

Ravensworth CE Primary School Newsletter



Friday 5th September 2014

Dear all,

Firstly, a very warm welcome back to the new school year at Ravensworth. I trust you've all had a wonderful summer, and enjoyed spending time with your children. For our part, the break was certainly welcome (!), but there's something very special about being back with the pupils, in our new classes, and seeing the school buzzing with life again!

A particular welcome to our new starters who are all settling in superbly; I was in Red class this morning, and they're busily getting on with their tasks – playing and learning together. William and Ethan built a huge hotel out of the wooden blocks and showed me all the people inside sleeping – future architects there perhaps!

There's not a huge amount to update you on this week, lots of 'settling in' been taking place - getting used to new teachers and new friends.

The biggest visible changes are to the fabric of the school. As you'll know, we've had a pretty extensive building project on over the holidays, and the results are excellent. The school now has a beautiful new front office, where Mrs. Richmond is based to welcome visitors; a new, enlarged, and orderly (!) stationary and storage cupboard; and a brand new focus room for working with small groups or, quietly with individual children. The whole entrance has been repainted and is so much lighter and brighter. Some particular thank yous must be extended with regards to this project. Firstly to Mrs. Cooke, our Chair of Governors, who visited the site every day she was home during the holidays to keep everything 'right'. Secondly, to Mr. Smith, who graciously donated his time (and that of his team) to undertake all the painting and decorating for the entire project. The timescales were really tight, and everyone worked so hard to be ready for the start of term. There are a few bits the builders have left to be sorted on the 'snagging list' (we ask for your patience if you spot any of these!), but we're delighted – so come and visit Mrs. Richmond in her new office (we wouldn't want her to be lonely!).



From this...

Through this...

To this!

School Milk – please note, the price of school milk has increased to 20p per day from September. Any questions re: milk and/or juice, please contact Mrs. Richmond.

Guitar Lessons – these will be recommencing, starting Thursday 11th with the same times as last year. If your child is interested in taking lessons, please contact the office, and details can be provided.

The Great North Run – Mrs. S. Stanwix is running the Great North Run at the weekend, to raise money for the Great North Air Ambulance Service. If you would like to sponsor her, please go to www.justgiving.com/susan-stanwix1.

Archery Club – this will be starting again next week, running on Wednesdays, 3:15-4:15pm. As before, we will split the archers into two groups, one of which will be able to attend for the first 3 weeks of half term, before switching to the other team. Archery is suitable only for pupils in Y4-6 due to the strength of the bows. Additionally, we can only shoot in appropriate weather conditions, so sessions may need to be cancelled. If your child would like to attend, *please fill in the attached letter and return it* (even if they attended last year) *on Monday* so that we can put together our first groups.

Football Club – PC Godfrey's back and will once again be coaching football for Y3-6 on Thursdays, 3:15-4:15pm. Please fill in the attached letter if you wish your child to attend.

Jeans for Genes Day – Friday, September 19th is Jeans for Genes day. Children will be allowed to come to school in their jeans or trendy trousers (normal uniform on top) in order to raise money for children with genetic disorders. Please bring a donation.

Parking – a reminder to all parents to please not park opposite the school gates at drop off or collection times. We are required to ensure emergency access can always be gained to the school and this is simply not possible when vehicles are parked on the narrow roadway around the school gates. The Parish Council kindly give us use of the lower track and green for parking at these times, please park your cars there. Many thanks.

Dates for the Diary:

Clubs (so far!) this half term: Archery (Weds), Football (Thurs)

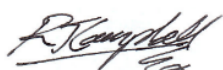
Tuesday 16.09 – Year 6 open evening, Richmond School, 7pm

Friday 19.09 – Jeans for Genes day.

And Finally...

On the first morning, we spent some time in Collective Worship discussing our 'best' and 'worst' bits of the summer holidays. There have certainly been some adventures – near death experiences in sea kayaks, tree climbing, visits to family all over the world, shrieking mums on theme park rides... However, I must say, my favourite response came from Mary, who told us all: "My favourite thing about the summer was coming back to school this morning –and seeing all my friends!", "And the worst bit?" [pause] "Getting up this morning." Mary – we know how you feel!

Every blessing,



Robert Campbell (Headteacher)

