

Ravensdale Junior School

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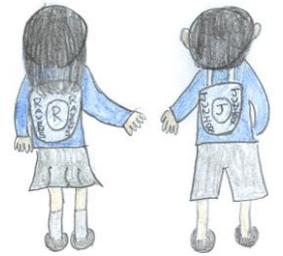
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Newsletter 1 Autumn 2016



A Warm Welcome to all of our new parents and pupils in Year 3. The children all looked very smart in their new uniforms and had a very successful, and I hope enjoyable first day with us, even if they did look a little weary at 3.30pm!



Dates for Your Diary

16.9.16 - swimming starts for Year 4
23.9.16 - Year 5 residential visit
14.10.16 - Year 4 residential visit
21.10.16 - INSET day - closed for children and school closes for half term
31.10.16 - Return to school
20.12.16 - School closes for Christmas holidays
04.01.17 - INSET day - closed for children
05.01.17 - Return to school
10.02.17 - School closes for half term
20.02.17 - New term starts
07.04.17 - School closes for Easter holidays
24.04.17 - New term starts
26.05.17 - INSET day - closed for children and school closes for half term holidays
05.06.17 - New term starts
03.07.17 - INSET day - closed for children
26.07.17 - School closes for the summer holiday

Support in Year 6

To ensure that our Year 6 children are well supported, we are splitting them into 4 groups in the morning, with 22 children in each group. Each group is being taught by an experienced class teacher. We have also appointed an extra full time TA for this year group, Miss Lodge, to support specific children with behavioural and emotional needs. In addition, working with the year group for the whole year, is Mr Teague, who is training with us through the School's Direct Programme. Although he is a student, Mr Teague already has a wealth of experience teaching primary and secondary age children and he will be a very valuable addition to the team. In total, there are 8 staff working with the three Year 6 classes.

Payments into School

Please ensure that all payments sent into school are in a named envelope. The office staff will date stamp the envelope and return it to you as proof that the payment has been received. Where possible, please also have the correct change - we only have so much change for twenty pound notes!

An Update on our Guide Dog - Raven

Raven has now headed off to one of the National Training Schools. There, he'll face lots of new challenges and training tasks and we wish him the very best of luck with this next important stage.

New Toilets!

Over the holidays, two sets of the boys' toilets have been refurbished to a high standard. To encourage children to keep the toilets clean and smelling fresh, we have introduced a 'loo of the week award', which will be awarded to the most pristine toilet each week!

Swimming

Previously, children in Year 4 have only been able to attend swimming lessons for one term. However, this year we have changed the organisation of the session so that each Year 4 class will have a half hour swimming lesson every week throughout the whole year. Whilst at the pool, the class will be split into 3 ability groups, each with a different teacher.



Parent Involvement

We are aiming to improve parent involvement in school over the coming year. This will include more opportunities for parents to come into school, such as class assemblies, and the formation of a parent forum. Updates will be given via the newsletter.

Happy Eid!

We wish all of our Muslim families a very happy Eid and hope that they enjoy a lovely celebration.

Please ensure that you inform school in writing if your child will be absent to avoid any unauthorised absences being recorded. Many thanks.

Strike Action

On Wednesday 14th of September, many UNISON staff members will be striking. This means that we are asking all pupils to bring a packed lunch into school on that day, but school will be open as normal. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.