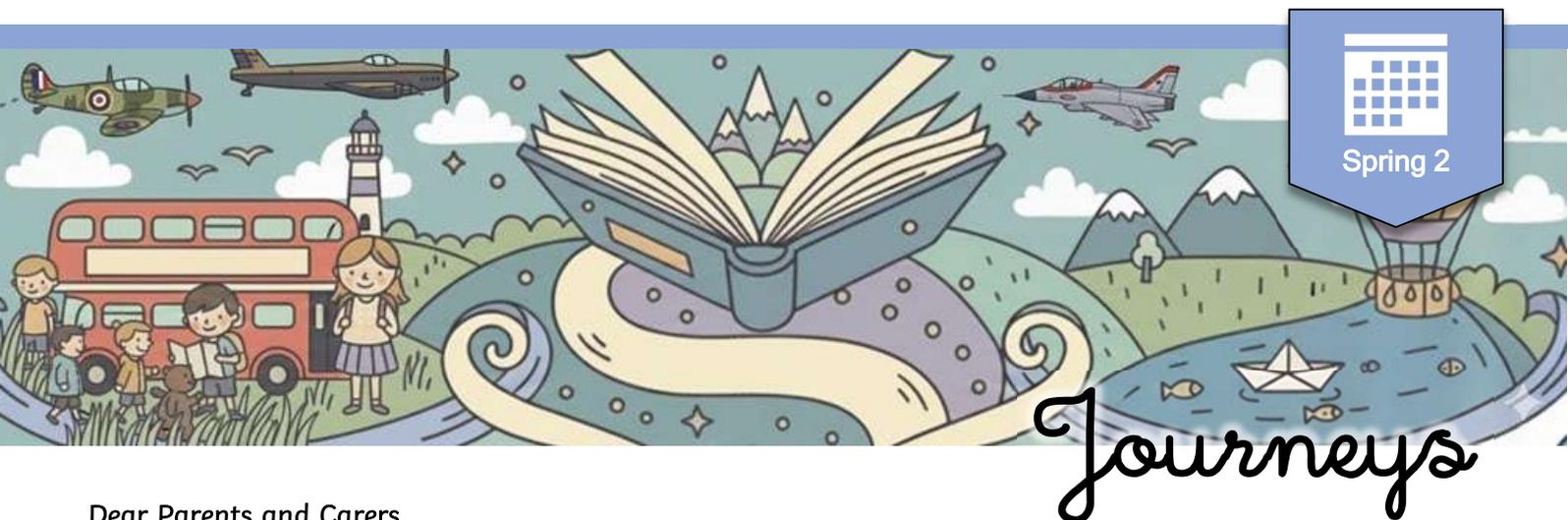


## Luke 24:13-35 On the Road to Emmaus

Two travelers are transformed and enriched by sharing their journey with a guide. We view our work to be similar in making a difference to future lives. We travel together on our journey of transformation and commit our school to always being supportive, nurturing and challenging.



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful, restful half-term break and are feeling refreshed. It was a joy getting to know the children during my first term in Richmond Class, and I am so excited to continue our journey together as we head into this brand-new term.

This term, our learning is moving from the world of fairy tales into the exciting theme of "Journeys". We will be exploring how we move, where we go, and the many ways we can describe the world around us.



This term, we are incredibly excited to embark on our new topic, where we will explore how we move through the world with plenty of enthusiasm, looking closely at different modes of transport and the exciting destinations they reach. We will bring these adventures to life, focusing on building our varied story language and oral confidence to describe complex sequences. Our main geographical focus will be our Local Area, as we investigate the routes we take to school and the familiar landmarks that make our community unique. For our Reception children, this involves identifying the features of school grounds and experimenting with floating and sinking during our scientific investigations, while our Year 1 historians will begin to explore the world from above by creating aerial maps and learning to use a four-point compass. All activities across all subjects are fully adapted to meet the needs and individual learning plans of each child.

**Want to keep learning at home?**  
Take your child on a walk around our local area and point out key landmarks like the shop, the doctors, the church, or even familiar family homes.



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In Expressive Arts and Design, the children will bring their "Journeys" theme to life by exploring landscapes and purposeful representation. The children will move from simple mark-making to studying the works of Monet and Metzinger, exploring Impressionism and Collage to document their local environment. We are also delighted to be rejoined by Mrs. Osborne on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons; as a highly experienced HLTA with a passion for EYFS, she will be a fantastic guide as the children explore tempo in music and artistic techniques. This project is a brilliant way to develop creative thinking and fine motor skills—from creating "messy maps" to refining the control needed for Year 1 writing. This work provides a purposeful link to our Science unit, where the children will test material properties, such as buoyancy, to select the best resources for their designs. While our Year 1 students will study landscapes in more depth to say how artists like Metzinger drew them, our Reception children will focus on the foundational skills of joining and assembling materials with increasing independence.



