



Ramsgate

Arts Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Although the clocks have gone back recently and the evenings are darker and the weather is colder, I always really enjoy Term 2. Relationships have been built with the new class teachers; expectations are in place and there seems to be a real buzz along the RAPS corridors. There is also the added excitement of Christmas, with Christmas songs being sung and lines being learnt for the up-and-coming Christmas performances. (Year 1 won this year, being the first class to be practicing their Christmas songs!) Please see below and on posters around the school for this year's programme of Christmas events.

Parent Council.

We are very lucky at RAPS to have a small group of parents who are keen to give up their time to put on events for our children, but more importantly, raise much-needed money for our school.

We are becoming increasingly concerned about our children's mental health and anxiety, so the School and Parent Council are looking to raise money to turn the area at the side of Reception (by the back gate that opens onto Newington Road) into a nurture and wellbeing space. This will consist of a 9m x 3m outside classroom/studio as well as landscaping to create a sensory garden, with planters etc... It will be a much-needed space that our Well Being Team will be able to work with children who are anxious about coming to school. The project will cost approx. £18,000. Parent Council have already raised £5000, and I have a couple of grants that I am applying for that could bring in another £2000-£4000, but obviously we still have a way to go with fund-raising. If you would like to support our amazing group of dedicated parents and help with the Parent Council, then please do speak to Jess Goode in the office, email raps.ptfa@gmail.com or just be generous when it comes to buying tickets for the Disco's, Movie nights etc. Every little counts! See below for next events, I'm looking forward to the event organised for adults at the Bedford Inn on the 6th February 2025 from 7.30pm-9.30pm, in the downstairs bar.

Road Safety.

Last week was Road Safety week, and I would like to raise a couple of issues over road safety in our community. Firstly, I would ask that you remind children of the need to be vigilant when travelling to and from school. We have had several near misses reported to us recently and despite having staff on duty at the end of each day, road safety awareness is a concern.

Secondly, I continue to find myself being held accountable by all for the parking of parents in the local roads and drop off carparks, despite numerous pleas through our newsletters. We are working with the Local Enforcement Team and Police regarding this and would ask that you do not park on double yellow lines or in areas that cause an obstruction or danger to any individual. Also, as the school has grown and the field is too muddy to be used in the winter for PE, the back carpark will be closed at 3.15 and opened at 4.05. Please, please do not queue into the road when this area is locked as it causes obstruction for the whole of Newington Road. Thank you to the vast majority of you who use your common sense around parking.

Social Media.

There is a growing trend nationally in the use of Social Media both by parents and pupils. In most cases, this is positive and can be a useful tool for communication and keeping in contact. Unfortunately, there are times when this is not the case, and we do involve external authorities when actions are harmful to individuals or the school as a whole. I would like to remind all that we have an acceptable Use Policy at school, and we will not tolerate offensive Social Media use by anyone in our community.

Free School Meals.

I would like to remind all parents that it is important to register for Free School Meals (even if your child is in Year R, 1 and 2 and receiving the Universal Free School Meals) as the school receives extra funding. If you are entitled, your child will then continue to receive free school meals when they enter Year 3 until the end of Year 6.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

Income Support

Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance

Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

The guaranteed element of Pension Credit

Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Here is the link to Kent's website to apply for Free School Meals:

[KCC Free School Meals](#)

Please speak to the school office if you require any assistance with your application.

School Trips.

We will continue to part fund many school trips by paying for transport or other aspects to keep costs low for you as parents. The cost of coach travel has increased significantly in recent years. Trips are something that we are passionate about to ensure that children get a range of experiences whilst at school. We have large numbers of trips taking place across the school each year, we take care to spread them throughout the year and try and give parents as much notice as possible to help with payments. If you need support in paying for any trip, please let us know. We have now added the option for each trip 'to pay for another child', this will support those children who cannot pay for the trips.

