



Friday

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*Happy New Year*

*Happy New Year*

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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### Weekly Update

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

#### Monday 13 Jan

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Yr 1 & Y3

#### Forest School for Y5

#### Tuesday 14 Jan

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Yr 4  
Swimming for 5W

#### Wednesday 15 Jan

Primary School admissions portal closes for reception Sept 2025  
RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Yr 6  
Swimming for 4S  
Ukulele for Y2  
Hoops4Health Roadshow in school for Yrs 5&6

#### Thursday 16 Jan

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Y5

#### Friday 17 Jan

RAPS PE kit to be worn to school by Y2  
Forest School for Y4  
Swimming for 3LM  
Swimming for 6H

Future dates for your diary  
Y3 assembly???  
Parent eve

## A message from our Head Teacher

Dear Richard Avenue Families,

From all of the staff at Richard Avenue, we would like to wish you a very Happy New Year. It has been fantastic to hear some of the activities that children enjoyed over the holiday and we hope that you all managed to have some down time with your family and friends. This week, our assemblies focused on using the New Year as an opportunity to 'make a great start.' We have shared our goals for 2025 and committed to showing the best of ourselves every single day.

As a special start of term treat, the children enjoyed a wonderful visit from Bigfoot drama group as our school hall became RAPS theatre for the day. It was rather nice to sit in the audience and laugh along to a fantastic and very funny pantomime. Finally, thank you once again to parents and members of the school community for all of the kind words and best wishes that we received at the end of the term. We are extremely grateful for your continued support. We hope that you all have lovely weekend.

With very best wishes,

*Claire McKinney.*

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

THIS WEEK'S  
**ASSEMBLIES**

In our assemblies this week we have been thinking about resolutions. A New Year's resolution is a tradition, most common in the Western World, but also found in the Eastern World, in which a person resolves to continue good practices, change an undesired trait or behaviour, accomplish a personal goal, or otherwise improve their behaviour at the beginning of a calendar year. We have all made a resolution - ask us about what they are!

*new year.  
new resolution*

Pre-loved uniform. Please remember that our Richard Avenue Pre-loved Uniform Shop is always available to families. Use this dedicated email address to enquire about specific items of clothing and sizes. If we can help, we always will.

[uniform@richardavenue.co.uk](mailto:uniform@richardavenue.co.uk)



Please also continue to donate any spare uniform that you may have to the team in the main office.

**LAST WEEK! Primary school admissions.** The online admissions portal for primary schools will close on 15 January 2025. If your child's date of birth falls between 01/09/2020 and 31/08/2021, you will need to apply for a reception place for September 2025. Allocations day is 16 April 2025. The Admissions Handbook and full guidance on how to apply can be found on Sunderland County Councils' website: [www.sunderland.gov.uk/schools-admissions-infant-juniorprimary](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/schools-admissions-infant-juniorprimary)

Apply Now!

## Welcome

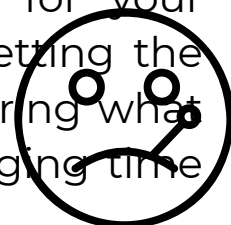
Governing body update. We are delighted to welcome Lucy Lavelle to our team this term. Many of our families will know that Lucy is our wonderful Family Worker. Lucy joins us as a co-opted governor. We warmly welcome Lucy to our team and thank her caring about our school and for volunteering her precious time. We look forward to working with Lucy as we continue to make our school even better than it already is. In welcoming Lucy, we say goodbye and thank you to **Dr Amina Razak**, and **Colin Dagg**, who have both recently stepped away from governors. We are grateful for their kindness, support and for wonderful enthusiasm for Richard Avenue Primary School - thank you Amina and Colin!

Thank You

What will your child be learning this term? Curriculum information webs will again be sent out on Seesaw early next week, giving a summary of learning and topics to be covered in Years 1-6 during the term. We hope you will find them useful. Please visit our school website where you will also find them, it's all very exciting! Why not then ask your children some of the key questions?

learn SOMETHING new EVERYDAY

Should I send my child to school? We know that at this time of year, there are lots of viruses in circulation. If your child has a minor cough or cold, please send them into school. However, if they have diarrhoea or sickness, they must not return to school until 48 hours after the last bout of sickness. Thank you for your continued support getting the children to school during what we know is a challenging time for families too.



# Attendance OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to **6H** who are our weekly top attenders.

Weekly whole school attendance is 94.4 %

CLASS	ATTENDANCE %	CLASS	ATTENDANCE %
NURSERY MORN	86.6	3LM	89.1
NURSERY AFT	84.3	3M	95.6
RM	92.4	4G	96.0
RS	95.4	4S	92.7
1P	96.1	5B	96.4
1W	88.1	5W	97.9
2CW	93.0	6C	95.2
2W	95.2	6H	99.3

98% - 100%	Excellent Attendance
95% - 97.9%	Good Attendance
92% - 94.9	Caution (below national)
90% - 91.9%	Cause for concern
Below 89.9%	Persistent Absence - Serious Concern



## make a natural bird feeder.



The RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch 2025 takes place from January 24-26. This annual citizen science event invites participants across the UK to spend an hour observing birds in their gardens or parks. The data collected helps monitor bird population trends and supports conservation efforts, making it an engaging way for people to connect with nature and contribute to wildlife protection. To encourage more birds into your garden or park, why not make an eco-friendly bird feeder. Here are two ideas to get you started:

### Pinecone Bird Feeder

#### Materials Needed:

- Large pinecone
- Peanut butter or honey
- Birdseed
- String

#### Steps:

- 1.Tie a string around the top of the pinecone for hanging.
- 2.Spread peanut butter or honey over the pinecone's scales.
- 3.Roll the sticky pinecone in birdseed until fully coated.
- 4.Hang it from a tree.



**Top Tip: Collect fallen pinecones instead of buying synthetic decorations.**

THE  
Great  
FIRE of  
LONDON  
1666

Thursday 16th January

ye olde menu

FARRINERS FISH FINGERS  
TOWERING TUDOR BURGER  
1666 BEEF MEATBALLS

served with

King Charles Corn On The Cob  
Buckets of Baked Beans

SAMUEL PEPYS PASTA  
FLICKERING FLAME FRENCH FRIES