



Chilton Primary School / Ramsgate Arts Primary School / Upton Junior School

# Term 5 Viking Newsletter 2026

Dear Families,

We have reached the end of another hugely successful (but extremely short) term for the schools in the Viking Academy Trust, and I would like to thank all of you who have contributed to the outstanding learning experiences of our pupils during the 24 school days. It has been a pleasure to work alongside parents, staff, governors, volunteers and our children and to witness such a thriving community at work.



**Viking Academy Trust's 10-year anniversary...** I shared with you back in January the news that 2026 marks ten years of Viking Academy Trust. I was appointed as Executive Headteacher in January 2016, tasked with the exciting and quite unique role of bringing together three local Thanet primary schools - ensuring every child attending a Viking school received the very best educational opportunities and to make our **'One Childhood One Chance'** philosophy a living, breathing reality that permeated every classroom, every corridor in each of our three Viking schools.



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For our Viking family, the major event of 2016 will always be the creation of the Viking Academy Trust and the bringing together of Chilton Primary School, Ramsgate Arts School and Upton Junior School. However, outside of our 'school bubble' – 2016 was also the year that saw our country divided with the nation taking to the polls for the Brexit referendum and 'across the pond' Donald Trump began his first term as US president. Whilst things may not have moved very far forward from a national or global perspective, things closer to home at Viking have moved great strides forward and accomplished so much across the last decade.

Viking Academy Trust's outstanding educational achievement can be measured in a number of ways, be that statutory assessment outcomes; OFSTED judgements, SATs and Kent Test results, attendance %, admission numbers and waiting lists to name but a few – but...in the words of Albert Einstein (and on a poster up in my office) **"Not all that counts can be counted."** What makes me most proud is how deeply rooted the idea of Viking as an extended family has become for everyone connected to Chilton, RAPS and Upton. We have strived to create a sense of belonging to something greater than just an individual school. This feeling of togetherness — our Viking Family — is something we worked hard to nurture with our children, staff and families. With ten successful years of shared history between us, Viking Academy Trust schools are firmly established as schools of choice within the local community.

However, no organisation stands still and changes to leadership are inevitable through the passage of time and as we say (often) at Viking, **'Getting Better Never Stops'...** I am extremely delighted to share with you the news of **Mrs. Law's appointment as Viking's next Executive Headteacher**, a position she will move to as of 1st September 2026.

**"Two heads may well be better than one"** but that's not the case with **'Executive Heads'** so what of me you may well be thinking? You will have seen Mrs Law's tenure as Executive Headteacher commences at the start of the next academic year, which gives us time to navigate through a period of transition before I formally step away from Viking at the end of term 6.



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It has been the honour of my professional career to have served as the first custodian of the Viking Academy Trust. Having led Viking for 10 years, alongside such a talented and dedicated team of leaders, I am delighted to be passing the baton to one of our 'own'. Mrs Law has been part of Viking's journey from its inception - she is part of Viking's DNA! Mrs Law served as Head of School at Chilton for eight years before leaving the school in Mr. McAuley's capable hands in 2023. During this time, she spent time as Head at Upton during Miss Arthur's maternity leave and more recently, has worked across Chilton, RAPS and Upton as Viking's Director of Education.

If you do have any questions regarding the pending change to Executive leadership, please do not hesitate to reach out. Perhaps you are wondering what it is that could have possibly tempted me away from the best job in the world - well, that's an easy one to answer - **early retirement!** I would never have left Viking Academy Trust to work for another group of schools, but to not work at all...well, that is another story!!

My next chapter remains unwritten. My husband and I are proud owners of a motorhome and remain keen runners (not necessarily as fast as we once were but definitely still keen!!) – so the first of many planned trips away will be to explore England's beautiful south-west coastline and see where our travels take us.

Closer to home, the half-term holiday approaches and on behalf of the staff teams working at Chilton, at RAPS and at Upton, I wish you a lovely holiday. May the sun shine brightly, allowing us the opportunity to maximise Thanet's beautiful beaches and parks.

With my warmest wishes

Mrs. M Lewis  
Executive Headteacher



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## REMINDERS...

**Our annual Viking Games is taking place across the final week of term 5.** It involves children from every year group: Reception through to Year 6 across Viking. Children from our three schools will be split into four coloured teams, enabling them to participate alongside their Viking team mates.

