



## School Newsletter

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January

Newsletter 7

Dear Parents

A belated Happy New Year to you all. I hope that you had a lovely Christmas break with your loved-ones and enjoyed some quality time together as a family. On behalf of all of the staff at Ramsgate Arts Primary School, I would like to say thank you for your kind and generous gifts and cards we received. They were very much appreciated.

I can't believe that it is 2020! I was reading an article in one of the Sunday paper supplements and it was interesting to note what had changed over the past decade. No one ten years ago had heard of Instagram, The Great British Bake Off or Ed Sheeran. Ashton Kutcher was the most followed person on Twitter, Donald Trump was the least; back then, he was a busy property-developer who only had time to Tweet once every five days! Our then Prime Minister, David Cameron, pledged that the Conservatives would be the greenest government ever. I-Pads hadn't even been invented and most of your children weren't even born.

As a parent of three children, it does scare me how so much has changed - some things for the better and others... I'm not so convinced. We really don't know what the world will be like in another decade and what our children will have to contend with as teenagers and young adults, however I firmly believe that the curriculum that we are offering children at RAPS will equip them for the future. It's built upon creativity through our innovative and inspirational Arts Curriculum, learning the value of discipline, commitment and work ethic, as well as creative thinking skills. This will result in children who I believe will not only have a secure educational foundation, but also have the ability to think outside the box, express themselves creatively and become resilient learners, enabling them to succeed in our rapidly changing world.

We have many exciting things going on over the coming months: Art to Start; our new exhibition opening in the foyer; Comedy @ RAPS; World Book Day; Shakespeare week and our 'Play in Day'. Make sure you keep abreast of everything by reading the Newsletter, blogs or following us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and MCAS (for those of you whose MCAS app is still not working we have set up an area on our website (Parents -Information home) that contains all the information sent out on MCAS). News stories are also updated on our website and dates are posted on the website calendar.

Happy New Year!

### Dates for your diary:

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- 16<sup>th</sup> January –Swimming starts for Year 3 and 4
- 17<sup>th</sup> January –Year 1 Art to Start
- 24<sup>th</sup> January-Hand Ball Competition
- 24<sup>th</sup> January –Viking Junior Leadership Team meeting
- 29<sup>th</sup> January-Parent Workshop- 'Meltdowns and Shutdowns'
- 5<sup>th</sup> February– Young Voices @ the O2
- 6<sup>th</sup> February - LAB meeting
- 7<sup>th</sup> February –Comedy @RAPS
- 11<sup>th</sup> &12<sup>th</sup> February – Parents Evening
- 14<sup>th</sup> February –Last day of term -3.00 finish
- INSET Day 24<sup>th</sup> February
- 25<sup>th</sup> February -Back to school
- 5<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day
- Week Beginning 16<sup>th</sup> March – Shakespeare Week



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## The Playground

As many of you may now be aware, part of the playground is now being landscaped. As a result, there will be a new outside classroom, as well as areas of Astroturf and planters to create zones the children can play in, rather than it being merely an expanse of concrete. Once the structures are installed, a RAPS parent is going to assist with the planting design to help create much-needed shade in the summer months. Parent Council have already raised the money for the planting from the Summer and Christmas Fayres, so hopefully we will have a 'community plant' early spring. Below is a rough impression of what the area will look like (though we have had to lose a couple of bits due to costs!)



To safeguard the children, we have had to temporarily fence-off the whole of the area being developed. This is now causing some issues at drop-off, but particularly at pick-up times, due to the narrowness of the space next to the Year 2 and Year 1 classrooms, which is causing congestion. To alleviate this, at the 3.00 pick-up time, Year 1 and Year 2 parents will now collect their children from the inside library area outside their classroom. They can access this area by either entering through the playground entrance to the office or walking right along the building and coming in the side entrance to the library. We have also opened the other gate onto Newington Road so people can leave the school grounds by the other entrance. Reception parents are to pick-up their children as normal.

For the 4.15 pick-up, KS2 parents are to collect their children as normal in the playground, but again, to alleviate congestion, we have opened the other gate that leads onto Newington Road. Breakfast and After School Club have already informed their parents about any alternative ways of dropping-off or picking-up children. I thank you for your patience and understanding while this work is being completed.

