



Weekly news from Ravenshead C of E

Welcome back!



It has been so lovely to welcome everyone back to school this week! There has been a real buzz around the building, and it has been wonderful to see the children catching up with friends, meeting their new teachers and settling so quickly into their new classes. A particularly warm welcome to all of our new children and families – we hope you already feel very much part of the Ravenshead family.

Our first Collective Worship of the year focused on **belonging** and the part we can all play in making sure everyone feels welcome, valued and included in our school community. We used the beautiful sunflowers growing in our school garden to help us think about this. Each flower is

unique, but they grow alongside one another, support each other and turn towards the light – a lovely image for the kind of school community we want for all of our children.

You may have already spotted this on our **Facebook page!** This year, we are going to be sharing much more of everyday life at Ravenshead on Facebook – celebrating the little moments as well as the big achievements and giving families a window into some of the wonderful things happening in school. If you haven't already, please do give our page a follow (and feel free to like and share our posts!) as this will also help us spread the word about our lovely school to the wider community.

Here's to a happy and successful 2026/27!

OPAL: Ready for Outdoor Play in All Weathers



At our school, we are committed to providing children with rich, engaging outdoor play opportunities through our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme. One of the key principles of OPAL is that children benefit from being outdoors every day, whatever the weather. To support this, we ask that all children have a pair of wellies and waterproof clothing in school at all times.

The Importance of Wellies and Waterproofs

Having wellies and waterproof clothing in school means that children can access outdoor play whenever opportunities arise. Without suitable clothing, children may need to miss out on activities when the ground is wet or muddy.

Wellies and waterproofs help children to:

- Stay warm, dry, and comfortable.
- Play confidently in a range of weather conditions.
- Enjoy the full range of outdoor opportunities available through OPAL.
- Develop independence as they learn to dress appropriately for different conditions.
- Make the most of every playtime throughout the year.

How Parents Can Help

Please ensure that your child has:

- A named pair of wellies kept in school.
- Named waterproof trousers and a waterproof coat, or an all-in-one waterproof suit where appropriate.
- Suitable warm layers during colder months.
- A spare pair of socks.
- Spare joggers, leggings, or tracksuit bottoms.

By keeping these items in school, children will always be ready to enjoy outdoor play, whatever the weather brings.

There Is No Such Thing as Bad Weather

The British weather can be unpredictable, and conditions can change quickly throughout the day. While we may experience rain, wind, puddles, mud, sunshine, or even all four seasons in one week, these changing conditions provide valuable play experiences for children.

Through OPAL, we encourage children to engage with the natural environment and experience the outdoors throughout the year. Jumping in puddles, building in muddy areas, exploring natural materials, and enjoying fresh air are all important parts of childhood.

The weather should not be a barrier to play. Instead, with the right clothing, it becomes an opportunity for adventure, exploration, and learning.

Why Outdoor Play Matters

Outdoor play is an essential part of children's development. It promotes physical health, supports emotional wellbeing, encourages creativity, and helps children develop important social skills. Being outside allows children to explore, take managed risks, solve problems, and use their imaginations in ways that are often difficult to replicate indoors.

Research consistently shows that regular access to outdoor play can improve concentration, resilience, confidence, and overall happiness. Children return to the classroom refreshed, ready to learn, and better able to focus.



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-M8hOgSY59GIMuxXhFzXmkdUQkNSSktETzhKVU1DSkJKTElCWjM3TDZINS4u>

The Roll of Honour will start again next week.

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/>

AUTUMN TERM 2026 – TERM DATES

Monday 7th September	F2 children in full time Y4 swimming starts Y5 Welcome Meeting
Thursday 10th September	Y1/2 Welcome Meeting
Friday 11th September	Y3/4 Viking Day
Monday 14th September	Y6 welcome meeting Y4 swimming
Tuesday 15th September	Hawks Worship in the Woods
Wednesday 16th September	KS1 Pirate Workshop
Tuesday 22nd September	Wolves Worship in the Woods
Thursday 24th September	EYFS Parent Workshop Physical Development and Handwriting (2:45- 3:15pm) Deer Worship in the woods KS1 Phonics Meeting - 3:45pm
Monday 28th September	Y5 Roman day
Tuesday 29th September	Robins worship in the woods
Wednesday 30th September	Individual school photos
Thursday 1st October	Y3/4 Partake Vikings (Foxes and Deer) Squirrels Worship in the Woods
Friday 2nd October	Y3/4 Partake Vikings (Squirrels) EYFS Learning Together Day: Physical Development and Handwriting (1:45-3:15pm)
Wednesday 7th October	Parents Evening: Open Classroom – 3:45 – 7:30pm
Thursday 8th October	Foxes Worship in the woods
Wednesday 14th October	2pm – KS1 Harvest Festival at the church – children only
Thursday 15th October	2pm – KS2 Harvest Festival at the church – children only