Year 5 and 6 compete together on Monday 18th and Year 3 and 4 on Tuesday 19th at Upton.

Year 1 and 2 children will participate in sports teams on Wednesday 20th at Chilton.

Reception classes from Chilton will travel across to RAPS on Thursday 21st for the final morning of sporting endeavors.

Look out for photos celebrating the Viking Games on our social media, school Blogs and in the local news.

## Viking Holiday Club

**MAY HALF TERM**



**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May**

**Venue - Upton Junior School, CT10 2AH**

A reminder we have our hugely popular Viking Holiday Club taking place across half-term. It will be based at UPTON from Tuesday 26th - Friday 29th May.

Please [click here](#) for more information or contact Miss K Arthur, Extended Schools Manager.

(ES@vikingacademytrust.com).



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**HAVE YOUR SAY...**As mentioned earlier, one of Viking's best used phrases is 'Getting Better Never Stops' This is true for children, parents and staff alike. We know there are always things we could do better and we strive to seek to find the little things, the 1% marginal gains, which will continue to elevate the quality of education we deliver for our children across Viking. We are proud to involve our families in the future direction of our schools and ask you to please take 5 minutes to complete a short survey telling us what you believe has gone well this year and the areas that we can improve upon. [Click here](#) to complete the short survey.

## Kids Eat Free (or for £1) this half-term.

 **PLACES KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) MAY HALF TERM 2026**   
[moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free](https://moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free)

<b>ANGUS STEAKHOUSE</b> Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm	<b>MARCO PIERRE WHITE</b> Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend
<b>ASDA</b> Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend	<b>MORRISONS</b> Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend
<b>ASK ITALIAN</b> 2 Kids eat free 27th March - 19th April 2026	<b>PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM</b> Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day
<b>BELLA ITALIA</b> Children eat free Sunday - Thursday	<b>PIZZA HUT</b> Kids Eat Free Every Day after 3pm
<b>BEEFEATER &amp; BREWERS FAYRE</b> 2 Kids Eat Free Breakfast with 1 paying adult	<b>PREMIER INN</b> 2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast
<b>BILLS</b> Kids eat free Mon 25th - Fri 29th May 2026	<b>PRETO</b> Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult
<b>BREWDOG</b> Kids eat free 23rd - 31st May 2026	<b>PREZZO</b> Kids up to age 12 eat for £1 during half terms
<b>CAFE ROUGE</b> Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week	<b>PUREZZA</b> Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal
<b>CHIQUITO</b> Kids eat free during all school holidays	<b>SA BRAINS PUBS</b> Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays
<b>COCONUT TREE</b> Kids eat free during half terms	<b>SIZZLING PUBS</b> Kids eat for £1. Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm
<b>DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES</b> Kids eat for £1 with an adult meal purchase	<b>TABLE TABLE</b> 2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult
<b>FARMHOUSE INNS</b> Kids eat FREE from 25th - 29th May 2026	<b>TESCO</b> Kids eat free May half term with any adult spend
<b>FLAMING GRILL PUBS</b> Kids eat FREE from 25th - 29th May 2026	<b>TGI FRIDAYS</b> Kids Eat Free Mon 11th - Sun 31st May (Via App)
<b>FRANKIE &amp; BENNY'S</b> Kids eat FREE during school holidays	<b>THE REAL GREEK</b> Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend
<b>FRANCO MANCIA</b> Kids eat FREE school holidays Mon-Thurs	<b>TRAVELODGE</b> 2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast
<b>FUTURE INNS</b> Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal	<b>TURTLE BAY</b> Kids eat free with every £15 adult spend via app
<b>GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS</b> Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day	<b>VILLAGE HOTELS</b> Kids eat free weekdays via the village app
<b>HUNGRY HORSE</b> Kids eat for £1 from 25th to 29th May 2026.	<b>WHITBREAD INNS</b> 2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast
<b>IKEA</b> Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am	<b>YO! SUSHI</b> Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays
<b>LAS IGUANAS</b> Kids under 12 eat FREE via the App	<b>ZIZZI</b> Kids eat free via app during school holidays

