



Richard Avenue Primary School

Friday Flyer

Weekly Update

Friday 1 December 2023

UPCOMING DATES

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

Monday 4 Dec

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Yr 4

Tuesday 5 Dec

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

Swimming for Y3

Sustainable decorations workshop for Y1

Ukulele for Y4

Wednesday 6 Dec

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

Snowtubing, Santa and hot chocolate for Y2

Open evening for new to nursery families between 4-5pm

Thursday 7 Dec

Santa Dash - could all children please come into school wearing RAPS PE kit

Swimming for Y6H

Friday 8 Dec

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Y2

EFL Kids' Cup: football tournament for Yrs 5&6

Swimming for Y6C

Future dates for your diary

SEE BACK PAGE FOR OUR CHRISTMAS DIARY DATES

Head Teacher comment Dear Richard Avenue Families, Christmas has definitely arrived this week with the most wonderful tree, now fully decorated and proudly sitting in our main hall. The children have also been busy with Christmas crafts, decorating their own classrooms, and our wonderful staff elves stayed late after school on Wednesday in order to sprinkle extra special Christmas magic from room to room, ready for the children to see the following day. In this morning's assemblies, we switched off ceiling lights and watched in awe as the Christmas counter counted down from 30 seconds, after which we officially switched on our tree lights. You can imagine - it was very exciting, for children and staff too! Looking ahead, we have exciting Christmas activities and events on the horizon. Please check our dates section for information on when the nativities, carol services, RAPS Christmas Day and more are taking place. As the mornings and evenings become ever darker, please can we ask you to take extra care when crossing the roads, opening car doors etc. on your journeys to and from school. If your child walks to and from school independently, please share this message with them too. It is also a difficult time for many at present. We are here to help and signpost in many different ways. If there is anything you are worried about or we can help with then please do not hesitate to ask any one of us at drop off/collection or alternatively contact the office. We hope you all 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 stars linked to the theme of being safe and making safe choices were:

Nursery: Korede

Reception: Joel A & Zainab

Y1: Hannah & Summayyah

Y2: Yves & Dorcas

Y3: Deep-Inder & Missy

Y4: Sahiem & Saleh

Y5: Amna & Eesa

Y6: Zach & Royal



Well done everyone, you are all RAPS stars!

RAPS assemblies. On Sunday 3rd December, it's the beginning of the period of Advent. Advent is, (from Latin adventus, "coming"), in the Christian church calendar, the period of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas.

There are 4 themes of advent and the first is **hope**, our theme of the week.



We have talked about what we are hopeful for in our lives and how we can give hope to others. We have also enjoyed a visit from the Youth for Christ team who lead an exciting assembly as always. *Teachers have been looking for a ray of hope star, someone who shares a positive attitude towards learning.*

Goodbye to Mrs Graham. We say goodbye to Mrs Graham today who has been a fabulous, if temporary member of the team whilst Miss McMaster was on maternity leave. Mrs Graham has the biggest heart and is such a dedicated teacher. We wish Mrs Graham good luck in all of her future endeavours, and thank her from the very bottom of our hearts for all she has done to help and support our school.



The Sunderland Food Bank donations. If you are able to, could we please ask that children bring into school one item from the list below in time for the Santa Dash:

- **INSTANT MEALS (KETTLE FOOD)**
- **LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE**
- **JAM & PRESERVES**
- **CHOCOLATE**
- **TINNED POTATOES**
- **BISCUITS & SAVOURY TREATS**

Thank you as always for your help and support.

Foundation of Light. Thank you to Jamie, Becki and all the staff at the foundation of light for their brilliant contributions this half term not only their in school coaching but also for the opportunities they have offered our children through the Beacon of Light. We look forward to working with you next term!



Netball training. Some Y6 children attended a recent netball training event at Farringdon, taking with them Mr Spoons. They learned the rules of *High 5 Netball* including positional play, scoring and defending. Mr Spoons and the children picked up lots of tips and advice ready for the netball league which begins in the New Year.