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## RAPS Sleep Easy Challenge

The well-being of the children is embedded into everything we do at RAPS, so with this in mind we are kicking off the first term of 2020 with the RAPS Sleep Easy Challenge.

On average we spend one third of our lives asleep and good quality sleep is vital for growth, mental well-being and a healthy immune system.

Children aged 4-11 need around 10-12 hours' sleep a night (adults need around 7-9 hours but as parents most of us can only dream of this) We are challenging the children to think about how much sleep they need, how much they have every night and asking is there anything they could do to improve the quality of their sleep?

The children have taken part in an assembly identifying why sleep is so important, the small changes they can make to help them sleep better as well as a few things they need to avoid right before bedtime, particularly mobile phones, tablets, and television!

The children will be coming home on Monday 13th January with a Sleep Diary which they can fill in over the next three weeks. Completed diaries can be returned to school by Wednesday 5th February, they will then be entered into a prize draw where one child from KS1 and one from KS2 have the chance to win some sleep themed goodies to help them continue to get a good night's rest. Winners will be announced on Friday 14th February. So sleep well, and we look forward to seeing their completed diaries.

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## Ramsgate Comedy Club

Once again we are hosting a comedy night with all the profits going direct to the school.

For anyone who came to our last comedy night over a year ago they will remember it was a great night with quality acts and a lot of money was raised that went towards the school stage.

The night is organised by the Parent Council and features professional acts that are found performing all over the country.

This time the acts include:

El Baldiniho, a comedy magician who is a regular at The Comedy Store and was also on the last series of Britain's Got Talent.

Local act Steve Balding who has played many famous venues and also organises the Comedy Island Comedy Festival.

The headline act is Lloyd Hollett, a legend of Canterbury's famous Marlowe Panto, he regularly supports Jim Davison on tour, as well as his own sell out tours and has been performing for 30 years.

There will be a limited cash bar available or feel free to bring your own drinks. **Tickets are only £10 each and are available now, online at**

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/ramsgateartsprimaryschoolptfa/319793>

(This link is clickable on the RAPS parents FB page)

Any questions can be directed to the parent council.

 <b>RAMSGATE COMEDY CLUB .</b>	<b>Strictly Over 18s</b>
<b>FEATURING PROFESSIONAL ACTS REGULARLY PERFORMING AT UK'S TOP COMEDY CLUBS.</b>	<b>Featuring:</b>
<b>BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS</b>	<b>El Baldiniho {Comedy Store, BGT}</b>
<b>WHEN Friday, February 7th. Doors 7pm Show 8pm</b>	<b>Steve Balding (Comedy Island Comedy Festival)</b>
<b>WHERE Ramsgate Arts Primary School 140-144 Newington Road CT12 6PP</b>	<b>Lloyd Hollett (Marlowe Panto regular, Jim Davison tour support)</b>
<b>TICKETS - HTTPS:// BUYTICKETS.AT/ RAMSGATEARTSPRIMA- RYSCHOOLPTFA/319793</b>	<b>TICKETS £10 per person All Proceeds direct to the school.</b>

## New Year's Resolution Challenge

For a couple of years now, we have set a 'New Year's Resolution Challenge'. The responses we had from children and parents were very positive so we have decided to make this an annual event. The children have been given the challenge to complete for the month of January. This year the children have been asked to set themselves a target for something they wish to work on at home or school – whether that be 'keeping their bedroom tidy, washing-up, improving their times table knowledge or developing their handwriting - something that will see their actions have a positive impact upon life at home or at school. The form below needs to be filled in and kept by parents who can then sign it and return it at the end of January once the resolution has been kept. A small prize will be given to all children who show the required determination to achieve their 'goal' - the bigger prize will be in their hearts, knowing that they have made the right choice!

Thank you

New Year's resolution is to

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.....

Name..... Class.....

My son/daughter has kept their resolution for the whole of the month of January 2020

Signed..... Parent/Career

Please return to the office on Friday 31st.