



# Newsletter — Autumn 1

## Welcome back

I hope that you all managed to get a restful break during the summer. Welcome to all our new families across the school and to Mrs Manatsa in Year 2. It is great to see a sea of smiley faces, looking so smart back at school. There are many times when I feel very proud to be called Headteacher at R de C and these first few days have certainly been one of those. Pupils and staff alike have come back so positive, with great learning attitudes.

I am delighted to let you know that we are now an academy—part of the **North Essex Multi Academy Trust**. Nothing has changed for staff or pupils and we continue to be known as the Richard de Clare School.

This year we have worked to set as many dates as possible in advance for the year and these can be found overleaf. The first of these dates are our meet the teacher sessions—a great opportunity for you to come into class and experience the room and environment of your child's new class as well as an opportunity to meet staff. You will also see that there are dates for Termly Learning Conferences. Last term we trialled having these in the day time and feedback was very positive. The only adverse feedback was that some working parents found it difficult to attend: we are giving you the dates for the whole year in the hope that most parents can arrange work times with notice. We will of course make arrangements for any parent that is still unable to attend during the day.

Please do not park in the Resource Centre car park. This belongs to Essex County Council and not ourselves. Parents parking there may receive notes or even fines.

We are currently in the process of changing our uniform provider. The uniform will remain the same but the advantage is that the new supplier is online so payments can be made by card and delivered straight to your home. Details will be sent home and fliers are available by the office. In the short term, do please check with the school

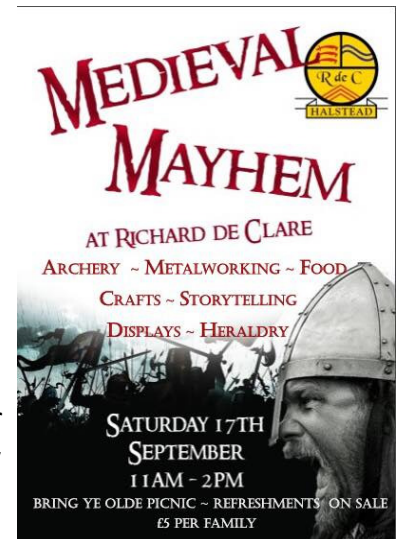
shop for uniform as we have some stock still available.

If you receive **Income Support or Tax Credits** (not working), then your child will be eligible for Pupil Premium funding. It is important that you let us know if this is you as children in receipt of Pupil Premium receive additional support and it makes up a large part of our budget. Please see the school office if you think you may qualify.

The HSA have organised an exciting new event that takes place at the school on Saturday 17th September between 11am and 2pm.

**Medieval Mayhem** offers the chance to try archery and heraldry as well as much more, and all for only £5 per family.

At the end of last term we sent out our annual parent survey with the children's reports. I am delighted to inform you that we had our biggest response rate to date and we are thrilled with the results. Of those that responded 98% agreed (or strongly agreed) that their child feels safe at R de C, 99% agree that their child is making good progress and 99% agree that the school meets their child's needs. 98% of respondents agreed that their child is well looked after and 100% agreed that their child is taught well! 100% also agreed that R de C helps their child to develop skills in communication, reading, writing and mathematics. 97% agreed that there is a good standard of behaviour and 93% agreed that lessons are not disrupted by bad behaviour (9% better response than last year). 93% agreed that we deal effectively with any cases of bullying and 100% feel that we help to support parents with their child's learning! 97% agree that we respond to their concerns and 92% agree that they are well informed—up 10% on last year. 95%



of those who responded would recommend R de C to other parents; again this is 10% better than the previous year. Thank you for your feedback. We will continue to strive for improvement in all areas and the individual comments really do help to shape our actions.

There is a new class taking place at the school on a Thursday evening—parent & child yoga. Call Elaine on 07941 351689 for further information.

As long standing members of our community will know, classes put on an assembly to the school each Friday and parents of that class are invited to come in and watch the assembly at 2.40pm. This term's assemblies will be as follows: 16/9 **6JS**, 23/9 **5VS**, 30/9 **4CG**, 7/10 **3OR**, 14/10 **2BR**, 4/11 **6AC**, 11/11 **5ES**, 18/11 **4LM**, 25/11 **3SY**, 2/12 **2ME**.

### ***Other Diary Dates***

Monday 12th September 2.30pm Y6 & Y2 Meet the teacher	Monday 19th December Y2—6 Christmas celebration with parents
Tuesday 13th September 2.30pm Y5 & Y1 Meet the teacher	Tuesday 20th December Panto & Xmas parties
Wednesday 14th September 2.30pm Y3 Meet the teacher	Wednesday 21st December Cardy Cup assembly (by invitation) , Xmas lunch, end of term
Thursday 15th September 2.30pm Y4 Meet the teacher	Friday 6th January return to school
Friday 16th September 2.30pm Frogs & Otter Stay & Play	13th—17th February Half term holiday
Saturday 17th September 11-2pm Medieval Mayhem	Tuesday 21st February Short reports home
Friday 30th September 9am Macmillan Coffee Morning	Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd February Termly learning conferences
Monday 3rd October School photos	Tuesday 14th March 9am Coffee morning with Head and senior leaders
Tuesday 18th October Flu vaccinations	Friday 31st March Cardy Cup assembly (by invitation) / Last day of term
Friday 21st October Non pupil day/ start of half term holiday	Tuesday 18th April Return to school
Monday 31st October Return to school	29th May—2nd June Half term
31st October - 18th November Whole school topic on France	Tuesday 13th June 9am Coffee morning with Head and senior leaders
Wednesday 2nd October 9am Coffee morning with Head and senior leaders	Friday 16th June Non pupil day
Saturday 5th November Fireworks display	Wednesday 28th June Children's University Graduation
Monday 7th November Short reports home	Thursday 6th July Sports Day
Tuesday 8th & Wednesday 9th November Termly Learning Conferences	Monday 10th July Annual Reports home
Thursday 10th November KS1 cinema visit	Tuesday 11th & Wednesday 12th June Termly Learning Conferences
Friday 11th November KS2 cinema visit	Thursday 13th June Reserve sports day
Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 4th November Open days	Thursday 20th July Awards assembly (by invitation)
Friday 9th December pm Xmas Fayre	Friday 21st July Y6 Leavers Assembly/ end of term
Thursday 15th & Friday 16th Frogs, Otters & Y1 Xmas performances	