

Riverside End of Year Newsletter July 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the end of another academic year, it is hard to believe how quickly the time has passed. It has been a year filled with learning, achievement, exciting experiences, and many happy memories. We are incredibly proud of all that the children have accomplished, both academically and personally. Throughout the year, they have consistently demonstrated our school's **6 R's**, showing resilience, responsibility and respect in all that they do. They should be very proud of the way they have represented themselves and our school community. We would like to thank all of our families for their continued support throughout the year.

Finally I would like to wish the best of luck to those staff who are moving on to ventures new whether it be a new school or retirement. We appreciate everything that you have done for the children and the Riverside community.

We hope you enjoy a wonderful, restful summer break filled with quality family time, fun and new adventures. We look forward to welcoming everyone back after the holidays, refreshed and ready for another successful year. Have a fantastic summer! 🌻🌻📖

See you on Monday 24th August 8:45am!

Best wishes

Mrs Roberts

In this issue...

- Meet the new staff
- Look at what we've been up to in year 6
- Year 6 Class of 2026
- Summer term across the year group
- Sports Day
- Sports Awards
- Breakfast and After school clubs

- PTA
- External clubs
- Important information
- Let us know
- Diary Dates
- Contact us

Meet the new staff

Miss McClelland

Hi everyone! My name is Miss McClelland and I'm really excited to be joining Riverside Primary School. I'm originally from Dublin, Ireland and I've been teaching for 6 years. I love teaching because it's so rewarding to see children grow in confidence and achieve things they didn't think they could do. Those little "lightbulb moments" are the best part! I enjoy teaching all subjects but Maths is my favourite because we use it every single day in everyday life. In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, reading, colouring and getting outside in the fresh air whenever I can. My favourite children's book is The Same But Different by Emer O'Neill because I love the message that it's okay and beautiful to be the same but different and how important kindness is. I also enjoy books by Niall Breslin, as they focus on mindfulness techniques, which I am really passionate about and use every day in my own life and in my teaching. My favourite holiday is visiting the west coast of Ireland, it's so beautiful! I'm really looking forward to starting with Year 3 Madrid and getting to know the children!



Mrs Kiely

My name is Mrs Kiely, and I am delighted to be joining Riverside Primary School as your child's new teacher this year.

I have been teaching for over 10 years and am passionate about creating a happy, nurturing classroom where every child feels valued, supported and inspired to learn.

A little about me: I was born and raised in South Africa. I am mum to a 6-year-old girl and step-mum to two daughters aged 13 and 18. I recently got married. I have two miniature schnauzers, and I love spending time outdoors, being creative and enjoying a good coffee!

I am excited to get to know the children and families and look forward to a fantastic year of learning, growth and fun together.

Mrs Kiely



Miss Marshall

Hello! My name is Miss Marshall and I am very excited about joining Riverside Primary in Year 1/2 Edinburgh in August. I have been teaching for 5 years and have taught in EYFS and across Key Stage 1 and 2. I look forward to creating a classroom environment that is exciting, engaging and a place where everyone feels welcome. In my spare time I enjoy seeing my friends, walking my dog Milo, exploring new places, travelling and doing anything creative. I am really looking forward to meeting my new class and getting involved in all aspects of school life.



Look what we've been up to in Year 6

As we come to the end of another fantastic school year, we would like to take a moment to celebrate the many achievements, memorable experiences, and hard work of our wonderful Year 6 students.

One of the highlights of the year was our exciting trip to Pioneer. The children showed incredible enthusiasm, resilience, and teamwork as they took on a range of outdoor challenges. From adventurous activities to building strong friendships, the trip was filled with unforgettable memories. The students represented the school superbly and should be extremely proud of themselves.

We are incredibly proud of the dedication and commitment Year 6 children showed in preparing for their SATS. Their hard work, perseverance, and positive attitudes have been a pleasure to witness. Regardless of the results, everyone has made great progress and should feel proud of what they have achieved this year.

Sports Day was another brilliant event, filled with energy, determination, and lots of cheering! Everyone gave their best effort, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship throughout the day. It was wonderful to see such encouragement and team spirit, making it a truly enjoyable occasion for everyone involved.

To top off a brilliant year, the students delivered an outstanding end-of-year performance of 'Definitely Not Shrek'. Their confidence and creativity, shone through in every scene. The performance was thoroughly entertaining and showcased the incredible talent within the year group. We were so proud of every one of them

They leave us with many happy memories. Well done, Year 6 – you will be missed!













