



# RIDGEWAY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

December 2025



## EXECUTIVE

## HEAD'S UPDATE



As always at Ridgeway School, everyone has been incredibly busy. Alongside the usual classroom learning, we have been proud to expand our vocational and community-focused opportunities. This year saw the opening of our Sixth Form Farm Shop, Branching Out, which has been a fantastic addition and a valuable learning experience for our students. We have also cleared and prepared the raised vegetable beds ready for the next planting season, reinforcing our commitment to practical, hands-on learning.

Throughout the term, students have engaged in a wide range of activities beyond the classroom. We have hosted visiting "travelling" farms, taken part in local community events, and participated in an outward-bound course that challenged students to build confidence, resilience, and teamwork skills.

It's hard to believe we have already reached the end of the first full term of this academic year. The school is buzzing with excitement as we prepare for the upcoming Christmas break. Both students and staff have worked incredibly hard throughout the term, and I am extremely proud of everything they have achieved.

To those staff and pupils who have moved on to pastures new, we wish you every success and happiness in your future endeavours.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas and a very happy, safe, and peaceful New Year.

*Best wishes,  
Joe*



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## Upper 6th Form



Pupils in Upper 6<sup>th</sup> have been super busy on the run up to the Christmas rush. Branching Out Farm Shop has done **EXTREMELY** well. Thank you to everyone for supporting the shop and making it a success. Here are some photos of the stock we curated for our Christmas sale.





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## Upper 6th Form

Just some of the activities and learning we have been up to over this term - from playing "Smite" to practice Maths Skills, Vocational Studies and some pics from Caldecotte Lakes Boost programme





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**Caldecotte Lakes Boost Programme cont.....**

**SUCH FUN!!!!!!**





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## Upper 6th Form

Caldecotte Lakes Boost Programme cont.....

**SUCH FUN!!!!!!**





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**Caldecotte Lakes Boost Programme cont.....**

**SUCH FUN!!!!!!**





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## Upper 6th Form

Caldecotte Lakes Boost Programme cont.....

**S U C H F U N ! ! ! ! !**





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## RUBY CLASS

For the past few weeks in Ruby Class we have been enjoying all things Christmas as part of our learning!



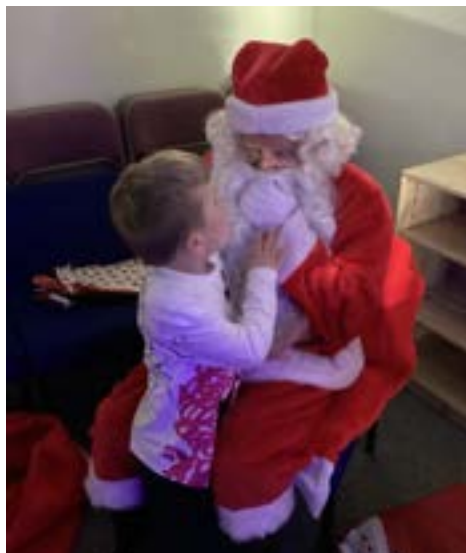
We have explored sensory Christmas resources, using all our senses, lots of Christmas mark making activities, onscreen Christmas painting, meeting Father Christmas at the CDC, making Christmas decorations as part of Forest School, dressing up in festive clothing, exploring presents and baubles as part of our maths learning.

We really loved all the parents coming into school for our Christmas Open Afternoon!





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## SECONDARY

A group of secondary pupils recently took part in a table cricket tournament. It was great fun, and everyone tried their absolute best. Unfortunately we didn't win, but as they say, it's the taking part that counts and everyone put all their best effort in. An absolute blast was had by all!