Santa Dash & Laps to Lapland.

Richard Avenue will be joining schools around the country in the national Santa Dash event next week: **Thursday 7th December.** Children are encouraged to bring in items for the food bank donation to place into Santa's sleigh as well as Santa hats, Christmas head boppers etc, to wear on the day as they complete their run.

After School Clubs. All clubs will take a break for the holiday after next Friday's dance club - **which is Friday 8th December.** **Many thanks to our fabulous team for all they do to provide such a wonderful variety of after school clubs and for your superb support at home** without which we couldn't offer anywhere near the variety the children have so enjoyed during the year. **Thank you team RAPS.**

Safeguarding: WhatsApp setting support. As one of the most popular messaging apps used by all age ranges and with around 2.7 billion monthly users, WhatsApp has become a commonplace tool for communication. Over recent years, WhatsApp have been continually developing safety features to allow parents to monitor and manage their child's activity and keep them safe online. Internet Matters have put together an informative 'how-to' guide for parents which you can [access here.](#)



Football. Year 5 and 6 children ended a fantastic 3 week block of after school Tuesday visits to *Goals* by inviting their **family members** along to join in. Lots of footballing fun was enjoyed by all, and we look forward to many more opportunities to invite family members along to our sporting events. We even took a photograph to mark the occasion - although some were feeling a little camera shy! Our sincere thanks again to the children and families, and to our wonderful **Mr Spoons** for making this special event possible - we are so grateful for all Mr Spoons does for our school community: **thank you Mr Spoons!**



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

Weekly whole school attendance is 92.2%.

CLASS	ATTENDANCE %	CLASS	ATTENDANCE %
NURSERY MORN	70.7	3D	92.4
NURSERY AFT	76.0	3M	92.7
RH	92.5	4G	99.1
RG	94.1	4S	93.5
1G	95.7	5B	86.6
1W	95.7	5W	92.4
2CW	91.9	6C	83.4
2W	89.4	6H	83.4

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.](#) For other illnesses if you are uncertain please consult this helpful website.



Keeping children safe online – Reducing their exposure to violent and pornographic content

Exposure to online pornography and violent material from a young age can lead a child to seek out more extreme content, including images of children who are being sexually abused. Police nationally are seeing a rise in this activity.

This year, Northumbria Police have investigated 66 teenagers for possessing and sharing images of children who were being sexually abused. Some of these teenagers said they had been exposed to online pornography and violent material when they were very young.

We would like your help in minimising children's exposure to this kind of material.

To do this, you can find out more by visiting the following websites:

[Using parental controls to keep your child safe online](#)

[Talking to 4-7 year olds about online safety](#)

[Online pornography: how to keep your child safe](#)

[Talking to your child about online porn](#)

If your child has already been exposed to content such as online pornography, the following weblink is useful:

[Advice: If a child has already been exposed to inappropriate content](#)

If you have come across material online such as indecent images of children, this weblink describes what you can do to report it:

[Dealing with inappropriate content| Internet Matters](#)

If you find sexual images of children stored on a device, do not delete them and make a report to the police by calling 999 if you believe a child is in immediate danger. Alternatively, dial 101 or use our online reporting form:

[Report An Incident : Online Services : Northumbria Police](#)



Pupil premium

FUNDING FOR YOUR SCHOOL!

If you have a child in reception, year one or year two, your child is automatically entitled to a free school lunch under the Universal Free School Meals scheme, regardless of your financial situation. However, did you know that a key source of school funding, the pupil premium grant, is linked to eligible families being *registered* for free school meals?

Pupil premium grant

Pupil premium can be used to further support high-quality teaching, fund social and emotional support, etc. This year, schools receive **£1,385** for each registered child. As school budgets come under increasing pressure, it's really important that as many eligible families claim it as possible.



Who is eligible?

Children are eligible for the grant if their parents/carers are in receipt of certain benefits, including:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit*
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit*

* Check full criteria - www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals

ASK YOUR SCHOOL FOR A REGISTRATION FORM!



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