



Raysfield Infant School
Raysfield Junior School

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Federation Newsletter - DECEMBER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Merry Christmas everyone. The glitter, reindeer ears and Christmas music is in the Raysfield air! We hope you are beginning to also feel the Christmas cheer.

It was great to see so many of you at the Christmas Fair last Saturday. We are very proud of the achievements of our new **Friends of Raysfield PTA**. They raised a HUGE **£1500**. Thank you to everyone who donated items for raffles, volunteered on the day or supported the event preparations and to those of you who visited the fair. We have had so many positive comments, which have been lovely to hear.

Did you receive your copy of the Christmas Newsletter, which was issued last Friday? If not, make sure you follow this link <https://www.raysfieldschoolsfederation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Newsletter-Christmas-2019.pdf> to read about the Christmas events happening in school over the next two weeks.

Enrichment clubs

We are excited to present our clubs for the Spring term. The staff will be offering the following and running the clubs:

Club	Teacher	When	Year group
Netball	Mrs Harris-Cue	Thursday until 4:15	Year 5 and Year 6
Football	Mr Gibbs	Wednesday until 4:15	Year 5 and Year 6
Board Games	Mrs Sharp and Mrs Beamson	Unknown at present	Year 4
Computing	Miss Turnball and Miss Prior	Tuesday lunchtime	Year 2 and Year 3
Gardening Club	Mrs Richardson	Wednesday lunchtime	Years 3-6 Maximum of 15
Choir	Miss Bidder	Wednesday lunchtime	Year 4, 5 and 6
Forest Skills	Mrs Southwell	Unknown at present	Year 3, 4 and 5
Dance	Mrs Samarra	Monday until 4:20	Currently for the festival group, but after February it will be for year groups 3,4,5 and 6.
Yoga	Miss Calver	Lunchtime club in Term 4	Year 1

A club letter will be issued in the first week of Term 3 and clubs will begin during the third week (week commencing 20th January). The club letter will identify how to apply for a place. **Have a think about what club you would like to do?**



The improvement journey so far...

In school everyone has been working very hard to further develop our federation. Our key priorities around the improvement of behaviour, the quality of teaching and our learning environments continue.

- Incidents of poor behaviour have significantly reduced, and our children are reporting they are much happier in school.
- The JIGSAW programme is proving to be a highlight of the week for many of our children. We all enjoy these lessons.
- Our Play Pod is on its way! Parents, pupils and staff will all have training sessions on how to use the resource. It will open its doors in January.
- The physical environment is still a work in progress and we have some plans with the Local Authority to extend our play spaces and improve the visibility between the sites.

What is next for Spring?

We will be working on our children's independence and ability to face a challenge in their learning with a smile 😊 Our new Project Based Learning approach will be taking off again in Term 3 with the launch of Explore term. Please do look out for lots of updates on Class Dojo.

Staff update

Miss Sheppard has been offered an opportunity to be a consultant Headteacher, providing part-time support to another setting in our local authority. Not only is this a huge compliment to Miss Sheppard, it is also positive recognition that Raysfield has stabilised. We congratulate Miss Sheppard on this role; they are a lucky school to be supported by such an enthusiastic and highly skilled leader.

Please do not fear for Raysfield, Miss Sheppard will continue to fulfil her Inclusion lead role and support the school as Associate Headteacher on the two days she will be here. Miss Thomas and myself will lead our infant department in her absence. This opportunity is for three terms only and Miss Sheppard will then return to Raysfield full time.

We would also like to take this opportunity to inform you that Mrs Cater, Mrs Marsh and Mrs Milliner will be officially leaving our teaching team at the end of this term. We wish them all the best for the future and thank them for their contributions to Raysfield.

Inset Day – 6th January 2020

Please note we have an Inset Day on Monday 6th January 2020 for staff training. We welcome all children back on Tuesday 7th January 2020.



Social Media – a polite reminder

Please set a good example online. Using Social Media is a fantastic way to keep in touch with your friends and family. Sharing the exciting achievements and events children take part in is a lovely part of life. We understand the desire to capture memories through photographs and share them; we encourage this. However, the inappropriate use of Social Media will not be tolerated by the school. Inappropriate use Social Media includes: - Offensive comments, rumours and gossip regarding the school or any of the pupils/ parents or staff. - Posting other online conversations, which are confidential. - Posting pictures of other people's children without the courtesy of seeking permission.

Unfortunately, untrue comments online can lead to concerns. With this in mind, I would like to confirm that all children are asked to observe good hygiene habits before eating for example washing your hands.



Most of our parents are signed up to class dojo now – please do ask your class teacher if you need an invite. We were pleased to hear this communication is working well from our Parent Council meeting today. **Could we just remind you that if another person is picking your child up from school, this message also needs to go to the office.** The reason for this is if a teacher is also absent from school that day or does not see the message.

Examples of messages that would be reported straight to the school office:

- Reporting a child's absence
- Reporting arrangements for child pick-ups.
- A complaint
- Arrangements for a face to face meeting with a senior leader

School Governor Vacancy

There is currently a vacancy for a parent governor to join our team of experienced governors. The school's governing body is an active group of volunteers who provide both support and challenge to the leadership. If you are interested in joining us please let Mrs Smith, Clerk to Governors, know. Knowledge of finance would be desirable, as this has been identified as a gap in our skill set. We look forward to hearing from you.

