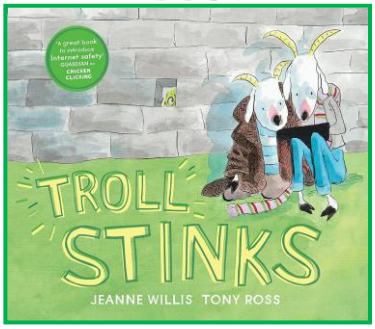
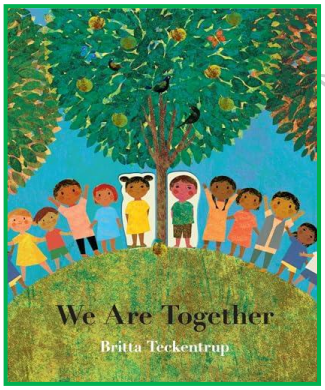
What makes a good friend?

In our assemblies this week, our focus was friendship and the message that we are stronger together rather than alone. Through books about friendship or being unkind, the children explored the importance of kindness, supportive relationships and working as a team. They considered what makes a good friend and how friendship can help people achieve more together. Year 3 and Year 4 read 'Troll Stinks', which encouraged them to think about being unkind online and how this can make people feel. Year 1 and Year 2 read 'We Are Together', exploring the power of friendships and what people can achieve as a team. These stories gave each year group an opportunity to reflect on friendship in an age-appropriate way. The children answered questions about what makes a good friend and how they would want to be treated by others, both in person and online. Their thoughtful participation was amazing, and we are very proud of the way they engaged with these important conversations about kindness, respect and looking after one another. Well done, Ryedene!

Mr Toomer





Ryedene Loves to Read!







This week, families have joined their children in class at the start of the day for our 'come and read' sessions. Together, they have enjoyed reading stories, sharing a good book and eating biscuits, creating a warm and welcoming way to begin the school day. The children have loved having their parents, carers or other family members in class with them.



Sharing books together has made reading a happy family experience and brought children and the important adults in their lives together around stories. Our 'come and read' sessions have been a success, celebrating the joy of reading and showing how welcoming the classroom can be when families come together to enjoy books. Thanks for the wonderful feedback we have received about these sessions – we are sure to run more next term so keep your eyes on the diary!





Ryedene Primary and Nursery School

'Growing together to succeed'

Head's Newsletter

25th September 2026

Diary Dates:

Wednesday 30th September
9:00 Reception Phonics and Reading information meeting

Thursday 1st October
Black History Month commences

Thursday 1st October
2:30 Yr 6, Elder Class Assembly to parents/carers in Main Hall
(x2 family members invited to attend per child)

Friday 2nd October
1:45 Year 3 DT Afternoon
(1x adult family member invited to attend per child, no siblings, buggies or carriers - thank-you)

Tuesday 6th October
2:30 Yr 5, Maple Class Assembly to parents/carers in Main Hall
(x2 family members invited to attend per child)

Thursday 8th October
(rearranged date) Year 5 Trip to Maeldune Heritage Centre, Maldon

Friday 9th October
Wear Yellow for Young Minds, children mental health awareness day (50p donation for charity)

Friday 9th October
2:30 Yr 5, Rowan Class Assembly to parents/carers in Main Hall
(x2 adults invited to attend per child)

Tuesday 13th October 2026
3:30 – 6:00 Pupil Progress & Target Setting Meetings for Reception to Year 6

Wednesday 14th October
10:00 SCHOOL TOUR for prospective September 2027 Reception starters



Ryedene's Stars of the Week...

Teachers have been given the VERY difficult task of selecting / nominating pupils to receive the 'star of the week' trophy and certificate in the Celebration Assembly. Here, you will see this week's winners looking suitably impressed and happy to have received their trophy and certificate. I am hoping that many more children will impress their teachers and me during the course of the year and take that trophy home to keep and show off! Keep up the hard work, Ryedene

















Super Spellers!

The children have been having a great time learning and practising their homework spellings on Emile each week. Look at all these children who worked hard to learn their spellings – A special 'well done' to Lottie, who got 100% right!! Keep up the hard work Ryedene!















Emile

Thinking of the future...

