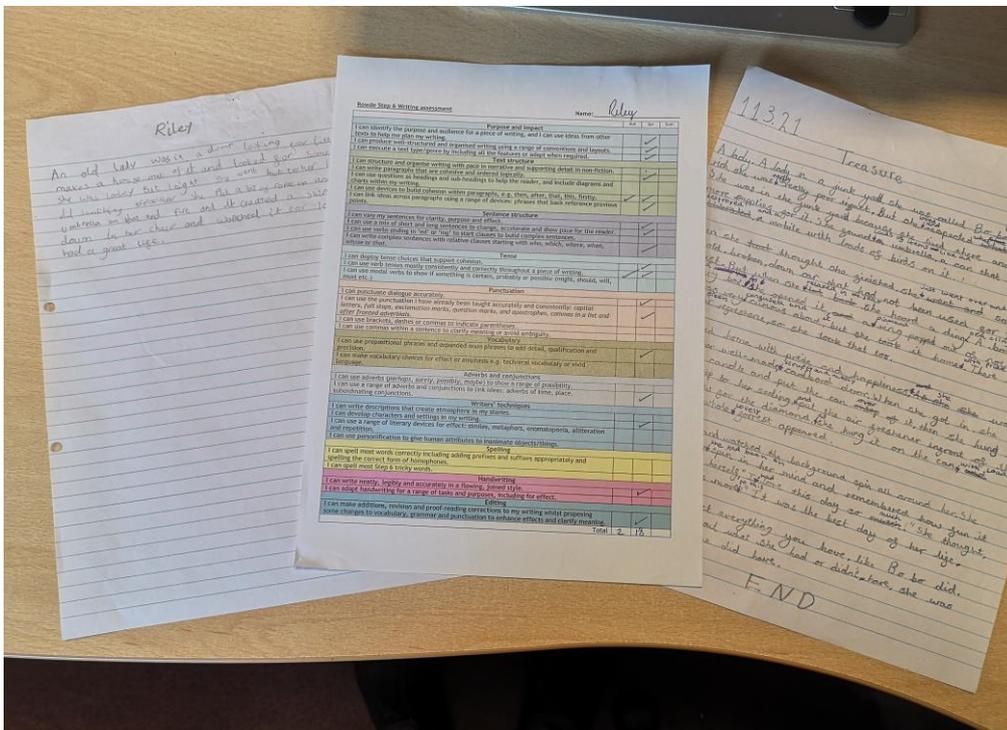
Dear Parents and Carers,

It's incredible to think that the Easter holidays are almost upon us. I wanted to remind you that April 1st is an INSET day, so the final day of term will be Wednesday 31st March. We will continue to provide Vouchers through the break for families eligible for Free School Meals – if you have any queries regarding that, please contact Laura in the Office.

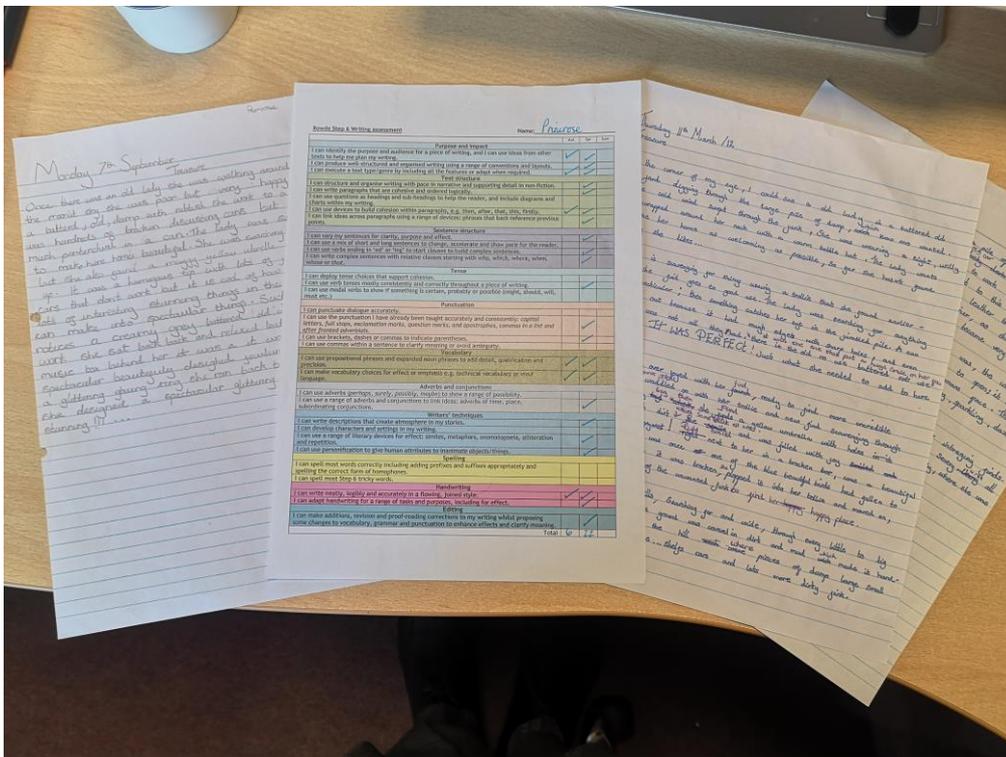
The vaccine roll-out is going well, but there are still systems in place for tracking, tracing and reporting positive cases during the holidays. This is so that we can inform families if their son or daughter may have been exposed to the virus in the final days of term, and so that we can ensure anyone who contracts the virus during the holidays does not return to school until safe to do so. The details of this, from Acorn, are at the end of this bulletin. Thank you for supporting this.

