



School Newsletter

Friday 27th September 2019

Newsletter 2

To Parents and Carers,

Every day I come to school, I feel so lucky to be a part of such a fantastic team. I already know I have a committed and dedicated staff, and through talking to the children who have just been elected to make up our Junior Leadership Team, it is clear that they are really proud to be a part of RAPS too. As the school has developed over the past year, I have been overwhelmed by a group of amazingly committed parents who make up our Parent Council. This group of dedicated and passionate parents stage many events throughout the year and raise lots of money for the school. They are currently raising money for planting for our playground, which will start to be constructed over half-term. If you would like to find out more about the Parent Council, and missed the coffee morning on Wednesday or the meeting on Thursday afternoon you can contact them on Facebook (RAPS Parent Council) or drop an email (raps.ptfa@gmail.com). They are always delighted to welcome new members.

The Arts at RAPS is something that we are continually developing and we are continually building partnerships with the local arts community. We are so lucky to have Karen Vost joining our team, whom many of you may already know through her local art exhibitions. The school will continue its relationship with Turner and is now involved in the National Turner Prize; indeed, our Yr4 children will be giving Turner Tours to the public on 30th and 31st October. We will also be holding our own Turner Prize and hope to get the work exhibited in a local gallery. In addition to this, our Year 4 children continue to work with the Turner on the 'Pioneering Places' project, funded by the Arts Council. The children are now looking to appoint an artist who will turn their ideas for an installation in Ramsgate harbour into a reality. Watch the press for details regarding an appointment. Exciting projects again are to be planned with Dreamland and also the school will be involved in the Take One Picture Project at the National Gallery. Regency Performing Arts continue to enhance the Arts curriculum and are now very much involved with our KS1 children, offering after-school dance and drama clubs. We are now also working closely with Kent Music School, who came in for a concert on Monday and are offering a variety of music lessons at a reduced cost, as well as working with Rock Steady, who now have six bands. 'Live @ RAPS' is also a new up and coming project.

As you can tell, we already have a lot planned. We will endeavour to keep you posted about everything that is happening in school through our newsletters, class blogs, website, texts, emails and the new MCAS app.

Enjoy the rest of the term ahead!

Nick Budge

Dates for your diary:

**Tuesday 1st October -
Creative Enablers**

Thursday 3rd October - LAB

**Saturday 5th October - Cross
Country @ Quex**

**Wednesday 9th October –
Year 5 Science and
Engineering Challenge**

**Saturday 12th October –
'Super Saturday' – Football
Comp**

**Tuesday 15th October –
Parents' Evening**

**Wednesday 16th October –
Parents' Evening**

**Friday 18th October – The
Big Draw**

**Monday 21st October –
Friday 25th October
– Half Term**

**Monday 28th October –
INSET Day**

**Wednesday 30th October -
Year 4 Turner Prize Tours**

**Thursday 31st October - Yr 4
Turner Prize Tours**

**Wednesday 6th November –
KS2 to see Michael Rosen@
Theatre Royal Margate**

Magical Musical Tour

'Bach to the Future' took children on a musical journey through time at Ramsgate Arts Primary. Kent Music's professional musicians, Colin, Graeme and Lori conducted a packed hall of pupils on a sonic trip from the days of Bach (around 300 years ago) to the present.



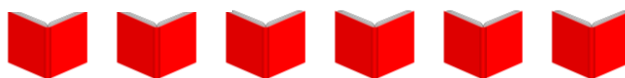
They demonstrated the woodwind, string and brass sections of an orchestra and explained how instruments react to sound vibrations whether caused by blowing, plucking, strumming or bowing. The trio also showed how the most basic of home-grown instruments can be played – a length of hose and a funnel became a brass instrument; a series of straws joined together and played like a rudimentary clarinet; and a broom-pole, string and bucket became an upright bass. The fourth section of a traditional orchestra is percussion, and this was shown on a large screen, where performers, Blue Man Group, created a range of drum sounds using different lengths of plastic piping. The roadshow included live demonstrations of music from film, television and musical theatre, as well as a range of different styles from classical and jazz to popular music.

Music Award in Tune with RAPS

The variety of choice of learning about music for pupils at Ramsgate Arts Primary has been recognised with a National award. The UK Association for Music Education has presented the school with a 'Music Mark' in recognition to honour our 'Commitment to providing high-quality music education for all children and young people.' In a letter, the Association's Chief Executive Officer, Bridget Whyte, said: "We would like to thank you for all the hard work you and your colleagues do to ensure that pupils at your school are able to access and engage with a high-quality music education." Thanks goes to Hannah Dannell, our Music Leader, who has been instrumental (no pun intended!) since she started last September in providing a broader range of musical style and influences for our children to enjoy at RAPS. She has been key in organising the school's own rock band, as well as providing lessons in guitar, drums, keyboards and vocals. Brass and string instrument lessons are next on the agenda!



Volunteer Readers: could you help?



Reading is so important to us at RAPS. Could you spare an afternoon a week to read with pupils? If you are interested in supporting the school with reading, please contact the office as soon as possible.

Young Artists Chose Public Art Partner

The next stage of the three-year 'Pioneering Places' project with partner Turner Contemporary gallery, Margate, has seen pupils, who worked on the programme last year and gained valuable creative experience, now become Young Arts and Heritage Leaders. In this school-year, they are driving the project forward and are selecting the person they believe has the best concept from a shortlist of talented national and regional artists. The RAPS children are working in partnership with St Laurence Juniors from Ramsgate as part of the project.



Working with Project Manager, Jo Martin, and Turner Contemporary 'navigators', Jo Ursell and Lucy Pettet, the children explored the diverse proposals and considered what they felt was best option to be installed in the town when completed. They discussed which of the options they thought would be best at home in Ramsgate, which artist has best met their criteria, which artist they feel the Ramsgate community would like best, and which was the best idea overall. After much deliberation through discussion and a range of activities, they let the Turner Contemporary team know their choices. The next step is for the artist with the preferred scheme to be contacted and for them to meet the young arts leaders in the coming weeks – the artist's name will be announced then and the next step of Pioneering Places will begin.

Pop Up Theatre and Workshops Wows Pupils

A pop-up theatre experience from Edinburgh Festival performers, Paines Plough, inspired our children at RAPS. Pupils from Years 5 and 6 visited the theatre group's touring Roundabout project that visits communities across the UK every year after taking part in the Festival's 'Fringe' events. They were enthralled at the production of 'Dexter and Winter's Detective Agency' by Nathan Bryon, performed inside the 168-seater domed auditorium that pitched-up with a series of community shows on Newington Green. Their experience continued when assistant director, Janise Sadik, joined pupils at school for a series of workshops following the performance.



After conducting a series of stealth games involving 'granny's golden doughnut', the children explored physical theatre by creating 'still scenes', using just their bodies to recreate moments and characters inspired by the mystery detective show they had seen Paines Plough present earlier in the day. Having Janise working with them later in the day was a terrific follow-up to the main event and the boys and girls enjoyed exploring creative physical creative theatre. As well as improvising and exploring their skills, the workshops helped with communication and team-building.