



School Newsletter

Friday 5th April, 2019

Newsletter 13

Dear Parents and Carers.

I know that you are all *egg*cited to find out the winners of Years 2-6's *egg*straordinary 'Decorate an Egg' completion. Mr Brown and the other judges found it *egg*stremely difficult to decide on winners but they finally made their decision. Third place was awarded to Grace in Year 2, second place to Kacie and first went to Logan. Well done and thank you to everyone who took part - they certainly did go the *egg*stra mile this year. If you entered the competition, please take your egg home at the end of the day.



We are also excited to announce the winners of the Easter Bonnet competition. The parade through the school was truly fabulous, thank you parents for all your hard work and support in helping your children to make their Easter bonnets. In third place was Tommy second was Esma and in first place was Hunter.



I hope you all have a lovely Easter break, see you on Tuesday 23rd April for the first day back in Term 5.

Dates for your diary:

Back to School - Tuesday 23rd
April

Wednesday 24th - Parent
Council Coffee Morning

Thursday 25th April –
Cummins STEM girls'
workshop starts

Wednesday 1st May - Yr2
SATS start

Wednesday 1st May - Yr 6
residential to Isle of Wight
meetings for parents/carers
at 4.15 and 6.00 in the hall.

Monday 13th May - Key Stage
2 SATS start

Wednesday 15th May – Team
Barnes Forest School starts

Friday 17th May – Team
Spurrier Forest School starts

Friday 24th May – End of
term

Sunday 2nd June – Yr 6
Residential to Isle of Wight

Monday 3rd June –INSET Day

Tuesday 4th June - Children
back to school.



Rockin' Out At RAPS

It may not have been the o2 Arena in London or Madison Square Garden in New York, but for Ramsgate Arts Primary's young rockers, it was the show of their lives. Children from as young as four years old were among six bands who played live in their debut gig to friends and parents in the packed school. Pupils from Reception Class to Year 6 have only been learning their instruments – drums, keyboards, and guitars plus vocals – for the last few months with the RockSteady education crew, who have been tutoring them once a week. Each band received huge cheers as they performed their own mini-set to raise the roof as RAPS rocked to the rafters!



The children had only been learning to play for a matter of weeks and yet they were already rocking with attitude, as their debut concert showed. The idea of RockSteady is all about encouraging and enabling pupils to play and perform, the fun element of being in a rock band has been very appealing to our creative youngsters. We were so impressed with the standard they had reached in a short time and that they had the determination and courage to climb on stage and play to several hundred people at a very young age. It has been a terrific experience for them and boosts their self-esteem and confidence. This initiative has also increased the uptake of children taking individual lessons to learn to music theory to play the guitar, keyboard and drums across the school.



The bands taking part in the show were Mashed Potato who performed Happier; The Sapphires – Roar; The Megaflash Penguins – A Million Dreams; The Blue Rockers – Human; and The Black-Eyed Dragons – Rebel Just for Kicks. I can't wait to see what they perform in the summer. All children brought home a leaflet this week if you want to find out more about RockSteady at RAPS.

The Gentle Touch Means So Much

Children are helping to soothe each other with basic massage techniques now at RAPS. The serene sessions have become a favourite with pupils in Reception, Year 1 and now Year 2 who have learned a number of basic 'gentle touch' elements. Under guidance from staff, they apply their hands-on system to one another at varying times of day, notably after break and after lunch. Seated and against a back drop of tranquil ambient music and images, the children take it in turn to give and receive the calming massage. Gently they lightly stroke each other's head, face, neck, back and hands in a slow and methodical way.



The massage sessions are the first step in the children managing their emotional literacy skills and feelings. Children have also engaged with a storybook called *Once Upon A Touch* that explores the same theme. The book is a fun and creative way to increase general well-being, improve concentration and self-awareness, and encourage relaxation in children.

Pupils are already successfully using another initiative to help deal with their worries - each classroom has a 'Worry Box' where they post their thoughts about things that may be concerning them; there is also a central 'Worry Box' in the main corridor. At RAPS, we feel it is important for children to have the opportunity to normalise worries with a coping strategy, and to understand that it is usual to feel concerned about many different things in their lives. If you want to find out more, please speak to Emily Hughes, the Trust SENCO.

Other School Events



Quiz Night

The Parent Council Quiz night was a fantastic success! It raised over £600 which will all go towards the children's outdoor area. Congratulations to the winning team, whom I think were triumphant mainly because of their so-called comedy skills – they gained extra points for this joke: "What do you shout to a headteacher if you want them to move? 'Oi Mister, Budge!'" Also a massive thank you to the Parent Council team but especially to Andy Hodder, who was the compère of the evening.

