

Ravensworth CE Primary School Newsletter



Friday 20th March 2015

Dear all,

So our morning has been most disrupted by the concatenation of circumstances in the sky leading to one of the best solar eclipses for years. Apparently, Britain won't see an eclipse on this scale again until 2026, by which time the children in Y6 will be 22 years old... A special day. I just wish the sun and moon could have arranged to overlap in playtime - how inconvenient of them not to plan for 10:15am...

Our sporting successes have continued this week with a number of our children competing in the County Cross Country Competition (Thomas, Emmaly, Fraser, Isobel, and Emily R) – a huge well done to them all, particularly Emmaly Smith who came 12th in the whole county!

Our year Y3/4 boys' football team then led us to victory in the tournament at Richmond – some tremendous play by all the boys saw us share the trophy. I heard particular praise for Edward Storrow as a defensive anchor, Fraser Proudlock's score sheet, James Tallantire's speed, Ollie Cooke's ball skills, Daniel's commitment and Monte Andrew's excellent marking and challenges. However, man of the match (unofficially!) has to go to Henry Watson for his work in nets – he put his body in front of the ball with total disregard for his own limbs (!), and was, in the words of PC Godfrey "one of the best keepers I've ever worked with..." Well done lads!



Comic Relief Commitment – huge credit and praise to Ellie Brown. She took the work of comic relief really seriously, and went out nail-painting for charity on Saturday. She singlehandedly raised as much as our non-uniform day raised, and has added her money to ours to bring our school's donation to £125.93. What a testimony to what one person can do! Well done Ellie, and thanks to all for donations.

Easter Service, Walk and Lunch – just some clarification on this; we aim to walk up to the church (weather permitting), leaving from 9:45am. The service will start at 10:30am, and last about half an hour. Children will then walk back down (with parents if available) and arrive back at school for 11:30-11:45. Lunch will commence from around 11:45 for children; parents and friends coming for the lunch alone should arrive about 12pm. There are still a number of slips outstanding for this, please return them to the office asap. Many thanks.

Guitar – no guitar lessons next week (26th March). Lessons will recommence on 16th April after the holidays.

Eggciting Competition – we will be running our traditional Easter egg decorating competition again this year. Please bring in a decorated egg (named – as in, the child's name, not the egg's!), on Wednesday or Thursday next week. Prizes for the best in each class – let your creative juices flow!

Support for School Friends (RSFA) – our thanks to the members who were able to attend our AGM on Wednesday, and to our outgoing Chair Mrs. Wallis. We really appreciate the work that's been put in over the last year, and by the other officers (Jo Metcalfe – Secretary, Stephen Wardle – Treasurer, Rachel Lawson – Vice Chair, Sarah Jackson – Teacher Rep), and by our members.

I'm very aware that we all have packed schedules and busy lives, but please can I, on behalf of the Friends, ask very earnestly for your support. The money raised by RSFA pays for a huge amount of the 'extra' and 'additional' provision for the children that we can't fund through our Local Authority budget – be that special trips, games and activities for classrooms, playground development, Christmas presents for children, play equipment etc. We cannot do this without the support of our whole school community, either by *attending* events, or *joining* and helping to organise them.

There is no date set for our summer barbeque, an event that's been popular and effective for many years, because we just don't currently have the numbers to make this viable. Anyone interested in supporting the work of the School Friends, please contact Jo at jo.met@hotmail.co.uk or catch Mrs. Jackson after school. Please do consider whether you could support us and help with this valuable work.

Holiday Fun – Rev. John has asked me to let you all know about a Family Activity morning running from 10:30-12 at Barningham Church on Good Friday. Crafts, activities and refreshments for all – should be a great morning!

The Selfish Giant – Class 2's Easter Production of *The Selfish Giant* is looking great, I'm sure we can 'count on them' to break through the 'ice' and show us 'how wonderful life is'! Come along and see the meaning behind the cryptic comments above – all welcome, parents, friends, siblings, governors etc. from all classes! 6pm, Thursday 26th.

Governor Update – we welcomed 2 new governors onto our board on Wednesday – Mrs. Cath Stanwix as staff representative and Mrs. Sarah Rushforth as one of our co-opted governors. We look forward to working with them!

Congratulations – to Edward Storrow, who recently passed his 400m Bronze Swimming Challenge, his Diving Award and his Stage 8 Swimming award – well done Ted!



Dates for the Diary:

Tuesday 24th March – KS2 Tag Rugby Tournament

Tuesday 24th March – Messy Church

Thursday 26th March – 6pm Class 2 Production

Friday 27th March – 9:45am Walk to Church, 10:30 Service, 12pm Lunch, 1:30pm, School Closes

And Finally...

Having spent a good 30 minutes explaining the dangers of looking directly at the sun, the staff got so excited when they went out to see the eclipse that a chorus of "wow – look at that" must have slightly confused our children clutching their pinhole projectors!

Every blessing,



Rob Campbell

