

Ravensdale Junior School

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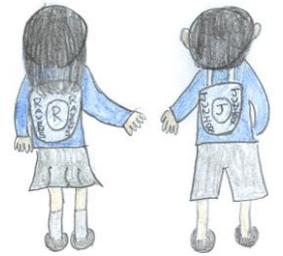
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Newsletter 4 Summer 2018



Art Exhibition

Thank you very much to Mrs Hunt who organised the super art exhibition. Thank you also to all the parents who came to look at the pupils' work. The children had worked extremely hard and produced pieces of very high quality.

Key Dates

Monday 2nd July INSET day
Tuesday 3rd July Transition Day in school - pupils spend the morning with their teacher for next year.
Tuesday 10th July 6pm New to year 3 parent meeting
Wednesday 11th July 9am New to Year 3 parent meeting
Thursday 12th July 6.30pm Ravensdale Talent Concert for parents (letter to follow)
Wednesday 18th July reports out to parents (There is no open afternoon, but parents are welcome to make a follow-up appointment with the class teacher)
Thursday 19th July 9.30am Year 6 performance for parents
Friday 20th July 2.00pm Year 6 performance for parents
Friday 20th July year 6 evening leavers' party
Tuesday 24th July film night

Parent Partnership

Apologies again for the change of date. Our next parent partnership morning is on Thursday 12th of July with a focus on science. Letters have gone home with a slip to return if you would like to come and join your child in their classroom as they focus on some science work.

School Dinners

We are delighted to announce that after a recent inspection, our kitchen continues to have a 5 star rating. We would like to thank our wonderful kitchen staff who produce such lovely meals every day.

Fundraising

We raised over £400 at the disco. Thank you to all who attended. This year we will be spending some of the Ravens funds on laptops. This will ensure that each year group has a set of laptops so that the computing curriculum can be taught well, but also so that laptops can be easily accessed to support all areas of the curriculum. We are also currently trialling the use of i pads in year 6.

Our next fundraising event is a film night on Tuesday 24th of July. Next academic year, we are raising money to go towards a new trim trail.

Keeping Safe

This week, year 3 pupils had training on first aid in the hall.

On Wednesday 11th July, 2 of our local PCSOs (Police community support officers) will be coming into school to deliver a presentation about knife crime to year 6 pupils. As this type of crime is rapidly on the increase, it is important that pupils know the facts before they go to secondary school.

Links with the Infant School

This week, the year 3 teachers have been teaching the year 2 children at the infants.

The year 2 children came to visit our art exhibition.

The infants used our field for their Race for Life and sports days.

The year 2 children will be coming to us on the transition day next week.

In two weeks' time, we will be having another joint staff meeting to share ideas between subject leaders.

PE update from last half term

We are extremely lucky at Ravensdale to have staff who are willing to take pupils to sports events, often in their own time. Mrs Crane is especially busy – often out every week. Currently, over 50% of our pupils have taken part in extra-curricular sport, which is a tremendous achievement and hopefully puts us in line for the gold sports mark this year. Mrs Crane's report is below:

PE This Half Term; May 2018

- **Running** continues to be used during the days without PE. The majority of children seem to be improving their average amount. This ranges from 4 laps in year 3 up to 12+ for year 6. We are thinking about having an accumulative challenge for the month of September 2018 as this is Cross Country Month.
- **Year 6 mini leaders** this half term were Herons. Giving up their lunchtimes to provide opportunities to work with small groups of children. Thank you to all children involved.
- **Netball and Gymnastics clubs** continue to be very well attended. The Netball teams are playing in the Derby City West League. They continue to show extreme resilience as their winning record is not brilliant!! However, they continue to improve and although match scores are not reflecting their level of play the children continue to astound me with their determination. We have a local tournament coming up this half term organised by myself with local cluster schools.
- The **Inter-house dodgeball** was run by Miss Taylor, our PE coach, and was a resounding success. She will be running a rounder's one next term with Miss Dunn.
- The **Ravens Netball** team entered the Derby City Hi-Five Tournament this term. They managed to draw one game, win one but unfortunately could not get the ball in the net for the remaining games.
- Mr Kaushal and Mr Mosinski took a **cricket team** to a city cricket tournament and managed to get through to the next round. Unfortunately, due to rain the final was cancelled and will now be next term. Another possible entry to county competition.
- Mrs Crane took a **tennis team** to Derby Tennis Centre team for a Mini Red Tennis competition. The children were fabulous and worked really hard, succeeding in placing themselves runners up (Silver) and will be entered into a county tournament in July.
- Miss Roe and Mr Uttley took 20 children to play **Tri-Golf** at Markeaton Park on a very sunny day. They had a lovely afternoon trying something we do not get much opportunity to do at school.
- **Bikeability** have also been in school this term working with Year 5 children, working with them on their road awareness.

