

Raleigh & Admirals Academies

What do we offer at Breaktimes ? – A Principal's view

Welcome to Bulletin 9

Break and Lunchtimes at Raleigh and Admirals are extremely important periods of the day for the children in our care. If you asked any child from any school what their favourite time of the day is, they would probably say 'playtime'! We are pleased and proud to say that break and lunchtimes here really are a time when our children enjoy themselves. They have a number of activities open to them and they have been heavily involved in selecting the things they would like to see on offer.



During our 15-minute morning break, children use the time to rest and recover from their morning of learning, normally going outside onto the playground for some much-needed fresh air. They can grab a snack and a drink, and they socialise with their friends. It is at this time that

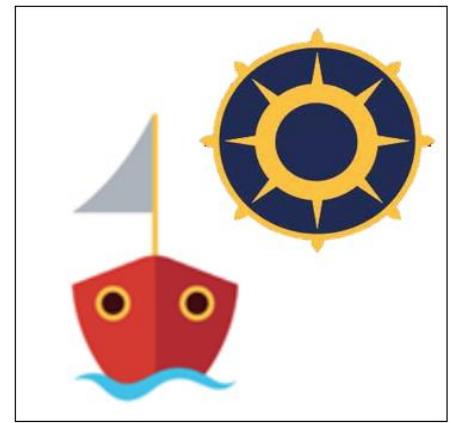
Raleigh and Admirals children spend time together; the dividing gates are opened and pupils from year 1&2 are free to mix with the children in KS2. There are 12 staff on duty, 2 first aid stations, pre-ordered tuck ready for collection, and access to fresh fruit/vegetables for EYFS and KS1 pupils.



As we have much more time available during the middle of the day, our lunch break is a much busier affair! Raleigh and Admirals pupils remain in their designated Academies and a rotation of meal provision ensures that all years have adequate time to eat their lunch. In Admirals, some children can access the 'Ark' where a quieter, small group lunch sitting is open to those children who require adult support during free time.

Outside is where the fun happens! Children have access to a structured game led by staff from Premier Sports; this is normally a team ball game that is open for anyone to join. Then there is access to trim-trials, scooters and trikes, hoops and ropes, quiet spaces for reading, colouring and chess. For the older children, there is Basketball, a tyre trail, and access to the wildlife area, which includes the bug hotel, log play, balance stones, and stilt stepping posts. Whilst we regularly encourage children to enjoy structured play, pupils also enjoy aspects of free play where they can often be seen enjoying their own games where they are running, jumping and free to make plenty of noise! Wishing you all a happy half-term,

Greg Sadler, Executive Principal



Upcoming Term Dates 2023/24/25

Mon 3rd June '24

Summer Term '24 resumes

Friday 19th July '24

End of Summer Term '24

Wed 4th September '24

Autumn term '24/25 begins for pupils

Our Academy Improvement Priorities for 2023/24

Leadership within the Academy secures sustained improvement in all areas

Across the Academy, pupil outcomes demonstrate a sustainable improving trend

Improve teaching, learning and assessment in order to secure good and better rates of progress for all pupils

Embed a high standard of personal development, behaviour and welfare

National success for Mason



Mason, a pupil from KS2, has won a silver medal at the International Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Association 'English Open' which was recently held at the University of East London. In front of hundreds of spectators, Mason competed in a number of bouts winning enough points to secure second place overall. Mason is looking forward to continuing competing at national level and we wish him every success! What a fantastic achievement.



Curriculum Time...

Year 3 visit to Cambridge City Centre



Year 3 had the amazing opportunity to visit the City of Cambridge by train. The children explored the Kettle Yards art exhibition, where they took part in sketches of the beautiful artwork inside. The children also explored the streets of Cambridge, counting the different types of travel and the number of people spotted walking through the Centre. The children also visited a Light Museum where they were able to explore the different ways that light moves and how different objects can reflect and absorb light. The children were so well behaved and were a credit to the Academy for putting our ARK values into action.



You never know who is watching...