Year 6 Class of 2026

Your primary school days are ending,

What a journey it has been.

Years of friendship, fun and learning
and a few months of quarantine.
Sports Day, summer fetes, trips, nativities and plays.
School adventures have brought
you so many fun-packed days.
Year 6 has arrived so quickly
but we wanted you to know.
We've really enjoyed teaching you
and loved watching you grow.
Keep on dreaming and you can be
anything you want to be.
And remember, you will always be a part of our Riverside family.

EYFS

What a fantastic year!

It has been an amazing year in Foundation Stage and everyone has worked so hard!

We have had fun learning how to read and write, we've improved our number skills with the help of the Numberblocks and we've explored the world around us by growing beans and watching butterflies grow. We've investigated how things change through cooking, explored different art skills and listened to many new and exciting stories. We've learnt how to re tell stories, use puppets and build models. We've enjoyed playing indoors and out and particularly have enjoyed our Forest school area.

Along the way the children have made many new friendships, grown in confidence and resilience and demonstrated that they can the Riverside way.

With smiles and happiness the children have demonstrated that they are ready and willing to learn and should be extremely proud of what they have achieved this year.

With a big thank you to all for making this year so special, enjoy Year One and continue to work hard.

Mrs Dakin, Miss Benincasa and Mrs Allen.





Year 1

Year 1 have had a brilliant summer term so far! During a very warm sports day, all of the children got stuck in with the different activities and showed great determination and resilience as they all tried their very best. In the classroom, we have been learning all about plants this term as you may have been able to tell by the huge bean plants the children brought home! Linked to this, we have been reading Jack and the Beanstalk and sending postcards down the beanstalk from Jack to his mum. We were very proud of the fantastic language the children were able to use and their brilliant use of punctuation! We have also been learning about the seasons and the weather and the children enjoyed making their wind streamers and keeping a weather diary. We were very surprised by how different the weather could be across the different capital cities in the UK on the same day! We are also incredibly proud of our Year 1 superstars with the fantastic effort they have put into their phonics learning this term, showing off their brilliant blending skills during the Phonics Screening Check. This half term in PE, the children have also been showing off their brilliant rhythmic skills during Drumba sessions in PE, which has been great fun and has helped to keep us fit! Well done Year 1 for a great end to a fantastic year!





Year 2

Autumn

During the autumn term, Year 2 enjoyed many exciting experiences and achievements. One of the highlights was visiting Warwick Castle, where the children brought their history learning to life by experiencing what life was like in a castle and discovering how people defended themselves from invaders. Back in the classroom, the children read a range of inspiring books, including *Zog*, *The Whale Who Swallowed Stanley*, *Dragon Post*, *Jack and the Jelly Bean Stalk* and *Dare to Care*. These stories inspired them to write and retell their own imaginative tales. Another memorable activity was creating dragon eyes out of clay, which looked fantastic and incredibly realistic. Later in the term, we enjoyed seeing the

children's fantastic Halloween costumes during our Halloween fashion show. As Christmas approached, the children made some amazing Christmas decorations and took part in our Christmas carol celebrations, bringing the autumn term to a wonderful end.

Spring

Year 2 have had an incredibly amazing and memorable spring term. I am extremely proud of the children's enthusiasm and their engagement across the curriculum. In maths, children worked hard to develop their understanding of multiplication and division. They demonstrated increasing confidence to solve mathematical problems and reasoning. Alongside this, we have thoroughly enjoyed reading *Somebody Swallowed Stanley* and *Dear Earth*, which inspired the children to think of the different ways that they can protect our planet Earth and be amazing ambassadors for our environment. We also had a brilliant time on World Book Day, exploring *The Stickman*, where children enjoyed making stick puppets using natural materials. The Year 2 children were fascinated by the learning of The Great Fire of London and how the fire started, developing their historical knowledge and asking insightful questions about this significant event. They also had a fabulous time, using their imagination to produce art inspired by the Great Fire of London.

Summer

The summer term has been filled with exciting and enjoyable learning experiences. The children in Year 2 have been learning about Kenya, in Africa, developing their geographical skills using a globe, maps and other sources. In maths, we have been learning to tell the time and children having been using the clocks to show quarter past and quarter to. The Year 2 children enjoyed learning about plants and were fascinated while watching their seeds grow into plants. One of our highlights of the summer term was the fantastic Sports Day, where all of Year 2 showed great teamwork, resilience and respect to each other and had an amazing time demonstrating their sporting skills.

