



## School Newsletter

Friday 16th October

Newsletter 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

As this long term begins to draw to an end, I can reflect how fortunate I am to be Head of School at RAPS; this is a fabulous school with amazing children, staff and parents who make up our great community. In these unprecedented times, this community has shown that it is able to come together to ensure that things carry on as normal as possible for our children. The lockdown and the ongoing effects of the pandemic have certainly had a massive impact on our RAPS community already and I think it is more important now than ever that we pull together and are kind to each other.

I fully acknowledge that the Covid pandemic has caused stress and anxiety, but over the past few weeks I have had to deal with more disputes between adults in the RAPS community than I have ever had to over my years of being Head of School. I put this down to the peculiar, unprecedented situation we are in; where the stability and normality we all crave has now become less certain. With this in mind, please be mindful of the importance of being kind to one another. Kindness is defined as the quality of being friendly, generous and considerate. Affection, gentleness, warmth, concern, and care are words that are associated with kindness. I think it is critical that we stop and think about how to be kind... a pleasant word, a smile, opening a door, or helping carry a heavy bag can all be acts of kindness. World Kindness Day isn't until November, but as a RAPS community, let's attempt to make this perpetual to try to ensure that this continues to be a pleasant, calm environment for all.

Many thanks

*N. Rudge*

## Dates for Your Diary

Week beginning  
19<sup>th</sup> October –  
Virtual Parents  
Consultations –  
Invites to be sent  
via Teams

22<sup>nd</sup> October Flu  
Jabs

23<sup>rd</sup> October –  
Horror Hair & Last  
day of Term

2<sup>nd</sup> November –  
INSET Day

3<sup>rd</sup> November –  
Back to School

Head Boy and  
Head Girl Elections  
3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> November

9<sup>th</sup> November –  
Parent Council  
AGM



# Ramsgate Arts Primary School

Ramsgate Arts Primary School is an arts school based in a bright, modern, spacious building. Our school encompasses state-of-the-art technology and designated spaces (such as our dance studio, music room and art studio) to facilitate our arts curriculum.

***Did you know that you do not need to live in Ramsgate to apply for a place at RAPS?***

At Ramsgate Arts Primary school, we greatly value the arts. Our pupils experience professionally- led dance, drama, music and art lessons each week. Our pupils develop confidence, collaboration, new talents and passion through their arts lessons.

We are a unique school that values individuality and creativity, whilst maintaining a constant drive towards developing knowledge and skills in Maths, English, Science and across the foundation subjects too.

If you are looking for a reception school place for September 2021, call the school office on [01843582847](tel:01843582847) to book a tour. Tours are held Tuesday evenings at 5pm and Thursdays at either 5pm or 6pm. We look forward to showing you our fabulous facilities and inspiring team.



**RAPS  
SCARY SCARECROW TRAIL  
HALF TERM 2020**

**FROM SUNDAY 25TH OCTOBER  
TO SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER**

**YOUR MISSION:**  
Find all the Scary Scarecrows to reveal a spooky password. Use the password to collect a Halloween treat from Roostys Bakery.

**TO PARTICIPATE:**  
Please send a £2.50 donation per child to the Parent Council via their PayPal account:  
[Raps.ptfa@gmail.com](mailto:Raps.ptfa@gmail.com)  
Once they have received your funds an email will be sent directly to you with a map and further instructions to complete the trail.

This flyer has been designed using resources from Freepik.com and vecteezy.com



## Ramsgate Arts Primary School in the News

### RAPS Sets Sail with the Arts Barge

Ahoy there! Ramsgate Arts Primary is on board with the crew that plans to create an arts hub on an old barge in the town's marina. Children have embarked on the arts voyage and have been filmed by the team behind the initiative as part of its profiling resources. The youngsters are also working over the coming weeks to design a logo for the project as part of a competition open to schools.

