

Dear Parents,

I do hope that the summer break allowed you to spend time with family and friends, but even after a couple of weeks, it's like we've never been away! This year is certainly a milestone for RAPS as we are finally now full, with two classes in every year group from Reception to Year 6. It's brilliant to know that we are oversubscribed, with waiting lists in most of our year groups.

It's been wonderful to see the new faces in Reception and to welcome pupils back to school for another year. As we start this new academic year, I wanted to highlight a number of points so that you are fully aware of the activities and information regarding the school.

Pupil Absence

There are times when pupil absence is unavoidable. We therefore ask you to inform us of any time off needed for children so that we can authorise it for you. However, I do need to make it clear that the Government are continuing to hold schools accountable for pupil attendance and that we cannot authorise absences based around holidays. Time missed at school massively impacts on children's progress and attainment and it is crucial that pupils arrive at school every day and on time. You can report your child's absence by e-mailing enquiries@ramsgateartsprimaryschool.co.uk or by phoning 01843 582847.

Social Media Use

I would once again like to remind parents and pupils about the appropriate use of social media. There are many positives with technology, however, I would like to outline that the school will not tolerate the misuse of social media when it affects the reputation of the school or is offensive or derogatory towards pupils or members of staff. Everyone is doing their best within the school. It is far easier to raise your concerns with us rather than discuss them across social media sites. I would ask that you respect the mental health of both staff and our pupils with regards to this.

Asda 'Cashpot for Schools'

We are working with Asda on their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative, whereby individuals using the Asda Rewards app can opt for a local primary school to receive 0.5% of their spendings. Once this is up and running, we will keep you informed about what we will be focusing the money on. If you wish to support us by taking part in this, all details are on the Asda Rewards app.

Parking

The school continues to have concerns raised by residents regarding the illegal parking of cars at drop off-and pick-up. I have been in contact with parking enforcement officers, who visited the area last week and this will now become a regular occurrence. It is important that we all show respect for the local community in which we work, therefore can I ask that the drop-off carparks are used respectfully, with parents adhering to the correct parking bays. We are lucky to have this facility, but we will not hesitate to close it off if parent parking endangers the safety of our children.

School Communication

As a school, we continue to work at ensuring that our staff have a work/life balance, and we would like to reiterate that we do not expect our staff to respond to queries outside of work hours. We will always endeavour to deal with situations quickly and effectively and would like to draw your attention to contact details that may be useful moving forward. To contact school for any general queries, please use the following email address: enquiries@ramsgateartsprimaryschool.co.uk

Those of you who attended the Welcome Parent Meetings last week will be aware that we have changed the structure of our Leadership (this information can still be found on the class blogs). There will now be Assistant Head Teachers, who are each responsible for a phase. Please put their names on the top of any e-mails that require their attention and it will be directed directly to them.

Reception/ Year 1 – Mrs Chidwick-Day

Years 2 and 3 – Miss Amin

Year 4 – Mr Holliday (Deputy Headteacher)

Year 5 and 6 – Miss Dannell

Our teachers are also available at the beginning of the day for a quick chat – for Reception, Years 1, 2 and 6, this can easily be done during drop-off. For Years 3, 4 and 5 classes (whose classrooms are upstairs) - every morning a teacher from either class in a year group will be available to have a chat with or pass-on a message. Sadly, due to safeguarding, we cannot have parents going upstairs.

For information about what is going on in school, please look out for:

Posts on the class school blogs

‘Next Week at RAPS’ (which is sent out every Friday) which has updates and reminders for the week ahead

MCAS notifications

The News and Events section on our website - Ramsgate Arts Primary School - News and Events

Kind regards,

Nick Budge



TERM 1 AT RAPS

Parent Reading for Year 1 -Every other Wednesday at 2.40- 3pm (25th Sept, 9th Oct, 23rd Oct)

Parent Reading for Year 2-Every other Wednesday at 2.40- 3pm (18th Sept, 2nd Oct,16th Oct)

Parent Reading Reception-Will start in Term 2

Upcoming Events

- Year 4 -Team Hayzelden- Library Visit- 10-11am-26th Sept 2024
- Year 5 - Team Pressley -Library Visit- 2-3pm- 26th Sept 2024
- Year 2 Copse Trip Amin-Barnes AM - 7th Oct 2024
Team Morris PM
- Year 6 Kent Life Trip- 15th Oct 2024
- Year 6 Kent Life Trip- 16th Oct 2024
- Newington Light Festival - 18th Oct 2024
- Year 2- Bug Hotels - 21st Oct 2024
- Last Day of Term- 24th Oct 2024
- INSET DAY- SCHOOL CLOSED- 25th Oct 2024

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



WHAT'S NEW?

Children, families, and friends joined together for a sunshine celebration at the first big event of the school year at Ramsgate Arts Primary. The open air RAPSfest attracted hundreds of people from all generations who basked in the late summer sun for an afternoon of entertainment and fun organised by the Parent Council. The event was a huge success and raised £2,922!!



WHAT'S COMING UP!



NEWINGTON LIGHT FESTIVAL
A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES
FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER

CLICK ON YOUTUBE LINK
FOR LAST YEARS AMAZING
EVENING.



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!

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.

Lost Property

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



WATER BOTTLES

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

Many thanks.

Next Viking Holiday Club –
October Half Term

Five days across one week-
Monday 28th October – Friday 1st
November 2024

Venue will be Chilton Primary
School

