

# NEWSLETTER

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## **Key Dates Coming Up**

Thursday 18th September – Maths Parents' Evening

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September – EYFS and ARP Phonics and Early Reading Meeting

5th September 2025

Tuesday 23rd September – Year 6 SATS Meeting

Tuesday 23rd - Friday 26th September - PE Café

Thursday 25th September – Harvest Festival

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October – Year 1 Phonics and Early Reading Meeting

# Week beginning Monday 15th September

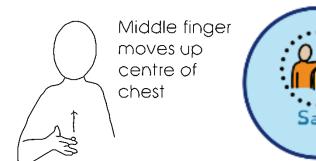
# Language of the Week

	Hello	Good Morning	Good Afternoon
Arabic	مَرْحَبًا	حَبَاحُ ٱلْحَنْدِر	مَسَاءُ الْخَيْرِ
	Marhaban	Sabaho elkhayr	Massaao elkhayr

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0pVbp6ui5OA

The Makaton Sign of the Week - Feel

Character Virtue of the Week - Safe



Dear Parents and Carers,

A massive well done and congratulations to your children for making a positive start to the new school year. Your children have been very impressive coming into school and getting 'stuck in' to their learning. A terrific well done to you all as parents and carers for having them organised for their school day - especially with PE Kits being worn on the correct days. We do appreciate that there is a lot for parents and carers to remember about school each week.

## Unlocking Letters and Sounds and Magic Spell

Our new Phonics Scheme, 'Unlocking Letters and Sounds' (ULS) is well under way with its implementation. Last year I communicated to you that although our own Raglan Phonics Scheme has been historically very, very successful (and again last year), we were unable to continue using it because all schemes in schools have to be Department for Education (DfE) registered and approved. The process for gaining DfE accreditation (if we wanted to for our own scheme) is a mammoth and costly task - and then you have to go and market the scheme on the DfE's behalf. Mrs Ingrey and Mrs Hardstone (our Phonics Leaders) spent two years researching different schemes that would best meet our requirements; and we landed on ULS.



All of the staff in the school have had training in ULS, (and from one of the primary authors of ULS delivering this to teachers on INSET Day.) There are two phonics evenings coming up for parents and carers:

- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 6.30pm Main Hall for Reception and ARPs Parent and Carers (access school via the KS2 Jaffray Road Gates.)
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 6.30pm Main Hall for Year 1 Parents and Carers (access school via the KS2
  Jaffray Road Gates.)
- I would strongly urge all parents and carers from these year groups and classes to attend the meeting for the year group your child is in.
- In addition to the implementation of ULS, we are trialling a new Spelling Program in KS2 called 'Magic Spell.' This is from the same authors as ULS; and follows on from the phonics scheme. We felt that it would be a logical progression for children from Reception/KS1 to KS2 to move from ULS into Magic Spell. More of Magic Spell to come!

#### **Home Learning**

In addition to your Home Learning routines and expectations from school, I would like to remind parents and carers (now that we are well underway) to ensure that you are supporting your children accessing TTS Rockstars (Y2 - Y6) and Numbots (Reception / Year 1.) On Wednesday I announced the following results form Week 1 for TTS Rockstars:

- Quickest Class answering each equation: Panthers 1.65 seconds
- Most Accurate Class: Puffins 96%
- Class with Most Active Players Pandas
- Most Minutes Played: Dolphins
- Most Coins Earnt: Golden Eagles

To these classes. They all earned an extra play at the discretion of their class teacher.

I would also like to reiterate to parents; especially those in Reception and KS1 to ensure that you are supporting your children with learning their phonics and early ready skills. Being able to read fluently unlocks the whole curriculum and improves your children's life chances massively! All children, in all year groups (even if they are proficient and fluent readers already) should READ READ and READ more!

