

Richard Avenue

May 16' Newsletter



“If you want to see the view...you`ve got to climb the mountain.”

IMPORTANT DATES

Fri 27th May	Break up for half term- 3.30/3.35pm
Mon 6th June	Return to school- 8.55am Ramadan starts (Islamic religion- fasting period) Derwent Hill- 23 Year 5/6 pupils visit for 5 days, with Mr Cunnington and Miss Henderson Olympics Focus this term- Road to Rio
Tuesday 7th June	Y3/4- Athletics Meeting 5.30pm Parent Induction Evening for NURSERY starters Sept 2016
Thurs 9th June	Y3/4 Tennis Tournament
Fri 10th June	Y5/6 Athletics Meeting
Mon 13th June	Y5/6 Tennis Finals
Tues 14th June	Y4 Skipping Festival- Finals 5.30pm - Parent Induction Evening for RECEPTION starters Sept 2016
Wed 15th June	4pm-Y5 Netball Tournament
Mon 20th June	Assessments across school- Yrs 1, 3, 4, 5- No absences please.
Tues 21st June	4pm-Y6 Netball Tournament
Wed 22nd June	Reception Pupils- Heights and Weight Check
Sat 25th June	Nursery Coffee Morning
W/C 27th June	RAPS- Wimbledon Tournament begins- 2 weeks Y1 visit- Sculpture Walk, Seaside visit.
Wed 29th June	RAPS- Sponsored Event
30th June/ 1st July	Y6 PUPILS- Thornhill Transition Days
Fri 1st July	SCHOOL CLOSED- STAFF TRAINING DAY (Inset) ALL AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS STOP
Mon 4th July	9.15am approx.-Reception/KS1 Sports Day Y5 Cricket Tournament
Tues 5th July	9.30ish- KS2 Olympic Sports Day at Silksworth Track
Wed 6th July	Nursery Sports Day am/pm EID Celebrations (end of Ramadan)
Fri 8th July	Bring £1 for Summer Fair- come as you please. (Donations used to buy various prizes) School Reports
Sat 9th July	SUMMER FAIR 1pm- approx. 4pm
Tues 12th July	Y5 Bastille Day Themed Visit- Thornhill
Thurs 14th July	2.15am Y6 Leavers Assembly- parents invited Actual Bastille Day!
Fri 15th July	Y6 Leavers Day (inc. Bowling, Games, BBQ)
Mon 18th July	Cinema Trip – Winners of class attendance award.
Tues 19th July	12.15pm Y6 Leavers Lunch
Wed 20th July	9.15am Presentation Assembly (Invites only) Break Up for Summer Holidays at 2.30pm
Tues 6th September	School Re-opens – 8.55am

Note: Dates may change, however we will inform those it affects.

Staff: The baby boom at RAPS has descended once again!! Miss Green is currently on maternity leave – no news as yet! Mrs Walsh and Miss Green are hoping to return in January, with Mrs Dunn returning in September. Miss Scott and Mr Pringle are sadly leaving us in July. We have made two new appointments – Mr Howard and Miss Wallis. Mrs Robson is increasing her hours to full time and Mr Williams is staying with us for the foreseeable future!

SUMMER FAIR - 9th July: - Please.... Please..... Please.... – Any donations for the Summer Fair would be most welcome!

Books, DVD, Toys, Bric-a-Brac, Children and Adult Tombola. Send to the school office from Monday 4th July. Are you a professional cup cake maker...speak to the office...we need you! Cake donations from Friday 8th July.

Y4 Superstar Skippers: Recently 30 year 4 pupils competed at the Schools Skipping Festival at Thornhill School. The school achieved 1st place for their Skip Dance Routine and several other individual pupils won gold, silver and bronze. Fantastic and well done! We are in the Final on 14th June- Good Luck!

British Values- Democracy: Following on from our recent local elections, we are having RAPS elections this week!. All year groups learnt about voting and the role of Government. Pupils are to take part in class and year group elections for their new School Councillors and Prefects. Sports Leaders are being interviewed by Mrs Lamb and Mr Jim Tuckwell from the police.

Refurbishments:

June ½ Term:

Re-decoration of the main entrance and corridor.

Heating- Replacement of the hall heaters.

Classroom storage- fitted cupboards in each classroom.

Summer:

Year 1/2 and Year 3/4– Internal refurbishment, to create an additional teaching area, storage and new toilets. The space created in Y1/2 will allow for an additional teacher to work across year groups 1/2.

Both will commence in June and continue throughout the summer. We believe this will cause minimum disruption to teaching during June and July

Re- decoration – An on-going programme of re-decoration will improve many areas of the school incl, Y3/4 bay and corridor.

Ceilings- Replacement of last remaining suspended ceilings in P.E. cupboard and Community Room kitchen.

