

Richard Avenue

May 17' Newsletter



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

IMPORTANT DATES

w.c. Mon 22 nd May	Y6 Bikeability - Safe bike riding
Mon 22 nd May	RAPS17-18 Prefect Elections
Tues 23 rd May	RAPS 17-18 Playground Squad Elections (Interview with community police) Y1/2 P.E. Festival at Thornhill am - Y3, pm - Y4 Tennis at Sunderland Tennis Centre
Wed 24 th May	Y6 Safetyworks visit - Newcastle Y1 Walkwise - Safety on the roads
Thurs 25 th May	British Values whole school project Themed school lunch - Best of British Y4 Hartlepool Power Station visit Y1 Walkwise - Safety on the road
Fri 26 th May	British Values whole school project RAPS - Race for Life, supporting Cancer Research - £2 Y4 Newcastle Gudwara (Sikh Temple) visit Break up for half term - 3.30/3.35pm
Sat 27 th May	Ramadan Begins (Islamic Religion - 4 weeks fasting during sunrise and sunset, culminating in the festival of Eid)
Mon 5 th June	Return to school - 8.55am
Tues 6 th June	Y1 Alnwick Castle visit 5.30pm Parent Induction Evening for NURSERY starters Sept 2017
Thurs 8 th June	Government Elections - community room used as a Polling Station
Friday 9 th June	Y4 Sunderland Skipping Festival - Final
Mon 13 th June	Derwent Hill 5 day visit for 22 Y5/6 pupils - Mr Cunnington and Miss Wallis
Thurs 15 th June	New Nursery starters (Sept 17), come along for a coffee and a play! (4-5pm)
Fri 16 th June	Aspirations Day (Ex pupils and visitors discuss work opportunities with pupils)
Mon 19 th June	Assessments across school- Y1,3,4,5 - No absences please. Y5-Business Enterprise Experience at Thornhill
Tues 20 th June	5.30pm Parent Induction Evening for Reception starters Sept 2017
Fri 23 rd June	Internet Safety theatre production - (KS2) ‘Where are you Johnny?’
w.e Sat 25 th , Sun 26 th	Poss. Eid (Islamic festival following Ramadan)
Thurs 29 th , & Fri 30 th	Y6 pupils Thornhill Transition days RAPS whole school Art Exhibition 2.30 - 5.30 Sunderland West Area Community Event - at Barnes Park - Y5 x30 pupils
Sat 1 st July	Sunderland West Area Community Event - Barnes Park, Fun Day for all the family.
w.c 3 rd July 🟡	RAPS - Wimbledon Tournament begins - 2 weeks
Tues 4 th July 🟡	RAPS visits - Wimbledon 8 pupil tickets and 4 adult tickets (we are so excited!) Choir performing at Thornhill - Beauty and the Beast 6pm
Wed 5 th July	Choir performing at Thornhill - Beauty and the Beast 6pm
Fri 7 th July	Sponsored Event - All £ raised to support Charities throughout 17-18.
Sat 8 th July	Family Event - Beach Day

Mon 10th July	Nursery Sports Days
Tues 11th July	9.15am approx. - Reception/KS1 Sports Day Y5 - Bastille Day themed visit at Thornhill (am)
Wed 12th July	9.15am approx. - KS2 Sports Day
Fri 14th July	Bring £1 for Summer Fair - come as you please (Donations used to buy various prizes) School Reports
Sat 15th July	SUMMER FAIR 1pm - approx. 4pm
Mon 17th July	Y6 bay/toilet refurbishment commences 2.15pm Y6 Leavers Assembly - parents invited
Tues 18th July	Y6 Leavers Day (inc. Bowling, Games, BBQ)
Wed 19th July	Cinema Trip - Winners of class attendance award
Thurs 20th July	12.15pm Y6 Leavers Lunch
Fri 21st July	9.15am Presentation Assembly (Invites only) Break Up for Summer Holidays at 2.30pm
Mon 4th September	School Re-opens - 8.55am

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

Staff: We are sad to be losing 2 outstanding members of staff, Mrs English (Y1), who has just recently left and Mrs Forster (office), who is retiring in August. Interviews are taking place this week.

Summer Fair: 15th 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 3rd July. Are you a professional cup cake maker? Speak to the office - we need you!! Cake donations from Friday 14th July.

Y4 Superstar Skippers: Recently, 30 Y4 pupils, trained by Mr Bolton, competed at the Schools Skipping Festival at Thornhill School. The school achieved 1st place for almost everything, achieving a place in the Sunderland Final on 9th June. Fantastic, well done and Good Luck!

Hancock Museum Family Visit: We had a great day out, with 2 coaches full of pupils and parents. Looking forward to the next event – The Beach!

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

Additional Funding for school: Some families, due to their unique circumstances, attract additional funding for school. This amounts to over £1,000 per pupil, potentially adding up to a significant amount of money. We believe there are some families who are not applying for such funding. Mrs Atkinson will be following this up with individual families. We thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Refurbishments:

May ½ Term:

Artificial Grass - Increasing this to include the outdoor classroom area (under the flagpoles) and friendship garden.

Computer suite - New lighting

Summer:

Year 5/6 - Internal refurbishment, to create an additional teaching area, storage and new toilets. Work will commence in July and continue throughout the summer.

Classroom storage - fitted cupboards in each classroom.

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 96.1%, which is good, but we need to continue to improve. 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 16-17	PA threshold absences	7+	14+	20+	26+	31+	38+
	Actual pupil numbers	58	47	27	23	19	7

Note: Each absence is ½ a day absent from school

There are currently 7 pupils who have already had 38+ absences throughout the year, therefore are already classed as PA. (N-1, R-2, Y1-1, Y2-0, Y3-2, Y4-1, Y5-0, Y6-0).

With another 11 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.

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 some 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 6.00pm - 8.00pm. 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. Any other payments by cash in school 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 need to make contact, please can you use 07810 218073, this is only switched on at 3.45pm. Any other time please contact the school office.

Dinner Money: Please send dinner money in to school with your child on a Monday morning. Envelopes should be clearly marked Dinner Money with your child's name, class and amount.

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 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 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 one or two 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 them for Nursery.

Mobile Phones: Pupils should not have mobile phones on the yard or in school. Pupils should not be taking any photos of their friends, prior to school and giving their phones to parents. We all need to take responsibility.

Once again thank-you for all your support,

Yours Sincerely



K. Todd
Head Teacher