

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE TIME!** We have some amazing Christmas raffle prizes available to win including chocolate treats, smellies, woollen hats and scarves and all wonderfully wrapped ...

**Tickets will be on sale at £1 per strip at each of the performances... Good luck!**



# Richard Avenue Primary School

## Friday Flyer

**Weekly Update**

**Friday 8 December 2023**

### UPCOMING DATES

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

#### Monday 11 Dec

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Y4

Snowtubing for children in KS2 - value sticker charts

#### Tuesday 12 Dec

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Yr RB Y6

#### Vaccination catch up

KS1 (Yrs 1&2) Christmas performance @ 9.15am with refreshments available from 8.45am

KS1 (Yrs 1&2) Christmas performance @ 2.15pm with refreshments available from 1.50pm

#### Wednesday 13 Dec

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

Sainsbury's Christmas carolling for the choir

#### Thursday 14 Dec

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Yr 3

Nursery & Reception Christmas performance @ 9.15am with refreshments available from 8.45am

Nursery & Reception Christmas performances @ 2.15pm with refreshments available from 1.50pm

#### Friday 15 Dec

Christmas Day at Richard Avenue — all of the children are invited to wear their own clothes to school today

#### Monday 18 Dec

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Yr 4

Full Governing Body meeting in school

#### Tuesday 19 Dec

#### Wednesday 20 Dec

KS2 Carol Service @ 9.15am with refreshments from 8.45am

KS2 Carol Service @ 10.45am with refreshments from 10.20am

School closes @ 1.45pm

Future date for your diary

#### Monday 8th Jan 2024

School re-opens for the spring term & Bigfoot Theatre pantomime visit

**Head Teacher comment** Dear Richard Avenue families, It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Thank you to the Christmas elves who have once again been at work hanging the Christmas decorations and scattering yet more Christmas sparkle in each of the classes throughout the school. Rehearsals for all of our performances are now also well underway, with the sound of Christmas music and song echoing throughout the school. It is all feeling very festive. A full breakdown of all our Christmas activities including dates and timings for performances can be found at the back of the flyer, so please do check it again to make sure that you have that all-important information in your diary. We are very excited to be sharing our Christmas celebrations with friends and families in the coming days. A gentle reminder to those who will have very young children with them at any of our Christmas performances: if you are attending performances with young children, could we please ask that you take them out immediately they become unsettled. In school, this could be to the community room. Thank you for your understanding. A reminder that if you are struggling at this time of year we are here to help. Contact our school office in confidence if you require some support for your family. Finally, a reminder that in the interests of everyone's safety, would parents and carers of children who scoot to school, including nursery-aged children, please ensure that they dismount from their scooters when crossing the road and entering the school site. Thank you.

We are thoroughly looking forward to seeing you all in school next week. Have a lovely weekend.

With very best wishes,

*Claire McKinny.*

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

**RAPS assembly stars.** Last week's superstars linked to the theme of *being a ray of hope* were:

**Nursery:**

**Reception: Piper & Eliezer**

**Y1: Siyana & Nelson**

**Y2: Nicholas & Deborah**

**Y3: Ilyas & Eesa**

**Y4: David & Adrian**

**Y5: Keizha & Nadir**

**Y6: Ayana & Asim**



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

**In assembly this week...** Peace is the second theme of Advent and has been our theme this week. Human Rights Day is on Saturday 10th it commemorates the day in 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The principles enshrined in the Declaration are as relevant today as they were in 1948. We need to stand up for our own rights and those of others. We can take action in our own daily lives, to uphold the rights that protect us all and thereby promote the kinship of all human beings.



*Please know that if your family is affected in anyway by the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine, our school community is able to support you. Please speak to one of the team and do not feel alone.*

It is also the Jewish festival of lights Hanukkah, which begins on Sunday 7th. We discovered how the festival is an eight-day, wintertime "festival of lights," celebrated with a nightly menorah lighting, special prayers and fried foods. Happy Hanukkah!

**Santa Dash.** We joined schools up and down the country in the Santa dash yesterday which has been lots of fun as well as in support of the Sunderland Food Bank. There is still time to send in food donations if you are able to. The Food Bank would like to request these items: **INSTANT MEALS (KETTLE FOOD), LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE, JAM & PRESERVES, CHOCOLATE, TINNED POTATOES, BISCUITS & SAVOURY TREATS** Thank you as always for your wonderful support. It really is appreciated.

**Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check Information.** The Multiplication Tables Check is a statutory assessment which is completed each year on a national level by all eligible children in Year 4. The check takes place in June and is an on-screen check, which is accessed by children using a computer.

The test consists of 25 times table questions with a 6 seconds response time allocated and takes no more than



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5 minutes to complete. It is important to know that there is not a pass mark for this check but it is designed to reflect the importance of children developing a fluent times table recall in order to access all aspects of maths.

