

# Ravensdale Junior School

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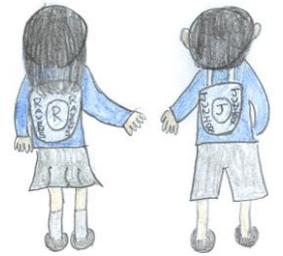
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Newsletter 2 Autumn 2016



## Year 5 Residential

Many of our Year 5 children have enjoyed a fantastic weekend at 'The Manor' in Shropshire and I would like to send sincere thanks to the staff who have been so willing to accompany the pupils. Even though they will have had disrupted sleep and no weekend, they will be back teaching first thing Monday morning. It is a privilege to work with such dedicated people.

### Dates for Your Diary

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

### Parent Consultation Evenings

The dates for these meetings are Monday 17<sup>th</sup> of October and Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> of October, 3.45 to 6.15pm. These first meetings of the year are short 5 minute meetings to let you know how your child is settling in to their new class.

We will be trailing a new way of making appointments this year and further details will be sent out in a separate letter.

This year, all meetings will take place in the school hall.

We are extremely grateful that so many of our parents attend these meetings each year.

### Parking Around School

We understand that many of our parents have to collect by car due to the distance that you travel to school. Please remember to park responsibly. We have many elderly neighbours and there have been occasions when an ambulance would not be able to get through.

## School Ties

Both our team captains and class council representatives have been given coloured ties to wear this year. This enables them to be easily recognised by staff and pupils and very smart they look too!

## Decorated Classrooms

We are aiming to create a lovely working environment for both staff and pupils and as part of this the classrooms are being redecorated. Mr Stringer (our site manager) and Mr Wass (one of our cleaners) are doing this together at weekends and have so far made a superb job of 5 classrooms and 2 shared spaces.

## Food in School

Please remember that we do not allow **nuts** in school. We have several children with severe allergies and I am sure that you will appreciate that we do not want to take the risk of any allergic reactions.

Children are not permitted to bring **chewing gum** into school, including onto the school grounds. This is for health and safety reasons, as well as to maintain a high standard of school environment.

## Parent Forum

I am very keen to learn more about the views of parents. For this reason, we are setting up a parent forum. This group will meet once per half term to discuss a key issue in school eg homework or behaviour. The group will have no power to make changes, as the governors do, but will ensure that the school is fully informed about parents' views. The school can then consider any suggestions for changes.

I am hoping that we will have one parent to represent each class in school, and that this group will also represent the different cultures, faiths, and needs of our pupils.

A letter with further details and how to apply for this role will be sent out later in the week.

## Fund Raising

Thanks to the tremendous support from parents and friends of Ravensdale, last academic year, we raised £1496 for the Alzheimer's society and £1725 through the summer fair. Money raised at school fund-raising events is going towards improving the school grounds.

Unfortunately, Hadley's Haven is progressing slowly due to the rules and regulations that we have to follow.

However, there should be further developments by the end of this year.

## Strike Action

Strike action is once again going ahead on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> of September and so we are asking all pupils to bring in a packed lunch. Possible action is also planned for Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> of October and will confirm whether or not this is going ahead on Friday.