Lastly, I would like to say thank you and farewell to Mrs Bennett who will be leaving us at the end of this Term. Mrs Millidine will be taking over the class, and the children will hopefully have an opportunity to meet her before the end of this term.

I am very much looking forward to seeing you over the coming month at the many Christmas Festivities.

Kind regards,

Nick Budge.



TERM 2 @RAPS

Parent Reading for Year 1 - Every other Wednesday at 2.40- 3pm (20th Nov & 4th Dec)

Parent Reading for Year 2 - Every other Wednesday at 2.40- 3pm (13th Nov & 2nd Dec)

Parent Reading Reception - Every Thursday - Starting 14th November

Upcoming Events

Decorate Christmas Tree	4th Dec 2024
Rock Steady Concert	5th Dec 2024
Rock Steady Concert	10th Dec 2024
Year 6 to The Corner	16th Dec 2024
Last Day of Term	20th Dec 2024

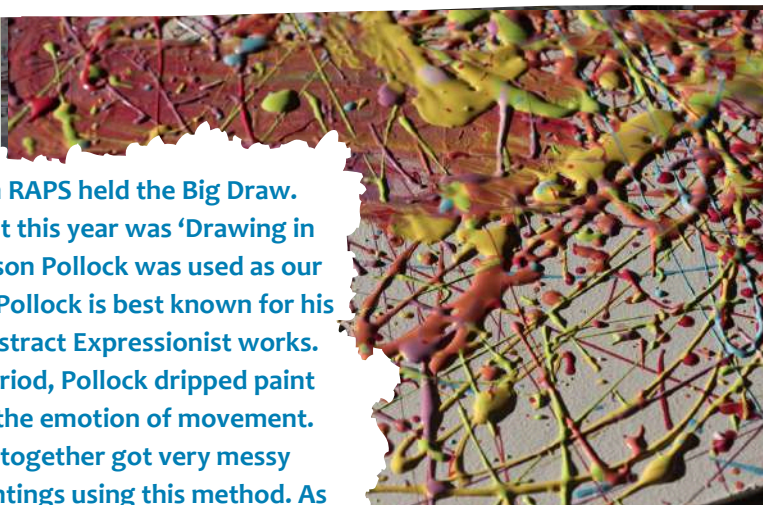
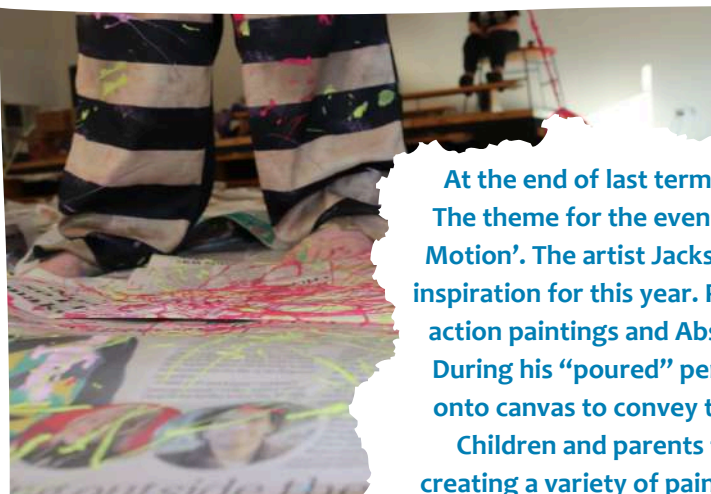
Please see Christmas @Raps for all dates in December.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

WHAT'S NEW?

RAPS were delighted to be involved in the Newington Lights Festival this year. Spectators and participants carried some 500 lanterns, made in workshops during 300 hours of working with schools, community groups and the general public. Locals then came out to carry the brightly lit lanterns and chandeliers through the Newington estate.

The festival was a huge success.



