



# Raleigh Headlines

Issue 7 Autumn Term — 22nd October 2020

- **Year 5** children are very much looking forward to their **Viking workshop** tomorrow—the swords they have been making at home look very authentic. Thanks to the Year 5 staff team for organising this day to enhance learning.
- Very sad news.....**Mrs Eileen Birch** is leaving this Friday following 16 years' service at The Raleigh in Reception with our youngest children. She is a wonderful person, caring, kind, generous with her time and actions and will be sorely missed by all of the staff team and the children of course. If you would like to send anything in tomorrow, that would be much appreciated but please bear in mind that she is moving home permanently to New Zealand at half term. She will be missed greatly but we hope she settles back home quickly. **Ms Ashley Trevena**, who is already working with us as part-time TA has been appointed to replace Mrs Birch.
- **Harvest Donations for the Salvation Army.** Thank you so much for your very generous donations which have now been collected by Major Catherine Rand. The number of families that they are supporting has gone from 30-200 as a result of Covid's impact on employment.
- After half term, the **school lunch menu** will change slightly. To view this on our website, [just click here](#). The on-line form to complete your child's lunch choices for after half term has now closed so I do hope that all children having a school lunch next half term have completed this.
- **Remembrance**—we shall once again be observing Remembrance in school this year. Each year group will have a Remembrance-themed assembly during the week commencing 9th November. All children will also participate in the two-minute silence at 11am on Wednesday 11th November.
- **TT Rock Stars Rock Out** - this is a times tables competition which will run from Monday 9th - Saturday 14th November. For further information, please see <https://trockstars.com/page/mathswweekengland2020>. All children from Years 1-6 have a login for the website and it a great opportunity for the children to compete and improve their times tables knowledge at the same time!
- **Covid:-** If anyone in your *household bubble* presents with symptoms the household bubble needs to isolate until the person with symptoms is tested negative. If a positive test results, the household bubble needs to isolate for 14 days from the first day that symptoms were present. **Please do not congregate in cross-year group bubbles at the school gate.** Many of our parents are shielding, so finding it impossible to maintain a social distance and accompany their child on to the school grounds. Do consider wearing masks and please keep 2m apart from one another. We really want everyone to stay well and keep the school open.....
- The number of items being dropped into the school office is increasing on a daily basis and this is resulting in an increased risk to our staff who are having to handle and deliver these items. From after half term, any items dropped into the school office will be quarantined; 72 hours for plastic items and 48 hours for fabric and other items. **This means that your child will not receive the item you have dropped in on the same day.** It is essential therefore that your child comes to school in the morning with everything that they need and whatever they do not have, they will have to do without. Many thanks.
- The **lost property shed** in the playground by the canopy area will be open on Monday's and Thursday's after the half term break which will allow items to be quarantined safely.
- **St Mary's Children's Minister Edd Cope** has produced this super assembly. It is very short, so do look at it with your child.. <https://youtu.be/crAYEqui2Ac>. The children will all have all brought home, by the end of the week, a *Superboost* gift containing an invitation and a sweet treat. They were all told to open the present with you, at home, rather than at school so I hope it made it home intact.
- We look forward to greeting you to the second of our **Parents' Evenings** this evening. It is ESSENTIAL that you log on with your child's name a few minutes before your meeting—do **follow the previously emailed instructions** carefully in order not to waste any of your precious consultation time.
- **School lunches** and **extended day** sessions for the next half term have now been loaded into Tucasi/Scopay so may we please ask you to pay for these over the half term break. Thank you.
- I hope that you all have a **wonderful half term** and enjoy precious family time together. The staff and I would like to say thank you for all of your kind messages and generous gifts.

## School Matters!



## Attendance

We do appreciate at the moment that attendance may not always be possible and that medical and dental appointments outside of school time are difficult to arrange but may we please ask you to try.

Last week, 5 children arrived late, 15 less than last week and 8 children attended medical and dental appointments in school time. In addition, there were 14 other unauthorised absences

250 children currently have 100% attendance to date so well done children!

Last week 5 Hazel had the highest attendance with 99.69% very closely followed by 1 Ash with 99.65%.  
A very big well done to both classes.

## School Lunch Provision

Yesterday, Mrs Grainger (years 2 & 4), Mrs Herrington (years 1 & 4) & Mrs Hensler (years R & 2) met with Mr Steve Wishart on behalf of ABM catering, Mrs Mumby and Mrs Light to discuss the current school lunch provision.

### Items discussed

Use of polystyrene boxes to serve daily hot option is not environmentally friendly. Alternative packaging is very costly. However, ABM agreed, once the current supply has been used, that these will be replaced by paper wraps/sleeves which will still keep food hot but which are more easily disposed of and more environmentally friendly. Post meeting note; pizza does not transport well in paper sleeves and the topping gets stuck to the bag. Therefore, pizza will continue to be served in polystyrene boxes.

Currently, crudites are the same every day; tomato and cucumber and the portion sizes are too small. ABM agreed to increase both the quantity and variety with effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Finger food is very restrictive so what other options are there. Would jacket potatoes or pasta be options? Could children bring in cutlery from home in a bag, and then returned home to be washed? This would enable these dishes to be an option. This will be discussed at an early leadership meeting.

