

Soaring High Newsletter

January 2024
Our School Values are



Love, Honesty, Forgiveness, Respect, Hope

Happy New Year

Welcome to 2023! Thank you to all the staff who spent a lot of time and effort on making Christmas special - from Christmas dinner to an array of cards, calendars and treats. Our Ravens sang their hearts out at St Mark's

Christingle celebration and at the nativities from Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2 – it was great to see so many of you in the audience.



Reach for the stars



Jodrell Bank is a well-known landmark on the Cheshire Plain and has been involved in discovering the secrets of space since 1945. Year 5 set out to discover what these were in December. They were fascinated about what they saw and staff were hugely impressed by their enthusiasm. Behaviour was exemplary and they were a credit to school.

Topical news

Watch out for half-termly updates from your child's classteachers about what they will be learning. Spring sees Nursery looking at *Moving* and Reception exploring the topic of *People Who Help Us* including a trip to the National Emergency Services Museum. Find out more at: www.ravensfield.tameside.sch.uk/curriculum/half-termly-overviews/

Online Safety

Christmas often means new technology in the house and it can be hard to keep up-to-date with the best ways to keep your child safe. There are some great tools and advice at CEOP and also a resource based on two cartoon characters or how to open the subject about keeping safe on line: www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/jessie-and-friends/

Friday Assemblies

Our first Soaring High Assembly of 2024 will be taking place on Friday 12th January at 2.30pm. We look forward to seeing you and celebrating the great work the children are doing.

The first week back saw the presentation of attendance awards for the Autumn term – well done everyone.

It also saw the results of the Christmas Reading Challenge 2023 with winners from Nursery to Year 6. Congratulations to: Holly and Poppy from Early Years; James, Scarlett, Elise, Gawareer and Daisy from Key Stage 1; as well as Erin, Aaliyah, Gracie, Natalia, Ciara, Gracie, Torin, Thomas, Owen and Emilia from Lower Key Stage 2; and Scarlett, Renee and Daniel from Upper Key Stage 2.

Parking

Thank you to those who are helping keeping everyone safe by not parking on double yellow lines. Not only is this illegal but it restricts everyone's view and puts children and adults in harms way. Remember, the zig zag signs means no stopping.

Please be aware of our neighbours on Clarendon Street when you park and stop and feel free to use the car park.

Access to the front of school is by prior arrangement only.

Making your views known

Many thanks to those of you who kindly responded to our parent survey. It was great to hear your very positive views on your child's experience. We use this to help consider how to make Ravensfield even better. It was lovely to hear that over 83% of say that your children feel safe in school and over 86% of children know and follow the school rules.

Attendance and Punctuality

School opens at 8.40am and gates close at 8.55am. Thank you to those of you who arrive before 8.55am ensuring your child is not late for school. The Ravensfield school day finishes at 3.15pm. We expect that children are collected at this time. When parents are late to collect their children, this can cause worry and anxiety, as children are often having to wait in the school office to be collected. This also has an impact on Teaching staff who have to remain with the children. If you are going to be late please contact the main office in plenty of time so that a communication can be sent to the class teachers.

The peak of the cold and flu season is upon us. To decide whether or not to send your child to school, please consider the guidelines given to us by the NHS, see the following link:

www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/#maincontent

To report an absence, please contact the main office on 01613442905. Alternatively, you can email:

mainoffice@ravensfield.tameside.sch.uk

Mental health can also be a concern during the cold, dark winter months. Usually when a child or young person feels sad, stressed, frightened, or worried, these feelings will pass with time and with help from family, friends, teachers or other health care professionals. If you require any help or support please contact Mrs Evans or Mrs Chalmers at the school office.

Uniform



PE kits should be back in school – black shorts and a white T-shirt.

As we like the children to enjoy the fresh air at break and lunch, please can you ensure they come in with a coat (with a hood or hat) and fully black school shoes.

Please ensure that all items are labelled with your child's name. Also, please remember that the only items of jewellery allowed in school are watches and stud earrings. But these must be removed for PE and swimming.

After School Clubs

There are a number of these available this term for Key Stage 2 children starting the week beginning 8th January. If you want to find out more contact the school office:

Choir – now running every Monday

Musical Theatre – runs every Wednesday

Gymnastics – is on every Monday for Years 1 and 2 and Tuesday for Years 3 and 4.

Opening times

With the weather getting colder and wetter please remember that we have little in the way of shelter against the elements. School gates (and only Nursery) open at 8.30am with the school doors opening at 8.40am.

Mobile Phones

Phones must be turned off when children **enter** the school grounds and handed to their class teacher who will secure them safely; returning these to children at the end of the day. Any pupil found to be in breach of this or to have used their phones in an inappropriate manner will be disciplined following the school behaviour policy and parents informed.

Contacting staff

ClassDojo is our main communication tool, however if you want to contact the headteacher and need an urgent response please contact the school office.

Diary Date

❖ Friday 9th February – school closes at 3.15pm with Nursery at 3.30pm and we're back on Monday 19th February.