

# Ravensworth CE Primary School Newsletter



Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015

Dear all,


Welcome back to the final half term of the year. I can't believe how quickly time seems to fly at Ravensworth – it doesn't seem two minutes since the dark January days (although perhaps that's just because of the weather earlier in the week...!).

We've started our term with a new 'guide' in place for behaviour in school. As you'll know, our Values (Love, Integrity, Respect, Forgiveness and Excellence) seek to inform all we do. However, we wanted something to help some of our pupils simply 'live this out'. The Golden Rule, as taught by Jesus, is the simplest way we've found: *Treat others as you would like to be treated*. This will be a strong theme running through our collective worship, our behaviour management and our school ethos over the coming months.

This week saw our Year 3/4 Cricket team enter the Swaledale Cricket Tournament and defend their title as last years' winners. Freddie Millns, Edward Storrow, Owen Wardle, James Tallantire, Fraser Proudlock, Ollie Cooke and Henry Watson were seasoned veterans from last year. They were joined to form a mixed team by Clara Metcalfe and Emmaly Smith who put on sterling performances of their own. Some of the highlights included Emmaly's precise bowling against Richmond C of E, Ollie's apparently effortless catch in the Brompton game, Freddie's integrity after clipping his own stumps, and Henry's three 'sixes' in a row against Melsonby! The team played brilliantly, and just lost out in the final to an incredibly strong team from Richmond Methodist School. However, as usual, our children's attitude and behaviour was superb throughout, and they came home proudly bearing their silver medals. Congratulations to them all.

**New School Video – 'The Little Things'** – just at the end of half term, I completed a video project which seeks to capture a little 'snapshot' into life at Ravensworth school for our children. It's so difficult to convey fully the atmosphere, ethos, activities and general learning environment of the school on a day to day basis, but we really want parents and those in the community to see what 'goes on' in school. I also wanted the children to have a chance to see themselves involved in all their activities and reflect on the variety of experiences that they contribute to – ultimately, they are the 'stars of the show'.

This video is now available on the front page of our website – it's probably the best 'introduction' to the school that we can give. I encourage you, if you haven't already, to log on and watch it, sharing with your child the chance to see what 'Little things' go on at Ravensworth. We hope you enjoy it!

N.B. Top Tip – the video is set to stream as HD quality, and works nicely using the 'full screen' button (). If it's 'jerky' however, reduce the quality from '720p HD' to '360p' in the bottom right corner.



**Parental Questionnaires** – the governors are sending out parental questionnaires to everyone today. Please do fill these in and return them (one per child) – they are a vital tool in helping to inform our self-evaluation. Hopefully, parents who have completed these in the past will have seen the direct correlation between patterns of feedback and actions taken by the school. For example, in previous questionnaires, parents expressed the desire to see homework more 'formalised' in Class 2 and 3 which was actioned; feedback was received that more could be done to share children's progress resulting in the introduction of 'Interim Reports' and more frequent SEN review meetings; parents didn't feel aware of the work of the Governing body, so a Governors' Newsletter was instituted etc. Thank you in advance for your time.

**Uniform Order** – the next uniform order is to be sent on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June. As this is the last order before summer, there won't be time for late orders to be processed. Please download the form from the website or contact the office for one. Many thanks.

**Dinner / Milk / Juice Money** – these payments are all due on a Monday morning. Please pay in advance, not in arrears. This is as a result of NYCC audit regulations, and also helps Mrs. Richmond in the office. Please note, we are hoping to introduce an online payment system from September (Parent Pay) which should streamline this process further.

**Children walking home alone** – we're reaching the time of year where a number of our older pupils are able to walk home alone. This is absolutely fine, but, for the purposes of Safeguarding, please could you inform the school *in writing* (email / letter to office) if you are happy for your child to walk home / to a child minder's etc. A list will then be kept on file. If children's names are not on the list, they will not be permitted to leave without a carer present. Many thanks.

**PE Kit and Tennis Tournament** – please can all pupils ensure they bring PE Kits on Mondays, since Athletics will be taking place Monday morning. Also, children are welcome to bring tennis racquets and a ball (named please!) to play with at break-time if they wish.

**Pirate Ship Painting** – School Friends will be around 1-4pm tomorrow, kindly repainting our pirate ship play equipment. Any volunteers warmly welcomed - many hands make light work! Thank you!

**Clubs** – Archery (weather permitting!) on Tuesdays and Football on Thursdays will continue this half term. In addition, Mrs. C. Stanwix and Mr. Roycroft will be running a new **Tri-Golf Club** for Year 2 – Year 4 on a Wednesday. Due to the amount of equipment and space available, there will only be 12 places at this club, and places will be allocated initially on a 'first-come-first-served' basis – please contact the office.

**Dates for the Diary:** [Clubs this half term (all run 3:10-4:15pm): Tuesdays: Archery, Y4-6; Wednesdays: Tri Golf, Y2-4; Thursdays: Football, Y3-6.]

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June – 7pm, New Reception Pupils Parents' Evening

W/C Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June – Y1 Phonics Screening Check Week

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June – 4pm Y5/6 Football Tournament, Brompton on Swale

Looking ahead... Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day / Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June – 5pm Class 3 Production / Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June – Leavers' Assembly (time TBC)

### And Finally...

Congratulations to Jake Calvert who won no less than 5 races at the Newsham Carnival and was awarded a trophy for his efforts! Well done Jake!

Every blessing,



Rob Campbell