Community Room Kitchen- Replace kitchen.

Outdoors – Introduce a Rec/KS1 fitness area, KS2 Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), KS2 exercise machine station.

Attendance: % attendance – As you are all aware, the Government have asked schools to be extremely focused upon attendance. Last year the National Average was 96%, with N, Rec pupils slightly lower, but KS2 pupils slightly higher. Currently we are 95.9%, therefore must continue to improve.

Persistent Absence (PA) – A child who triggers a certain number of absences throughout the year is classed as a PA child. The names of PA pupils are forwarded to the Local Authority, for action to be taken, as this is very serious.

e.g. The chart shows how many absences you would need to trigger each term.

		Term 1 Sept - Oct	Term 2 Sept - Dec	Term 3 Sept - Feb	Term 4 Sept - Apr	Term 5 Sept - May	Term 6 Sept - July
Sept 15-16	PA threshold absences	8+	14+	20+	26+	31+	38+
	Actual pupil numbers	45	45	43	40	33	28
Sept 16-17	PA threshold absences	8+	14+	20+	26+	31+	38+
	Actual pupil numbers	91	69	43	44	24	14

Note: Each absence is ½ a day absent from school

No child should be PA unless they have a serious medical condition, currently this does not apply to any current and potential PA pupils. Parents need to be aware of the registration certificates that are sent out from school, come in and discuss any actions with school, be proactive - after all, it is your child's education.

Leave of absence from school:

Please can I remind parents:

- Any child wishing to have time off from school must have permission from the Head Teacher- Leave of absence (LOA).
- LOA cannot be granted for holidays during term time.
- LOA can only be granted for exceptional circumstances and school will take many factors into consideration.

Spare Clothes: If anyone has any spare uniform: children's trousers, skirts, pants, plimsolls, t-shirts, that we could use when children have 'accidents' it would be extremely appreciated. Also as children move onto other schools, any unwanted uniform is always appreciated- Remember to Recycle! Pop them into the school office or to Mrs Atkinson in Nursery.

Changing lunch arrangements: Please remember this can only be done at the end of each ½ term by informing the office.

Weather: You never know, we may get some sunshine! A reminder about:

Water bottles-available at the school office priced at £1.30- these need refilling daily. Only water allowed.

Sun caps- school logo type are available at the school office priced at £3 and £3.50 (remember write name in)

Sun cream - applied prior to children coming to school.

Uniform

Shoes - Please check your child is coming to school in **plain, dark shoes and not trainers, no high heels and no Flossy's !**

Ear Piercing - Please have ears pieced at the beginning of the 6 weeks holidays, no earrings to be worn in school.

Hair – The school policy states that hair should be smart. Our interpretation of that does not include 'tramline patterns' shaved into the hair, dyed hair or extremely short hair.

Tights – In the hopefully hot summer, tights are very uncomfortable. Even if this is for religious reasons (most parents believe this is only at a certain age, and not usually younger children). May I suggest longer dresses, trousers or over the knee white socks- or a combination. I am suggesting this now, so parents can be prepared. Children get very uncomfortable in June wearing thick winter woolly tights!

Youth Club: Our partnership work with Youth Almighty (a local Youth Group) continues. You must be 8 years of age to attend. Wednesday evening 5.30pm- 7pm. If your child would like to attend, you must complete a Membership Form (available from the school office). Miss Ellis is available if you have any questions.

Payments: You can now make any payments for school online. Go to www.sunderland.gov.uk, option 'Pay for it', Schools miscellaneous income, Richard Avenue Primary School, Select payment for... Please remember to use the additional section in the bottom box if you are paying for e.g. dinner, trip, music tuition etc.

Any other payments by cash in school must be made in separate envelopes- dinner money, music tuition, trips, ASC etc.

ASC: Breakfast and After School Club now has it's own phone number – **07810 218073**. This is to enable you to contact the clubs when necessary. This phone will only be in operation within the opening times of both clubs:

Breakfast Club – 8am – 8.45am

After School club – 3.30 – 5.15pm

P.E. Kit: During the coming months when the weather improves, there will be more opportunities to go outside. Therefore it is essential that all children have their PE kit in school containing appropriate footwear, black or red shorts and a plain white T shirt. Just in case it is a little chilly, a plain sweat shirt can be included too. Children will not be allowed to wear their uniform for PE.

Admissions to Nursery and Reception: We still have spaces for Nursery aged children from Sept. Anyone who has a child who will be aged 3, please contact the school office to register your child. We are awaiting confirmation of our Reception numbers, if you have not yet registered your 4 year old child for a school place; please contact School Admissions at the Sandhill Centre as soon as possible.

Once again thank-you for all your support,

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Todd". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Head Teacher