



Ravensdale Junior School

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Autumn Newsletter 4 17.10.22

Dear parents and carers

Thank you so much for attending our parent meetings last Thursday, or if you have booked to do so on Tuesday. Teachers really value the opportunity to speak to parents and hear your views, as well as discuss progress in school. If you haven't made an appointment already, please do so.

During the event, we ask parents to complete an online questionnaire in the hall. This is a national questionnaire that is produced by OFSTED called Parent View, so we do it this way to capture as many parent views as possible.

To see the results, or to complete the questionnaire if you have not done so already, please go to <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>. As usual, if you do have any concerns at all, please get in touch with the relevant member of staff in school. We also love to hear about when things are going well, so positive feedback is also very welcome and treasured by staff.

Zoe Cannon

Key Dates

Tuesday 18 th October	Parent Meetings 3.40 - 6.00pm
Thursday 20 th October	Children will be watching a pantomime in school
Thursday 20 th October	Halloween Disco 6.30 - 8.00pm. £2 on the door
Friday 21 st October	Break up for half term
Monday 31 st October	Return to School
Wednesday 16 th November	7.00pm Parent PTFA AGM with warm samosas and bubbles!

Pencil Cases

Many thanks to those of you who have already made the **£10 payment** for pencil cases and stationery for the full school year. If you have not done so, we would be very grateful if you could make the payment as soon as possible, in the interest of equity for families and supporting the school. If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium funding, this is funded out of this budget.

Communication

For general enquiries, please email Mrs Price, our senior administrator in the office officemanager@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)

Access to School

This has been complicated over the last 2 years due to the pandemic and the rebuild at the infants. However, we have now finally got a new plan!

Mornings

- The **park gates** are opened by 8.25am to allow access for children attending 8.30am groups. They are then locked at 9.00am.
- **Break fast club** should only be accessed by parents on foot, as the car park is too busy in the morning to allow parent cars down the drive. Parents should buzz at the pedestrian drive gate and state your child's name. Parents must have a place booked in advance and be signed in by an adult.
- **Blue badge holders** are allowed to come down the drive in the morning if they have completed a school agreement form. As our parking facilities are so limited, this must be for drop-off only, not parking.
- Any **children who are late** (after 8.55am) must be come through the office and be signed in by an adult if they were accompanied to school.

During the Day

- Parents are only permitted to come down the drive in their car if they have a blue badge or are collecting a poorly child.

End of the Day

- The park gates and the pedestrian gate on the drive are open from XXX to XXX.
- Blue Badge holders are allowed down the drive to collect children if they have completed the school agreement form. They should arrive no earlier than 3.25pm.
- The pedestrian gate on the drive is unlocked for **collection from sports after school clubs**.
- Parents **collecting from After School Club** can come down the drive by car - please buzz to request to be let in, stating your child's name. Again, parents must have booked a place in advance and be collected by a known adult.

Please remember that the office is open from 8.30 - 4.00pm. You can leave a message, but the phones will not be answered after 4.00pm.

Parents in cars must not 'tailgate' a member of staff into school, but buzz through to be given permission to come in, to ensure that we are safeguarding access to school.

Shoe Charity

We have a box in reception where we collect for a shoe charity that provides shoes to families in need. If you do have any shoes that are in good condition, but you no longer need, please fasten them together, or bag them up and pop them in this box.

Breakfast and After School Club

Breakfast club is available from 7.45am - 8.45am. The children are given breakfast, play indoor games, or play outside. The cost of this is £4.50 per morning and free for children eligible for pupil premium funding.

After School Club is available from 3.30 - 6.00pm and costs £9.00. The children are given a light tea and play indoors or outside whenever possible.

It is essential that **both clubs are booked by parents in advance**, as we have to limit numbers due to staffing ratios.

Halloween Disco

We are holding a Halloween disco for the children on **Thursday 20th of October, 6.30 - 8.00pm**. The cost is £2 on the door and pupils can bring up to £3 to buy sweets. Squash and water will be provided for free - please bring water bottles. Dressing up for fun is optional.