There is no choice of fresh fruit, only one item is served each day. ABM have agreed to make two fruit items available daily with effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> November and children will be free to choose which option.

Bread provided 3 times a week for sandwiches is 50/50 brown/white mix. However, baguettes, served twice a week, are white. Sadly brown baguettes are never popular with children in schools and we will not be introducing these at the Raleigh.

The chicken burger on the menu from 2<sup>nd</sup> November will now not be a burger, but a 100% chicken fillet in a roll.

Items such as tomato sauce and mayonnaise which are currently provided in small sachets which children, (and adults) find difficult to open may be replaced by bottles, available in the classroom.

Parents felt that other schools are thinking about solutions to improve their lunch provision. Eating areas being screened to make more than one area so that multiple year groups can eat at any one time. Rotation systems. Marquee on the grounds to provide another eating area. These items will be discussed at an early leadership meeting.

Parents felt that lunch should be a priority both in terms of providing a nutritionally balanced meal for their children and social interaction. However, we are also trying to balance this with our curricular needs so do not want to have to extend the lunch hour further. Both staff and ABM agreed.

Parents would be prepared to help serve lunch, fundraise to purchase additional items such as wooden cutlery, serving trollies to make it easier to offer a wider range of food. Sadly we are not able to welcome any volunteers into school.

The request by some KS1 parents for their children to bring in a packed lunch from home – the school does not allow this for a variety of reasons including having to monitor and manage the litter they produce and the healthy content and storage of packed lunches are a real challenge. Boxes and bags left on the premises attract vermin and ants.



On Tuesday morning at the front of the school in Northcote Crescent, this car mounted the pavement and parked.

Not only is the vehicle facing the wrong direction, but it mounted the pavement area where people were walking. This forced families to either step out in front of it or, behind it in order to cross the road.

The registration number of the vehicle is RY68 CFX.

May we please ask the driver not to stop in this area again.

Thank you!

### Libresoft online Library System

Children can use the Libresoft software at home to search for book recommendations and read online reviews. The following link will take them straight to the Libresoft home page:

<https://apps.libresoft.co.uk/9362309-z3betxy37m6neylew6y9-trs>

Passwords are a lowercase 'r' followed by the child's date of birth in the following format: ddmmyyyy.

### Autumn 1 Attendance

Autumn 1 Attendance			Autumn 1 Attendance		
House	Points	Place	R ELM	99.54%	1st
Falcon	56	1st	1 ASH	99.29%	2nd
Roebuck	48	2nd	4 ASPEN	99.26%	3rd
Ark Royal	46	3rd			
Tyger	40	4th			



### Win a Christmas Tree for your school!

Local Christmas tree farm Hans Christmas Andersen are about to announce an exciting competition to give you the **chance to win** one of 25 of their highest quality Christmas trees for your school. The competition will be open from Friday 6th November and all details on how to enter will be released on their Facebook page. The winners will not only win a tree for the school but will also receive a voucher for 25% off their own real Christmas tree.

Hans Christmas Andersen are located at Santa Fir Christmas tree farm in Shamley Green and at Newlands Corner near Albury. We'll be opening the competition on Friday 6th November, and all the details of how to enter will be released on that date on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/HansChristmasAndersen/>

## Children in Need—Friday 13th November

- Children in Need - on Friday, 13th November, we shall be having a mufti day to raise money for Children in Need. In return for a donation of £2, children may wear their own clothes with a theme of rainbow colours. This theme has been selected by the children, with the School Councillors gathering suggestions from their classes. Our School Council Executive (Evie, Eshan and Maisie) wrote the following about their choice:
  - "To raise money for Children in Need, the School Council have decided the theme will be bright colours. Come to school in uplifting colours! This is to lift our spirits during the pandemic. Temporary hairspray will be acceptable and obviously optional! Children may also like to wear multi-colours in the style of Pudsey bear."
  - The children will also be able to enter the annual 'duck race' by donating £2. The ducks will be available for the children to purchase from their Class Teacher from Monday, 9th November. If the children would like a preview of this year's ducks, more information can be found here:  
<https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/fundraising/the-annual-duck-race-sweepstake-2020/meet-the-racers/>

## The Raleigh School Trust

We are absolutely delighted that the Raleigh School Trust has received donations of £1,690 in the first five weeks of term – a huge thank you to everyone who has contributed, it all adds up to make a big difference. Whilst most of the money will be put towards our bigger IT upgrade project, we have used some of the funds to renew our subscription to Times Tables Rockstars and the teachers are planning some more reading scheme book purchases, particularly of the lime colour. If you would be interested in making a one-off or a regular donation, please see the letter that went out at the start of the week or contact the school office for further details.

### A poem by Molly In 2 Pine

**Inside a mum there is a gentle, loving soul.  
Inside a teacher there's a memory of wonderful children  
Inside a pencil there is a promise of a beautiful story.  
Inside the sky there is a promise of sun.  
Inside a cat there is a murmur of a kitten.  
Inside a rock there is wish of a mountain.**

### A poem by Abi in 2 Lime

**Inside a mum there is a whisper of love.  
Inside a teacher there is a breath of care.  
Inside a classroom there is a memory of a lesson.  
Inside a house there is an echo of laughter.  
Inside a family is a promise of love.**