



Raughton Head C of E Primary School
Raughton Head, Carlisle, CA5 7DD
Head teacher Mrs A Dickinson

8th January 2025

Dear parents,

Firstly, I hope that you have had a peaceful break away from the hustle and bustle of school life. On behalf of all the staff I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your generous gifts before we broke up. They are all very much appreciated.

The end of term was certainly a busy one however looking forward to this year it doesn't look much quieter!

Forest school is currently on a break due to the poor weather we tend to get in the first half of Spring term- this will resume in March. Swimming is also on hold while we try and secure a slot for our younger children in the summer term. It is a tremendous achievement that all children in year six can swim the recommended distance of 25m unaided. This is also true for several other children in class two and three - well done to you all.

Instead of travelling to the Sands centre each Monday for weekly swimming this term, children in years 2 - 5 will be travelling to the Sands Centre to take part in trampolining and gymnastics. Year six children will remain at school to participate in SATs work and take part in yoga with an experienced instructor each Friday morning. Children in reception and year 1 will also benefit from a weekly yoga session.

As always, please ensure your children have full PE kit in school with them all week.

Each Tuesday, at school, children in class three will take part in the 'Singing Out' programme as part of Carlisle Cathedral's Outreach Scheme, led by Ed Taylor. Ed directs the Cathedral Youth Choir and *Cantate* Children's Choir. This will be followed by two concerts, at the Cathedral, in March. This is an exciting opportunity for children to develop creativity and confidence, an opportunity to perform in Carlisle Cathedral and encourages team work, concentration and social integration. More details of these concerts to follow.

Please see further details of the curriculum your children will be learning this spring term. As always, if there is anything you feel you can support in school please let me know.

Class 1

This term in class 1 our topic is Bright Lights, Big City. Throughout the topic of Bright Lights, Big City, we will be learning the story of a local landmark. We will learn about the countries that make up the United Kingdom, including their location, capital cities and some of their physical and human features. We will have the opportunity to do map work, using compasses and positional and directional language to plan routes around London. We will also research the cause and impact of the Great Fire of London and look at some famous London landmarks and significant people – King Charles. We will learn about other capital cities around the world, including Kuala Lumpur, and compare how they are similar and different to London.

Class 2

Our main topic is 'Rocks, Relics and Rumbles' which incorporates learning about the Earth's layers, volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis. We will explore the Ring of Fire and tectonic plates in order to be able to explain the reason why these natural disasters occur. Linked to this topic one of our art topics will be 'Ammonite', where children will learn to create a two-colour print. Our other art topic is 'People and Places' where we will investigate the work of LS Lowry. In Science, children will be learning about forces and magnets with lots of exciting investigations. In addition, we will compare different types of rocks. In DT, we will be making automaton toys using cardboard boxes so we would welcome some of your recycling please! Cereal and tissue boxes are ideal. We can't wait to get started with our class reader 'The Firework-Maker's Daughter' by Philip Pullman, and write in different genres including; non-chronological reports, poetry, newspaper reports and diaries.

In Computing we will be learning to stay safe online as well as creating databases of volcanoes. In Music we will be learning different song styles and develop rhythms and our Jigsaw work will focus on relationships and celebrating difference. In PE with Andy we will be doing lots of activities including ABC's in isolation & combination, evaluating and recognising success through team games, dance, movement through music and gymnastics and handball. Finally, in our RE work we will study the religion of Buddhism and the festival Losar, as well as the Christian festival of Lent.

Class 3

During the Spring Term, Class 3 will be finding out about the history of Ancient China throughout their topic of 'Dynamic Dynasties'. In Art, the children will be finding out about the significance and art of the taotie motif, including ancient and contemporary casting methods. In Geography, we will be 'Investigating Our World' as we locate map features using a range of methods. We will find out more about worldwide time zones and study interconnected climate zones, vegetation belts and biomes. In Science, the children will learn about forces and mechanisms and use their knowledge to create a pneumatic machine in DT. We will also find out more about the Solar System. In March, we will be travelling to London for our city residential! What a busy term we have to look forward to!

Finally, these are the dates for your diaries!

January 2025

10 - Yoga – Reception, Y1 and Y6

14 - Singing Out with Ed Taylor – Class 3

15 - 8.15am Eco Club

17 - Yoga – Reception, Y1 and Y6

21 - Singing Out with Ed Taylor – Class 3

24 - Yoga – Reception, Y1 and Y6

26 - Christingle service 11am at All Saints Church

28 - Singing Out with Ed Taylor – Class 3

29 - 8.15am Eco Club

Small schools Netball at Harraby (selected children from Class 3)

31 - Yoga – Reception, Y1 and Y6

February 2025

- 03 - 7pm PTA meeting
- 04 - Singing Out with Ed Taylor – Class 3
- 06 - Sportshall athletics – years 3 and 4
- 07 - Yoga – Reception, Y1 and Y6
- 11 - Singing Out at Cathedral – Class 3
- 12 - 8.15am Eco Club
- 14 - Yoga – Reception, Y1 and Y6

Break for half term

- 24 – Back in school
- 25 - Singing Out with Ed Taylor – Class 3
- 26 – 8.15am Eco Club
- 28 - Yoga – Reception, Y1 and Y6

March 2025

- 04- 07 - Residential London – Class 3
- 06 - World Book Day
- 07 - Yoga – Reception, Y1
- 10 - Library Book Bus visit
- 11 - Singing Out with Ed Taylor – Class 3
- 14 - Yoga – Reception, Y1 and Y6
- 17 - U Dance
- 18 - Singing Out with Ed Taylor – Class 3
- 19 - 8.15am Eco Club
- 30 - Mothering Sunday service 11am at All Saints Church

April 2025

- 04 – End of term Easter service 1.30pm at All Saints Church

Break for Easter Holidays

Best wishes



Alison Dickinson

Head Teacher



Trust ourselves, Trust one another, Trust God.