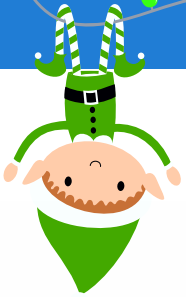


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# RED Class





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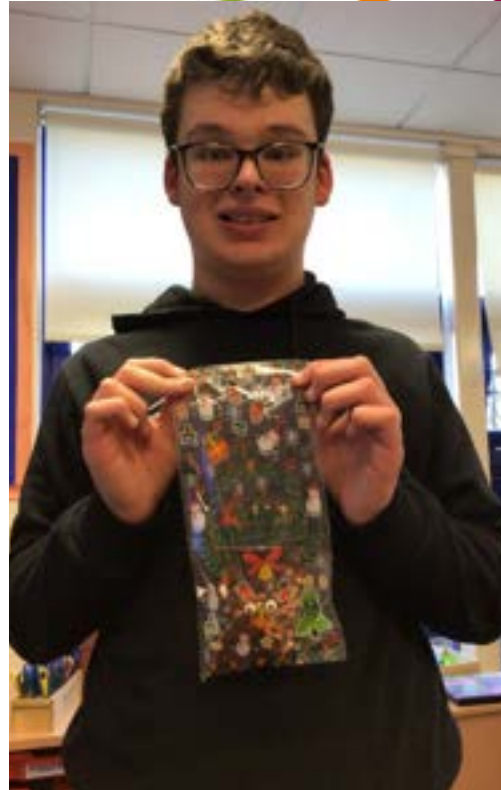
## Red Class has been getting into the Christmas spirit!

This week we have been busy creating festive crafts to sell at our open afternoon on 10 December, and the classroom is now sparkling with decorations the children helped to put up or create. Some of our pupils enjoyed a very special trip to the CDC today, where they had the exciting chance to meet Father Christmas himself!





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## Lower 6th Form Enterprise



Lower 6th Form have been selling dog biscuits, cat biscuits and chocolate Christmas bark for their enterprise project this term. Profits will be split between 6th Form and the students chosen charity which this time is the World Wildlife Fund. A huge thank you to everyone who ordered and supported us.

We hope you and your furry friends enjoy the treats.





# RIDGEWAY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Which of Santa's reindeer has bad manners? **RUDE-OLPHI**



# CHRISTMAS

# JOKES

What falls but never gets hurt? **M O N S**

What do Santa's helpers learn in school? **THE ELF-ABETI**

How do snowmen shop online? **THEY USE THE WINTER-NET!**

Why did the snowman go to the veg market? **THEY WERE PICKING THEIR NOSE!**

Why do reindeer wear bells? **BECAUSE THEIR HORNS DON'T WORK!**

Who delivers Christmas presents to cats? **SANTA PAWS!**

What's an elf's favourite pop star? **ELVIS PRESLEY**

What's a wolf's favourite time of year? **THE CHRISTMAS HOWL-DAYS!**





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## CORAL *Class*



Some of Coral class have enjoyed visiting the food technology room to prepare healthy snacks. They have shown they can find items they need around the room, tidy up and wash up after the session and talk about how to be safe when cooking and preparing food.





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Coral class have really enjoyed exploring the brand new PE equipment! we have had lots of fun climbing, balancing and jumping on this!





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## APRIL SAYS.....

Thomas was Bish Bash Bosh as he effectively communicated in so many ways for 40 minutes - a really good example of a Total Communication approach.



Switching - to active a switch toy

Eye pointing - to choose the correct colour to decorate his Christmas tree

Signalling - using either his left arm for yes or a vocal response

Tracking - looking for the dinosaur noise





# RIDGEWAY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



## Dates for your diary....

- 19th Dec Last Day of Term
- 5th & 6th Jan Training Days  
Pupils not in
- 7th Jan Pupils return to school



Ridgeway School Term Dates 2025 - 2026

■ Training Day  
 ■ Bank Holiday  
 ■ School Holiday  
 ■ Pupil Day

September 2025					October 2025					November 2025					December 2025				
Mon	1	8	15	22	Mon	6	13	20	27	Mon	3	10	17	24	Mon	1	15	22	29
Tue	2	9	16	23	Tue	7	14	21	28	Tue	4	11	18	25	Tue	2	16	23	30
Wed	3	10	17	24	Wed	8	15	22	29	Wed	5	12	19	26	Wed	3	10	17	24
Thu	4	11	18	25	Thu	9	16	23	30	Thu	6	13	20	27	Thu	4	11	18	25
Fri	5	12	19	26	Fri	10	17	24	31	Fri	7	14	21	28	Fri	5	12	19	26
Sat	6	13	20	27	Sat	11	18	25		Sat	8	15	22	29	Sat	6	13	20	27
Sun	7	14	21	28	Sun	12	19	26		Sun	9	16	23	30	Sun	7	14	21	28