# **Health and Safety**

- A reminder to parents that the **KS2 quiet garden** area is not in use because of a number of panels that are loose on the path; in addition a number of large rocks being exposed with heavy rain. Please ensure that your children do not enter this area. We are working to fix this. The area has been taped off as it is unsafe for children to use. Please do not let your children go in there at drop off and pick up.
- In addition to this, I would ask that parents and carers ensure younger siblings are close by you whilst waiting for KS2 children after-school. We want to ensure maximum safety. Please do keep your children close by at the end of day.
- Adventure play equipment in KS1 Playground
   Please do not let your children use the equipment at drop off or pick up
- Lost Property. We have a large volume of un-named lost property already including coats, hoodies, and water bottles. Please name all of your children's items so they can be returned to them.

#### **Our Administration Team**

I have already shared with the news that we have a new-look Office Administration Team. I would ask that parent and carers please take into consideration that it will take time for our new-look team to bed in. Mrs Schaper and Mrs Powell (who is new to our school) have what I can only describe as a mammoth task each day. I appreciate that we are living in very challenging times; with the cost of living for example placing additional stresses on families. We appreciate the stresses and strains you are all under and we do our best to resolve queries and concerns as quickly as possible. With this in mind, I would expect all parents and carers to communicate with our office team respectfully and kindly at all times. They are doing a fantastic job given the challenge of being a new team and the normal beginning of school year mountains that all admin teams face!

#### **TELL TELL TELL**

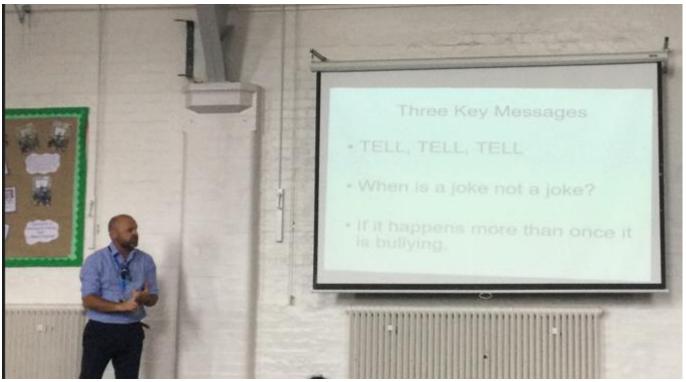
I appreciate that nationally Anti-Bullying week is not until mid-November. That said, on Wednesday at whole school assembly I returned to our key messages to promote anti-bullying in our school because I feel that it is important to start each year and term off reiterating our mantra.

The key phrase that all children should know (and we practiced) is: TELL TELL. We discussed that one of our Curriculum Drivers (Communication) is about finding our voice, and this keeps us safe because it helps us to TELL TELL.

We also discussed the notion of 'when is a joke not a joke?' This is when the joke upsets someone, and if unkindness of any sort is repeated, then this is bullying.

I reminded the school at the beginning of each term - with this tis assembly. I also remind children in assembly across the year of the key messages and mantra of: TELL TELL TELL.





## And Finally...Pedestrian Safety

It will not be long before the days shorten and the onset dusk becomes earlier. With this in mind I would ask you all to begin taking additional care and be extra vigilant coming to and from school. Although we successfully lobbied for the 20MPH speed signs; unfortunately there are a minority of motorists that are driving above this limit - making it unsafe for all. If you are at all in a position to capture the license plate of any vehicle you see travelling above the 20MPH limit when they pass a sign, then send it n to me please so I can forward this to the council and authorities.

Thanks for your continued Support,

Mr De Freitas



# **News from FOR**

#### Pantomime ticket sales are live!

An email was sent out from the school this week with details about our special-priced tickets for this year's Pantomime – Beauty and the Beast - at the Churchill Theatre in Bromley. Tickets are for the show at 1pm on Saturday 6th December 2025.

They can be purchased from our events website – see web address below.

This is a popular event which usually sells out quickly, so buy your tickets now to avoid disappointment. Ticket sales will close at 2pm on Friday 19th September. The flyer with all the details is attached to this newsletter.

