



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026

Reading - A Key Priority in Our School

Reading continues to be one of our highest school priorities, because we know that confident reading opens the door to learning across the whole curriculum. This year, we are strengthening our approach to reading while also finding new ways to encourage children to read for pleasure.

We are excited to introduce our new Takeaway Tuesday Reading Challenge! Children who read at least 24 times during the term will earn the opportunity to take part in Takeaway Tuesday. We hope this will provide a fun incentive for children to read regularly at home, while recognising their commitment and effort. Every read counts, so please keep supporting your child by reading with them and recording this at home.

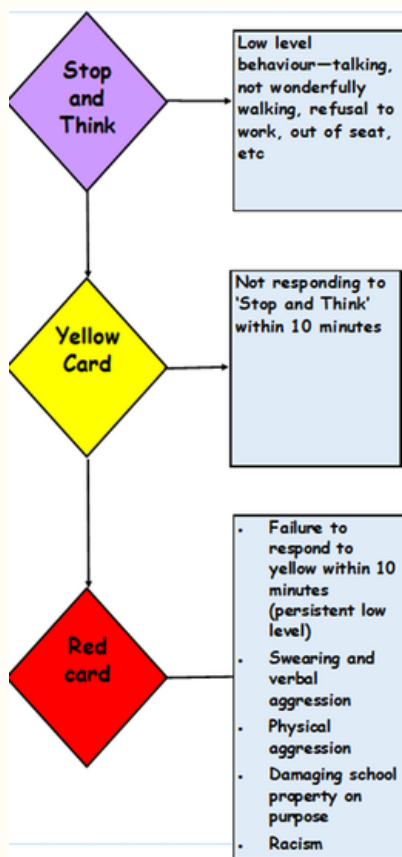
In school, children from Year 2 upwards are developing their reading fluency through Faster Reading, while pupils in Key Stage 2 also take part in Destination Reader sessions. Together, these approaches are helping children to become increasingly fluent, confident readers who can discuss, understand and enjoy a wide range of texts.

We are also delighted to build on the Queen's reading incentive this Christmas. This year, we want every child in school, not just our Year 6 pupils, to receive a book for Christmas. We hope that giving every child a book of their own will help us celebrate reading as a whole-school community and, most importantly, continue to develop a genuine love of reading.

Thank you to all our families for supporting us. By reading regularly at home and talking to children about books, we can work together to make reading something that every child can enjoy and value.

Behaviour

Positive behaviour continues to be a key focus across our school, helping to create a calm, safe and successful learning environment for all children. Please take a moment to look at our behaviour flow chart, which outlines the progression from Stop and Think, to a Yellow Card, and then a Red Card if needed. This consistent approach helps children understand expectations, reflect on their choices and recognise the consequences of their actions. We would appreciate parents discussing this system at home so that pupils fully understand how they can make positive choices throughout the school day.



As a school, we are also reminding children about our RICHER values: Resilience, Independence, Caring, Helpful, Equality and Respect. These values are at the heart of everything we do and help our pupils become thoughtful, responsible and confident members of our school community. We encourage families to talk about these values at home and celebrate when children demonstrate them in everyday life. We are also delighted to share that some exciting behaviour rewards have been planned for the Autumn and Spring terms for the winning houses! Children who consistently demonstrate our RICHER values and make positive behaviour choices will have the opportunity to take part in special reward events, including a thrilling Glow Dodgeball experience and an action-packed Quidditch Tournament. We look forward to celebrating the excellent behaviour and positive attitudes shown by our pupils throughout the year.

Dates

October

23rd October- Break up for Half term

November

2nd November- Return to School

11th November- Film Night

12th November- Year 5- Space Centre

13th November- Children in Need

16th November- Flu Immunisation

18th November- Reception
Brewhouse Film

24th November- Year 6- Bletchley Park

25th November- Year 3- Cinema

27th November- Non uniform
(Donation- Chocolate)

December

1st December- Trent View Hub-
Jungle Madness

4th December- Inset Day (School Closed)