Below is a copy of an email sent to Paul Shanks, EMAT CEO, by a senior member of staff from another trust operating in the East of England. Congratulations and thank you to all the children, staff and parent volunteers who clearly had a wonderful day. High praise indeed...

Dear Paul,

I just wanted to write and say how lovely it was to see pupils from Admirals Academy on the train this afternoon. We just happened to get on their train at Ely when they were on their way back from Cambridge.

I know how much work is involved in organising any external trip for schools, but this is especially so when using public transport. It was so great for pupils to get the chance to widen their experience like that, and you could see it made the day even more exciting for them! But also, the children were so well behaved, they were an absolute credit to the school. They were chatting, playing hangman, talking to staff... and the staff and adults with them were a great team.

It was really lovely to happen upon and made my afternoon to see them all.

thanks, Niki *****



Raleigh & Admirals Summer Fete – Wednesday 17th July, 2.00-4.00pm

Following the success of last year's summer fete, we are hosting the event again on Wednesday 17th July 2024. We are really hoping that we can surpass last year's efforts where we raised an amazing total of £1800. If you are interested in running a stall at this year's event, please contact Sharon Azzopardi via the following email address: sharon.azzopardi@tiscali.co.uk



Summer term 2 '24 – diary dates

<u>Event / Timings</u>	<u>Additional Notes</u>
Friday 14 th June	International Day of Welcome – Open classroom event for parents, 2.15pm – 3.00pm. Details to follow
Tuesday 25 th June	Raleigh EYFS Sports Day, timings tbc
Friday 28 th June	Raleigh & Admirals Sports Day. School field gates open to parents at 8.30am
Admirals Sports Day events	9.00 - 11.45am For Years 3 to 6, KS2 (Raleigh pupils will be in class)
Raleigh Sports day events	1.15 - 3.00pm For Years 1 and 2, KS1 (Admirals pupils will return to class)
Picnic Lunch	12.00 - 1.00pm Pupils from both Academies will have packed lunch out on the field. Parents of both Academies are welcome onto the field to have their lunch with their child/children. Pupil lunches should be ordered in the normal way. Gazebos will be in place to provide shade from the sun. We hope to be providing some form of mobile refreshment service for parents.
Monday 1 st July	Reserve date for Sports Day (if Friday 28 th June postponed)
Wednesday 3 rd – Friday 5 th July	Year 6 Residential to Overstrand Hall
Monday 8 th - Friday 12 th July	Year 6 full transition week to new schools
Monday 8 th July	Transition information: Parents and pupils will be informed in writing of new classes for September 2024/25
Tuesday 9 th July	KS2 SATs results published to schools.
Wednesday 10 th July	Transition morning: Pupils will spend the morning (9.00am – 12.15pm) with their new class teachers for 23/24. However, due to logistics this may not necessarily happen in their new classrooms.
Thursday 11 th July	Transition Day: Pupils will spend the day (8.40am – 3.00pm) with their new teachers for '24/25. However, due to logistics this may not necessarily happen in their new classrooms.
Wednesday 17 th July	Academy Fete: Held on the Admirals playground, 2.00pm to 4.00pm
Thursday 18 th July	Reception & Year 1 Classroom parties. Pupils to come to school dressed in their own clothes. Party runs from 1.30 – 2.45pm
Thursday 18 th July	Year 2 'Moving on' Party. Pupils to come to school dressed in their own clothes. Party runs from 1.30 – 2.45pm
Thursday 18 th July	Admirals End of Year Disco: Pupils to come to school dressed in their own clothes. Year 6 Disco 1.15 – 1.50pm, All Admirals pupils 1.50pm – 2.50pm
Friday 19 th July	Year 2 'moving on' assembly. Held in the Raleigh Hall. Doors open to parents at 8.45am, begins at 9.00am. The hall can accommodate 2 adults per child
Friday 19 th July	Year 6 leavers assembly Held at the 'Church on the Way'. Doors open to parents at 10.45am, begins at 11.00am. The venue can accommodate 2 adults per child
Friday 19 th July	End of year assembly. Begins at 2pm, for pupils and staff only 3pm – Academies close for the Summer Holidays
Wednesday 4 th September	Start of Autumn term '24/25 for pupils

Kings & Queens in Reception



Reception has loved exploring their learning theme of 'Kings and Queens' this half term.

