



Friday, 12th December 2025

Dear Parents,

"Maybe Christmas," he thought, "doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more!"

These lines come from the well-known Dr Seuss story, 'How the Grinch stole Christmas' and they focus on the heartwarming moment The Grinch understands the true essence of this time of year, which is about love, kindness and being part of a strong community.

We are fortunate to share a strong and vibrant community at Ripley Court, and the end of a term is a good time to stop and reflect on the successes and great learning we have shared together.

Some of the highlights have included the Little Court Nativity (Christmas with the Aliens), the Year 3 and 4 production (The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse), and our Christingle and Carol service. The pupils were so good in all these performances, displaying courage, passion, skill and teamwork.

Events arranged by the RCPTA, alongside staff, have included the Family picnic, Fireworks, Quiz Night, Disco and Christmas Fair. This last event was particularly outstanding, and I am so grateful to Mrs Tracey Mangold and Ms Charlotte Chapman for working with the RCPTA and parent volunteers to make it such a special event.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire staff team, including grounds and admin. Each person works incredibly hard and gives their best in all that they do and I am very grateful.

I also want to thank you, as parents, for your support of Ripley Court School. I acknowledge the ongoing commitment you are making for your children, and I look forward to continuing our exciting educational journey together.

The Spring term calendar will be given to all families in the first week of term but just to confirm that Wednesday 7th January is our staff INSET and the first day of the Spring Term will be Thursday 8th January. Breakfast club, Prep club and Après School will all begin on the first day. I look forward to seeing you all then.

I end with these words, from our Christingle, "No matter what we believe, we can all be shining lights and show love to whoever we meet, particularly our friends and family."

I wish you all a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and a thoroughly enjoyable holiday!

With thanks and best wishes,

Mr Gavin Ryan
Headmaster