

# Ravensdale Junior School

Devonshire Drive, Mickleover, Derby. DE3 9EY

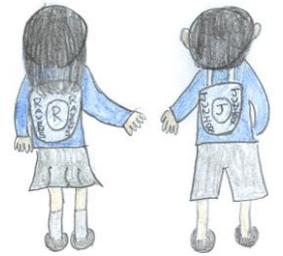
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Newsletter 2 Autumn 2018



## Parking around school

You may have seen the parking enforcement team around school at the beginning of term. The issues with parking around school cause a great deal of distress to our neighbours and we ask all parents to please observe the parking restrictions around school. Along the short drive outside the main school gates are single yellow lines. That means that there is no parking at any time. Over the first few days in school, one parent was issued a ticket for parking there and the parking enforcement team will be back to do random checks. Please leave a few more minutes for your journey and respect our neighbours by parking elsewhere.

## Office Payments

As you may have seen, Lloyds Bank are closing their Mickleover branch soon and this will now mean a trip out of Mickleover for us to bank any money. We are therefore asking if all parents could please pay online where possible, as this will reduce the number of trips we have to make and precious time wasted out of the office.

If you would like any help in doing this, the office staff are happy to support. Many thanks for your consideration.

## After School Clubs

We know that there have been a few teething issues as we are running so many clubs this year. There have been some errors on our part and for that we apologise.

We would politely ask that parents read the information that is sent home carefully and then transfer it to a paper or electronic calendar, as we have had many phone calls and queries into school, where the information is clearly on the letter. We have also had pupils missing clubs because their parent had forgotten. Thank you for your support.

## Halloween Disco

There will be a Halloween disco for all pupils on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> of October, 6.30-8.00pm. Pupils are invited to come dressed up. The entrance cost is £2 and there will be a variety of drinks, sweets and small toys to buy on the evening. If you are able to help, we would be grateful - please contact school at [admin@ravensdalej.derby.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ravensdalej.derby.sch.uk) or call in to the school office.

### **Photo Apologies**

We are very sorry for the short notice regarding the photographs in school last week. During the last academic year, we had problems with our online diary and although a member of staff had put this onto the diary, it hadn't transferred and disappeared when the system was mended. However, the children smiled beautifully on the day and I'm sure there will be some lovely photos!

### **School Lunches**

If you send your child to school with a packed lunch, please aim for a healthy option, as this impacts on their learning in the afternoon. Pupils with packed lunches also need to bring their own drink. I imagine the child who had the Greggs bag with a large sausage roll and giant gingerbread man would have felt a little sleepy by 2pm!



### **Dangerous use of the gates**

Recently, we have had several parents run ahead of cars to get through the main gates. One of our disabled parents was unable to drive through the first time he buzzed to be let in, as so many adults had gone ahead of him. The main gates do not recognise humans as a car and therefore the gates closed. Please only use the pedestrian gate access. The school has CCTV and we will be contacting any more adults or children who are seen to be using this dangerous practice.

### **Instrument Lesson**

We have a wide variety of instrument lessons available in school - recorders, woodwind, guitar, ukulele, piano, drums, electric guitar and keyboard. These are run by private tutors. Please contact the office for details.

### **Harvest Donations**

Thank you very much for all of the donations that we have received for the Derby City Mission.

### **Commando Joe**

I'm sure that some of you will have heard your children come home and talk about 'Commando Joe'. This is a scheme that we have bought into this year, which is similar to the Prince William Award, but will be delivered to all pupils by their class teacher. The focus of the learning is all about character development in our aim to develop pupils who are resilient, curious, imaginative, co-operative and good communicators. The lessons usually take place outside and are introduced as a 'mission'. Ask your children for more details!

### **Fundraising in School**

The following funds were raised last year by the school:

Halloween disco	£589
Christmas Shop	£117
Christmas Fair	£780
Film Night	£546
Movie theme disco	£600
Mother's day Shop	£105
Chocolate Bingo	£550
Beach theme disco	£425
Father's day shop	£45
Summer film night	£484
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4241</b>

The majority of this money has gone towards improving the computing equipment in school, with the purchase of extra laptops and iPads.

We would like to thank parents and friends very much for supporting the school over the year.

### **Feedback from Parental Questionnaires and our response**

**'More images used to teach and explain in greater detail.'**

**School response:**

Last year, we had a focus on using models and images in maths to improve understanding and we also increased the use of practical apparatus. This year, pupils have maths 'jotters' to encourage them to use models and images to aid understanding

**'More After School Clubs'**

**School response**

Thanks to staff willingness to run clubs (this is not in their directed time), we have more clubs than ever running at lunchtimes and after school. Last year, 60% of our pupils took part in extra-curricular sport.

**'More detail of what they are currently learning so parents can help at home'**

**School response**

At the beginning of this term, all year groups sent an overview of the learning for the term home for parents and this will happen at the beginning of each term. Further details about the curriculum are on the website.