Mrs Crane

Ravensdale Junior School - Parents evening responses April 2018

147 parents responded to the questionnaire asked. Below is a summary of the comments that were made. We will be aiming to address any requests over the coming year wherever possible.

<p>What do we do well? - Teaching and learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress and behaviour management are encouraged (2) - The school has good resources - I am happy with the school involving parents and informing them of progress in all aspects. (2) - Outdoor activities - Enjoyable classes / good teaching (3) - Excellent choice of reading books - Make school enjoyable - The structure of the way children learn (2) - Recently loved the sewing classes in year 3 - Sewing classes - Extra learning groups/ extra support sessions / interventions/ boosters (5) - Engaged with learning - Teaching is excellent - Good learning environment (2) 	<p>What do we do well?- Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Most teachers I have spoken to are very dedicated about their jobs. - The school is good at working through issues or concerns raised - School staff approachable (8) - Easy to contact if needed. - Teachers explain well (2) - Encourage pupils to do well - Listening to parent concerns and very helpful - My son likes the teachers and feels they teach well - Engaging and pleasant and kind (2) - Good at motivating the pupils to solve tasks - Good standard of teaching - A special thank you to Mrs Smith and the pastoral support my child has received.
<p>What do we do well? -Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Happy with all (2) - Daily running - Friendly and welcoming school - Good communication with parents (11) - Good that there is a breakfast and afterschool club - Much improved methods of communication – (app, text and other IT support) (4) - Safety of pupils (3) - Doing everything well – thank you - Great lunches (4) - Parents evening (2) - Residential trips and visits (6) - We are very happy with how the schools deals with our concerns and our child’s additional needs. (2) - Extra-curricular activities – my child loves it (4) - Managing behaviour - Links with infant school being developed - Traffic light behaviour system works well 	

What would make your child more engaged with their learning?

- My child need to be kept occupied well not for attention to wander.
- More maths (2)
- I struggle to get my child to learn spellings at home – strategies to do this please.
- More visual and computer activities – keep up with technology
- More images used to teach and explain in greater detail.
- Reading and listening to different stories. (2)
- Giving targets and more help with their weaknesses
- Giving them homework in the holidays (3)
- Teachers listening to student’s views better
- More hands on experiences
- More focused intervention groups
- I’m struggling to think of anything that isn’t related to the inflexibility of the NC.
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What do we need to change? - Teaching and learning

- More regular feedback to parents – e.g spelling test scores – I don’t get these from my child.
- More after school clubs (2)
- More detail of what they are currently learning so parents can help at home. (3)
- The pupils need to be encouraged to read more
- More / Everyday homework/ homework in holidays (5)
- Homework is never rewarded.
- No homework in the holidays if it isn’t going to be marked
- Lunchtime reading club
- Less stress placed on pupils for SATs
- Extra clubs for additional learning after school (2)
- Research how boys learn differently to girls

What do we need to change - Staff**What do we need to change - Other**

- More communication with parents (5)
- Some information comes out very last minute
- Charities – I feel it is important for children to learn about other charities – red nose day, children in need. I think it is a shame Ravensdale won’t involve themselves in any other that the school chosen one. What harm can another non-uniform day do!
- Nothing! (6)
- Spell my child’s name correctly.
- There should be a better approach to helping children with learning difficulties
- Looking for more affordable childcare – afterschool club
- We would like a Minecraft or computing club debating or drama (2)
- More engagement from parents.
- Reward system doesn’t seem very engaging – other school’s parents can log into dojo to see how their child is doing.
- Halal meat at lunchtimes
- More engagement in technology
- Could an online version of the parents education session be available