The children enjoyed a range of activities over the weeks; some of our favourite learning moments included a virtual tour of Buckingham Palace, role-playing the Royal Coronation, and working in teams to write letters to King Charles III (we are keeping our fingers crossed he replies!)



The children continue to impress us as they demonstrate their growing knowledge and skills in different ways. We can't wait to see what our last half-term has in store!

Year 5 Musician Visit



Our Year 5 pupils enjoyed a music workshop, where children got to experience a range of instruments, including an old torch used as an 'electro-coil pick up' to create a 'wooo' sound, a baritone ukulele, a melodeon, a whistle, a re-wired cassette recorder and a thumb piano - all on a 'loop'.



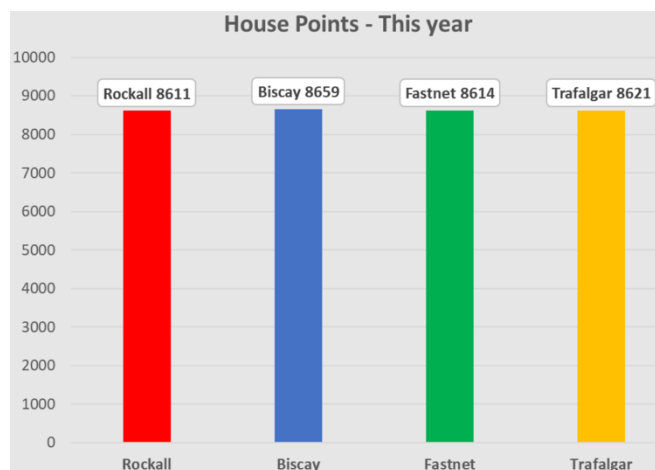
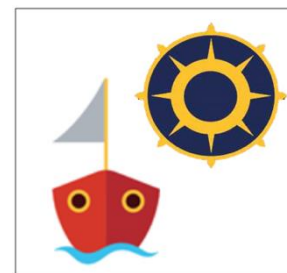
Children got the opportunity to take part in making a piece of eastern-European music, suitable for a filmscript. Children played in 3,4 time, which combined clapping, a melodion, a drum and a thumb piano.

They learned about a foley artist, making sound effects for films - many children were inspired by this career choice. The workshop concluded with the majority of our year 5 children dancing along to a drum and bass inspired piece of music.





House Points – The Grand totals after Summer 1



More bell ringing success for Max!

Max, who has been featured in our previous newsletters, has continued to experience success! Max competed for the adult Bardwell Tower team that took part in the regional bell-ringing 'striking' competition. Max was an integral part of the team that was awarded first place, and this picture features Max being awarded the beautiful trophy. Well done, Max!



A generous donation - Thankyou



We are thrilled to share with our community that following a very generous donation by members of the public, we are now the proud owners of a full drum kit. Mr & Mrs Cross of Bury St Edmunds donated the drum kit to the Academies after their children outgrew it. The kit has generated a great deal of interest across our KS2 pupils, with children and staff alike enjoying the new resource which now has pride of place in our Music mobile.



As we move forward into the Autumn term, we will be running an internal drum club. Children can sign up to learn the basic principles of drumming with Mr Horgan and Mr King.

Year 2 Regional Skills Escalator Day



As featured in the

Eastern Daily Press

Year 2 children took part in a Skills Escalator Day. This was a fantastic opportunity for the children to get insight into future careers. During the day they took part in interactive workshops which included G's Fresh, BT, Norfolk Police, West Suffolk College Sustainability and Baxter Healthcare. When visiting the police, the children experienced getting arrested, sit in a police car with the sirens on and dress up in the gear! In G's Farming session covered farming, the environment, eating healthily and careers in the food industry. Baxter Healthcare organised a hand washing activity using glo-gel to teach them about the importance of cleanliness in the workplace. BT brought some robots in and tried to dispel that computing is difficult or boring and demonstrate it can be fun and exciting. Finally, they also learned all about sustainability and recycling of a range of items effectively.

