



PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

NEWSLETTER – December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the Autumn term and the festive season, I wish to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been an exciting and productive term for our school community. It is hard to believe how quickly the time has flown!

Firstly, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks for your continued support and for attending our Christmas performances. It was truly wonderful to witness all the children showcasing their confidence on stage. Their hard work and enthusiasm shone through, and I am immensely proud of each and every one of them.

This term has been filled with a variety of enriching experiences. Our Year 4 pupils successfully completed their swimming lessons, demonstrating both perseverance and skill in the water. Meanwhile, Year 5 had the opportunity to participate in an enlightening mining workshop, which inspired curiosity and provided hands-on learning about our local heritage. Additionally, a group of Year 5 students have been engaged in a new programme called Better Learners, Better Workers, which aims to enhance their skills and prepare them for future challenges.

As you are all aware, Mrs Pickering leaves us today to go on maternity. We will keep families informed when she has her baby, and I am sure we will see them both in school soon! Mr Lazenby will be stepping into Mrs Pickering's role, and we will be welcoming a new member of the admin team: Miss Leahy.

I wish you all a joyful Christmas and a relaxing break. Thank you once again for your unwavering support this term. We look forward to welcoming the children back in the new year, ready for more learning adventures.

Warmest wishes,

L. Jepson
Principal

KEY DATES

Back to school

Monday 6th January

FS2 Jungle Animal Encounter

Wednesday 8th January

Y4 Ancient Greek Workshop

Wednesday 15th January

Y6 SATs Parent Meeting

Thursday 16th January

Y6 AMRC Workshop

Tuesday 28th January

Parents' Evening

Wednesday 29th January

Parents' Evening

Wednesday 5th February

For further key dates and term dates please click here:

[Ravenfield Primary Academy - Upcoming Events](#)

Key updates:

You said, we listened:

Parents commented that their children wanted to have more opportunities to play football at break times. We have since adapted our football timetable for breaktimes. This gives each year group a full week on the pitch, and they have chance to play against other year groups.

Opportunities to stay and learn with siblings:

We appreciate not all of our families can attend the Stay and Learn Events. This is why we offer vast opportunities for parents to get in to school. We obviously don't expect families to attend every event. We also recognise it is challenging for families to split their time between siblings – hence why our Harvest Event was done in Houses. We had positive feedback about this. Therefore, we are looking at applying this approach for some of the future stay

PTA

A huge thank you to our PTA who continue to work hard to raise funds for our school. So far they have bought:

- Resources for EYFS provision. Including: The Literacy Shed and the black bins for storage.
- They have purchased spare coats for school to ensure all children have a coat.
- A 12ft Artificial Christmas tree for the school hall – which I am sure you will agree it looks incredible!

These are just a few things they have purchased.

They raised an outstanding £1436.40 through all the Christmas Events. These funds will go towards purchasing musical instruments for whole school.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS Year to Date

Robins FS1 – 91.1%	Starlings Y3 – 97.2%
Owls FS2 – 96.2%	Hawks Y4 – 97%
Swallows Y1 – 96.1%	Falcons Y5 – 97.9%
Kingfishers Y2 – 95.5%	Eagles Y6 – 97.6%



SeeSaw

I just want to take this opportunity to say thank you to all families for being patient whilst we get to grips with SeeSaw. The decision to move to this platform was based on several reasons, including creating a digital floor book for learning, providing a platform children can engage with too and protecting staff wellbeing.

I understand some families feel this is a backwards step in communication between school and families. Please be assured that families can still contact school/teachers via phoning the school office, emailing: info@ravenfieldprimaryacademy.com or by catching a member of staff at the start or the end of the school day. We will also continue to share updates to parents via: social media posts, letters, newsletters, learning journeys (which are shared at the start of each half term) and parents' evenings.