Subject Focus: Writing

Writing is one of the areas we are monitoring and assessing closely, to ensure we bridge any gaps caused by lockdowns. This is being led by our inspirational English Lead / Assistant Senco / Y5 Teacher, Miss Simpson. Two examples from Alice's class are shown below – on the left, an assessed and timed piece of work from September. On the right, the same task completed in March. The sheet in the middle shows the progress against our Rowde Writing Steps. You can get some idea of the huge improvements by looking at the ticks in the first column (Autumn) and second column (Spring). These great examples, from Riley and Primrose, are typical of the brilliant work being done by our pupils, who are determined not to let a pandemic get in the way of their learning! We are so proud of them.



We Are Rowde



Worship news, from Mrs Bq:

In Worship this week we were looking at Wisdom as a value.

Wisdom – At Rowde we are constantly striving to develop our knowledge, experience, understanding, common sense and insight. Wisdom is different to just being clever. It is about being an independent thinker which is valued by everyone. Wise people are those who are able to give good advice or those who help us reflect on what we need to do to make difficult decisions. We pray because we believe that God can help us to live our lives wisely.

“God gave Solomon wisdom and very great insight, and a breadth of understanding as measureless as the sand on the seashore.” 1 Kings 4:29

Every class voted for a class member who best demonstrated this value.
Well done to everyone, but a special well done to these children.

Birch	Zidan
Willow	Eva
Ash	Dominic
Poplar	Darcey
Maple	Jack
Cedar	Dorothy
Oak	Anson

Stay safe, take care, and see you all next week!

Jon Edy-Berry
Head Teacher

Friday 19th March

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we draw towards the end of term I would like to this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation for your patience and support throughout the last academic year. It has been extremely challenging for all staff, pupils and our wider community to adapt and cope with remote learning as well as the day to day routines and systems we've had to initiate in school, due to Covid-19. Having the children back in school over the last few weeks has been wonderful and given us all real hope and positivity about the rest of this academic year and beyond. The children have had a lot to deal with, but they continue to demonstrate resilience and fortitude as well as displaying great enthusiasm towards their learning and their wider involvement in school life

We really want all of our staff and families to be able to relax and enjoy the Easter holidays. However, the virus takes no rest over the holidays and we do stress the need to adhere to the recent government guidelines <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> as well as practicing good hand hygiene, social distancing and the wearing of face coverings in public spaces.

It is really important for you to contact us if the situations outlined below arise over the holiday period.

If during the first six days of holidays (**Friday 2nd April to Wednesday 7th April inclusive**) anyone in your household or support bubble develops symptoms, it is really important that you all self-isolate and book a test at <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test>, or by calling 119. If that test returns positive and your **son/daughter** attended school in the last week of term, 48hrs prior to the onset of symptoms, it is essential that you contact us so that we can track and trace your son/daughter's movement in school during their infectious period and their possible contacts. We would also need to inform you of the earliest return to school date for your son/daughter.

If this situation arises please contact me on head@rowde.wilts.sch.uk at any time of day.

- The individual who tested positive will need to isolate for at least 10 days from the day after the first date of symptoms appearing
- All other household members must also stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble' – defined here - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-support-bubble-with-another-household>

Please note that if we are made aware of a positive case during the first six days of the holidays and the pupil was present during the last week of term whilst they may have been infectious, we would need to contact all of the parents of close contacts to inform them that their son/daughter would need to **self-isolate for 10 days** after the last point of contact with the infected person. If we do contact you, it is likely to affect the return to school date in April 2021 for your child.

During the last week of the holiday **9^h April to 18th April inclusive**, it is also important that we are made aware of any student who tests positive, or is having to self-isolate if they have been identified by the Public Health Team as a close contact or has had close contact with someone awaiting a test result, as they will not be able to return to school on Monday 19th April along with the other students. In this instance please email me via head@rowde.wilts.sch.uk. We will then contact you on **Monday 19th April** to discuss the situation and confirm the earliest return to school date for your child.

It is Acorn Education Trust's utmost priority to ensure that all of their schools, which of course includes Rowde, are safe environments where students can continue their learning. Together we have implemented a wide range of health and safety precautions.

School will be open at the usual time on **Monday 19th April** and the same morning procedures we have adopted over the last term, will continue to apply.

However, should your son or daughter have any of the following symptoms, please **do not** send them into school during this first week and please contact us on **01380 723991**.

- High Temperature
- a new and continuous cough
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell

- Cold like symptoms
- Headache
- Generally feeling under the weather

Despite all of the challenges this academic year, our children have all been brilliant and have adapted quickly and shown real character in all that they have had to cope with. Thank you for your ongoing support and I really do hope you can have a very happy Easter and that we see some sunshine. Please look after yourselves and stay safe.

Best Wishes

Acorn Education Trust