



Weekly news from Ravenshead C of E

Staffing and Class arrangements for 2026–2027



Although we still have a busy few weeks ahead before the summer holidays, we are already making preparations for the next academic year and are pleased to share our staffing arrangements for September.

As many families will be aware, schools across the country are experiencing a decline in pupil numbers and Ravenshead is no exception. As a result, we will continue to operate mixed-age classes in **Year 1/2** and **Year 3/4** next academic year.

When considering our class structure, we carefully balance educational outcomes, staffing and financial sustainability. For September 2026, we have made the decision to retain separate **Year 5** and **Year 6** classes. However, as smaller cohorts move through the school over the coming years, it is likely that we will need to introduce a mixed **Year 5/6** class in the future.

We understand that parents sometimes have questions about mixed-age classes, but we are very proud of the success of our mixed-year-group provision. These classes work exceptionally well and offer many benefits for children. They provide opportunities for pupils to learn collaboratively, develop independence, build confidence and strengthen their leadership skills. Children are taught according to their individual needs and stage of learning rather than simply their age, and our carefully planned curriculum ensures that all pupils receive full coverage of the National Curriculum.

As part of our transition programme, all children will have the opportunity to meet their new teacher and spend time in their new classroom on **Transition Day, Tuesday 30th June**. This helps children become familiar with their new learning environment and begin building relationships with the staff who will be supporting them next year.

As in previous years, we will tell children which class they will be in on the day of the transition visit.

Our class structure for the 2026–2027 academic year will be as follows:

Foundation – Miss Blakey, Miss Moore and Mrs Walker

Rabbits (Year 1) – Mrs Wood and Mrs Walker

Woodpeckers (Year 1/2) – Mrs Rice

Owls (Year 2) – Mrs Stevens

Deer (Year 3) – Mr Walls

Foxes (Year 3/4) – Mrs Burton-Sanders

Squirrels (Year 4) – Mrs Keightley and Mrs Howard

Robins (Year 5) – Mrs Baker

Golden Eagles (Year 5) – Mr Evans

Wolves (Year 6) – Mrs Sawyer and Mrs Winfield

Hawks (Year 6) – Mrs Richardson and Mrs Soley



You may notice that two familiar names are missing from the class overviews for next year. At the end of this academic year, we will be saying a fond farewell to **Mrs Brown** and **Mrs Swanston** as they move on to some exciting new adventures.

Both have made a tremendous contribution to our school community and have positively impacted the lives of so many children over the years. They will be greatly missed by staff, pupils and families alike, and we thank them sincerely for their dedication, commitment and care.

Attached are personal letters from Mrs Brown and Mrs Swanston, which we hope you will take the time to read.

After more than 14 wonderful years as an Early Years teacher at Ravenshead C of E, the time has come for me to say goodbye. During my time here, I have learnt so much, shared many happy memories, and had the privilege of working with so many amazing children. I have also greatly valued getting to know their parents and families, whose support and kindness have meant so much.

I will miss each and every one of them, but my journey at Ravenshead now comes to an end as I move on to a new adventure in teaching in Scotland. Thank you for being such an important part of my life and career. I will always look back on my time here with great affection.

Mrs Brown

After 15 happy years of teaching at Ravenshead, alongside many talented and passionate teachers and support staff who have become my friends, I am bidding farewell as I step into my next chapter in Cornwall.

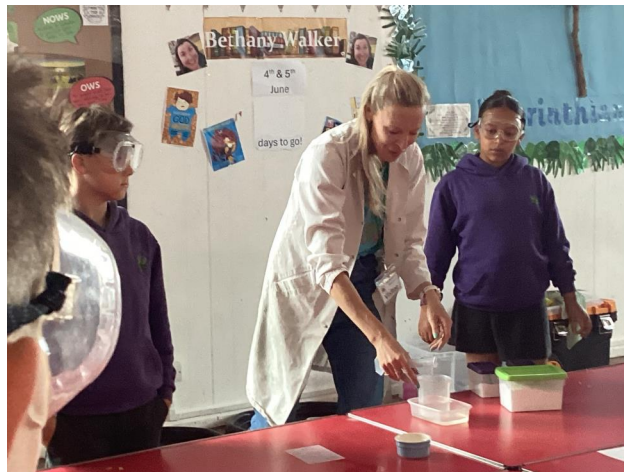
I have had the pleasure of meeting and working with many children and families, and I feel incredibly lucky to have taught so many wonderful children whom I will never forget. I have been privileged to watch them grow from tiny little dots in our Foundation Stage, lose their first teeth, read their first books independently, make lasting friendships and stretch before my eyes as they became the cool kids in Year 6! It is always special to see some of them again when they return as teenagers or young adults on work experience placements.

