



Key Dates Coming Up

Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th October - Parents Evenings

Friday 17th October – DLD Awareness Day – join us for 'Crazy Hair Day'

Thursday 13th November – Movie Night (FoR) – Ticketed Event

Saturday 29th November – Christmas Fair

Thursday 15th January – Deadline for Reception Year Places in Bromley for September 2026

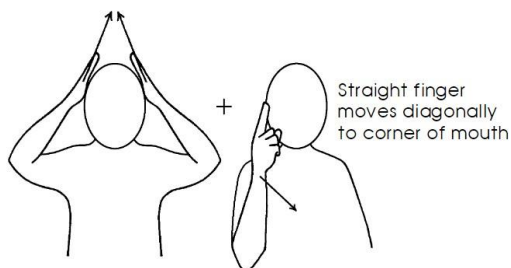
Week beginning Monday 13th October 2025

Language of the Week

Hindi	Hello	Good Morning	Good Afternoon
	Namaste	Suprabhātam!	śubha dina!

Greetings in Hindi - Rocket Languages

The Makaton Sign of the Week – Witch Character Virtue of the Week - Kind



Straight finger
moves diagonally
to corner of mouth



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you well. It has been a very busy week with an abundance of learning happening, visits from musicians, and school sporting activities to name but a slice of life here at Raglan.

All of the children have been 'cracking on' with their learning and taking on the challenges that we place in front of them.

It has again been a joy to be teaching up in Year 6 this year. This week we had a particularly thought-provoking discussion in English about whether Zoos are places of good for animals or not? We discussed the morality of this, forming arguments 'for' and 'against' so that we could then write a balanced argument. I was incredibly impressed with the passion and maturity shown by the children - as well as their moral purpose.

Urgent Health and Safety Reminders: Please be aware of the following.

- A reminder that there should be no dogs (regardless of how small or tame) on the school site - and this includes tying them up on any of the school gates whilst you collect your children.
- Please DO NOT park on the Yellow Zig Zags during drop-off and collection times. This is a safety hazard for all of our school community - not to mention illegal.
- Can you please ensure your children (those at school or not) to not access the KS2 Garden Area. This is requiring maintenance before we declare it to be safe.

Adhering to the above will help ensure safety for all.

Abass Dodoo Returns to Inspire us all!

This week, to further celebrate Black History month and diversity in our school, we welcomed back Ghanaian International renowned percussionist Abass Dodoo. This is the third year Abass has joined us and the experience that every child in the school had was immense and epic! Apart from every child being able to play a drum, Abass created a truly magical experience in whole school assembly Wednesday. It was a joy to have him back, and I have already booked him again for next year. To have access to such a person like Abass is a wonderful experience for the children and a real privilege.

On behalf of all the children, I would like to thank our FOR who sponsored the event and Abass coming in. This is one of those experiences that would be so much harder to make happen without the support of the FOR. Thank you for helping make the children's experiences that much better!



DJ Assembly

Last Friday afternoon DJ Daryl returned to promote his after-school DJ and Sound Tech club, which runs on a Tuesday in our Multi-Media Hub upstairs. As a result of the Year 6 moving on last year there are now spaces. The children were 'buzzing' literally after the assembly which is why it was strategically held on Friday afternoon!

Please see the attached 'promotion flyer' to access Daryl and the club. Daryl will be able to give you further details including pricing.



Geography

In geography, we have been learning about coasts and over the last two weeks we have focused on different coastal defences. This week, both classes created their own coastline and chose a coastal defence to build. These were then tested with warm water and evaluated for effectiveness.



Boy's Football

On Thursday, boys from Years 5 and 6 travelled to Southborough to take part in two football matches. A total of 29 children represented the school, which is a fantastic level of participation. Although the boys worked extremely hard, we found it difficult to match two very strong and well-organised Southborough teams.

Despite the results, the fixtures provided a valuable chance to see all the players in action ahead of the season. There were plenty of encouraging performances and lots of potential on display, giving us much to think about moving forward. It's also brilliant to see so many pupils - across both the boys' and girls' clubs - showing such enthusiasm for football, and I hope this continues long into the year.

A huge thank you must go to the parents and guardians who supported the fixtures. Without their generosity in providing transport and their encouragement on the sidelines, these opportunities simply wouldn't be possible.

With strong competition for places this year, I'm confident we can learn from this setback and grow together as a squad. We're especially looking forward to competing in more fixtures at our new home ground in Petts Wood.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Mr Sykes

Music of the Week

Aretha Franklin - Respect



- The theme for BHM 2025 is "STANDING FIRM IN POWER AND PRIDE"
- "Respect" earned Franklin two Grammy Awards in 1968 for Best Rhythm & Blues Recording and Best Rhythm & Blues Solo Vocal Performance, Female

Can you think of any other black artists we have already listened to in assembly?
How could you celebrate black history month?

What does respect mean to you?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A134hShx_gw&list=RDA134hShx_gw&start_radio=1

KS2 Lunchtime Sport Provision

Every week in KS2 we have a sport theme and a rotation of year groups that access this. This is led by Mr O. This week the children have had access to Tag Rugby. Each week Year 6 Sports Helpers provide support for the children accessing the sports. This week we have had a group of Year 6 pupils (all rugby players themselves) supporting the children and lending their experiences from outside the school to coach.

In previous weeks a different group of Year 6 helpers have supported sports such as basketball / tennis and cricket this year already. I will feature these also in the coming weeks.

As you know I am really passionate about sport and all that provides children with. The more sport access the children have the better for their whole development as a person.