Children practice their times tables fluency regularly in our school and learn strategies to help them to increase their recall speed. Such activities are an aspect of learning that can also be easily supported by parents at home and contributes greatly to children's levels of confidence when approaching times table questions.

If you have any queries about how you can support your child's times table recall further, please don't hesitate to speak to the staff team.

[Click here to read the information guide for parents of children who are currently in Year 4 and will be taking the multiplication check in June 2024.](#)

**School Meals and the Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme.** Sunderland Council is again committed to providing support to families during the upcoming break. Please use this website link to find out more about whether you might be able to claim these:

[www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/families/free-school-meals](http://www.togetherforchildren.org.uk/families/free-school-meals)

or telephone: **0191 561 1417.**

Vouchers can be collected from our school office from **Monday 19th December** between 8.30am and 3.30pm.



**The last flyer of term.** This term's last flyer will be sent home on **Wednesday 20th December.** There will be no flyer next Friday (15th December) since we want to celebrate our wonderful Carol Concert in our last newsletter, and this takes place on Weds 20th.

**Late arrivals.** We wanted to let you know that there is a growing number of children arriving late after 9am. We know that it can be a challenge to get to school at this time of the year as both weather and traffic can be against us. Could we please ask that you do all you can to get the children here between 8.45-9am, maybe leaving the house 10 or 15 minutes earlier would take the pressure off and get the children here on time. Arriving after 9am means children miss the start of the day and our settling in activities and, as a consequence, children must enter the classroom after everyone is settled which, for lots of our children, is really difficult. We know you also want your children to get the best out of every school day. Let's see if next week we can reduce this growing number. With your support, we are certain we can. Thank you as always.



**Spare socks and gloves.** If you are able to, could we please ask you to send children into school with a spare pair of socks and gloves which they could keep in their classroom tray, to use if needed?



Again, it's the time of the year for wet hands and feet, and there's nothing worse than having cold feet in particular. A change of socks would be wonderful and make a difference to everyone's comfort. Spare gloves would also be excellent to avoid the worst of wet fingers at break time.



Thank you for this, really appreciated as always.

**Welcome back Miss McMaster!** Miss McMaster has returned to Richard Avenue this week, and we are all so excited to have her back with us – welcome Miss McMaster, we have missed you!



**Year 5&6 football festival.** Two teams from Y5&6 attended a football festival at the Beacon of Light. They played in two separate groups with a focus on the Foundation of Light's values. Children were encouraged to inspire each other, to be fair and to be connected. Both of our teams were winners in their groups, collecting the most stickers for demonstrating the values in their games. Well Done to all the children, we were so proud of you all.



**Attendance of the week.** Congratulations to **5W** who are our weekly winners.

| CLASS        | ATTENDANCE % | CLASS | ATTENDANCE % |
|--------------|--------------|-------|--------------|
| NURSERY MORN | 93.3         | 3D    | 95.2         |
| NURSERY AFT  | 96.9         | 3M    | 96.7         |
| RH           | 93.1         | 4G    | 94.6         |
| RM           | 93.9         | 4S    | 93.9         |
| 1G           | 94.3         | 5B    | 93.4         |
| 1W           | 94.0         | 5W    | 97.6         |
| 2CW          | 94.1         | 6C    | 91.7         |
| 2W           | 96.1         | 6H    | 94.1         |

Weekly whole school attendance is **94.6%.**





Sustainable  
Christmas crafts in Y1

**Christmas crafts for Y1.** Y1 were visited by Laura from Groundworks North East this week. Laura supported the children as they made sustainable Christmas decorations from egg boxes and pine cones. We thought they were adorable and now have 60 new decorations adorning our magnificent school Christmas tree. Our thanks to **Mrs Dunn** for organising this wonderful morning for our children - hopefully you will see the new baubles at one of our performances in the coming weeks :-)



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Join our Teaching Assistant Academy to gain the skills and knowledge required to get into apprenticeship roles, support roles and many others. On completion of the course our partners Education World will come in to chat to you about career opportunities.

The Academy will cover Preparing to Work in Schools, Mental Health in Children and Young People and Understanding Common Childhood Illnesses.

## Where and When?

**Location:** Richard Avenue Primary, SR4 7LQ  
**Awareness session:** 11th January, 1pm - 3pm

### Course starts:

18th Jan, 25th Jan, 1st Feb, 8th Feb, 15th Feb,  
29th Feb, 7th March (**Every Thursday**)  
9:30am - 2:30pm

To register your interest or for further information please contact Syeda Khaled E: [training@sb-international.org.uk](mailto:training@sb-international.org.uk)  
or call T: 0191 564 0888 | M: 07934871737

[www.newcollegedurham.ac.uk](http://www.newcollegedurham.ac.uk)

New College Durham,  
Framwellgate Moor Campus,  
Durham DH1 5ES





## 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<br>School closes @ 1.45pm  |