This week, a selection of Year 5 and 6 children had the chance to visit Basildon Sporting Village to learn about different careers in STEM fields. We took part in brick laying, first aid, toy construction and learned how to change a bike tyre! The children were truly inspired and a credit to the school.





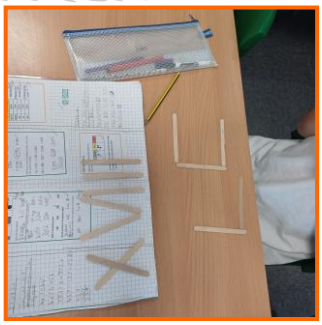






Year 4 Mathematicians





Year 4 have been working with Roman numerals this week and used lollypop sticks to create a wide range of Roman numerals. The activity was such fun and really helped them remember them. Great work, Year 4!

Please respect our neighbours...

We would kindly ask that all Ryedene children and families are respectful of our neighbours and their properties. We have had complaints from residents in surrounding homes that our children, in uniform have been disrespectful and damaging their gardens while parents and carers 'watch'. We like to maintain positive relationships with our local community, and your assistance and understanding is a key part of this. Thanks in advance for your continued support.



Owl Babies



This week, our Reception children enjoyed their first in-school enrichment experience linked to their literacy text 'Owl Babies'. Dan visited with three different owls, giving the children the chance to learn about each one up close. They were thrilled to watch the owls swoop around the hall, making it a memorable and engaging extension of their classroom learning.









Performing Arts at Ryedene



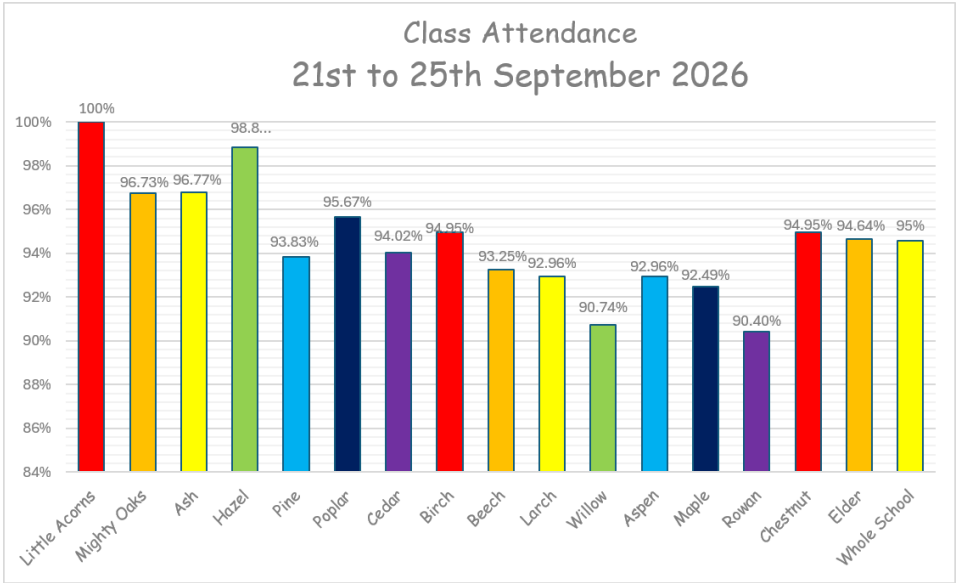
We would like to introduce our 2026/2027 performing arts students. For the last few weeks, the children have been casting the roles for their summer spectacular. The children are also working hard to learn their songs and choreography for this event. The children in Performing Arts Club are all very excited for their upcoming Christmas song performances too!

Year 4's Disgusting Science!



This week, Year 4 have been scientists making a human digestive system! This included a bag for the stomach, tights for the intestines and bananas, crackers and orange juice to create the broken down food! It was messy but so much fun!

Attendance matters...



Out-of-school achievements



Terence (Yr 3) recently attended his first 'Groovers' dance class and was awarded his first certificate for his effort and enthusiasm. Great work, Terence!



Khloe-Bella (Yr 5) was recently awarded a certificate for her swimming outside of school. An impressive haul of awards there, Khloe-Bella!



Chloe (Yr 5) took part in her theatre school's performance of 'Beauty and the Beast' last weekend – even dancing in the iconic 'Be Our Guest' scene. Great work, Chloe!