# **KS2 Playground Update**

We'd like to thank everyone who has made a donation via the GoFundMe page. We are very excited to announce that as a result of those donations, we have been able to place the order for the new play equipment for the KS2 playground. We have a provisional installation date of w/c 3rd November 2025 for Phase 1 of the works to install a brand-new climbing frame, monkey bars and climbing wall.

In order to make space for the new equipment, the existing raised stage area and artificial grass will need to be removed. We are looking for volunteers to help do this on a Saturday or Sunday over either of the weekends of 4th/5th or 11th/12th October. We are also looking for someone who has a van who would be willing to help with transporting the removed materials for disposal on those dates. All costs of this will be paid by FOR. By doing this ourselves, it will save costs of over £700 which will then go straight into the funds for delivering Phase 2. (More info on future Phases is on our GoFundMe page.) Please contact us at the email address below if you can help on any of these dates.

A reminder that you can donate towards the playground updates via our GoFundMe page: Fundraiser by Friends Of Raglan: New Playground Equipment at KS2, Raglan Primary School

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#### **FOR AGM**

Our AGM will be at 9am at the school on Friday 3rd October, followed straight after by our October monthly meeting. Please let us know if you will be attending so that we can plan for numbers.

Upcoming Events for your diary

Please look out for emails from the school in the coming weeks for details of events and how to purchase tickets

Spooky Disco: Friday 10th October (ticketed event)

Movie Night: Thursday 13th November (ticketed event)

Christmas Fair: Saturday 29th November

Contact FOR: for.ptabromley@gmail.com FOR Events Ticket Sales: https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofraglan/ Pre-loved Uniform Sales: https://friends-of-raglan.sumupstore.com/



# Please use link below to book pantomime tickets:

https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofraglan

# **TT Rock Stars**

As we begin a new academic year the TT Rock Stars leader board is looking positive with new children entering the Top 20. We would like to remind everyone that just 10 minutes of practice a day can really help to improve a child's number confidence and we were able to see this for ourselves last year. Next week in Whole School assembly we will be celebrating those children who are in the top 20 – there is still time to get on there!

# **Headlines from the Last 7 Days**

Quickest Class: Panthers (average of 1.65 seconds)

**Most Accurate Class:** Puffins (96.19%)

Class with the Most Active Players: Pandas (39%)

Most Minutes Played: Dolphins (average of 2 minutes 10 seconds)

Class who have Earnt the Most Coins: Golden Eagles (2,688)

**New Tournament Commenced Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September** 

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10th September - 17 September 2025
Penguins* Puffins*

10th September - 17 September 2025
Dolphins* Wolves*

10th September - 17 September 2025
Elephants* Leopards*

10th September - 17 September 2025
Tigers* Pandas*

10th September - 17 September 2025
Panthers* Golden Eagles*
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# Touch-typing courses for 7 - 16s





# Raglan Primary School Year 1 - 6

Advanced touch-typing skills

Fridays 8:00 – 8:40 am, Sept 5 – Dec 5, 2025

(No club during half term, 20 – 31 Oct)

Typing's Cool teaches touch typing to 40+ words per minute with 95% accuracy, using correct fingers and posture. Typing proficiency significantly boosts school and exam attainment in today's digital world.

Beginners, improvers and advanced typists are warmly welcome. We mix formal technique with the latest app games to make learning to type effective and fun.

Flip flying skateboards, zap aliens and collect cool super hero movie rewards while learning an amazing skill.

Club fee: £126.00 per term.

Save 25% by paying with childcare vouchers or tax-free childcare. Contact us for details.

For a place email: sarah.holt@typingscool.co.uk

Prior to setting up *Typing's Cool*, Sarah Holt worked as a teacher at Weston Green School and Nick Holt was a secondary school Head of English. We are both passionate about helping all pupils fulfil their learning potential.