One of the greatest joys of my teaching role has been sharing the little details of what children are like in the classroom with you at parents' evenings or when chatting at the door after school, and talking about all their achievements, both big and small. These moments have meant so much to me, and they are part of what has made my time at Ravenshead so special.

I will always treasure the kindness, support and laughter that have filled my years here, and the relationships I have built with children, parents and co-workers. Thank you all.

Mrs Swanston

Science Workshops



Over the next few Fridays, every year group will have the opportunity to take part in an exciting science workshop led by Nina. These hands-on sessions are designed to inspire curiosity, encourage scientific thinking and bring learning to life through engaging experiments and activities.

This is another fantastic enrichment opportunity, generously **funded by our PTFA**. Their continued support enables us to provide experiences beyond the classroom that enhance the curriculum and create lasting memories for our children.

The workshops have already been a huge success, with children thoroughly enjoying the chance to explore science in a practical and interactive way.

We are delighted to share the thoughts of two of our Year 6 pupils below, who have written reviews about their experience.

I really loved our workshop with Nina this week. We started by learning the difference between acids and alkalines which was great fun. Then we did activities! First we put on our goggles. We used: lemon juice, bicarbonate of soda, food colouring and obviously a lemon to make a volcanic reaction (the acid in the lemon caused the bicarbonate of soda to fizz making bubbles of carbon dioxide). Lastly we finished with my favourite part - making sherbert. We used 3 different powders to make a sour tasting sweet. We used one big cup of icing sugar; a smaller cup of citric acid and an even smaller cup of bicarbonate of soda. We mixed them together to make sherbert. Thank you for an amazing science lesson Nina!

The science workshop we did was super fun for everyone! In the first session we made carbon dioxide bubbles using: lemons, lemon juice, icing sugar and food colouring. Next we got to make our own sherbert by mixing together: icing sugar, powdered citric acid and bicarbonate of soda. We also found a new way to figure out if a substance was an acid or an alkaline!

Here are some photographs:





Parking around school



We have recently received a number of concerns regarding parking around the school site at drop-off and collection times.

We kindly ask all parents, carers and visitors to park considerately and respectfully, keeping the safety of our children at the forefront of their minds. Please avoid parking on pavements, blocking driveways, obstructing visibility at junctions and crossing points, or stopping in areas where it may put pedestrians at risk.

We understand that parking can be challenging at busy times; however, a short walk from a nearby street can make a significant difference to the safety of everyone in our school community.

Hedgehog Hub Breakfast Club



🌸 Introducing Hedgehog Hub Breakfast Club! 🐿

Following the outcome of our **Spring Term parent survey**, where a number of families expressed an interest in breakfast club provision, we are delighted to be launching **Hedgehog Hub Breakfast Club** from **September 2026** on a **trial basis until Christmas**.

Running every **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday** from **7:45am – 8:50am**, Hedgehog Hub will provide children with a warm, welcoming and positive start to the school day, with breakfast and time to socialise before lessons begin. The cost will be **£4 per session** and the club will be based here at school.

If you are interested in your child attending, please **click on the form below to express your interest. The deadline for completing the form is Friday 19th June.** The school office will then be in touch in the coming weeks with further information.

[Hedgehog Hub Breakfast Club – Fill in form](#)

Message from the PTFA



PTA News: May Highlights & Summer Dates for Your Diary

Thank you for your continued support this term. Thanks to your fundraising efforts, we have supplied new reading books for KS1 and KS2, purchased new football nets, and secured an amazing £1,495 Tesco Stronger Starts grant.

Our Colour Run was a huge success, raising an incredible £2,900 and bringing lots of fun and colour to the school community.

 **Don't Miss Our Summer Disco & Film Night!** 

Join us on Wednesday 24th June for an evening of music, dancing, films and fun. Tickets are available now and we'd love to see as many children as possible there!

Upcoming Events

- **School Disco & Film Night** – Wednesday 24th June
- **Summer Fair** – Saturday 11th July
- **Break the Rules Day** – Monday 20th July

Please continue bringing rainbow raffle prize donations into reception for the Summer Fair.

Purchase event tickets: www.pta-events.com/ravensheadcofeschoolptfa/

Thank you for helping us make a difference for all our children.

PTA NEWS & UPDATES

Keeping Parents Informed and Involved

MAY'S HEADLINES



SUPPLIED BOOKS BACK TO THE SCHOOL

- ✓ Supplied reading books for KS1 and KS2
- ✓ Thanks to your support, we have supplied books back to the school to help enrich learning opportunities for all pupils.



