



Richard Avenue Primary School

Friday Flyer

Weekly Update

Friday 24 November 2023

UPCOMING DATES

RAPS daycare: Breakfast Club from 8-8:45am & After School Club from 3:30pm-5:15pm

Monday 27 Nov

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Yr 4

Forest School for 3D

Weights and Heights for Y6

Tuesday 28 Nov

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Reception & Yr 6

Swimming for Y3

Weights and Heights for Y6

Ukulele for Y4

Wednesday 29 Nov

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Yr 1 & 5

Forest School for 1G

Thursday 30 Nov

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Y3

Swimming for Y6H

Friday 1 Dec

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Y2

Swimming for Y6C

Lighting of the Richard Avenue Christmas tree

Future dates for your diary

SEE BACK PAGE FOR OUR CHRISTMAS DIARY DATES

Head Teacher comment Dear Richard Avenue Families, It's been another busy week as we race towards December. Although it's continued to be wet, this has done nothing to dampen our spirits. Speaking of rain, please do ensure that your child comes to school in a warm and water-proof coat (which is named) so that we can make the most of time outdoors which we know the children thoroughly enjoy. Speaking of feeling warm, our **wonderful Year 4's** read beautifully and smiled throughout this week's assembly for families casting a cheery, warm glow around the hall for all present. There was great delight on their faces as they presented this term's wonderful work to families and friends with HUGE RAPS thanks to everyone who contributed. We know the children loved having you in school, thank you so much, we really value your support. Before we go, we have also included an album of photographs showing you the 'wonderfulness' of our new early years' outdoor area: how fabulous it is! *See page 3 of this week's flyer.* We're planning an official opening in the New Year, watch this space... As we reach the last weekend of November, stay warm and dry, and if you're braving the shops - good luck! Have a lovely weekend. With very best wishes,

Claire McKinney.

Miss McKinney and all of the staff at Richard Avenue Primary School

RAPS Assembly Stars. Last week's superstars linked to *our school value of kindness* were:

Isa

Layton

Maryam & Hamna

Brialle & Aishah

Younus & Ishaaq

Akif, Jane, Umar & Milo

Tre, Marzia & Hamza



**Well done everyone,
you are all RAPS stars!**

RAPS assemblies. Keeping Safe has been the theme of the week in our collective worship. We have discussed *safe relationships* as part of our PSHE curriculum looking at who can keep us safe and what a safe relationship is. All children in school are further developing their knowledge and understanding of this topic through key questions this week.

Y1 - Who can help if our bodies or feelings are hurt at home and at school?

Y2 - How might people feel if they are being bullied?

Y3 - How can bullying effect more than just the bully and the person who is being bullied?

Y4 - Who could support you with online or bullying worries?

Y5 - How can you support yourself or someone else who is feeling uncomfortable?

Y6 - What does a healthy and unhealthy friendship look like?

Santa Dash and Laps to Lapland. Once again this year we will be dashing for Santa... The children will be encouraged to bring to school an item of food for Santa's sleigh as they run around our running track with Santa Claus for company. Donations will be carried off in the sleigh (or the car, if the sleigh is unavailable!) to the Sunderland Foodbank. The date for your diary is **Thursday 7th December**. We'll be writing to you about this next week. The children will also be taking part in a 'Laps to Lapland' running challenge. As a school we will attempt to run the distance in miles from Richard Avenue to Lapland, in time for the Christmas holidays. Wish us luck!

Reception at the Beacon of Light. Some children from reception enjoyed an action-packed and fun-filled morning at the Beacon of Light last week. They learned football skills alongside taking part in a mini assault course challenge and other skill-based games linked to nursery rhymes. Skateboards, tunnels and blindfolds were some of the resources we used. *The children were also very excited to work with Jamie outside of school!* Thank you to the Foundation of Light staff for a brilliant morning and huge thanks to our own sports leaders **Atif, Grace and Devpreet** for helping and supporting the so well. A fabulous time all 'round!



Anti-bullying. As you know, last week was Anti-bullying Week. Here are some useful websites for you and your children:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/bullying/>

<https://www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/kids.html>

<https://www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/cyberbullying.html>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Keeping children safe in the dark. It has been great to see children with reflective strips on their coats, or brightly coloured coats. At this time of year, visibility is very important. You can add reflective strips to clothing, school bags or bike/scooter helmets. It is also important to have lights on bikes and scooters.

