

School Newsletter

Friday 21st June, 2019 Newsletter 18

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all those parents who took time to contribute to our short survey and help us make RAPS even better. Your responses were very positive and it was very reassuring to see that the predominant view of the parent community is that we are doing a very good job. There is always room for improvement however, and many of the points that raised by parents are issues that we have already identified as a school (for example the suggestion of children studying a foreign language - French is now being taught across the school). Other points raised will feed into our School Action Plan, so thank you again for your participation.

Below are a couple of reminders about events (previously shared at the bottom of last week's newsletter) that will affect parents/carers:

Tuesday 16th July – KS2 Production of Shakespeare Rocks will be at 7.00pm in the school hall. This year will be a ticketed event and so we are limited to a certain number of tickets per household. Letters for this will come out later this term.



Friday 19th July – Sports Day from 9.30. All parents are invited to join in our sports day fun. The morning will commence at 9.30 when there will be collaborative team activities with all children from Reception to Year 6 in mixed-house teams competing against each other. The more traditional running races, where the fastest runners in each year group will get their chance to shine, as well as the obligatory parents' races will follow these. We would like to end the sports' day with a picnic lunch (weather permitting!). Children who have school dinners will be provided with a picnic lunch and parents may bring their own picnics. Parents who attend the picnic will be able to take their children home afterwards, if they wish.

Monday 22nd July - Year 6 Graduation at Dreamland at 2.30. As I said in my last newsletter, this is our first Year 6 Graduation and the school day will end at 1.30 for everyone on this date so that all staff can attend the graduation. There will be no After School Club. Year 6 parents will receive a letter with more details.

Tuesday 23rd July – Last day of Term – as usual school will close at 2.00. Again, there will be no After School Club.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 26th June -Parent Council Coffee Morning, Please come along!

Thursday 27th June -Transitions for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Friday 28th June – Kidenza Classical Concert - Years 1 - 6

> Thursday 4th July – Transition morning Reception – Year 6

Tuesday 2nd July - Cummins STEM project Years R-6

Monday 8th July – Year 6 Film Project

Friday 12th July - Summer Festival – 2.30 - 4.30 Please come along!

Tuesday 16th July - Rock Steady Concert – 9.00

7.00pm - KS2 Performance

Wednesday 17th July – Behaviour Reward Day

Friday 19th July – Sports Morning and Picnic lunch

Monday 22nd July - Year 6 Graduation – School finishes at 1.30

Tuesday 23rd – Last day of Term 6 - School finishes at 2.00.

Summer Festival

A reminder that our Summer Festival is planned to take place on Friday 12th July 2:30 - 4:30pm. There will be a variety of stalls for you to come see (some of which the classes will have been organising), including arts and crafts, soak-ateacher, beat-the-goalie, a bouncy castle, homemade craft stalls, yoga demonstrations (thanks to Zoe Smith), bottle tombola, second-hand uniform, a tea towel stall, homemade cakes (including a 'bake-off' competition!), hot food, drinks (the Pimms stall will be making a return), plus the children will be performing at set intervals throughout the Festival, as well as a special appearance from the Rocksteady bands and much more! Please come along and help us raise funds for the KS1/2 playground equipment and support the school in what is set to be an amazing afternoon of fun and laughter.

Over the coming weeks, we will be asking very kindly if you would donate the following in exchange for an own clothes day:

- Thursday 27th June A bottle of squash/pop/alcohol or whatever you wish.
- Thursday 4th July A decorated white bag with a small prize inside.
- Thursday 11th July Homemade cakes and/or cupcakes.

We would also be very grateful if any unwanted, decent second-hand uniform could be donated to us to be sold on the day of the festival.

Also we will be incorporating a 'bake-off' competition into our cake stall - each entry will be judged on look and taste. The best tasting and best looking cake will each be awarded with a prize on the day of the Festival. If you wish to enter, please contact a member of the Parent Council either in person or via the email below.

If you would like to get involved, there will be a sign-up sheet at the main reception for you to write your details, or you could contact one of the Parent Council members, come along to our meeting on **Monday 24**th **June at 3.15** or email us at: raps.ptfa@gmail.com.

Kind Regards,

Emma Jackson

(Parent Council Chair)

Next Friday Years 1 - 6 have been invited to Chatham and Clarendon to attend one of the Kidenza concerts. This concert is performed by a full 14-piece professional orchestra and is designed to be fun whilst supporting the music curriculum. The performance is the brand new rhyming orchestral story of the age-old classic, 'Peter and the Wolf', re-written specially for Kidenza by the international author, Ann Byyant. The cost is only £7.80 for this fabulous opportunity to listen to an orchestra live.



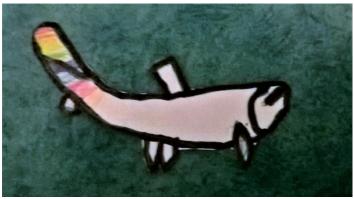
Ocean Challenge

All living creatures depend on the ocean – for oxygen, food, a stable climate and more. But warming temperatures, over-fishing and pollution are negatively affecting ocean waters and marine life and the impact will touch all of us; especially living in a coastal town. Our children from Reception to Year 4 took part in the Ocean Challenge. Each child created a sea creature that when uploaded onto the Ocean Conservation website, was matched with a \$2 donation from the Bezos Family Foundation to support global conservation-related programmes.









RAPS submitted 120 entries from 104 pupils, which raised \$240 to helped non-profit organisations train coastal youths in ocean conservation and coral restoration. The total raised by the project globally was \$500,000. If you just happen to be in Chicago over the holidays, there is an exhibit featuring all the student-made artwork in Chicago's Shedd Aquarium, opening on July 23, 2019!

Teddy Bears' Picnic

A teddy bears' picnic welcomed next year's Reception children into school for the first time before they start life at RAPS for real in September. Accompanied by parents and family, the children soon got into the party mood, enjoying a range of snacks and drinks laid-on by friendly staff for the 'good to meet you' party. The children and their furry friends (which ranged from teddy bears and dolls to dinosaurs and a cuddly piglet!), had the perfect chance to see the colourful learning spaces that will become their home from home after the summer holidays.





Starting school is a big step, and it is important that our new intake feel comfortable, safe and happy in their new surroundings. It did not take long for the children to feel at home – they were soon chatting, playing together, enjoying the party and exploring our play activities. They adapted very quickly to their new surroundings and it was lovely to see so many happy and smiling faces. Judging from the feedback we received, they cannot wait to return when term starts – they can be sure we will give them a big welcome as they begin their educational journey with us.

Next Year's Term Dates