The School Disco

HUGE thanks go to our Parent Council, who put on two fabulous discos for the pupils of RAPS this week. Their ongoing efforts to raise funds for the school and organise enjoyable events for the children is truly appreciated.

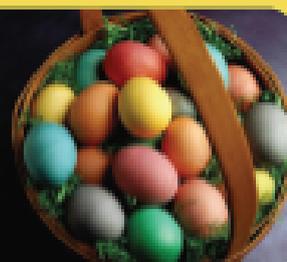
Year 6 Residential Meeting

Our Year 6 children are going on School Journey to Little Canada in the Isle of Wight and shall be departing our shores on Sunday 2nd June and coming back Wednesday 5th June. The children will have opportunities to experience many different activities such as abseiling, kayaking, orienteering and much more! All the activities are designed to get them to work together as a team and prepare them for the transition to secondary school. **On Monday 1st May at either 4.15 or 6.00 there will be an opportunity for the children and parents to find out more regarding timings, kit-lists and activities.**



EASTER EVENTS

at Monkton Nature Reserve



Monday 8th April Pond Dipping

Discover the variety of spring wildlife living in our pond. All equipment is provided and a tutor will guide you through the process and help you identify your finds.

Four sessions available at 11.00 – 11.45, 11.45 – 12.30, 13.00 – 13.45, 13.45 – 14.30.

£3.00 per child - Phone booking Essential

Children must be age 5+. All children must be accompanied by an adult. This activity is not suitable for prams or pushchairs.

Tuesday 9th Family Art Workshop

Two sessions of our popular family art workshop - today's activity is making a card fox bag to take home. **11.00 & 13.00**

£3.00 per group - Phone booking Essential

Wednesday 10th Q&A Session in the Museum

Between 10.00 -14.00

Thursday 11th Pond Dipping

Four sessions available at 11.00 – 11.45, 11.45 – 12.30, 13.00 – 13.45, 13.45 – 14.30.

£3.00 per child - Phone booking Essential

Monday 15th Pond Dipping

Four sessions available at 11.00 – 11.45, 11.45 – 12.30, 13.00 – 13.45, 13.45 – 14.30.

£3.00 per child - Phone booking Essential

Tuesday 16th Family Art Workshop

Two sessions of our popular family art workshop Weaving with Found Sticks. To make a hanging to take home. With Karen Vost

11.00 & 13.00

£3.00 per group - Phone booking Essential

Wednesday 17th

Q&A Session in the Museum

Between 10.00 - 14.00 pm

Thursday 18th Pond Dipping

Four sessions available at 11.00 – 11.45, 11.45 – 12.30, 13.00 – 13.45, 13.45 – 14.30.

£3.00 per child - Phone booking Essential

Friday 19th

Lexworth Falconry Experience

10.30 - 14.00

Come and meet Falconer Alex Goodier who will present his incredible birds, Oca and Ash the barn owls, Fraggie the boobook owl, Zakk the harris hawk, Blaze the kestrel and Odin the raven.

WHILE YOU ARE ON SITE - CHECK OUT THE FABULOUS NEW CAKE SELECTION AT THE CABIN!

EASTER BUNNY TRAIL

Test your rabbit knowledge and win a small chocolate reward on our fun Monkton Easter Bunny Trail.

Suitable for younger guests.

Friday 12th and Thursday 18th - Monday 22nd

Call 01843 822666

Monkton Nature Reserve, Canterbury Rd, Ramsgate CT12 4LH

Thanet Countryside Trust is a registered charity No. 285972

STEM Workshops for Girls

RAPS has for several years worked with Cummins, a local engineering company, on several Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths projects. This year, to inspire more girls into taking up these traditionally more male-dominated careers, Cummins would like to provide several workshops for just girls to give them an exciting taster of what these subjects could entail.

There will be three workshops which will run on Thursday afternoons starting on 25th April at 3.00 - 3:45pm for Year 1 and 2 girls, and at 4:15 - 5:00pm for Year 3 - 6 girls.

- 25th April – session 1: Year 1-2 (3.00 - 3:45pm) Session 2: Year 3-6 (4:15 - 5:00pm)
- 2nd May – session 3: Year 1-2 (3.00 - 3:45pm) Session 4: Year 3-6 (4:15 - 5:00pm)
- 9th May – session 5: Year 1-2 (3.00 - 3:45pm) Session 6: Year 3-6 (4:15 - 5:00pm)

There are a limited amount of places for the three workshops and therefore places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Please complete the slip below and return to the office by Wednesday 24th April.

STEM Workshop for girls

Child's name: _____

Class: _____

I give permission for my daughter to attend all three workshops on Thursday 25th April, 2nd May and 9th May.

Parent signature:

To be returned to the office before 8.30 on Wednesday 24th April. All parents will be notified on Wednesday 24th April if their daughter has a place.