Head of School, Nick Budge, said: "This is a fabulously creative project that is set in our town's internationally-famous harbour, and RAPS is keen to support any idea that expands the creative arts in our community."

Ramsgate Arts Barge social enterprise not-for-profit Company was formed in August and took legal ownership of the 51-metre Dutch former cargo barge *Vriendschap* (Dutch for friendship). Their key aim is to provide free 'access to the arts' events, programmes and workshops to all school children under 16 across the Thanet district every Saturday on board the barge and during school holidays. They say the project will create Ramsgate's first large multi-faceted arts space, hosting a year-round diverse offering of arts events including visual arts, comedy, theatre, exhibitions, installations, acoustic music, cabaret, film screenings, spoken word, poetry, debates, talks and much more.

Mr Budge said: "This is an exciting idea. The arts barge crew gave an informative presentation to our pupils about the history of the barge and explained what it will be used for and how people can take part."



Pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 were also filmed in the school hall as part of the crowd-funding promotional video that will be used to promote the project. RAPS will have a continued involvement will be helping to design the logo, and also embarking on an art project where the whole school will be involved in creating decorative portholes that will adorn the barge during its renovation.

Arts Barge say profits will be reinvested back into the project and local community initiatives, and it aims to stimulate the local economy through tourism that will benefit local businesses, create jobs, provide work experience placements and volunteer opportunities. The aim is to open to the public in September 2021 in time for the 200th anniversary of Ramsgate's status as the UK's sole Royal harbour which was originally granted by King George IV in 1821.

To see full plans & support the 'Ramsgate Arts Barge' Crowdfunder campaign, visit: [www.crowdfunder.co.uk/ramsgateartsbarge](http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/ramsgateartsbarge)

## RAPS Young Artists Celebrate Black Icons

Children at Ramsgate Arts Primary are creatively involved in an evolving mural on Margate seafront that celebrates black icons. The young artists, aged between 7 and 11, are drawing their chosen icons after researching historical figures such as America's 'first lady' of civil rights, Rosa Parks, and Mary Jane Seacole, the British-Jamaican nurse, healer and businesswoman who set up the 'British Hotel' for the sick and injured behind the lines during the Crimean War.

Children have also drawn their own portraits of black British icons, ranging from friends and family to sporting heroes and singers such as rapper Stormzy. Their works are on show as part of the legacy project on the shopfronts under Arlington House that is being led by local artist Ben Connors that celebrates black culture. He is working in collaboration with the People Dem Collective that guest curated the Margate Now 2020 event.

RAPS is the first local school whose young artists contributed to the mural, and art teacher Karen Vost said: "It has been an inspirational project and well-received by the children. They have a strong sense of fairness and have responded thoughtfully to what they have learned about oppression experienced by the black community."

In June in the face of growing anti-racist movements worldwide, Ramsgate Arts Primary began campaigning for its own community to understand, discuss and challenge the embedded global problem of racism.



Head of School Nick Budge said: "We believe that providing young people with the knowledge (at an age-appropriate level) to develop an understanding of racism and inequality is fundamental to breaking down the systems that have led to the unjust oppression of BAME people and communities. October is Black History Month – but I feel that tackling this in one month isn't enough as it should be integrated in our curriculum along with everything else."

Mr Budge said RAPS is committed to the following aims:

- Stand together against racism as an anti-racist school. This means we will challenge any overt or covert racism directly and fairly.
- To 'see colour', acting pre-emptively to ensure representation of BAME people and communities in our curriculum.
- To evaluate and reflect on our school practices, seeking ways to make sure we do the very best we can

Mr Budge added: "We are already working to ensure that there is a representation of BAME people and communities in all areas of our curriculum and I hope this will become increasingly explicit to the children as time goes on. The project at Arlington House and the wider overall arts-driven initiative is crucially important. We hope that the project will be revisited for the next three years and that the black people children draw will become more varied as they learn about different icons and people of importance throughout black British history."