



DATE: 19th Nov 2021

Ridgeway Farm CE Academy

Grapevine

01793 677471 www.ridgewayfarmcea.org

THIS TERM'S VALUE IS:
Compassion



Look out for...

information to come via ParentMail with our plans for Christmas including booking Christmas lunch!

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely half term. Term 2 is already in full swing! We are delighted to welcome Amelia, Gunduz and Megan. We hope you will all be very happy at Ridgeway Farm.

The last few weeks have been a time for reflection and celebration. The children took part in a beautiful remembrance service at Ridgeway and created a wonderful display of remembrance in the Hall and around the school. Last week, we hosted a number of Head Teachers who were visiting our school as part of a Peer to Peer review. The visit explored how our vulnerable children are enabled to catch up and how our children and staff are advocates for the diverse needs of our school. Our children and staff were incredible ambassadors for our school and even in this short visit the reviewers noted our supportive culture, high expectations, strong sense of family, the vision running through everything we do and how our children are prepared for life beyond Ridgeway. This would be incredible feedback at any time for a school but even more so after the last 18 months of uncertainty and change. We are really proud of our Ridgeway Farm family!

This week, we have held our Open Day for prospective families of Reception 2022. Families commented on the lovely environment and how welcoming our children were. If you know someone who has not visited our school and would be interested in a place for September 2022 or a space in another year group, please advise them to contact the School Office and to book an appointment for a tour of the School.

It has certainly been a day of colour and excitement today for Children In Need and we are grateful for all of your kind donations. Shortly we will be sharing with families our plans for celebrating Christmas at Ridgeway.

Mrs Gibbard



Family and Community Learning



WELLBEING

Wellbeing Courses 2021

The online courses offer support to families with children who are finding life difficult during these tricky times. Families will learn how to improve communication and problem solving skills, and gain the ability to be more resilient in times of stress.



Helping My Child
Build Concentration and Resilience
1 x session
Tuesday 30 November 10:00-12:00



Helping My Child
with Anxiety and Worry
1 x session
Tuesday 14 December 10:00-12:00



Wiltshire Council

CONTACT DETAILS:

EMAIL: FAMILYANDCOMMUNITYLEARNING@WILTSHIRE.GOV.UK

WEBSITE: WORKWILTSHIRE.CO.UK/FAMILY-LEARNING/

CALL: 01225 770478

Courses are funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency. Learners must be 19+, have been resident in the UK/EU for three+ years, a service family member, have a child with SEN, have less than 5 GCSEs A - C and/or be in receipt of benefits or be unemployed. If you feel you do not fit within the criteria, we may still be able to help so please call if you have any questions.



STAFFING

We are really pleased to share with you that Mrs Smiles and Miss Smith have both had their babies.

Freya Joy was born on 7th October weighing 8lbs 6oz. Mrs Smiles and Freya are doing really well and they are looking forward to popping in to school soon to see everyone soon.

Logan Daniel was born on 17th October weighing 8lbs 6oz. Even our Ridgeway Farm babies are in sync! Miss Smith visited school yesterday and I think it is fair to say that Cherry Tree Class were smitten!

And... we are also pleased to tell you that Mrs Bellis is expecting in the Spring. We certainly are growing our Ridgeway family!

We would also like to inform you that Mrs Jacobs who worked one day a week in Year 5 and in Year 2, has decided to leave and concentrate on her role at her other School. Currently we are filling this vacancy with supply but will update the families of these classes with the staffing structure for after Christmas.



SAFEGUARDING

We have had reported to us a number of concerns about walking traffic around our site. There have been a few near misses where children have walked out into the road, not stopping and waiting for cars, when using the zebra crossing and also crossing where there is no designated crossing. Drivers are particularly concerned at pick up time and have noted children being at a distance from parents/carers and not close enough to the adults. Please ensure your children are safe and they know how to cross roads safely. Here is a Road Safety Guide for Parents which can be accessed by clicking on the image.

As the longer nights are now with us it is really important that our children are seen when using the roads. Wearing bright, reflective clothing will help your child be seen as they cross busy roads and walk on pavements.



ROSPA
Road Safety Education

Teaching Road
Safety: A Guide
for Parents



Family and Community Learning

DECEMBER 2021

ONLINE CONFIDENCE COURSES



Wiltshire Council



JOIN OUR ONLINE CONFIDENCE BOOSTING COURSES TO HELP YOU MAKE POSITIVE CHANGES AND BRIGHTEN UP YOUR TOMORROW



Discovering Confidence

Wednesday 1 December 10:00-12:00 (1x2 hr session)

- Identify your strengths and weaknesses
- Use your strengths to achieve your goals
- Increase self-confidence and self esteem

Confidence and New Directions

Wednesday 8 December 10:00-12:00 (5x2hr sessions)

- Learn to increase self-confidence and self esteem
- Identify pathways forward to securing employment or continuing education

Positive Futures

Date to be confirmed 10:00-12:00 (5x2hr sessions)

- Build on developing a positive mindset
- Focus on overcoming barriers
- Plan to be more resilient

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COURSES ARE FUNDED BY THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY. LEARNERS MUST BE 19+, SERVICE FAMILY, HAVE BEEN RESIDENT IN UK/EU FOR THREE OR MORE YEARS, HAVE LESS THAN FIVE GCSE'S GRADES A-C AND/OR IN RECEIPT OF BENEFITS. IF YOU ARE STUCK IN A RUT OR GOING THROUGH A DIFFICULT TIME, PLEASE CALL US TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR COURSES AND HOW TO JOIN.

ATTENDANCE



% Attendance to date	
EYFS	94.3%
YEAR 1	94.6%
YEAR 2	94.4%
YEAR 3	95.9%
YEAR 4	95.3%
YEAR 5	94.6%
YEAR 6	93.8%

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Apple - Giuseppe, Ariah, Grace and Elliot

Pear - Sophia and Freddie

Peach - Louie and Lewis

Orange - Issac, Adonia, Esme, Harry and Annelise

Lime - Grace, and Jack

Olive - Tino and Darnel



MUSIC LESSONS

We have an ever growing number of private music lessons at Ridgeway Farm. Currently families can access drumming and guitar lessons, and after a generous donation of a free piano, we are now able to offer piano lessons. Should your child/ren be interested in any music lessons, please contact the Swindon Music Cooperative using their online application form or for drumming, contact the School Office.

<https://swindonmusiccoop.co.uk/online-application-form/>



DIARY DATES

Date	Time	Event
23rd and 24th November		Bikeability—Year 6
7th December	2:30pm	Reception Parent Nativity Performance
8th December	2:30pm	Year 1 Parent Nativity Performance
9th December		Flu Immunisations—consent form to follow Year 2 Parent Nativity Performance
14th December		Christmas Jumper & Christmas Lunch
17th December		End of Term - Finish at 3.15 pm