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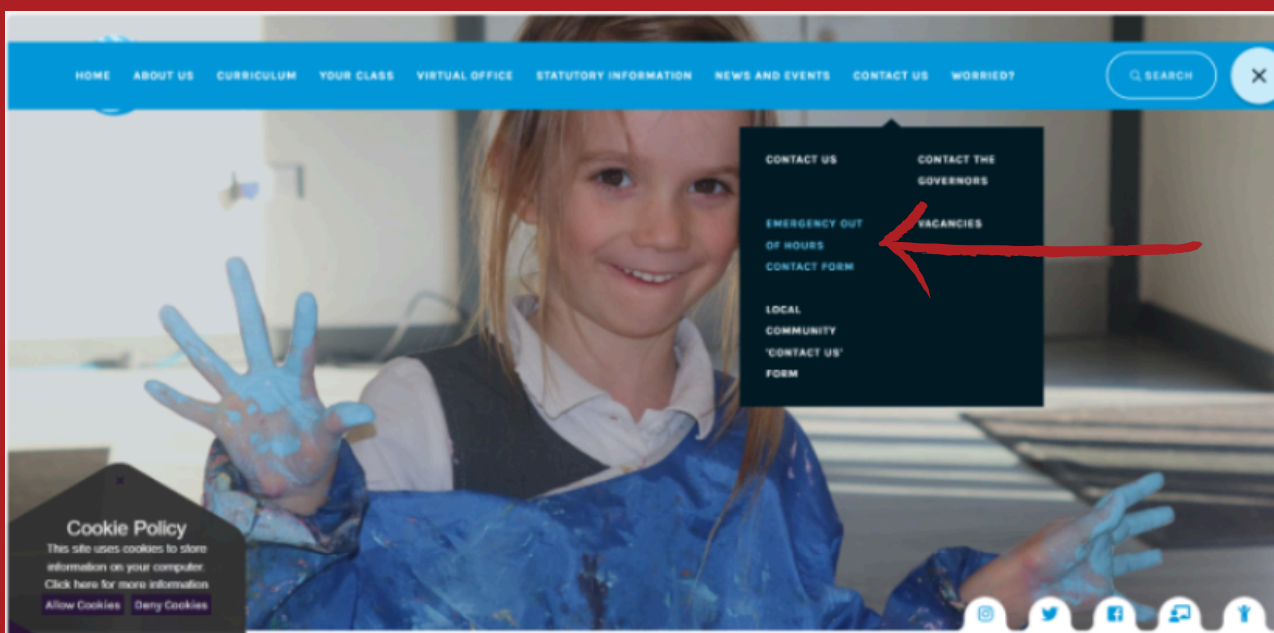


**HOLIDAY REMINDER: Emergency 'Out of Hours' Contact Form...** At Viking, we appreciate, despite best efforts, not everything fits within the window of a school day, and emergency situations may leave you urgently wanting to contact the school. Office and Head of School emails are shared on school websites – but, as you may have seen – staff are under no obligation to read or respond to work emails outside of the 'working day'.

The message on all Viking email accounts reads as follows..The Viking Academy Trust respects the wellbeing of its staff. There is no expectation that emails are responded to before 8am or after 5pm Monday to Friday, at the weekend or during school holidays.

We have therefore created an '**Emergency Out of Hours**' contact form for parents or carers to use if they feel they urgently need to share information / get in touch prior to the start of the next working day. To access this form, please click the 'Contact Us' tab on the school website and the emergency out of hours link can be accessed.

See the example below taken from RAPS' website:





Stay in the know and keep in touch...



<https://www.ramsgateartsprimaryschool.co.uk>

<https://www.uptonjunior.com/>

<https://www.chiltonprimary.co.uk/>



RAPS - [@ramsgate\\_arts\\_primary](https://www.instagram.com/ramsgate_arts_primary)

Chilton - [@ChiltonRamsgate](https://www.instagram.com/ChiltonRamsgate)

Upton - [@UptonJuniorsBroadstairs](https://www.instagram.com/UptonJuniorsBroadstairs)



[Facebook.com/RamsgateArtsPrimarySchool](https://www.facebook.com/RamsgateArtsPrimarySchool)

[Facebook.com/ChiltonPrimarySchool](https://www.facebook.com/ChiltonPrimarySchool)

[facebook.com/uptonjuniorschoolofficialbroadstairs](https://www.facebook.com/uptonjuniorschoolofficialbroadstairs)

<https://www.facebook.com/VikingHolidayClub>



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