BOUGHT NEW FOOTBALL NETS

The children can now enjoy improved sports facilities with brand-new football nets funded by the PTA.



HUGE THANK YOU TO THE BLUE TOKENS

Thank you to everyone who voted with their blue tokens at Tesco.

We were awarded an amazing **£1,495 GRANT!**



COLOUR RUN A HUGE SUCCESS!

Our Colour Run was a fantastic event filled with fun, laughter, and lots of colour!

Thank you to everyone who participated, volunteered, and supported the event.

RAISED £2.9K!

SUMMER TERM DATES FOR THE DIARY



SCHOOL DISCO & FILM NIGHT

24th JUNE

Keep bringing in your rainbow raffle prizes to reception!



SUMMER FAIR

11th JULY



BREAK THE RULES DAY

MONDAY 20th JULY

PURCHASE EVENT TICKETS VIA THIS LINK
<https://www.pta-events.com/ravensheadcoteschoolpta/>



Thank You for Your Continued Support!
Together we are making a difference for our children and school community.

PTA TEAM

OPAL Play



We were really disappointed to have to cancel this week's OPAL Stay and Play due to the predicted thunderstorms. The children were very much looking forward to it, but safety always comes first. The good news is that the session has been rebooked for **8th July at 2.30pm**, and we are keeping our fingers crossed for a bright, sunny day!

Please could you ensure that your child brings a **waterproof coat** to school each day. This helps us get the children outside even when it is drizzling. The children much prefer being outdoors, but we do need enough coats in school to make this possible.

Finally, as we approach the end of the school year, if your child has any **wellies that no longer fit**, we would greatly appreciate donations. These can be handed in at the main reception and will be used as spares for children who need them. Thank you for your continued support!

Roll of Honour



Please feel free to share with us any significant achievements your children have made at home e.g. 10m swimming badge, so we can share them in next week's newsletter and during our 'Celebration Assembly' on a Friday.

Please click on the link to fill in the details of their achievement. We love sharing them!

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=fLFiE1ndRUC4x3tDwhN-M8hOgSY59GIMuxxXhfzXmkdUQkNSSktETzhKVU1DSkJKTElCWjM3TDZINS4u>

Myles	Y2	Well done Myles for winning the football tournament at Notts County at the weekend with Moorgreen colts & scoring 4 goals, Good work!
Sareyah	Y6	A huge well done Sareyah for auditioning and securing a place in this years Christmas pantomime (Cinderella) for the second year running, how amazing?! We are very proud of you :)
Luca	Y4	We're so proud of Luca for completing his 1st junior park run in 8 minutes, 39 seconds and coming 3rd in total. Keep up the hard work. Love mum and dad
George	Y1	Well done George for achieving his stage 2 swimming certificate!
Jack	F2	Well done for achieving your stage 1 swimming certificate!
Jake	Y2	Jake has received a trophy 🏆 at his football presentation evening. Well done Jake! 🎉🎉
Liam	Y4	Liam has received a trophy 🏆 at his football presentation evening. Well done Liam! 🎉🎉
Sophie	Y5	Sophie completed a flying lesson with Scouts in a glider at Darlton flying club. Well done Sophie 🎉

Term Dates



The term dates for the academic year (including INSET days), can be found on the school website - <https://www.ravensheadcofeprimary.co.uk/term-dates/>

Summer Term 2026 – Diary Dates	
Thursday 18th June	Y5 Papplewick Pumping Station trip
Wednesday 24th June	F2 Tropical Butterfly House trip PTA School Disco
Thursday 25th June	Y3/4 Mayan Workshop in school
Friday 26th June	Y3/4 Mayan Workshop in school
Monday 29th June	Y6 Transition to Jo Whit
Tuesday 30th June	Y6 Transition to Jo Whit Whole school transition day
Wednesday 1st July	Y6 Transition to Jo Whit
Thursday 2 nd July	‘Sing Up’ at Jo Whit (Choir event)
Monday 6th July	9:15am - KS1 Sports Day
Tuesday 7th July	9:15am – Y3/ Y4 Sports Day
Wednesday 8th July	‘You are Special’ choir performance to parents/ carers – 6:00pm
Thursday 9th July	9:15am – Y5/ Y6 Sports Day
Friday 10th July	End of year Reports out to parents
Saturday 11 th July	PTA Summer Festival (Inflatable party)
Monday 13th July	RESERVE Sports Day - PM
Thursday 16th July	Y4 Castleton Residential
Friday 17th July	Y4 Castleton Residential Foundation Sports Day – 2:30pm
Monday 20 th July	PTA ‘Break the Rules’ Day
Friday 24th July	1:30pm – Y6 Leavers Service at the church Last day!