As we end an exciting year of learning, we would like to thank all parents and carers for all their support and encourage you to read with your child at home during the summer holidays.

Year 3

Year 3 have had an incredibly fun and memorable summer term, full of exciting learning and enjoyable experiences. One of the highlights was our fantastic Sports Day, where everyone showed great teamwork, determination, and enthusiasm while taking part in a range of fun activities. We also had a brilliant time competing in our tri-golf tournament, where the children developed their coordination and sports skills while cheering each other on and demonstrating excellent sportsmanship. In class, we have been exploring the topic of Time, learning how to read both analogue and digital clocks and understanding how time is

measured throughout the day. Alongside this, we have thoroughly enjoyed reading *The Wild Robot*, which has sparked lots of thoughtful discussions and imaginative ideas about nature, friendship, and survival. Both classes have also been fascinated by learning about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and what happened in Pompeii, developing their historical knowledge and asking insightful questions about this dramatic event. It has been wonderful to see how engaged, curious, and hardworking the children have been in all areas of their learning. Overall, Year 3 should be extremely proud of their achievements, positive attitude, and the way they have supported one another throughout such a busy and enjoyable term.







Year 4

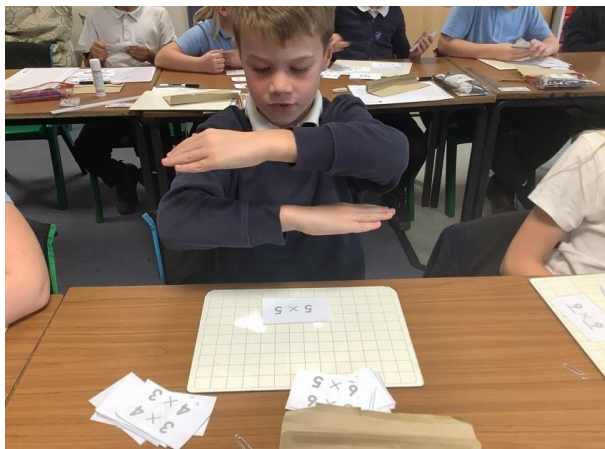
What a truly memorable year it has been in Year 4. The pupils have grown so much in confidence, independence, and learning. They have shown great enthusiasm and have excelled through their hard work, positive attitudes, and eagerness to learn and discover.

Pupils have enjoyed many exciting events this year, with a particular highlight being our Tudor Alive trip, which allowed us to step back into 16th-century England.

In English, pupils have reflected on their successes and produced reports on the Indus Valley Civilisation. They have also learnt how to write balanced arguments and explored thoughts and feelings through our class text, *Tamarind*.

In maths, all the children have worked incredibly hard, and we are very proud of their efforts in learning their times tables producing excellent results in their Multiplication Tables Check.

It has been a joy to see their curiosity and creativity shine in class, especially during our work on fairgrounds, building models of Tudor houses and going on a minibeast hunt in science. Their resilience, and teamwork have shone through in every challenge they have faced.





Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic academic year, filled with memorable experiences and opportunities to learn beyond the classroom. We began the year with an amazing start, visiting Highcliffe Primary School to use their swimming pool. It was a real pleasure to watch the children develop new skills in such a different environment. This experience allowed their personalities and talents to truly shine, as they built confidence in the water. Following this, some pupils even went on to compete in a swimming competition, which was a wonderful achievement. Walking there in rain or shine also brought us together as a year group, strengthening our sense of teamwork and resilience. We also enjoyed a fabulous Sports Day, where every child tried their very best and showed great determination and enthusiasm. It was wonderful to see such strong team spirit and encouragement for one another. Another highlight was our exciting trip to Belvoir Castle for orienteering. The day was muddy, adventurous and full of fun! The children explored the grounds, worked together to solve challenges and embraced the outdoor experience with great energy. It was a day filled with laughter, teamwork and discovery. Overall, it has been an incredible year for Year 5, full of growth, enjoyment and unforgettable moments.