At the end of last term RAPS held the Big Draw. The theme for the event this year was 'Drawing in Motion'. The artist Jackson Pollock was used as our inspiration for this year. Pollock is best known for his action paintings and Abstract Expressionist works. During his "poured" period, Pollock dripped paint onto canvas to convey the emotion of movement. Children and parents together got very messy creating a variety of paintings using this method. As a collective, the school created 3 huge action paintings using moving paint. It was so much fun, but very messy indeed! Children loved immersing themselves in the task and created some beautiful work.



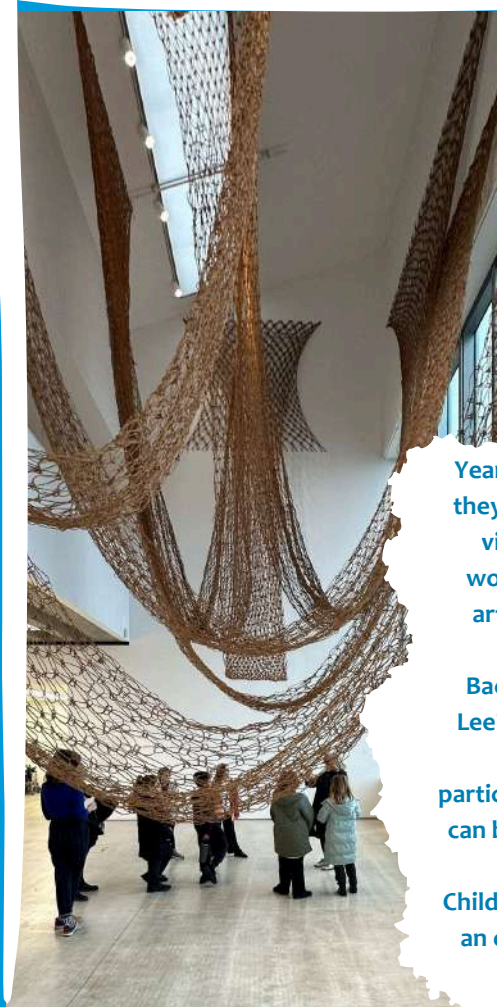
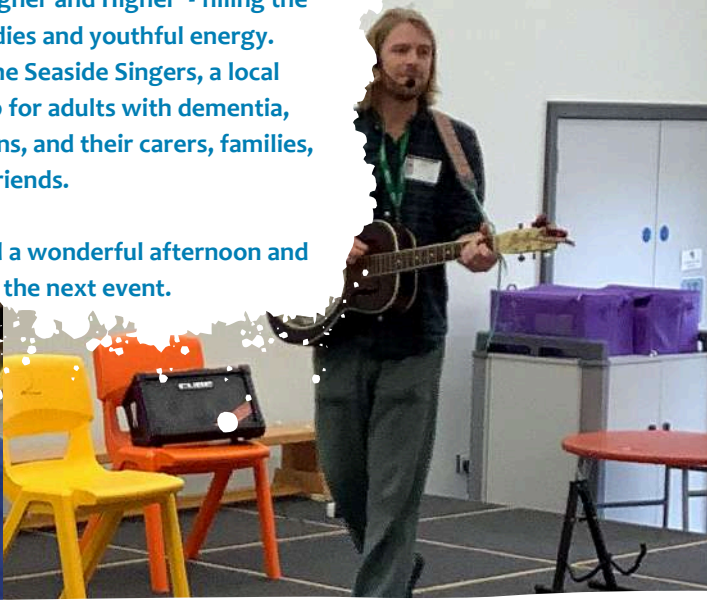


Young singers at Ramsgate Arts Primary hosted a special event that brought generations together through the joy of companionship and music, developing a link that will expand into next year.

The Year 6 children performed three songs for the elderly audience – 'I Can See Clearly Now', 'Make Your Own Kind of Music' and 'Higher and Higher' - filling the hall with uplifting melodies and youthful energy.

Also performing were The Seaside Singers, a local community singing group for adults with dementia, other neurological conditions, and their carers, families, and friends.

The children and adults had a wonderful afternoon and are excited for the next event.