Nick and Sarah Holt, Typing's Cool Ltd, School House, St Joseph's Primary School, Kingston KT1 2UP 07812 632238; <a href="mailto:sarah.holt@typingscool.co.uk">sarah.holt@typingscool.co.uk</a>; OFSTED reg no. EY473171; www.typingscool.co.uk



Friday 19th September
Meet at Sunset - 6.45 pm
to start at 7pm
at Bath Rd/Southlands Entrance

Short informative talk and then a walk around the park with bat detectors to find, record and listen for our Whitehall Rec. bats

A £2 donation per family would be welcomed



# **Attendance and Punctuality Information**

As you know we expect your children to be in school every day and arrive on time. Being in school every day and on time means that children will be accessing the full curriculum; and in the routine from the beginning of the school day. We appreciate and understand that children will be off school when they are ill. To be clear, if a child vomits, has diarrhoea, or both they should be away from school for 48 hours after the last episode. If a child is running a temperature they should also be kept off because this is often the infectious time for colds, flus and infections. We expect parents and carers to inform the school immediately and by 9am if your child is off ill. You should call in or email the admin team.

We also appreciate and understand that on occasion traffic can cause lateness. That said, we do expect children to be in school on time, daily.

If a child's attendance is 90% or below we have a legal obligation and government statutory expectation to act on this. The government refer to attendance at or below 90% as 'Persistence Absence.'

The following is the process that we will be undertaking when your child's attendance is at 90% or below:

- **Step 1** general letter as a reminder that your attendance is below the expected 90%.
- **Step 2** if it stays this way for the next half term, we will invite you for a meeting with Mrs Collins and Mrs Lisle.
- **Step 3** for sustained persistent absence over another half term, you will be required to meet with Mrs Collins and I.
- **Step 4** if persistent absence continues for a further half term, we are required to make a referral to the Education Welfare Service, who will then contact you and the school, to establish next steps. This may be a formal action plan constructed by the Education Welfare Service. This may include an 'Early Help' referral with the Local Authority.
- **Step 5** should persistent absence continue after this; the school is legally required to make a social care referral.

For children that have chronic and ongoing medical needs, we will clearly be taking this into consideration. Parents and carers must provide the medical professional documentation supporting the medical ailment so that we can inform Education Welfare that this is the reason for the absence(s). We are not permitted to accept parental diagnosis or medical justification for absence.

# **Leave from School Requests**

I will not be authorising the maximum number of 5 days for any exceptional circumstances for a leave of absence, unless attendance is consistently above 97%. Even then this is not automatically granted, and I always look at every individual case on its own merit. As you know, I do appreciate many of you have family abroad, cultural and faith celebrations, as well as specific family circumstances. If parents request or take children out for leave during term time and are below 90% attendance (which is persistent absence), I will consider applying the penalty fine.

#### **Penalty notices**

Under section 444 of the Education Act 1996, it outlines the legal responsibilities on parents to ensure their children attend school on a regular basis. Failure to do so is a legal offence and either a penalty notice may be issued or prosecution in the Magistrates Court. Parents/carers may be issued with a penalty notice in relation to their child's unauthorised absence at school. It is the decision of the schools as to whether absences are authorised, though they are expected to follow Department for Education (DfE) guidance. Fines are issued per parent, per child. Each fine is £80 if paid within the first 21 days, with a further 7 days to pay the fine at £120. Failing to pay the penalty notice may result in the matter being taken to the Magistrates Court for the original offence of failing to secure your child's regular attendance at school. Parents/carers should be aware there is **no right of appeal** for a penalty notice that has been issued. If you believe the fine was issued in error, please contact the school to discuss your concern regarding the authorisation of the absence.

Parents and Carers need to be aware that if your child is absence from school for ten or more days in a row (without explanation) they are legally considered 'missing in education.' This will result in the school making a social care referral and contacting the appropriate agencies.