In our Personal, Social, and Emotional Development sessions, we will shift from individual regulation to collaborative social dynamics. We will use the Zones of Regulation to help us work as a team, solve challenges, and make "good choices," which is essential for building the resilience required for our upcoming group projects. As part of our PSED and Computing curriculum, we will focus on E-safety, where children will learn to recognise that the internet is used in many different places and learn how to use it safely for specific purposes. We will emphasise the importance of asking a trusted adult for permission before using any game, app, or website, as well as identifying what personal information is and why we keep it private.

As we work towards the end of Spring term, our Religious Education topic will move from general celebrations to the theological significance of Easter. Children will explore why this is a special time for Christians by investigating the stories of the Resurrection and Salvation to understand the deep meaning and "why" behind these traditions.



This term in phonics, our reception children are mastering Phase 3, where they will revisit last terms sounds and begin tackling longer and trickier words. Meanwhile, our Year 1 students are refining their phonics knowledge alongside GPS (Grammar, Punctuation, and Spelling) tasks to further develop their reading and writing fluency. The children will continue to bring home a new decodable book specifically matched to their current phonics level to help build their confidence as they share their progress with you.

In Mathematics, our Reception mathematicians will be busy strengthening their number knowledge of 1 to 10, exploring doubles, and comparing quantities through fun, practical activities. Our Year 1 mathematicians are moving further into their mastery journey by building their knowledge of place value up to 50, including addition and subtraction! We will continue to use Numberblocks and plenty of hands-on manipulatives to make learning meaningful and engaging.



## The Important Bits...

### Drop Off and Pick Up

Our routines for the new term will stay exactly the same to keep things feeling consistent and stable for the children. I want to say a huge congratulations to all the children—I am so proud of how brilliantly they are coming into school now, especially with the new lockers in school! Their growing independence is a joy to see.

Just a gentle reminder that the KS1 playground is our designated drop-off point. To keep all our children safe and follow our safeguarding rules, please ensure you say your goodbyes before the EYFS garden gate.

Drop off – gate opens at 8.35am for an 8.45am start.

Pick up – gate opens at 3.10pm for a 3.15pm home time.

### Personal Belongings

We are finally starting to see some lovely double-digit temperatures, but the spring weather can still be a bit unpredictable with occasional chilly spells or sudden showers. Please continue to ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the day's forecast so they stay comfortable while exploring outdoors.

As the layers start to come off in the sunshine, it is more important than ever that everything is clearly labelled with your child's name. This helps us reunite lost items with their owners quickly—this includes jumpers, P.E. kits, water bottles, and those all-important outdoor coats. Any unnamed items found around the school will be placed in our lost property box.

### P.E.

P.E. sessions for this term have already begun as of Tuesday, February 24th, and as we begin to move our lessons outdoors to enjoy the spring weather, please ensure your child has suitable outdoor footwear, such as trainers, and a warmer outdoor P.E. kit to keep them comfortable. Reception children will continue to have their P.E. session every Tuesday, while Year 1 students have their sessions on both Tuesdays and Thursdays. We ask that all children bring their P.E. kits into school to change independently, and these will be kept in class for the full half-term. If your child goes home in their kit after an after-school club, please can I ask that this be returned to school before the Tuesday of the following week to ensure they are ready for their next lesson. Additionally, for the safety of all children, please ensure that earrings are removed before school on P.E. days.

### Outdoor Education

As the weather begins to turn and we see more of those lovely spring temperatures, it becomes increasingly likely that it is safe and pleasant for us to take our learning outdoors. We are currently finalizing our exciting plans for this term's outdoor education, which will continue to focus on experiencing the changing seasons firsthand. To ensure the children can participate comfortably, please make sure they have appropriate seasonal layers and their "puddle suits" or wellies in school, as these are essential for staying cozy during our outdoor adventures.



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### Homework

Huge congratulations to Richmond Class for their incredible victory against the Year 5 Phoenix class in our recent Sumdog competition; I am determined to keep this winning streak alive in our future school-wide contests! Please look inside your child's yellow homework folder this week for their new Sumdog password following a necessary school-wide reset. As a reminder, homework folders are sent home every Friday and should be returned by the following Friday to earn 2 Dojo points. Each week, Reception children will receive phonics and writing tasks, while Year 1 will receive phonics and GPS tasks in their folders along with their weekly maths homework via the Sumdog app.

### Reading Books

We will continue to use the 'Learning with Parents' platform to record all the amazing reading which is happening at home. Please ensure you are logging your child's reading onto the platform so they can achieve their reading certificates, Dojos and prizes! We will change our sharing books every Monday and Wednesday.

Kind regards,

Miss Bramhall, Mrs Pick and Miss L Colclough



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