Year 5 children this week visited the Turner Gallery where they had a personal tour with the artist Anaya Gallaccio to view her personal exhibition. The children have been working collaboratively with the Turner Gallery and the artist on a project called the 'Apple project' along with children from Upton and Palm Bay.

Back in the summer the children were taken on a trip to Lee's court and Brogdale Farm to learn all about apples, a central focal point of Anaya's exhibition, they also participated in making a learning video for the project which can be viewed at the gallery until the end of January, along side the exhibition.

Children will be visiting Lee's court later this month to plant an orchard along side the artist. We cannot wait to share details with you.

CHRISTMAS @RAPS

- ❖ 5th December - Rock Steady Concert 9am
- ❖ 10th December - Rock Steady Concert 9am
- ❖ 11th December - Christmas Wreath Workshop 3pm
- ❖ 11th December - Carol Concert - 4.15-4.45pm
- ❖ 12th December - Reception Christmas Performance
@9am & Party Pm
- ❖ 13th December - Yr1 Christmas Performance
@9am & Party Pm
- ❖ 16th December - Yr3&4 Christmas Performance
@9am & Party Pm
- ❖ 16th December - Reception to Quex (Blue Room)
- ❖ 17th December - Yr5&6 Christmas Performance
@9am & Party Pm
- ❖ 18th December - Yr2 Christmas Performance
@9am & Party Pm
- ❖ 18th December - RAPS Choir @
Belle Vue
- ❖ 19th December - Reception to Quex (Green Room)
- ❖ 19th December - KS2 Granville Theatre Trip Am
- ❖ 19th December - KS1 Santas Grotto Am
- ❖ 20th December - Christmas Jumper Day
- ❖ 20th December - Christmas Dinner/Lunch
- ❖ 20th December - Last day of Term- 2pm Finish
Merry Christmas From All

@RAPS

We are delighted to invite you to a

RAPS CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

Wednesday 11th December 17th
4.15-4.45pm

Christmas Wreath Workshop

Wednesday,
11th December

3 pm
@Raps

MATTHEW PETER-CARTER
AS DAME SEA DOG/SALLY

LOUIS GLADMAN
AS PETER PAN

CHARLIE ALLEN
AS CAPTAIN HOOK

PETER PAN

KS2

A FAMILY PANTOMIME!

The Granville Theatre, Ramsgate | 14 - 24 December '24
ATG TICKETS Book Online: thegranvilletheatre.com | Box Office: 03330 096 697

SANTAS GOTTO

@RAPS

All children who visit Santa will receive a gift!

19th December 2024

KS1 ONLY

Christmas Songs

Time to learn the Christmas Songs.

If Year 5 and 6 children add the below song titles and 'Christmas with the Crackers' to YouTube all songs will appear.

1. Ho Ho Ho! We're ready to go
2. Code Reds - Nine Double O
3. Christmas Magic
4. A Christmas Pie
5. Fab-u-lous
6. The Very First Christmas
7. Christmas Magic Reprise

INFORMATION

SNACKS AT BREAKTIMES

Please can snacks brought into school be healthy – fruit, vegetables, cereal bars, popcorn, we do not consider crisps, cakes, pastries, chocolate confectionary or sweets to be an appropriate healthy snack and therefore cannot be eaten during break. Please remember we have children with severe nut and egg allergies - so no eggs or nuts!

LOST PROPERTY

We also now have a lost property box that is situated on the main playground next to the main office doors. This is where all lost property will be kept.



WEATHER

Please make sure your child is wearing appropriate clothing for the colder weather. Coats are to be worn at break and lunchtimes.

NAMING CLOTHING

Please can parents ensure that children's jumpers, coats etc are labelled with your child's name in them. This makes it so much easier to return lost property to the rightful owner.

WATER BOTTLES

Please make sure children only have water in their water bottles, not squash or fizzy drinks.



Social Media.

You can find us on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. Please give us a follow.

