



## School Newsletter

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February Newsletter 8

Dear Parent and Carers,

McAvoy's, the building contractors, will be finally finishing the hall, dance studio and kitchen over half term. We had a building meeting last week and they have assured us that they will be in a position to hand over the rest of the building and outside areas on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. As you can imagine, we are all very excited at the prospect of finally having life without builders!

Firstly, McAvoy's' departure will hopefully alleviate the congestion in the mornings, as you will be able to drive in one entrance and leave by another. The road markings will be clearer and there will be more signage to direct traffic. I know that, at the moment, the road markings are not very clear in the rear drop-off area, but the contractors have asked for you to please follow the road markings that direct the traffic. Can I also remind you that we are very lucky to have car parking facilities on site - please ensure that you drive safely onto the school site and that you park responsibly.

Secondly, with the contractor's departure, we can also press-on with plans to develop the outside area. The first area to be landscaped is the Reception outside area. (The original completion date for this was pushed back due to the delays in the electricity substation being moved and that temporary electricity supply to the school was coming from the road directly into this area.) This has now been rectified and we have Living Timber, our Landscapers, back to review the site - hopefully we will be able to book them in for the Easter holidays. Other areas of the school will then follow suit. We also currently have an outside 'void' on our first floor, which the local engineering company, Cummings, are hopefully going to turn into a roof garden - which will be amazing. Other areas to be developed around the school grounds include a growing area, forest school and small farm - so much to look forward to!

RAPS will also have an official grand opening day which is scheduled for **20<sup>th</sup> April**, and we very much want the children to be involved in this day. It is planned for the children to have various workshops throughout the day based around the arts. We would also like to invite parents to share this important event with us by inviting them to have a picnic with our children at lunch time.

### Literacy Festival – Week beginning 26<sup>th</sup> February

We have a fantastic week planned for our Literacy Festival. Charlotte Cooke, illustrator of the 'The Adventures of the Owl and the Pussy Cat', Jools Bentley, author of 'Hippopotamouse' and storyteller, Sandra Agard, are all coming in to school to share their work and have workshops with all the children. Also, World Book Day on the 1<sup>st</sup> March will be an opportunity for the children and adults to dress up as their favourite book characters and Jubilee Books will be here selling books. In addition to this, a Readathon is planned and look out for our 'RAPSanory' each night of that week too!

### Dates for your diary:

6<sup>th</sup> Feb – Safer Internet Day

8<sup>th</sup> Feb - LAB meeting (for Parent Governors)

9<sup>th</sup> Feb – Last Day of Term - finish at normal time

Half Term - 12<sup>th</sup> Feb - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb

19<sup>th</sup> Feb - INSET Day

20<sup>th</sup> Feb - Back to school

21<sup>st</sup> Feb - School photographer – Individual photos

Week beginning - 26<sup>th</sup> Feb Literacy Festival

1<sup>st</sup> March – World Book Day

Week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> March – Breakfast Week

Week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> March - Parent Consultations

Week beginning - 26<sup>th</sup> March - World Autism Week

29<sup>th</sup> March - Last Day of Term – School finishes at 2.00

**Art Club Request – please bring in plastic bottles for a sculpture!**

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## Safer Internet Day 2018 – Tuesday 6th February 2018

Ramsgate Arts Primary School will be taking part in Safer Internet Day which is celebrated globally in February each year in over a hundred countries to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people and inspire a national conversation. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, the celebration sees hundreds of organisations get involved to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

At Ramsgate Arts Primary School, the children will take part in a series of age-related activities throughout the day which will offer many opportunities to highlight the positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. It calls upon young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and wider, to join together in helping to create a better internet.

To find out more about Safer Internet Day please visit [www.saferinternetday.org.uk](http://www.saferinternetday.org.uk)

There is also an information pack that parents can download. The pack contains:

	<b>Conversation starters</b>	Helpful questions and phrases to help start a conversation with young people about online safety
	<b>Quick activities</b>	Fun activities that you can do together to explore ways to stay safe and positive when using technology
	<b>Fun things to do</b>	Online activities and resources for parents/carers with younger children
	<b>Pledge cards</b>	These pledge cards can be used by your family to make a pledge about how you will make the internet a better place
	<b>Factsheet</b>	Useful sources of advice and information online, including how to report issues
	<b>Spread the word</b>	Tips and information on how you can play your part and share messages about Safer Internet Day with people you connect with online and offline

For more information for parents or to download the parent pack please visit [www.saferinternet.org.uk/parents-and-carers](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/parents-and-carers)

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### Parent Survey

We have been in our new building now for nearly three terms, and would very much appreciate your feedback on Ramsgate Arts Primary School. If you could spare a few minutes to complete this short survey which will help us address any issues or concerns you may have, as well as celebrate the positive role we play in educating your children. Please follow the link to our website [www.ramsgateartsprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.ramsgateartsprimaryschool.co.uk) and then click on the red banner across the top that says Parent and Carer views and then follow the instructions.

Thank you to all the parents who have already filled out our Parent Survey questionnaire. The survey will close Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February so we can collate all the responses and address the issues in Senior Management meetings and also Parent Council meetings.

Thank you.

## Art Competition

This term's competition is to create a piece of art inspired by the Batman universe, using **ANY** medium of your choice. You could use pen, pastels, coloured pencils, Lego, paint on canvas, origami or collage...there is no limit. You might even choose to make a 3D model of Gotham City, with a glowing bat-light! Alternatively, you could simply do a detailed sketch of your favourite Batman villain. The decision is yours. Whatever you choose to do, it must relate in some way to the legendary caped crusader!



Your creation can be **ANY** size. Please make sure all entries are **CLEARLY** labelled with your name & class.

All entries need to be given to me by Wednesday 13th February 2018. Winners will be announced at the beginning of Term 4.

There will be a certificate for all entries and cool prizes for the winners.

As always, I look forward to being delighted and surprised by your brilliant artwork.

Mr Brown

Art Leader

## School Uniform:

Please can you ensure that the correct and appropriate school uniform is worn at all times. This is in keeping with our 'look smart, think smart' ethos – appearances really do make a difference to attitudes!

A note on hairstyles and earrings: All children with hair longer than their shoulders must wear their hair tied back. This applies for girls and boys. Only small stud earrings are permitted and these must either be removed or covered with micro pore tape (which we provide) during PE and swimming lessons for health and safety reasons.

<b>Boys:</b>	<b>Girls:</b>
<b>Winter:</b> Royal blue v-neck school jumper/ tank-top White shirt or polo shirt Grey trousers Grey socks	<b>Winter:</b> Royal blue school cardigan/ v-neck jumper White blouse or polo shirt Grey skirt, pinafore or trousers White or grey socks or grey tights
<b>Summer:</b> Royal blue v-neck school jumper/ tank-top Short sleeved white shirt or polo shirt Grey Shorts Grey Socks	<b>Summer:</b> Royal blue school cardigan/ v-neck jumper Blue/white gingham dress White or grey socks Or winter uniform with white short sleeved blouse or polo shirt
<b>Boys and Girls:</b> Shoes – Black. Pupils may not wear trainers (except for PE), flip flops, sandals or beach shoes.	