Please come into school via the **main entrance**. Children will be **signed in** by a member of their year group team outside. They will then **pay at the reception door** when they come inside. Please **take any coats back** with you as they tend to get mixed up when they are altogether in the hall.

If you can help with this, please call or email the school office. Many thanks!

Pantomime

We do our best in school to provide some fun extra-curricular experiences for the children. On Thursday 20th October, pupils will be watching a professional production of the pantomime of **Beauty and the Beast** in the hall. *He's behind you!!!!*

Lost Property

We have a large amount of unnamed school uniform in lost property. **Please could you ensure all items are named**. At the end of each half term, we will offer unclaimed items on 'sale' to parents for a donation and then give items left to a school uniform charity.

Show Racism the Red Card

Friday 21st October is 'Show Racism the Red Card Day'. We are **inviting children to dress in red for the day**, but no donation is needed. At Ravensdale, we have developed an increasingly diverse curriculum over the past 2 years and as part of this event, and marking Black History Month, all year groups are learning about further people with diverse backgrounds, within their current areas of study. Mrs Oscroft is our DEIB (diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging) lead and has spent a great deal of time researching this area to improve our curriculum across the school.

Vaping

We are increasingly aware that some of our primary age children are trying vaping by accessing the vapes of other family members. This can be appealing to children because it is seen as grown up, the vape is a gadget and many of the flavours are child-like such as candy floss. Vaping was designed for adults moving away from smoking and should never be seen a good thing to take up if you have never smoked.

Please have a conversation with your child about this. It is far easier for them to say 'no' to a peer if they have already discussed it and made the decision that this is the answer they will give. If they have never thought about it, peer pressure can quickly lead to them giving it a go.

Story time Magazine

As part of our provision for children eligible for Pupil Premium funding, and to encourage children to read, we offer a free subscription to the 'Story time' Magazine. If you would like your child to receive a copy, please contact the office. Likewise, if you are receiving this, but your child is not using it, please let us know so we can cancel your copy.

Harvest Donations

Many thanks to parents and carers for their generous harvest donations! The 'Doorways' Charity is extremely grateful.

PTFA

Many thanks to the parents who showed an interest in setting up a PTFA at a recent meeting. We are therefore going to hold an AGM meeting where we agree a simple constitution and we will vote in a Chair and Secretary (these roles could be shared). We will also have a treasurer who will keep an overview of balances, but monies will be looked after by the school. Please come along to the meeting on **Wednesday 16th of November, 7pm**, for samosas and bubbles. There will be no pressure to take on any roles!!

Leave of Absence

If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason other than a medical appointment, we request that you **complete a leave of absence form**. This covers holidays as well. The government have become very strict around attendance protocols and policy, having produced a 40-page document for schools last summer. It is rare for visits abroad or holidays to be authorised during school time.

Mrs Hunt, as our attendance lead, monitors absence and lateness carefully every week, and will follow up with parents where necessary.

There is a strong link between **pupil attendance** and their **academic achievement**, so we are really keen that children are in school as much as possible. At Ravensdale, an attendance rate of 95-97% is classed as good and 98% and above is classed as excellent - this is where we want all pupils to be!

Open Day for Prospective Parents

We have arranged an **open day for prospective parents on Wednesday 19th October**. Letters have gone out to infant schools. We are offering tours at 10am, 2.15pm and 4.30pm. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please ask them to contact our school office to book a place.

INSET Days for Ravensdale Junior School 2022-23

Thursday 1st September 2022
 Friday 2nd September 2022
 Friday 7th October (different to infants) 2022
 Thursday 22nd December 2022
 Monday 19th June 2023

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

Summer		Thursday 1st September 2022
Mid-term	Friday 21 st October 2022	Monday 31 st October 2022
Christmas	Thursday 22 nd December 2022	Monday 9 th January 2023
Mid-term	Friday 17 th February 2023	Monday 27 th February 2023
Easter	Friday 31 st March 2023	Monday 17 th April 2023
Mid-term	Friday 26 th May 2023	Monday 5 th June 2023
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