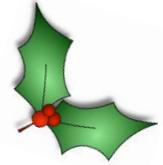




Raysfield Primary

Know myself. Respond to my world.
Connect with my community.



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



Tuesday 1st December

Dear Parents and Carers,

Merry Christmas everyone! We are having a great term leading up to the Christmas holiday and I am sure you have been hearing all about the exciting opportunities being explored this term. I have enjoyed hearing and seeing all of the new learning motivating our young people: Year 2 have studied the positive impact Florence Nightingale had on nursing, and the importance of keeping good hygiene; our eldest pupils are learning about World War II and in Mallard and Heron classes it has all been about Space! The Stone Age has been inspiring Finch and Robin class – their homemade tools are brilliant. In Kestrel and Kingfisher, the rainforest is stimulating their curiosity about endangered animals. In Year 1, the learning has also been about animals and their retelling of the Monkey Puzzle story is inspiring! Our very youngest children have now settled well into the routines of school life and already impress us with their appetite for learning ☺

We know how important it is to celebrate Christmas; it has always been a special time in primary school, but this year it is even more vital to provide our children with a great celebration. As educators, we see this as our most important duty! This year we have made the following COVID secure plans:

- **Raysfield does Nativity!** All classes will be contributing to the Christmas story, with songs, a little acting and lots of laughter! This will be recorded and shared with you in the last week of term. Please could your children wear a **Christmas jumper on Friday 11th December** when we record the performance.
- **Christmas meals.** These will take place in the dining hall for every class. Lunchtimes will happen in a staggered, and therefore safe way, but all classes will eat in the hall and we will make it as festive as possible with music and decorations. Please make sure you sign up by Monday 7th December on ParentPay and we would like your children to wear a **Christmas jumper** on these days please.
- **Christmas wishes for Stanshaws Care Home.** Our youngest children will be sending some Christmas cheer to a local care home.
- **Christmas Games.** Classes have a designated time in the hall to play Christmas games and songs.
- **Christmas crafts.** Lots of our children will be creating some Christmas crafts to decorate their homes and we have already had a busy group of helpers to make personalised 'Raysfield' decorations to take pride of place on our school Christmas tree. When it is all finished, we will share some photographs on dojo.



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

Raysfield has continued to go from strength to strength, and the Local Authority continues to review our standards. Here are a few of the comments made from our assessment this term.

There has been significant investment in the learning environment as part of the schools' transition from federation to amalgamation.

Displays are more purposeful and showcase work that is of a much better standard. The school now exudes a sense of pride and purpose. Leaders have worked hard to create a sense of community and welcome new staff to the team, inducting them into the 'Raysfield' way.

Leaders have a very good understanding of the strengths and areas for development across the school. There has been a relentless focus on developing pedagogy and insisting upon high expectations from all members of staff.

This year we will continue to develop our assessment system to ensure it provides teachers with precise and specific detail of every child's ability, resulting in learning, which is matched appropriately for all children to make good progress.

PE kits

Please can you ensure your child wears the correct PE uniform to school on their PE days. You can find PE uniform guidance here <https://www.raysfield.org.uk/uniform/> Please note you can also purchase Raysfield hoodies or a plain navy hoody so your child can keep warm.



Respond to our world - Gurkha Challenge!



Over the past two terms Year 5 and 6 have been taking part in a charity challenge. Each class has climbed the height of Mount Everest by walking up and down the stairs that lead to their classrooms. This challenge is ran by the Gurkha Welfare Trust which provides support to retired Gurkhas. As we are approaching the end of this challenge, we are asking for donations so that we can play our part in supporting this wonderful charity. Information on how to donate will follow shortly. Many thanks for your support.

COVID UPDATE

As we move from National lockdown to Tier 3, we wish to thank you for your support with keeping our immediate community safe by continuing to wear masks, reduce any face to face contact and show respect for our school guidelines. Our risk assessment is reviewed monthly but we will be keeping the more stringent rules we currently have in place until the New Year, when we hope we will know more about how the vaccine will be distributed.