



Ravensdale Junior School

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Autumn Newsletter 1 31.8.23



Reflect



Aim High



Value Others



Explore



Now It's Me

Dear parents and carers

Welcome back, or welcome for the first time!

I do hope you have enjoyed the summer break, despite the weather being a little unreliable. The forecast looks great for next week!!

School has been very busy over the holidays. Progressive Sports have run a very successful summer holiday activity scheme with as many as 45 children attending on one day. I have been into school on several occasions and the children looked to be having great fun.

We look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday!

Zoe Cannon

Key Dates for your diary

Wednesday 6th September

Pupils start back to school

Tuesday 12th September 6.00pm

New to Ravensdale Parent information meeting

Monday 18th September 6.15pm

PTFA meeting - all welcome and no obligation!

Tuesday 19th September 5.30 - 7.30pm

Dig and Chips for families - info below

Friday 22nd September

Year 5 Residential Visit to Shropshire

Tuesday 26th September

Governing Body Meeting 5.15pm

Thursday 28th September

Pupil school photos

Friday 6th October

INSET day - Juniors only, not infants

Tuesday 17th October

Parent meetings with teachers 3.40 onwards

Thursday 19th October

Parent meetings with teachers 3.40 onwards

Friday 27th October

Break up for half term

Digital Progression

We are yet again increasing our technology in school and have 1-1 I-pads in Years 4, 5 and 6 next year. The teachers are continually looking for ways to make pupil learning more engaging and meaningful through the use of technology. Mrs Mandy Clark is our digital link governor and is giving great support to the school through feedback about our website and discussions about the digital progression in school.

PTFA

The Parents, Teachers and Friends association helps to organise fundraising events for the school. Our next meeting is on **Monday 18th September 6.15pm in school**. There is no commitment to be part of a committee or to help out in any specific way.

We would love to see more parents there to support the lovely events that we have planned for the year, so please do come along!

£163 was raised from the family barbecue.

The majority of the funds raised last year have gone on replenishing reading books and there will be many new books for the children to use in the new school year.

Office Staff

We have a new lady in the senior admin position in the office - Miss Wilson and a new office manager starting in three weeks. Whilst new staff are getting used to their roles and we are also short of staff, please have patience and only contact the office if urgent. The website has most information and payments can be made online.

Tesco Funding

Thank you to everyone who voted for us at Tesco. We have been awarded £500 to upgrade the reading corners in classrooms.

On average, pupils who regularly read for pleasure go on to achieve the highest attainments at secondary school. We are therefore having a strong focus on this aspect of reading this year. If you have any ideas about how we can further encourage our pupils with reading, please let us know.

School Safe Haven Parking

We did apply to be part of this scheme through Derby City Council, but unfortunately were not successful. Being part of the scheme would have meant that an area outside school would become pedestrian only for certain times in the school day. However, we could still achieve much greater levels of safety if **no-one parked on the cul-de-sac outside school**. Parking here is already not allowed during the school day but the signage is small. Please consider our neighbours and the safety of the school community and consider carefully where you park.

Instrument Lessons

There are opportunities for children to learn the guitar, piano, violin, saxophone, clarinet and flute in school through the peripatetic teachers. Rocksteady is also in school, where children learn to play the keyboard, drums, electric guitar, bass and to sing as part of the band. There is a subsidy for lessons if your child is eligible for pupil premium funding. Please get in touch with the school office if you are interested.

Class Dojo

We are moving away from Marvellous Me this year to Class Dojo. Parents will shortly receive more information about this and how we will be using it to improve our communication.

Contacting Staff at School

For general enquiries, please email the office. Please raise all other concerns with your child's class teacher in the first instance.

admin@ravensdalej.derby.sch.uk Breakfast and After School Club bookings, all payments, residential visits, attendance and general enquiries.

head@ravensdalej.derby.sch.uk - serious concerns or positive feedback

senco@ravensdalej.derby.sch.uk - Special Educational Needs

pastoralsupport@ravensdalej.derby.sch.uk - emotional and behavioural support, support for parents

chairofgovernors@ravensdalej.derby.sch.uk - communicate directly with the Chair of Governors, Jill Wilkinson.

safeguarding@ravensdalej.derby.sch.uk - safeguarding concerns.

Year3@ravensdalej.derby.sch.uk - to contact Year 3 teachers (just change the digit for other year groups)

School Uniform

Please ensure that pupils are wearing the correct uniform. Last year, there was a distinct lack of uniformity on PE days. We have therefore purchased spare kit and if pupils are not in the correct uniform, they will be asked to change into the Ravensdale kit for the day.

The only jewellery allowed are stud earrings, watches (not Smart watches) and religious items that are a key expectation of that religion. All must be removed or covered up for PE and it is the responsibility of the parent to ensure that this happens eg sending a sweat band that can cover a bangle, or tape to cover earrings. Children must be able to organise this for themselves in school.

Mobile Phones

Year 6 children are only allowed to bring a mobile phone into school if they live outside of the typical catchment area for Ravensdale (ie the child has to cross Station Road or Uttoxeter Road or lives in Mackworth). There also needs to be a legitimate reason why the child needs to bring the phone to school. Parents and pupils must sign a contract before a phone can be brought into school. Please see the mobile phone policy on the website for further details.

Dig and Chips - 19.9.23 5.30 - 7.30pm

We would really like to spruce up our grounds by painting fences, laying weed proof membrane, planting bulbs and weeding. We would love families to come along to help! There will be free chips and cans of fizz in the hall afterwards as a thank you. Please wear protective/old clothing and bring any useful tools such as spades, forks and trowels. If you are only available for part of the time - that's fine too.

INSET days for next year 2023-24

4th and 5th September 2023

6th October 2023 (This is a Transform Trust INSET and will be different for the infants)

22nd and 23rd July 2024

Please note that the above INSET days are not on the calendar below and should be considered separately.

**RAVENSDALE JUNIOR SCHOOL
DERBY CITY HOLIDAY DATES
2022 – 2023**

As confirmed by Derby City Council

School closes

Re-opens on

	School closes	Re-opens on
Summer	Friday 21 st July 2023	Monday 4 th September 2023
Mid-term	Friday 27 th October 2023	Monday 6 th November 2023
Christmas	Friday 22 nd December 2023	Monday 8 th January 2024
Mid-term	Friday 16 th February 2024	Monday 26 th February 2024
Easter	Thursday 28 th March 2024	Monday 15 th April 2024
Mid-term	Friday 24 th May 2024	Monday 3 rd June 2024
Summer	Tuesday 23 rd July 2024	Wednesday 4 th September 2024