Christian Values in school



These children have been showing our Christian Values in school this week:

Hawks - Isla

Wolves - Bella

Robins - In the woods

Golden Eagles - In the woods

Squirrels - Lois

Foxes - Toby

Deer - Jack

Owls - Leo K

Rabbits - Patrick

Woodpeckers - Leo R

Coming up next week.....



Thursday 18th June - Y5 Papplewick Pumping Station trip

Next week's school dinners



Don't forget you have until **9:30am each day** to sign your child up for a delicious school dinner. All dietary needs are catered for and the school dinners are free for children in F2, Y1 and Y2. For children in F1, Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 they cost **£3.16**.

Please message the office to order a school meal, before 9.30am, on the day.

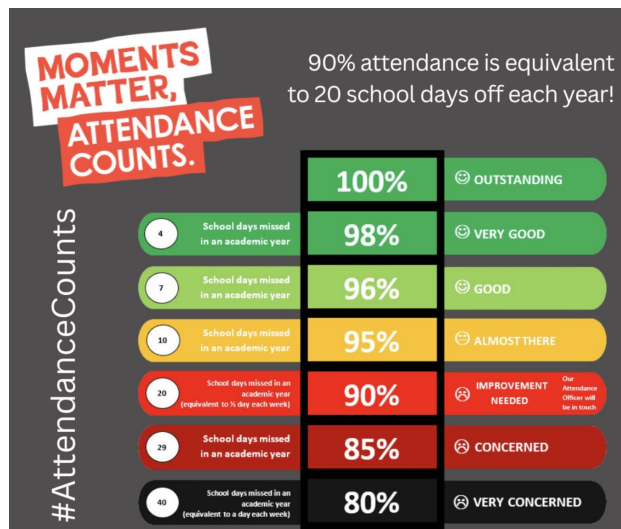
Week 1

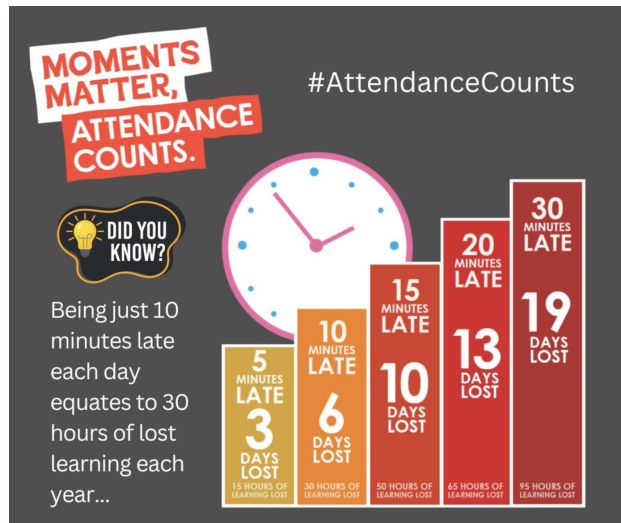
Week commencing
13th April, 4th May,
15th June, 6th July

SPRING Summer 2020

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Red Option	Cheesy tomato pasta Gluten Milk Soyad Soy with garlic bread Gluten Milk Soy & vegetable sticks	Pinwheel pizza Gluten Milk with diced potato & mixed salad	Roast gammon OR Roast Quorn™ Free Milk with Yorkshire pudding Gluten Egg Milk roast potatoes, cauliflower, green beans & gravy	Nottinghamshire sausage Gluten Soyad Soyad Soyad OR Linda McCartney™ sausage Gluten Soyad Soyad Soyad with mash, baked beans & sweetcorn	Fish Gluten Fish OR Fishless fingers Gluten with chips, peas & tomato ketchup
Blue Option	Your school's choice of: Jacket potato with either cheese Milk & beans or tuna mayonnaise Fish Egg Sandwich Gluten Soyad filled with either cheese Milk & tomato, ham & cheese Milk or cheese Milk All the above options are served with crunchy vegetable sticks or summery salad				
Pudding	Available daily: Sliced bread Gluten Soyad & fresh fruit				
	Fruit ice lolly	Iced school cake Gluten Egg Milk & custard Milk	Chocolate crispie Gluten	Butterscotch tart Gluten Milk	Banana mousse Milk with a shortbread crumb Gluten

Attendance Matters





Safeguarding



Safeguarding

If you have any Safeguarding concerns, please contact one of the Safeguarding leads using the email addresses listed below:

Mrs Johnson (head@ravenshead.notts.sch.uk)

Mrs Keightley (sophiekeightley@ravenshead.notts.sch.uk)

Mrs Soley (sarahsoley@ravenshead.notts.sch.uk)