

# RYE PUBLIC LIBRARY



New Hampshire

January 27, 2022

Dear Parents,

The Youth Room is excited to announce a new Pen Pal Program for students aged 8-16! We have teamed up with the public schools in Rye, East Sussex, England to give students the opportunity to write and exchange letters with another student their age across the Atlantic! Those who participate will enjoy the excitement of writing to someone they don't know, building a new friendship while also improving their writing skills. Writing to a pen pal is similar to reading a good book – when you enjoy what you're doing you do it more and more. What a fun way to learn!

I remember writing to my first pen pal when I was in middle school in 1972. We exchanged letters through the school year and following summer. I learned about his school, his friends and summer activities in Ohio and he learned about mine in Massachusetts. Looking back, having several pen pals over the years added to my sense of self, gratitude for new friends and the value of written communication. This new Pen Pal Program is an effort to recreate that space and experience for students here in Rye.

Attached you will find an informational flyer along with a "Hints for Writing to a Pen Pal" guide. Please register on the library website at [ryepubliclibrary.org](http://ryepubliclibrary.org) by February 15<sup>th</sup>. Students will then be randomly matched by age. Should you have any questions, we'd love to hear from you! Give us a call at (603) 964-9551.

Warm regards,

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