Interactive sessions provided an insight into the world of work.



Norfolk's Innovative 'Skills Escalator Day' ignites career aspiration in primary pupils



Eastern Daily Press: Two youngsters plant an iceberg lettuce at careers day

Two youngsters plant an iceberg lettuce at careers day (Image: Submitted)

Victoria Fiebelkorn, from the Eastern Education Group, said: "Skills Escalator Days directly link school children with the world of work, to allow them to see and talk to people from industry to build in them a lifelong curiosity and passion for their future careers."



Youngsters from Raleigh Primary School with the lettuces they planted thanks to a session with G's Fresh (Image: Submitted)



Year 6 SATs

The Year 6 staff team was incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils' maturity during their SATs this half term. They arrived bright and early and enjoyed their cooked breakfast. A huge thank you to the parents for your support during this week and our kitchen staff for providing such a fantastic start to their day! The children remained motivated and committed throughout the week of testing, demonstrating great resilience and dedication to ensure that they gave their very best efforts. Happy Half-term to Year 6!



Year 6 Design and Technology Day



This half term, our DT learning was focussed on 'upcycling'. We discussed 'fast fashion' and considered how this links to our previous Geography learning. We practised running stitch, backstitch, sewing a button and creating a hem.

The children were very creative and enjoyed designing, sewing and cutting fabric to create something new! To end our day, we had a fashion show, which was enjoyed by all!

Year 1 Scientists

Year 1 has been learning about taking care of the earth in our science unit. We have been looking at different types of pollution and what we can do to help the Earth. As a class, we decided we would like to recycle paper. So, we took scrap paper and conducted an experiment to make it into new paper. The children were very excited and very patient as the paper took a long time to dry! We then tested it out and we were able to write on it. All the children wrote their names on the paper and were very excited that we could do our own bit to save our planet.



Year 4 Geographers visit to Hunstanton – taming the Wash Monster!

This week, Year 4 channelled their inner Geographer as they travelled to Hunstanton to ride the infamous Wash Monster and conduct fieldwork on the cliffs. The amphibious vessel took us along the coast, where we observed the breathtaking Hunstanton cliffs from a distance before a short walk onto the beach to get an up-close look.



When comparing the cliffs to that of Dover, we learnt that the distinctive layers tell a fascinating story about Earth's history. The red chalk was formed during the Lower Cretaceous era, whereas the white chalk was formed during the Upper Cretaceous era. The children had a fantastic time, and even though it was an extremely windy day, they remained focused and extremely well-behaved. Well done, and thank you to all of the staff and parents who attended.





School's Breckland Garden Begins to Grow

The recipients of one of our third party grant funds, Raleigh Infant & Admirals Academy have planted a Breckland garden at the edge of their playground.



Board meetings aren't known for being thrilling but we try to use ours to show board members some of the amazing results of our funding projects. Our May meeting was hosted by Raleigh Infant and Admirals Academy and, after the paperwork was complete, we had a tour of their newly planted garden.

You can read about their plans for the garden in our previous post: [Bringing Breckland In](#). But, essentially, it is a community-based project aiming to teach pupils about the landscape around them, the native species that grow here and how the seasons change. It also provides a great space for the children to play, interact with nature or seek some peace and quiet. The school also has a really strong programme for pupils classed as vulnerable and isolated and are looking forward to incorporating the garden into their nurture sessions.

So much work has taken place since we last visited the school, raised beds have been created and workshops with children and parents, including a large group of refugee parents, have planted them with hundreds of Breckland plants and flowers. A willow tunnel has been created, wooden play structures created and another workshop involved building a huge bug hotel. A line of mounds has been built for higher grass areas but, as this has already been adopted by the children as their favourite feature, the mounds now have a worn-in mud-track across the top where the children run up and down.

We're looking forward to paying another visit when the boundary trees are a little taller, and the flowers are all in bloom and, perhaps, when it's a bit sunnier too!

Thank you Admirals Academy for making our board meeting more fun!