The Hive

It has been an incredible academic year in the Hive. We have had lots of fun and had many new experiences within our learning. All the Hive children have come along so much with

their confidence, independence and social skills. From learning through sensory and play methods their phonics and maths knowledge has grown and it has been an absolute pleasure to watch them thrive in an inclusive environment. We can not wait to return back next term and wish them all a well deserved summer break.



Sports Day

It was a great day watching all the children across the school compete for their house and class in this year's Sports Day. Children had to take part in a range of activities that tested their skills across different disciplines like running, jumping and throwing. Children wore the colour of their house to show their support. The day started with an assembly in the hall, looking back at last year and seeing some good luck messages for this year. The event ended with some races from the children and it was great to see parents and carers join in. Riverside's PE Champions helped create and develop everything that the children did on Sports Day. A big congratulations goes out to them for their effort and commitment to the day.

Congratulations to the winning house 'Bradgate'!

Award 3 – Girls Football –

Esme H, Kim, Tegan, Harper, Soraya, Darcie, Cherry, Nieve, Isla-rose, Stephanie, Eva, Willow, Lily-Grace, Elara, Ella

Award 4 – Players of the Season

Tegan, Soraya, Emmanuel, Logan

Award 5 – Team performance of the year

Franklin, Tate, Alfie, Zach, Fred, Sephy, Saanvi, Georgia, Lucia, Cora,

Award 6- Individual Performance

Imogen-Grace

Award 7 – Improved Performance

Kye

Award 8 - generation Charnwood

Oscar

Award 9 – House Captains

Aiden, Chelsy

Award 10 – Sport Stars of the Year

Ovi – FS

Noble – Year 1

Arlo – Year 2

De'jah – Year 3

Megan – Year 4

Larry – Year 5

Ruben – Year 6

Rosie – Football and Fitness

Award 11 – Sportsman of the year

Aiden V

Award 12 -PE Champions

Toby, Olivia, James, Isabella, Isobel, Hareeka, Persephone, Hannah, Tanveer, Elodie

Esme-Louise, Sophia B, Cora, Lyla B, Carter C, Reyansh B, Ava, Indie G, Ameer,

Emmanuel, Aliraza, Hollie L, Rufaro













Breakfast and After school clubs new booking/payment system

With the introduction of the new school start and finish times from August, we would like to inform you of some changes to our Breakfast Club and After School Club provision. These changes have been made to ensure that Riverside remains aligned with the arrangements in place across the other Birstall primary schools. Please note that any increase in fees reflects the rising costs associated with providing these services while maintaining the high standard of care and support for our children.

New times/prices

Breakfast Club

£4.50 for arrivals from 7:30am -8:14am.

- Children may arrive at any time between **7:30am - 8:14am**.
- Access is via Year 6 Brasilia/Santiago door (double doors located along the front pathway of the building).
- Please ring the doorbell on arrival.

FREE for arrivals from 8:15am

- Access via Lawn playground
- Gates close at 8:25am - no entrance after this time this is due to staffing, ordering food and time to eat breakfast.

After School Club

£5.50 for collections up to 4:30pm

Please note:-

- Credit needs to be available within your balance before sessions can be booked -
- Availability is limited so bookings will be taken on a first come, first served basis

- A late fee of £10 will apply for late collections
- Sessions need to be booked giving 48 hour's notice (excluding weekends)
- If you will be making payment via a **Government Tax-Free Childcare vouchers scheme** please email the school office with your required sessions in order for your account to be credited.
- Please ensure that bookings are only made for sessions required as refunds will not be issued for cancellations or non-attendance including illness.

Online Booking System: Going forward, all bookings will need to be made online by parents via their Beehive accounts. From August this can be accessed via a new **Childcare and Clubs** module within their Beehive account.

Payment: As part of the new system, all sessions will now need to be booked and paid for up front. Payment must be completed at the time of booking to confirm your child's place for the upcoming sessions. Before the new system is implemented, we kindly ask that you ensure your outstanding invoices are paid in full. This will help us transition smoothly to the new system. Any outstanding balances after 2nd August will be transferred to your Beehive account which will need to be cleared and credited before any further sessions can be booked.

If you have any questions please email office@riversideacademy.org.uk. If you experience problems accessing the system please contact beehivesupport@lionhearttrust.org.uk.

PTA

We would like to highlight the amazing work that the members of the PTA and volunteers do on behalf of the children and families of Riverside.

Each year, they organise and run a number of events to raise money to buy much needed items. This year they helped to fund Year 6 leavers hoodies, EYFS bookbags and the year 6 SATs breakfast, sports kits, ice creams to name just a few of their contributions.

