

# Ravensbury Community School

*We create. We explore. We care. We soar.*

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

**Firstly I'd like to start by wishing you all a very Happy New Year!**

Time is flying by so quickly, can you believe that we are already a third of the way through the school year? I have a feeling 2024 is going to be a good year.

**Let's say goodbye to 2023...**

Looking back at 2023 has made me realise how hard everyone has worked to support the children at Ravensbury. Attendance last term was 95% which is 1% above national which is amazing. Thank you! Our attendance target for the end of this year is 96% with your support I'm sure we will reach it. Our youngest children were quite poorly during the Autumn term with a range of nasty germs, let's hope the cold weather kills off some of the germs.

But 2023 ended with the children making good progress, they worked hard to fill some of the gaps in their learning and they also had lots of fun and laughter doing so! We are so proud of them!

It was also nice to welcome parents/carers back into school to find out about all the amazing things the children have been learning about as well as joining in with our celebrations.

We celebrated Christmas in true Ravensbury style and were delighted to welcome parents/carers back into school to see EYFS and KS1 share the true meaning of Christmas with us. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 performed Christmas songs at St Cross Church which got us in a Christmassy mood. We are looking forward to sharing the KS2 performance with you in the Summer term.

I'd like to say a special thank you to Mrs Thelwis and Mrs Roberts for organising the infamous Ravensbury Christmas Fair. With your support we raised over £4,000! Thank you that's amazing! Some of the money was spent making Christmas a special time for the children. The rest of the money is being spent on buying new microphones which we use for performances.



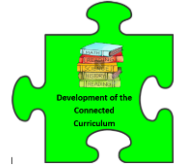
## And say hello to 2024!

### How are we getting on with our key priorities?

Our school Improvement Plan (SIP) outlined for key priorities we are working on this academic year.

#### KP1: Development of the Connected Curriculum

We have been working hard to identify what we want the children to learn by the end of each lesson, each unit of work and by the end of the year in the foundation subjects (history, geography, art and DT). On the staff day in October all staff had training in how to plan exciting units of work in art and what this would look like for the children. There will be an emphasis on drawing in the spring term.



#### KP2: Assessment tools and moderation

We have been working with a consultant to help with the assessment of writing. We have changed the way writing is assessed, there is now a focus on the purpose of the writing and the audience and how it makes them feel. We will of course still focus on things like spelling, capital letters and full stops. We are working with other schools in the local area to moderate writing.



#### KP3: Curriculum Development: Teaching and Learning in Writing

We continue to review the writing curriculum. We have bought some new and exciting texts to inspire the children to write. The children have opportunities to write a range of different text types and in which they apply their phonic knowledge and spelling skills. The children are also being given lots of opportunities to write and to practice their writing skills independently. Staff have revisited the writing process and have reviewed the long term and medium-term plans.



#### KP4: Behaviour and attitudes to learning

The staff have developed new protocols which clearly set out how children are expected to behave in certain situations: moving round the building, in assembly, in the dining room. Staff have received training on zones of regulation to help them understand how to support children in recognising and managing their emotions. Look out for the behaviour workshop later in the term which Mr Leverton will be holding.



We will keep you updated about our improvements and there will be lots more opportunities for you throughout the year to become more involved in your child's learning.



## Dates for your diary!

Coffee and cake with the Headteacher Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February



School will close for the half term holiday on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February and will reopen on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February is a staff training day. School will not be open for the children.

**Year 1 Phonics screening check -June 2024**

**KS1 SATs – May 2024**

**KS2 SATs – 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May
English grammar, punctuation and spelling: Paper 1	English reading	Maths Paper 1: arithmetic	Maths Paper 3: reasoning	
English grammar, punctuation and spelling: Paper 2		Maths Paper 2: reasoning		

## A couple of reminders...

### REMEMBER... Attendance Matters; Every Day Counts

It is important that your child attends school every day poor attendance affects attainment and progress and can affect friendships at school. It is a parent's responsibility to make sure that their child attends school regularly and on time.

**Remember school starts at 8.50am**

### Holidays in Term Time

We are not allowed to authorise holidays or trips during term time. Parents need to be aware that if their child is out of school for holidays or trips, legal action for unauthorised absences is taken.











- Each parent/carer will receive a Penalty Notice of £120.00 for each child. This will be reduced to £60.00 if paid within 21 days of the fine being issued.
- Any such Penalty Notice or prosecution may relate to your child's attendance record both prior to and subsequent to this letter.
- Each parent/carer may receive a court summons, which may lead to a criminal record and a fine.
- Your child is also at risk of losing their school place.

**The Government have made it very clear that children have 13 weeks holidays from school to use to go away**



## PE KIT

Children should come to school in their PE kit on the days they have PE, please see below for the school's PE kit. Please check the days with your child's teacher.

Outdoor PE Kit	Indoor PE kit	Swimming Kit (Y4 only)
Plain white t-shirt 	Plain white t-shirt. 	One piece swimming costume or trunks 
Plain black shorts/leggings/tracksuit bottoms 	Plain black shorts/leggings. 	A swimming hat is required to be worn if the hair covers the eyes or airways 
Trainers or pumps 		A towel 

### Picking children up from school

Children must be picked up from school at the correct time at the end of the school day, if they are not it can be distressing and upsetting for them.

School finishing times are:

Foundation Stage at 3.20pm

Key stage 1 at 3.20pm

Key stage 2 at 3.30pm

If you think you might be late please ring the school on 0161 223 0370 so that staff can let your child know.

### Show you care... Please park elsewhere!

I would like to remind all parents that when dropping off and picking up your child/children:



- Vehicles **MUST** always be parked legally so as not to cause an obstruction.
- Please do not park on the yellow zig zag markings at the front of the school.
- Do **NOT** park too close to a road junction.
- Please do not pull alongside parked cars to allow your children to 'jump in' or 'jump out'.

**Remember: The children's safety is a greater priority than convenient parking which puts children's lives at risk. Unsafe parking is unacceptable.**

The staff and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and wish you all the best for 2024!

Best Wishes

Mrs Hughes

Headteacher