

Richard Avenue

May 18' Newsletter



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

IMPORTANT DATES

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

Fri 25th May	Break up for half term- 3.30/3.35pm Remember Tall ships homework
Mon 4th June	Return to school- 8.55am
Tues 5th June	Year 3/4 Athletics Festival- Biddick Comprehensive 5.30pm Parent Induction Evening for NURSERY starters Sept 2017
Thurs 7th June	Year 6 River Walk Year 5 Athletics Festival- Farringdon comprehensive
Fri 8th June	Year 6 Harehope Quarry Visit RAPS-World Cup Football Draw!
Monday 11th June	w.c Year 6 Bikeability course Year 5 Tennis Festival at Sunderland Tennis Centre Year 4- Lost Landscapes (Wildflower garden project)
Tuesday 12th June	Year 3 Sunderland Tennis Final at Sunderland Tennis Centre Year 1 Captain Raggy Beard Visit 5.30pm Reception Induction Evening for Reception September 18 starters
Wed 13th June	Year 4 Sunderland Tennis Final- Sunderland Tennis Centre
Fri 15th June	Poss Eid Celebrations within the community
Mon 18th June	Assessments across school- Y1,3,4,5- No absences please.
Wed 20th June	Year 4 Rugby Festival at Venerable Bede Comprehensive
Wed 20th, Thurs 21st, Fri 22nd	PM-Well Being (off timetable)
Fri 22nd June	Bring £1 for Summer Fair- come as you please. (Donations used to buy various prizes)
Sat 23rd June	1pm Summer Fair
Mon 25th June	INSET DAY- SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS!!
Tues 26th June	4.30pm Thornhill Art Exhibition- featuring some of RAPS work.
Tues 26th, Wed 27th, Thurs 28th	Tall Ships incl History of Sunderland Ship Building Industry
Fri 29th June	Sponsored Event
Sat 30th June	Sunderland West Area Community Event- Barnes Park, Fun Day for all the family.
w.c 2nd July 🟢	RAPS- Wimbledon Tournament begins- 2 weeks Year 6 Transition Days to various Secondary Schools
Wed 4th July	Infantasia- Y2 singing ‘Tall Ships’ songs at Southwick Primary School
Fri 6th July	Be Kind Day- off timetable
Mon 9th July	9.20am- Rec/ KS1 Sports Day 11am/ 3pm Nursery Sports Days Year 5-Bastille Day at Thornhill
Tues 10th July	9.20am- KS2 Sports Day
Wed 11th July	6.30pm- Choir performing at Thornhill (time TBC)

Wed 11th, Thurs 12th July	Tall Ships Celebration (incl am-Y3/4 Big Sing at The Empire, 6pm- Banner Parade at The Tall Ships)
Fri 13th July	School Reports
Mon 16th July	2.15am Y6 Leavers Assembly- parents invited
Tues 17th July	Y6 Leavers Day (incl Bowling, Games, BBQ)
Wed 18th July	Cinema Trip – Winners of class attendance award.
Thurs 19th July	Thank You School Assembly 12.15pm Y6 Leavers Lunch
Fri 20st July	9.15am Presentation Assembly (Invites only) Break Up for Summer Holidays at 2.30pm
Tues 4th September	School Re-opens – 8.55am

Staff: Mrs Atkinson has worked full time for **39 years** and is finally reducing her hours. She is retiring from nursery but increasing her family support role. I am thrilled she is still working at Richard Avenue.

Ofsted: After a frantic couple of days, it is all over! The report will be available for parents sometime within the first week after the holidays. Can I just say how wonderful your children were throughout the inspection. They were an absolute credit to you all and we were very proud. Also to those parents who filled in Parent View and those who send e mails to the inspectors and personally came into school to have conversations. We were all humbled by the overwhelming support you gave for the school, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. As a treat, the Ice Cream Van will arrive at Richard Avenue!!

Tall Ships: The Tall Ships are coming to Sunderland w.c. 9th July. We are shining a spotlight on this momentous occasion and taking an opportunity to visit The History of The magnificent Ship Building in Sunderland past. The children will be involved with: World record breaking sing-a- long, with years $\frac{3}{4}$ singing in the Empire, a sail maker is designing a banner with our pupils to carry in the Tall Ships parade, pupils will visit the site of the race and participate in activities, West Area are holding an event in Barnes Park and much, much more! If there is anyone in your family who was involved in the Ship Yards, ship building, launching of ships or has any memorabilia- we would love to hear from you. Please contact Miss Higgins (Y1), Miss Braithwaite (Y3)

Summer Fair: 23rd June: Please, Please Please – Any donations for the Summer Fair would be most welcome! Books, DVD, Toys, Bric-a-Brac, Children, Adult Tombola and especially cuddly toys/ teddy bears of all shapes and sizes! Please send donations to the school office from Monday 11th June.

Nursery Full Time places: We are offering a number of full time nursery places (30h), if anyone is interested please speak to Mrs Atkinson in Nursery or the school office.

Refurbishments:

- Run a mile ‘running track’, around the field and yard
- Improved fencing around reception yard
- Replacement flooring in nursery
- Replacement of vinyl areas in all classrooms
- Upgrade of all wooden fire doors
- Improvement of storage in Deputy Heads office
- Continued upgrade of outdoor signs, general environment.

Attendance: % attendance – As you are all aware, the Government have asked schools to be extremely focused upon attendance. Last year the National Average was 96.1%, (not including N, Rec pupils). Currently we are 96.6%, which is an improvement upon last year. Thank you to all those families who have really worked hard to improve attendance and punctuality.

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.

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 17-18	PA threshold absences	8+	14+	20+	26+	31+	38+
	Actual pupil numbers	43	29	29	22	14	

Note: Each absence is ½ a day absent from school

There are currently 8 pupils who have already had 38+ absences throughout the year, therefore are already classed as PA.

(N- 1, R- 1 , Y1- 2 , Y2- 1 , Y3- 1 , Y4- 0 , Y5- 1 , Y6-1) With another 7 pupils, who with any further absences will fall into this category.

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.

GDPR: You may have heard this term used quite often this week! There are no significant changes within RAPs as we already conform to strict Data Protection Regulations. Please see the attached Parents Leaflet which explains more about the requirements of schools and your rights under GDPR

Spare Clothes: If anyone has any spare uniform: children's trousers, skirts, plimsolls, t shirts, that we could use 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 more sunshine! A reminder about:

Water bottles-available at the school office priced at £1.30. 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.**

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!

Leggings – Not allowed.

Hair accessories- Please ensure these are simple school colours red, black, and white.

Youth Club: Our partnership work with Youth Almighty (a local Youth Group) continues. You must be 8 years of age to attend. Wednesday evening 6-8pm. 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, ASC/BC music tuition. We are encouraging parents to pay online, however if you wish to pay by cash payments must be made in separate envelopes- dinner money, music tuition, trips, ASC etc.

ASC: At 4.30pm (Fri 4.00pm), the school office is not manned. If parents of ASC children need to make contact, please can you use this number **07810218073**, which is only switched on at 3.45. Any other time please contact the school office.

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.

P.E. Kit: During the coming months, 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 black or red sweat shirt can be included. Children will not be allowed to wear their uniform for PE.

Admissions to Nursery and Reception: We do still have a few places left for Nursery and Reception in September. Anyone who has a child who will be aged 3 (Nursery) or 4 (Reception) before 31st August and has not registered please contact the school office. Once your child is 2 years old, you can register for Nursery.

Once again thank-you for all your support,

Yours Sincerely



K Todd
Head Teacher