January 2026					February 2026					March 2026					April 2026					
Mon	5	12	19	26	Mon	2	9	16	23	Mon	2	9	16	23	30	Mon	6	13	20	27
Tue	6	13	20	27	Tue	3	10	17	24	Tue	3	10	17	24	31	Tue	7	14	21	28
Wed	7	14	21	28	Wed	4	11	18	25	Wed	4	11	18	25	Wed	1	8	15	22	29
Thu	8	15	22	29	Thu	5	12	19	26	Thu	5	12	19	26	Thu	2	9	16	23	30
Fri	9	16	23	30	Fri	6	13	20	27	Fri	6	13	20	27	Fri	3	10	17	24	
Sat	10	17	24	31	Sat	7	14	21	28	Sat	7	14	21	28	Sat	4	11	18	25	
Sun	11	18	25		Sun	8	15	22		Sun	8	15	22	29	Sun	5	12	19	26	

May 2026					June 2026					July 2026					August 2026							
Mon	4	11	18	25	Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon	6	13	20	27	Mon	3	10	17	24	31	
Tue	5	12	19	26	Tue	2	9	16	23	30	Tue	7	14	21	28	Tue	4	11	18	25		
Wed	6	13	20	27	Wed	3	10	17	24		Wed	1	8	15	22	29	Wed	5	12	19	26	
Thu	7	14	21	28	Thu	4	11	18	25		Thu	2	9	16	23	30	Thu	6	13	20	27	
Fri	8	15	22	29	Fri	5	12	19	26		Fri	3	10	17	24	31	Fri	7	14	21	28	
Sat	9	16	23	30	Sat	6	13	20	27		Sat	4	11	18	25		Sat	1	8	15	22	29
Sun	10	17	24	31	Sun	7	14	21	28		Sun	5	12	19	26		Sun	2	9	16	23	30

Autumn Term - 75 days   Spring Term - 65 days   Summer Term - 65 days

Pupil contact will amount to 190 of the 196 days. Schools will be closed on five of the 196 days to enable teacher training to take place in accordance with Teachers' Conditions of Service. The law requires that a parent ensures that their child receives a full and efficient education. If you enrol your child at a school, then you must ensure that they attend regularly. Regular school attendance is defined as being 'in accordance with the rules prescribed by the school' and means that if the school is open for 190 days, then this is what your child is expected to attend.



# RIDGEWAY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## Help Us Grow a Memorial Garden at Ridgeway

We're raising funds to create a beautiful memorial garden – a peaceful space where children and staff can reflect, remember, and find comfort after saying goodbye to friends or family members.

The fence is already in place, and we've been busy dreaming up what this special area could become (watch this space for design updates!). Our vision includes:

- Wheelchair-accessible paths
- Plenty of seating areas
- Calming water features
- A magical fairy garden
- Sensory plants and trees for shade

We would also love to offer memorial plaques to honour those who had a connection with Ridgeway, to give our wider school community a chance to be part of this lasting tribute.

This garden will be a space for healing, reflection, and togetherness – but we can't do it alone. Your support, big or small, will help us turn this vision into a reality.

Please contact Sam at school for more information or to get involved.

[sam.bloomer@ridgeway.beds.sch.uk](mailto:sam.bloomer@ridgeway.beds.sch.uk)

Go Fund Me Page

[Fundraiser by Samantha Bloomer : Help Ridgeway School create a Memorial Garden](#)





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**WE NEED  
your  
SUPPORT!**

Ridgeway has an RSA, akin to a PTA, consisting of a small group of parents aiming to organize and host fundraising events next year for a new sensory and memorial garden for the children.

**We would love to hear from you if you're interested in getting involved!**

Join us on the Ridgeway School RSA Facebook page, where you can connect with us and stay updated on our latest news.

If you receive any unwanted gifts this Christmas, please consider donating them to the school as raffle prizes for next year's fundraising initiatives.

**TEAM  
RSA**



# Help us to raise free funds as you shop this Christmas

Every Christmas present you buy is a present for

## Ridgeway School Association



Scan the QR code to make a difference every time you shop online  
Visit [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)



- 1 Visit [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)
- 2 Sign up and search for us
- 3 Your favourite retailers donate to us whenever you shop with them

Get free donations from thousands of retailers including:





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## MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY 2026!

from **EVERYONE** at Ridgeway School





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