

**DIARY DATES**

**Mon 14 Jan**

Extra- curricular clubs start

**Thurs 17 Jan**

Open Morning and parent workshops

**Tues 5 Feb**

Safer Internet Day

**Wed 6 Feb**

Leopard class assembly  
9.05

**Fri 8 Feb**

PTFA discos

**Fri 15 Feb**

End of Term 3

**Mon 25 Feb**

INSET day

**Tues 26 Feb**

Start of Term 4

Complete dates are always online  
at [www.ryarsh.kent.sch.uk](http://www.ryarsh.kent.sch.uk)

Happy New Year and welcome back to the new school term. It has been a pleasure to have our children back in school this week, hearing all about their Christmas holidays and starting the term with our annual refresher of Growth Mindset.

This year our Growth Mindset theme has been Super Human, with a focus on how different people are able to adapt to overcome challenges presented by disability. For example, in assembly today we met Phil, who lost his leg aged 19 but has adapted to life with a prosthetic limb. Children listened intently to his story and asked interesting questions like ‘can you ride a bicycle?’ and ‘how do you have a bath?’ We also welcomed Nicola from the Kent Association for the Blind, who explained how people with a visual impairment can overcome challenge and adapt to their condition. Both of these visitors gave us a different perspective on themes around resilience and adaptation - please ask your children to tell you more about this today.

We expect all of our children at Ryarsh to have a strong Growth Mindset, understanding that mistakes and failure are a valuable part of the learning process and that as well as trying ‘harder’, sometimes we also need to try something ‘different’ to succeed. We reinforce our children’s Growth Mindset through daily practice and we are always impressed by how our children show a consistently positive attitude to learning.

At the start of the new year, we also have some new faces to welcome to the Ryarsh school family. We have a new pupil in Lion class, Archie W, and next week we have two new TAs - Mrs Green, working 1-1 in Seahorse class every day and Mrs Garrett, working in Year 5 and 6 on Wednesdays and Thursdays. I am sure that everyone will make them feel at home in no time at all!

Enjoy your weekend. *Ruth Austin* [ruth.austin@ryarsh.kent.sch.uk](mailto:ruth.austin@ryarsh.kent.sch.uk)

**STAFF VACANCIES - we are still looking for a new caretaker and cleaning staff. Please see our adverts on [www.kent-teach.com](http://www.kent-teach.com) if you know anyone who might be interested.**

**Reminder - the Early Bird booking period for Extended Schools is open until 18 January. Please remember to book using the discount code Spring.**

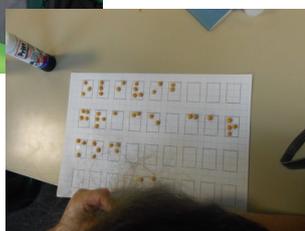
## Our Favourite Learning Leopard Class

This week we have really enjoyed having a focus on Growth Mindset; with a particular focus on over-coming difficulties. We have learnt some sign language and then taught Lion Class some words in sign language. We also used beads to create our own names and sentences in Braille—we swapped these with other classes so they could read them. We have also found out about famous people who have achieved things in their lives despite having disabilities—including athletes and artists.

By Oliver Franks



**We played some new games called New Age Kurling and Boccia—it was great fun!**

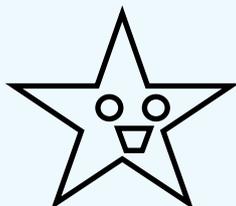


## THE SUPER STAR CORNER

Congratulations

**Erin (YR)**

Learn to swim level 1



# Our School Attendance

Dolphin	Seahorse	Penguin	Lion	Koala	Leopard	Orang-utan
93.3%	99.2%	93.3%	94.0%	96.7%	92.5%	90.8%