7th December- Height & Weight-
Reception and Year 6

10th December- Christmas Bingo

11th December- Year 1- Birmingham Hippodrome

14th December- Christmas Dinner -
EYFS/KS1

15th December- Christmas Dinner -
KS2

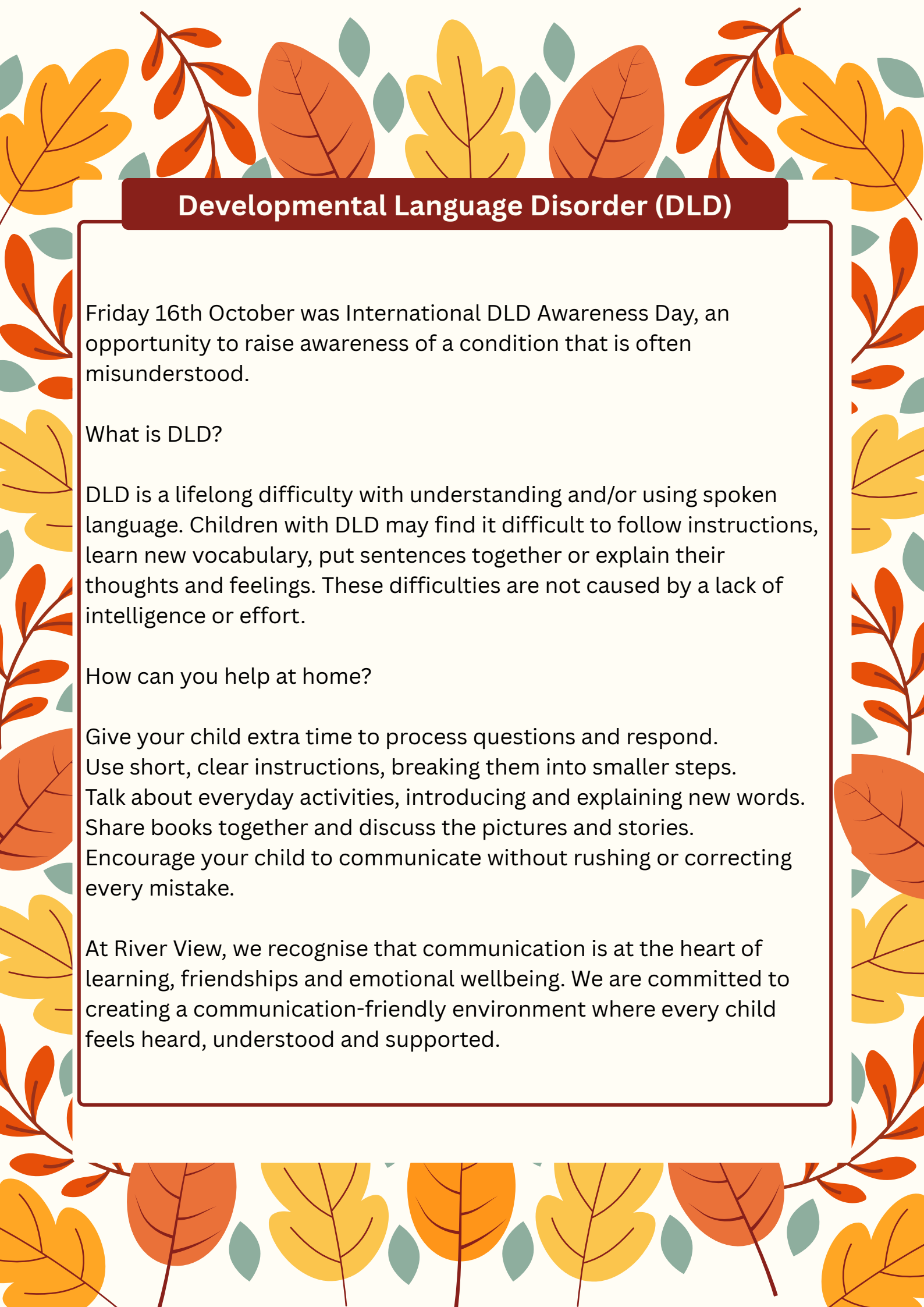
18th December- Glow Dodgeball

Attendance

Regular attendance is one of the most important factors in helping children achieve their full potential. Every day in school provides valuable learning opportunities, helps children build friendships and supports their overall wellbeing. Our current whole-school attendance rate is 92.5%, and we are working hard to improve this further.

This year to support attendance, we are running an Attendance Premier League which sees classes competing each week to achieve the highest attendance. Congratulations to Daffodils, who are the current league champions and have won every one of their matches this half term. What a fantastic achievement!

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child attend school every day and on time. Together, we can ensure every child has the best opportunity to learn, grow and succeed.



Developmental Language Disorder (DLD)

Friday 16th October was International DLD Awareness Day, an opportunity to raise awareness of a condition that is often misunderstood.

What is DLD?

DLD is a lifelong difficulty with understanding and/or using spoken language. Children with DLD may find it difficult to follow instructions, learn new vocabulary, put sentences together or explain their thoughts and feelings. These difficulties are not caused by a lack of intelligence or effort.

How can you help at home?

Give your child extra time to process questions and respond.
Use short, clear instructions, breaking them into smaller steps.
Talk about everyday activities, introducing and explaining new words.
Share books together and discuss the pictures and stories.
Encourage your child to communicate without rushing or correcting every mistake.

At River View, we recognise that communication is at the heart of learning, friendships and emotional wellbeing. We are committed to creating a communication-friendly environment where every child feels heard, understood and supported.