Should my children go to school today? Please remember that if your child has had diarrhoea or vomiting they must remain off school for 48 hours after they have been ill, [as advised by the NHS](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/diarrhoea-and-vomiting/). For other illnesses if you are uncertain please consult this helpful website: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/diarrhoea-and-vomiting/>

Traffic and parking. We are sure you all agree that we must improve the traffic and parking situation around our school at drop-off and pick-up time. It is a serious concern with hot tempers and tension creating ill-tempered conversations between families which is a real concern. We are determined to improve what is a dangerous and difficult time of the day, and with this in mind we are really pleased to tell you we have been notified that the **yellow lines and zig zag markings will be extended to include the corner and a longer stretch of Richard Avenue.**



We continue to work with the School Safety Team to push for a *School Safe Zone* which will restrict access to Richard Avenue at the start and end of the school day. These steps will all make a difference but a bigger difference will be made if we are all mindful of where and when we park, never forgetting that we are a school and must do all we can, every single moment, to protect your wonderful children. We really appreciate your support, as always.

Y5 Sports Leader training. Our Y5 Sports Leaders had a great morning in Silksworth this week for their annual training session. The children took part in a number of activities to help develop their leadership skills and learn all about how to organise groups of children for games and activities at break times and lunchtimes. They showed their fantastic leadership qualities and are ready to put it all into practice on the yard. Well done for representing our school so well.



Anti-bullying conference by Luca in 6C. Last week, we represented Richard Avenue as ambassadors and took part in an anti-bullying conference at Castleview Academy, alongside other primary schools. The conference was based around this year's theme *Make a Noise about Bullying*, as well as resilience and prevention. We enjoyed the activities and how we were able to speak freely as we shared our opinions. I am glad I was able to take part in this event, showing how much bullying and being unkind to one-another has an effect on people's mental health. I am proud to say we put out a good message to people struggling with friendships, feelings and mental health.



Attendance of the week. Congratulations to **4G** who are our weekly winners.

Weekly whole school attendance is 92.1%

CLASS	ATTENDANCE %	CLASS	ATTENDANCE %
NURSERY MORN	82.7	3D	91.0
NURSERY AFT	93.3	3M	93.7
RH	86.0	4G	99.2
RG	84.5	4S	90.9
1G	98.3	5B	89.3
1W	96.3	5W	96.9
2CW	89.7	6C	86.6
2W	92.6	6H	94.5

Every moment in school counts, and days missed add up quickly. For example, a child in Year 2 who is absent for three days over a half term could miss 15 lessons in total. The higher a pupil's attendance, the more they are likely to learn and make the best progress in life." *Department of Education*

98% - 100%	Excellent Attendance
95% - 97.9%	Good Attendance
92% - 94.9%	Caution
90% - 91.9%	Cause for concern
Below 90%	Serious Concern

"Being around teachers and friends in a school or college environment is the best way for pupils to learn and reach their potential. Time in school also keeps children safe and provides access to extra-curricular opportunities and pastoral care. That's why school attendance is so important."
Department of Education

Our new early years outdoor area...





WhatsApp

safety guide for parents

internet
matters.org

16+

WhatsApp's
minimum age
in the UK

58%

Kids aged 3-17
who use
WhatsApp

37%

Kids under 13
who use
WhatsApp



5 tips to keep kids safe on WhatsApp



1 [Review privacy settings](#) WhatsApp has a range of privacy and security settings to keep users safe. Customise groups, app access, live location and more.



2 [Customise contacts](#) Show your child how to report and block unwanted contacts. Then, work with them to add their friends and family. Review and talk about their contacts regularly.



3 [Talk about personal information](#) Make sure your child understands what personal information is. Talk about the importance of keeping that information private on WhatsApp.



4 [Show them where to get support](#) If something goes wrong or they see something worrying on WhatsApp, make sure they know to come to you, and talk about other sources of support.



5 [Check in regularly](#) Once you've done all of the above, check in with them regularly to review settings and how they use WhatsApp.

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RAPS Christmas Diary 2023

Date	Event
29th November	16 Days of Christmas begins 
1st December	Turning on of the Christmas tree lights 
12th December	KS1 (Yrs1&2) Christmas performances @ 9.15am & 2.15pm
14th December	EYFS (Nursery & Reception) Christmas performances @ 9.15am & 2.15pm 
15th December	Christmas Day at Richard Avenue
20th December	KS2 (Yrs3-6) Carol Service @ 9.15am & 10.45 am School closes @ 1.45pm