Whole school attendance is currently 97.5%

## Our Learning

	What have we been learning this week?	What will we be learning next week?	Ask your child
Dolphin	Happy New Year! This (short) week, we have learned all about Superhumans... we have been on a listening walk, learned to paint using our mouths, tried to write our name in Braille and learned all about growth mindset. We are very good at persevering! We read The Dot and created our own masterpieces based around a black dot.	We will begin to look at different traditional tales—Little Red Riding Hood. We have transformed our role play areas so that we can imagine that we are in our own traditional tales using masks, puppets and dressing up. We will think about Red Riding Hood's cape and how we could make our own. We will also look at adding numbers to 10—using Red Riding Hood's cakes.	If you found a black dot on the ground, what could you turn it into?
Seahorse	Happy New Year! This week we have been focussing on Growth Mindset and overcoming difficulties. We have tried different challenges blindfolded or not being able to use our hands. We found them tricky but didn't give up! We now need to always apply this 'Yes I can!' attitude to our learning. We have also re-capped on our phonics so far and have been thinking about writing numbers both in words and numerals.	In English we will be starting 'The Lighthouse Keeper' stories. We will be learning about the main characters and we will be learning how to make nouns plural and the spelling patterns that go with this. In Maths we are going to be looking at different numbers—thinking about how we can show their value in different ways. We will be starting our topic on Lighthouses, enjoying our PE sessions and setting new year's resolutions.	What challenges have you attempted? What did you find the hardest? How did you overcome it?
Penguin	Happy New Year! This week we have been focussing on Growth Mindset and overcoming difficulties. We tried to write with our opposite hands and draw using our mouth! It was tricky but we didn't give up! We have also revisited our 4 calculations in Maths. In English we have started our new text, 'The Twits.' We also started our new topic, The Great Fire of London and learnt about Samuel Pepys. We had our own hamper of cheese and bread to taste!	In English we will continue to read 'The Twits' and describe Mr and Mrs Twit using expanded noun phrases. We will also learn how to use a dictionary and thesaurus. In Maths we will focus on measure, we will be measuring in ml and l and also making cakes by measuring accurately.	What did Samuel Pepys bury in a box? Why do you think he buried those items?
Lion	Welcome back and Happy New Year! This week we have been working on applying our calculation skills in party planning and revising our knowledge of nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs. In addition, we have enjoyed thinking about Growth Mindset including learning about Makaton and Braille.	We will be starting a new English unit based on the story 'Little Archie' which will be linked with our Topic learning about the local area. In Maths we will be working on our understanding of place value and number sequences.	What did you learn about Growth Mindset?
Koala	Happy new year! Welcome back to 2019! We have really enjoyed our growth mindset week. We have been learning about how we can all be superhuman. We researched some superhumans and were inspired by these people to be a bit more superhuman ourselves! We did this by playing Boccia, using braille and trying to learn a new song in 24 hours!	Next week, we will be starting to read 'The Lost Happy Endings' and using this text to think about how authors use language, punctuation and theme in their writing. In maths, we will be improving our use of factors and our 11 and 12 multiplication tables.	Who inspired you to be more superhuman? How can you be a superhuman?
Leopard	Welcome back to term 3 and 2019! This week we have been enjoying our Growth Mindset focus about over-coming difficulties. We have explored using Makaton and Braille, had a go at some new games and found out about athletes who have over-come difficulties. We have been inspired to use our own Growth Mindset!	We will be starting our new topic on Mountains and Volcanoes; including using non-fiction reading books. In English we will be starting the new year by looking at narrative poetry - including The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes. In maths we will be developing and extending our skills and knowledge with calculations.	How have the Growth Mindset activities inspired you?
Orang-utan	A very Happy New Year to you all! We have kicked off our new term with our Growth Mindset days and have enjoyed learning all about overcoming difficulties. We have been inspired by the Paralympic athletes and have tried learning lots of new skills including reading braille and creating our own messages in braille and how to use sign language.	We will be starting our new term of learning all about The Vikings next week. In English, we will begin our exploration by using a range of resources to gather and collect information about the Vikings to create our very own non chronological reports. In maths we will be spending time recapping the use of decimals before moving onto percentages.	Why is having a Growth Mindset so important?