In Reception this week we were treated to some lovely food tasting. We have been learning all about Handa and her fruit basket - the children got to try some exotic fruit. We enjoyed tasting some homemade Jamaican dumplings after seeing dumplings in the story 'Granny's Kitchen'. They all enjoyed the experience and some even went back for seconds!!



Raglan Girls Football Team took part in a tournament that we played on Wednesday 9th October 2025 at St Marys Catholic Primary School. They reached the final but lost out on the penalty shoot out. They played well and showed strength, winning 1-0 in their first match (against Warren Road). They drew 0-0 in their second match (against Poverest) and third match (against St Mary's) and in the last match, it went to penalties. The girls were very nervous and did a great job but unfortunately lost to a strong opposition. Overall, they put in a lot of effort, the midfield was strong, the defence was especially amazing and there were some outstanding saves made by the goalkeeper.



Crazy Hair Day for DLD Awareness! Friday 17th October

On **17th October 2025**, We are going to be CRAZY... with our hair!
We're hosting a **Crazy Hair Day Fundraiser** to support **Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) Awareness Day**.

Come to school with your wildest, wackiest, most wonderful hairstyle – think bright colours, big styles, and fun accessories!

Add a touch of **purple or gold/yellow**, the official DLD Awareness colours.

Don't forget a **donation** to help raise awareness and support for the 1 in 14 children affected by DLD. The money raised will go towards Friends of Raglan (FOR) and be used to resource the Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP) at Raglan.

DLD is a hidden but common communication disorder that can impact learning, friendships, and self-esteem. Let's stand together, make some noise, and show our support – one crazy hairdo at a time!

Thanks for helping us shine a light on DLD!



And Finally...

Next week is Parents / Carers Evening on Tuesday and Wednesday as you know. I would ask you all to take time to complete:

1. The Parents / Carers Evening Feedback form (this is your chance to help effect change in school; like the present homework system we have in our school. This has come from your - the parent / carer body. (Anonymous if you wish it to be - I know some parents and carers like to sign this though.)
2. The very short Online Safety survey (Anonymous). This will help us shape Online Safety provision as we move forward.

Both will be found with me at the KS2 Hall entrance / exit door.

Your voice is important and valued. Both of the above are vital for us to sustain the wonderful partnership we have.

Thanks your continued support,
Mr De Freitas

NEWS FROM FOR

Last Friday, we held our AGM. We looked back on the achievements of the last school year, and looked ahead at the goals we'd like to achieve this year and beyond. Last year, the combined total raised with your support and generosity and together with the Raglan Charity Community Shield event, was a whopping £46,600. That is a very significant sum, and you should all be very proud - it would not be possible without the continued support from parents and carers. The Treasurer's Report is attached, which has a full breakdown of events and the individual sums raised for those interested.

As a result, we were able to instruct installation of the first phase of the KS2 play equipment, which is scheduled to start the week back after half term.

At the AGM, office-holders for this current year were elected and report back as follows:

Lisa O'Shea - continues as Chair (and Trustee)

Dominic Howell - continues as Vice-Chair (and Trustee)

Neil Bula - steps down as Treasurer after completing the maximum 2 year tenure. Our new Treasurer is Fiona Bell.

Samantha Morerira - continues as Secretary

Kathryn Carter - continues as Pre-Loved Uniform Coordinator

The FOR would like to thank Neil Bula for his time and service as Treasurer, and his contribution generally to the FOR discussions and deliberations.

We also welcomed some new Committee Members, and are excited to do so as they bring with them new energy and ideas, but more importantly it will safeguard the continued existence of the FOR. Without volunteers, the FOR cannot exist and there would be no fundraising for items and equipment that the School budget is not able to cover.

Looking forward, we are working on being able to deliver the KS2 Garden renovation and some other additions to the KS2 Playground (basketball hoops and new line markings) during the rest of this school year.

The Spooky Disco is on Friday 10th, and thanks to those who have purchased tickets. Next month is a busy month with the Fireworks, Movie Night and The Christmas Fair, so by the end of the autumn term

we hope to be in a strong position to make some plans for more work to the outdoor areas in 2026.

Xmas for Schools explained

You should've received the blank sheet for Christmas artwork from Xmas for Schools via your child's book bag this week. This is a great way to get cards and presents for friends and family decorated with your child's unique artwork. Have your child create some Christmas-themed art on the sheet ready to return to the school by Monday 10th November with your contact details filled in. There are instructions on the sheet. Once returned you will be contacted by Xmas for Schools to place your order. Items include calendars, Christmas cards, tea towels and more. A portion of the sales from orders is given to FOR.

Fireworks – Saturday 8th November 2025

There are still tickets available for the Fireworks display at Bromley High School on Saturday 8 November. Tickets are priced at £13 per person (under 3s go free) and a small portion of the ticket price will be donated by Bromley High School to FOR. Online booking will close on Friday 17th October.

There will be food and drinks available to purchase and funfair rides. Wristbands are available to pre-order for unlimited riding - the Little Thrills wristband (£12) allows unlimited riding of three younger rides and the Intense Thrills wristband (£20) allows unlimited rides on all rides for those at least 1.2m in height. Otherwise, single ride tokens will be available to purchase on the night.

Anyone wishing to purchase tickets can do so here: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofraglan/index.cfm>.

Stock up on Pre-loved uniform before half term

If you need to stock up on winter uniform bits as we transition to the colder weather please visit our online pre-loved uniform shop at <https://friends-of-raglan.sumupstore.com/>. Get your orders in by Wednesday 15th October to receive them before the half term break.

Upcoming Events for your diary

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

Fireworks at Bromley High School: Saturday 8th November (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/>

Follow us on Instagram: @friendsofraglan

Follow us on Facebook: Raglan Primary School Friends of Raglan

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.