RICHER RAINBOW AFTER SCHOOL CLUB



**ENQUIRE
TODAY!**

WHAT WE OFFER:

- **SPORTS & FITNESS**
- **CRAFTS**
- **THEMED EVENTS**
- **GAMES & EXPLORATION**
- **LIFE SKILLS & PERSONAL GROWTH**
- **AND MANY MORE ACTIVITIES...**

CONTACT:

**FOR BOOKINGS OR ENQUIRES, PLEASE
CONTACT THE TEAM.**

TEL: (01283) 260157

EMAIL:

RICHER@RIVERVIEW.STAFFS.SCH.UK

PAYABLE VIA PARENTPAY

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

3:20 - 4:30, SNACK INCLUDED: £5

3:20-5:45, MEAL INCLUDED: £10

FIREWORKS

**FUN IS BETTER
WHEN EVERYONE IS *SAFE!***

BE SMART
BE SAFE
HAVE FUN!
😊

**Always be with
a grown-up!**



**Keep a safe
distance!**



**Never touch
fireworks!**



If it doesn't go off,
leave it and tell a grown-up.

**Use fireworks
outside only!**



Keep fireworks away
from houses, trees, cars
and dry grass.

**Keep water
nearby!**



Have a bucket of water
or a hose ready
just in case.

**Leave alcohol
to the adults!**



Alcohol and fireworks
don't mix.

★ **Bright Celebrations. Brighter Tomorrows!** ★

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about DISCORD

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(with a 17+ app rating on app stores)

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Launched in 2015, and with over 90 million daily active users, Discord has become one of the main ways gamers communicate – with text, voice, and video chat helping people connect around shared interests. For many young people, Discord can be a useful way to talk with friends, join communities, and explore hobbies. However, like any online platform built around communication, it also carries risks around strangers, inappropriate content, spending money, and time spent online. This guide looks at what parents and educators need to know.

A CHANNEL FOR EVERYTHING

While Discord is strongly associated with video games, it also hosts communities for almost anything you can imagine, such as books, music, influencers, cooking and sport. Some large servers focus on popular games like Minecraft or Fortnite, but many are private, invite-only spaces where friends or communities with shared interests can chat across phones, computers, and gaming consoles.

REAL-LIFE DISTRACTION

Like many social platforms, Discord can become a real time-sink. Although it does not rely on endless scrolling in the same way as some apps, constant messages, group chats, and voice channels can keep young people engaged for long periods, especially in larger servers. As Discord is closely linked to gaming, it may also increase the time they spend playing games.

STRANGER DANGER

Users can choose to stay within private servers with only people they know, but joining public servers will most likely bring them into contact with strangers. Many users are just friendly enthusiasts, yet others could have harmful intentions, including grooming, extortion, or radicalisation. In these types of environments, anyone can claim to be another teenager, which can make it harder for young people to judge who is safe to talk to.

A HARASSMENT RISK

There is also a risk from people a young person already knows in the real world. Bullying in the real world can continue online, and Discord servers can make this feel more intimidating, especially if someone uses anonymous or multiple accounts to carry out threatening behaviours. Because Discord works across computers, phones, and gaming consoles, unwanted contact can follow young people into online spaces that should feel safe and private.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

This huge amount of choice can help young people "find their tribe", especially when they have niche interests. However, because users can create servers around almost any topic, younger users may still encounter unsuitable or distressing content. Even in spaces linked to child-friendly games, Discord cannot directly control every conversation, image, or video shared by other users.

A MONEY DRAIN

Discord is free to use, but users can still spend real-world money on it. This may include Discord Nitro, a monthly subscription that unlocks customisation features and larger media uploads, or purchases through the 'Shop' for profile cosmetics and game-related items. Small purchases can add up quickly, especially if spending controls are not in place.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE FAMILY CENTRE

Parents and carers should make use of Discord's 'Family Centre', which gives an overview of a younger user's activity while respecting their privacy. Messages are not shared, but adults can view an activity feed and receive weekly email summaries. Discord says this is designed to support conversations about online behaviour, rather than be about constant monitoring.

CHECK, TALK, REPORT

Review Discord's privacy settings together, including who can send them friend requests or private messages. Use this as a chance to talk to them about strangers, privacy, and personal information, making sure young people know to question suspicious behaviour, such as requests to keep conversations secret. Show them how to block and report these kinds of users and reassure them that asking for help will not get them into trouble.

MANAGE TIME ONLINE

Agree clear expectations around when and how Discord can be used, especially during homework, bedtime, and family time. Encourage young people to turn off unnecessary notifications and leave servers that feel overwhelming. If Discord is mainly used alongside gaming, discuss healthy limits for both activities so that schoolwork, sleep, and offline friendships are not affected.

REVIEW SPENDING CONTROLS

Talk openly about paid features such as Discord Nitro, profile cosmetics, and in-game purchases. Make sure the young people in your care understand that digital items still cost real money. Check payment settings on the device they use, avoid storing card details where possible, and consider adding approval requirements for purchases, particularly for younger or more impulsive users.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

For full references, visit [our website](https://nationalcollege.com)

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