We would like to say a great big THANK YOU to all of our core PTA members and to anyone who has volunteered to help at an event. You are making such a difference.

The role of the PTA is crucial in schools and we very much need volunteers to keep it going. If you are interested in being part of this special group please contact Mrs Hayes via office@riversideacademy.org.uk

External clubs

At Riverside we offer a number of external extra-curricular clubs.

Please see below for details of what is on offer next term.

If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium and would like the opportunity to join any of these clubs please contact the school office.

Football & Fitness offer a range of sporting activities for children years 1-6, including Multi-sports, Football, Gymnastics and Dodgeball. Fun related sports and games whilst they are learning and staying active.

Please see information attached.

To sign up please contact Steve Fenton 07738920229

Rocksteady

Rock and pop band lessons! Children can learn to play an instrument in their very own rock band. Drums, guitar, bass, keyboard or vocals - you decide. Lessons take place within school time. To book contact Rocksteady 0330 113 0330 or email

Piano with Chris

Learn to play the piano with an experienced teacher. Lessons take place in school.

For more information contact Chris White 07801 457501 or email cjwchrisw@me.com



RIVERSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL SPORTS CLUBS PROGRAMME

WE ARE PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO OFFER YOUR CHILD THE CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE CLUBS AT SCHOOL. EACH WEEK CONSISTS OF A BRIEF WARM UP, FUN RELATED GAMES WITH THE EMPHASIS FIRMLY ON THE CHILDREN'S ENJOYMENT WHILST THEY ARE LEARNING, STAYING ACTIVE AND ENGAGED THROUGHOUT. ALL ABILITIES, BOYS AND GIRLS ARE WELCOME. YOUR CHILD WILL NEED SUITABLE CLOTHING AND A DRINK IS RECOMMENDED. ALL OUR COACHES ARE FULLY QUALIFIED AND ARE CRB CHECKED TO FURTHER SAFEGUARD YOUR CHILD.

7 WEEK TERM FOR CLUBS FROM TUE SEP 1ST - OCT 16TH TERM

DODGEBALL YEARS 2 - 6
MONDAYS 3.15- 4.15 PM 6 WKS £36.00

FOOTBALL YEAR 1 - 3
TUESDAYS 3.15- 4.15 PM 7 WKS £42.00

GYMNASTICS YEAR 1 - 5
WEDNESDAYS 3.15- 4.15 PM 6 WKS £36.00
NO SESSION WEDS OCT 14TH DUE TO PARENTS EVENING

FOOTBALL YEAR 4 - 6
THURSDAY 3.15- 4.15 PM 7 WKS £42.00

MULTISPORTS YEAR 1 - 6
FRIDAY 3.15- 4.15 PM 6 WKS £36.00
NO SESSION FRI SEP 25TH DUE TO SCHOOL CLOSURE

ALL CLUBS WILL RUN FROM 3.15-4.15 PM
CHILDREN TO BE COLLECTED PROMPTLY AT 4.15PM FROM
ORCHARD PLAYGROUND - SESSIONS MAY TAKE INDOORS
DURING COLDER WEATHER

HOW TO BOOK

All places must be booked before clubs begin. Requests after this date won't be guaranteed a place.

PLEASE BOOK VIA TEXT ONLY IN GOOD TIME BEFORE CLUBS BEGIN

PLEASE CONTACT
Steve Fenton
07738920229

NO FORMS OR MONEY TO BE SENT INTO SCHOOL OFFICE

If your child is not attending any session due to absence please text beforehand so the office can be informed for safeguarding purposes.

All bookings via must be made in good time and place confirmed before attending

CHILDREN TO BE COLLECTED PROMPTLY FROM ORCHARD PLAYGROUND AT 4.15PM

If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium please contact the School office to book on

BOOKING FORM - PLEASE TEXT DETAILS IN ORDER TO BOOK A PLACE

RIVERSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Course(s) attending (please text)

MON DODGEBALL YEAR 2-6 TUES FOOTBALL YR 1-3 WEDS GYMNASTICS YR 1-5 THURS FOOTBALL YR 4-6

FRI MULTISPORTS YR 1-6

Name of child _____ School Year _____

Email _____

Telephone Contacts _____

Medical Conditions _____

Child will be collected ☐ Child will walk home ☐

Total payable £ _____ Signed _____



ROCK STEADY

ROCK AND POP BAND LESSONS

IGNITE THEIR INNER SPARK

- Children learn to play an instrument in their very own band.
- Fun and inclusive in-school band lessons. No music theory involved.
- Follow their musical journey in your Backstage account.
- Exam-free, Ofqual-regulated Trinity music qualification.
- Instruments provided and no experience necessary.

