

Ravensworth CE Primary School Newsletter



Monday 8th February 2016

Dear all,

Firstly, my apologies for the delay in getting this newsletter published – I was out of school last Friday all day and wasn't able to get it all sorted.

Last week saw a number of exciting pieces of work going on in all the classes. Class 1 have been working hard in the 'travel agents' – producing some brilliant posters to attract holidaymakers to their favourite destinations. There are promises that I can swim with dolphins, dive under waterfalls and visit beautiful castles – I'm well ready for a holiday, so perhaps I'll be signing up... Meanwhile, Class 2 have been doing further work to prepare for their persuasive letter writing campaign to save the rainforests – some very convincing pieces have been produced. In Class 3, they've taken a slightly different tack. In the knowledge that it's important to see both sides of the discussion, the children have been writing balanced arguments on the issue of deforestation. They've considered the potential positives – the jobs being provided to local people, the possibility for agricultural developments and the revenue generated which can be channelled back into the community. That said, when it came to the crunch, the concern for endangered species, and the environmental consequences of this clearance have won the day, and they seem to be leaning in this direction. In the world of Mantle, they've also been unpicking the trail of clues to uncover the mole in their organisation; they have been learning about fingerprinting, and will be using their newfound skills to try to discover who the spy is.

Another exciting event this week was the Year 6 Science Transition day at Richmond school. Our pupils joined those from Barton for a morning of investigation and experimentation in the lab – they created all kinds of reactions, including the formation of blue liquids, fizzing chemicals and malodorous metals!



Intruders on School Premises – we've noticed over a number of weeks that we've had intruders on our site at evenings and especially at weekends. Most recently, we've found evidence that 'BB Gun' fights have been taking place on the playground, and our equipment / benches etc. have all been tampered with. Obviously, this presents a security risk as well as being potentially dangerous and damaging to property. This has now been reported to our local community police officers, who will be making frequent spot checks on the site. I would ask all parents, particularly those in the village, to remain vigilant, and, should anything untoward be spotted, please call 101 and ask for PC Wilbor. Thank you.

Chapel Visit Consent Forms – a reminder to parents to please return the consent form for our visits to Ravensworth Chapel this week as soon as possible. Many thanks.

Internet Access – with our move to online payments, we are aware that some parents may not have access to the internet. If this is the case, you are very welcome to come into school to log in to ParentPay to make payments.

Milk / Juice Payments – please note that the milk and juice payments for next half term will be £4.60. This takes into account the teacher training day credits. Please sign in to Parentpay to make these payments. Thank you.

World Book Day – 3rd March is 'World Book Day'! To celebrate this year's literary festivities, we're going all out with three activities you and your children are invited to partake in!

- **Radical Reading Photography Competition** – we're looking for photos of the most unusual / special places that the children read their books. Perhaps it's up a tree, sitting in the back of a trailer, in a dance studio or even just curled up with a favourite teddy in the comfort of a cosy bed? Send your photos to headteacher@ravensworth.n-yorks.sch.uk and your class teacher – prizes for the winners!
- **Dress Up Day** – come to school on World Book Day dressed up as a character from one of your favourite books – I'm hoping for a brilliant range of costumes, although I hope there aren't too many from 'Beast Quest' – could get a little scary!
- **Family Favourites** – we want to take a break from our usual Collective Worship on the 3rd to have a special celebration of books. We'd love parents to come in (at 2:30pm) to share with the children your favourite stories/ books. (Don't worry, you won't need to prepare a long speech, just bring in the book and tell the children about it for a couple of minutes!). It's great for the pupils to see the joy of reading in adults, so please just drop in and share something! For further information, please contact Mrs. Jackson – sjackson@ravensworth.n-yorks.sch.uk.

Dates for the Diary:

Friday 12th Feb – 3:10pm, school closes.

Monday 22nd Feb – 8:30am, school re-opens

Thursday 25th Feb – Class 1 Trip to the Life Centre, Newcastle (separate letter to follow)

Thursday 25th Feb – 3:15-5pm, Messy Church

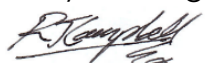
Wednesday 2nd March – 6pm, Full Governing Body Meeting

Tuesday / Wednesday 8th / 9th March – Y5 Cycling lessons (letters to follow)

And Finally...

Strolling through the dinner hall, we heard a plaintive cry. Isobel was somewhat 'cheesed off' (yup, the jokes are that bad on a Monday morning) that her packed lunch contained Iberico Reserva cheese, which, I quote "is not to be confused" with her preference – Manchego. Now *there's* someone who knows their cheeses – nice to have a connoisseur in the school!

Every blessing,



Rob Campbell

