



# Newsletter



September No 1.

## WELCOME BACK!

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are really looking forward to another academic year at Ravensmead. It was lovely to see all of the children return to school last week and we welcome all the new starters in our Nursery and Reception classes, alongside any other children that have joined us this September. We look forward to working with all of our families this year.

### Staffing

We would like to welcome a new member of staff to our team Mrs Snape, who will be working primarily in Key Stage 2 during the mornings supporting our children with Mathematics and English. Alongside Mrs Snape we are pleased that Miss King is continuing to work with us as one of our Year 1 teachers. If at any point you wish to speak to your child's class teacher, please send a message into school or ring the office. The class teacher will then get back in contact with you to arrange a convenient time to meet. There is also a short "drop in" session on a Wednesday to see your child's class teacher after school if you wish.

### Calendar

Our autumn term calendar is now available on our school website with hard copies being available in the foyer. As part of our curriculum offer, we intend to provide different opportunities for the children at Ravensmead and where possible we will be encouraging you to share those opportunities with your child. Please keep checking our school website about events happening in school.

Contact Details- It is vitally important that we are able to contact parents in case of an emergency in school. If you have changed any contact details, please ensure that the office have the correct information. We use our text messaging service to send information to parents on a regular basis. These will be sent to the first contact mobile phone number. If you have not received any text messages from school, please check that we have the correct contact details.

Annual Consent Forms - Our annual consent forms were sent out on Friday, please can you ensure that these are sent back into school by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September.

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### Contacting School

Ravensmead is a growing school and as you appreciate our office is extremely busy. We would ask that if you do have any messages to send into school, for example a different member of the family is picking your child up at the end of the school day, that this is either sent in as a letter to the class teacher or is written in your child's school reading diary, if this has been pre-arranged.

Please help us by supporting your child to remember PE kits, Swimming Kits, Musical Instruments and lunch boxes during the week, as this will help to develop their independence.

### Attend, Achieve, Succeed!

As always, we cannot stress the importance of excellent attendance and punctuality, as it has such a huge impact on a child's progress in learning.

Our target at Ravensmead is 96% and we aim to meet that target every year with your help.

Please can I ask that if your child has been ill, then we must have a letter explaining their illness on their return to school otherwise the absence is recorded as unauthorised.

Further information will be sent out about attendance in the coming weeks.



### **School Uniform**

So that we start the year with the establishment of high standards and expectations of behaviour, attitude and learning. We ask for your continued support with this in ensuring that all children are wearing the appropriate uniform, including black school shoes. **All pieces of clothing need to be clearly labelled with your child's name. If for any reason your child does not have the appropriate uniform then a letter must be sent into school to the class teacher to inform them.**

The PE kit is an important part of our school uniform, so please ensure children wear plain white t-shirts or white t-shirts with the school logo only, dark blue or black shorts and pumps or trainers. Recommended for outdoor wear: Black/navy tracksuit, white T-shirt, black /white socks and outdoor trainers. Please can we ask that hair is tied up especially for PE days due to health and safety reasons.

**FAB Friday** - please remember that the children need to come to school wearing their colour team top on Friday with dark joggers. They will need a tracksuit jacket as the weather gets colder. Children cannot wear football tops. Smart Uniform do provide the school colour team tops.

Fashion items of clothing are not suitable for school. Denim is not allowed at all. Make-up and fashion jewellery are unsuitable for school. Earrings should be unobtrusive studs or sleepers; a single stud or sleeper may be worn in each ear. We would ask that these are removed on PE days or when children are swimming. We would ask that you do check your child's hair at regular intervals, to ensure there are no little visitors. If in the event that there are, please let school know so that we can give a reminder to all the children about checking their hair.

**Water/Snacks**- All children will need a water bottle filled with fresh water, no juice please. Early Years Foundation Stage pupils are provided with fruit as are Key Stage 1 children. Key Stage 2 children are allowed to bring in money for snack if they wish.

**Dinner money** - As I informed you at the end of last term the cost of dinner money is increasing to **£2.30**. This is the first price rise in 2 years. We have tried to keep it as low as possible.

**Be Safe**- As you are aware, 'keeping our children safe' is Ravensmead's main priority. We need your help and support in ensuring that your children are safe before and after school. If you have a younger child who you collect before waiting for an older sibling to be released from a different key stage, please ensure that they remain with you, at your side. Please communicate this message to any other adult who may collect your child on your behalf. Children must never be allowed to climb or sit on the wall at the front of the school building. We also ask that if your child comes to school on a bike or scooter, this is only used when children have left the school premises. I am sure that you can appreciate how busy this area is at the beginning and end of the day and we need to ensure that everyone - children, adults and staff - are safe. Children in Key Stage 2 should not be arriving on the school premises **before 8.50 a.m.** as there are no staff to supervise children before this time.

If your child is riding their bike or scooter down to school we do advise them to wear a helmet for safety.

**Walk to School** - If at all possible, we are encouraging as many families as possible to walk to school as this is not only good exercise but also helps to alleviate the traffic congestion and help the environment. Again, this year we are working with "Living Streets" and the children will be recording how they travel to school on their class travel tracker in order to achieve their badge at the end of the month. Please try to park further away and walk or car share as a way of getting to school. We are encouraging families to Park & Stride, by parking at the community centre in the village. Please remember we have the access to Audley Football Clubs Car Park at the beginning and at the end of day. A polite reminder that **Ravens Close is only for residents and there is no parking allowed in that street.** In addition, cars should not be turning round or dropping off at the front of the school. I would ask that this is communicated to any family members who may be dropping off or picking up your child from school.

Thank you for your support.