BOOK TO START LESSONS IN SEPTEMBER!

0330 113 0330 (Mon-Thurs 8am-8pm, Fri 8am-6pm, local rate)

rocksteadymusicschool.com

Important messages

Safeguarding

We would like to remind you about the out of hours safeguarding support that is available for you to access for your child over the holidays.

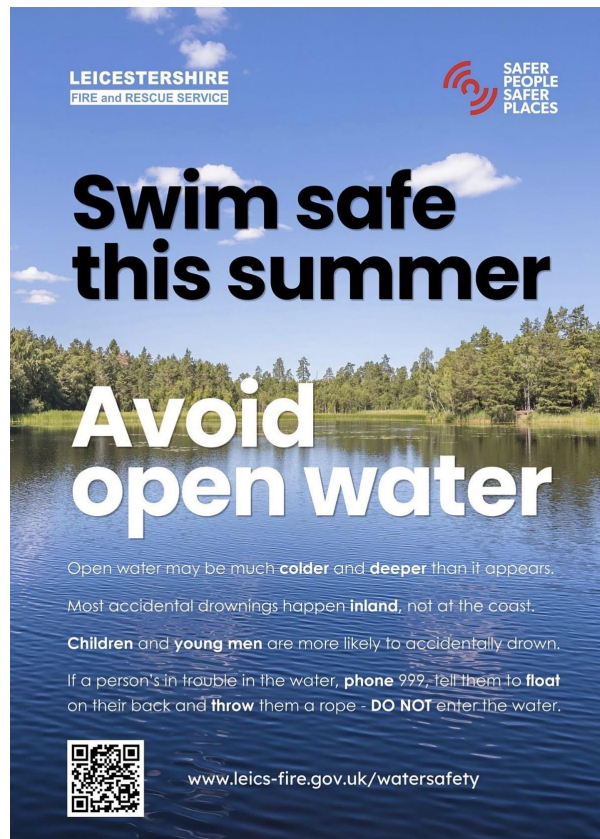
There are key telephone numbers and website links that you can access for advice and support by following the link below:

<https://www.riversideacademy.org.uk/about-us/safeguarding/>

Water safety

Stay safe Swimming - when the weather is hot, it can be tempting to go for a swim. However, swimming in lakes, rivers etc. can be very dangerous.

If a person is in trouble in the water, phone 999, tell them to float on their back and throw them a rope - **DO NOT** enter the water.



Let us know...

If you have information, thoughts or ideas that you wish to share with us but aren't sure who to speak to, you can now contact us using our new Feedback Form. Simply click on the link below or go to our website and click the link there and let us know the information you would like to tell us about. We won't always be able to respond to each individual message but rest assured all messages will be read and discussed by the senior team.

<https://forms.office.com/e/W8PsBfFWWW>

Term dates

Monday 24th August 2026 8:45am - School opens Autumn term

Monday 31st August 2026 - Bank Holiday school closed

Friday 25th September 2026 - Teacher training day school closed for pupils

19th - 23rd October 2026 - Autumn half term

Monday 26th October 2026 - School open

Monday 30th November 2026 - Inset day school closed for pupils

21st December 2026 - 1st January 2027 - Christmas and New year holiday

Monday 4th January 2027 - School training day school closed top pupils

15th - 19th February 2027 - Spring half term

Monday 22nd February 2027 - School open

22nd March - 2nd March 2027 - Easter holidays

Monday 5th April - School open

Monday 3rd May 2027 - Bank Holiday school closed

31st May - 4th June 2027 - Summer half term

Monday 7th June 2027 - School open

Friday 9th July 2027 - Last day of summer term

Contact us

There are many ways that you can contact us:

Phone: 0116 2107373

Email: office@riversideacademy.org.uk

School office opening times:

During term time

Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm

Fri - 8:00 - 3:30pm

Visit us our website: www.riversideacademy.org.uk



**RIVERSIDE
PRIMARY**

Lionheart Educational Trust