Half Term

(Monday 19th October until Friday 30th October)

Monday 2 nd November	INSET day: School Closed
Thursday 12th November	EYFS Parent Workshop PSED and CAL (9:15 – 9:45am)
Friday 13th November	Children in Need
Monday 16th November	Anti bullying week: Break the Silence Odd socks day
Tuesday 17th November	EYFS LTD PSED and CAL (9:15 – 10:45am)
Monday 30th November	F1 New Starter Parents Meeting (4:30 – 5:30pm)
Wednesday 2nd December	KS1 Nativity to parents at SCHOOL – 10am/ 2pm
Thursday 3rd December	PM – Y3/4 Rehearsal at the church F1 New Starters Stay and Play (3:45 – 4:45pm)
Friday 4th December	AM - Foundation Church Trip PM – Y3/4 Rehearsal at the church
Wednesday 9th December	PM – Y3/4 Rehearsal at the church EYFS Nativity at school – 2.30pm
Thursday 10th December	PM – Y3/4 Rehearsal at the church EYFS Nativity at school – 2.30pm
Friday 11th December	Y3/4 Nativity to parents at the CHURCH – 10am/ 2pm Christmas Dinner Day Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 14th December	Christingle Service – 2pm – Children only (Make Christingles in the morning)
Tuesday 15th December	Nativity Service – 2pm – Children only (Make Nativity craft in the morning)
Wednesday 16th December	'Carols around the tree' – School choir
	6:00pm – Performance to parents/ carers
Thursday 17th December	9am - Choir singing carols at Kings Mill Hospital
Friday 18th December	Last day! (The children can bring a non-expensive toy in to play with)

Christian Values in school



Celebration Assembly will start again next week!

Coming up next week.....



Monday 7th September - F2 children in full time

Monday 7th September - Y4 swimming starts

Monday 7th September - Y5 Welcome Meeting

Thursday 10th September - Y1 and Y2 Welcome Meeting

Friday 11th September - Y3 and Y4 Viking Day

Next week's school dinners

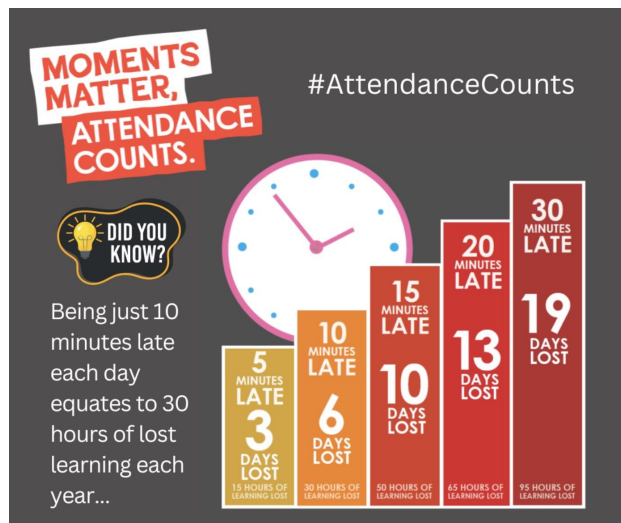
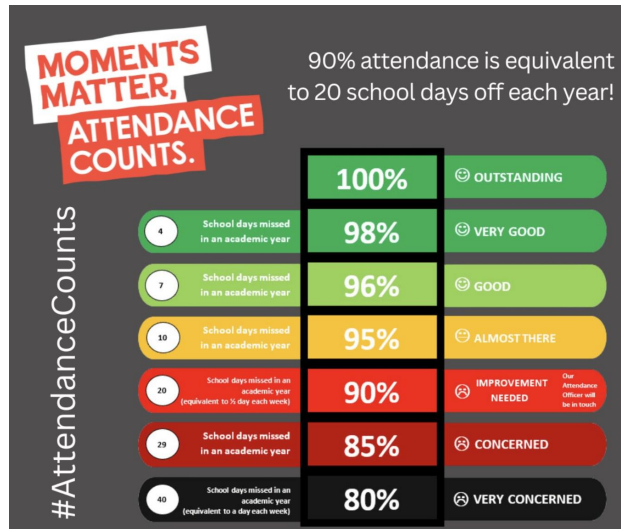


Don't forget you have until **9:30am each day** to sign your child up for a delicious school dinner. All dietary needs are catered for and the school dinners are free for children in F2, Y1 and Y2. For children in F1, Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 they cost **£3.16**.

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

We will let you know the new menu in next week's newsletter.

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)