

## Raleigh & Admirals Academies

### Pupil Leadership – A Principal's view

With the summer holidays and our Ofsted inspection well and truly behind us we have begun the academic year looking firmly forward as our journey of school improvement continues. There has been lots of work going on in the background as the staff here are working hard to keep developing and enriching our curriculum offer, ensuring that the children enjoy their learning and remain on board with the learning process.

Internal monitoring of our performance is an important element of how we track our improvements and decide upon our next steps. This is predominately the role of a teacher or a subject leader, or the Academy Senior Leadership Team (SLT). However, given our recent success in involving the entire pupil community in sharing their views on aspects of Academy performance, we have decided to use the skills of our Pupil Leadership Team (PLT) to observe lessons and report back to staff on their findings. Their first area for monitoring was to look carefully at behaviour within the classroom setting.

***"Pupils actively make their school a special place to learn. They share ideas for developing the school with regular pupil-led assemblies. All pupils, including for those pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), know that staff value their opinion and voice," (Ofsted, June '24)***

The ten members of our PLT were tasked to visit classrooms and observe various aspects of pupil behaviour that are deemed important to support a positive classroom environment. From their observations, the PLT produced reports that gave the following headlines:

#### What did the PLT observe???? What Went Well (WWW)

- Children were quiet when asked
- Polite and responsive
- Some pupils were working independently
- Children used their initiative
- Good partnership between children and teachers
- Teachers quickly helped children when they required support
- High levels of concentration
- Teachers were very clear about their expectations

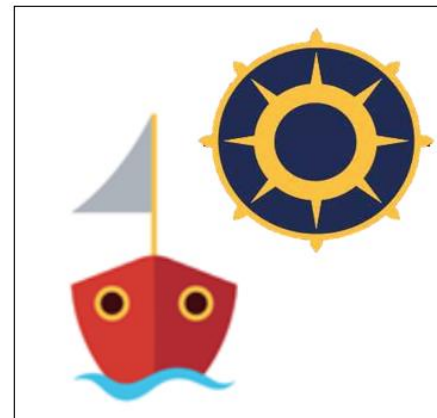
#### How can we improve ???

- Some children were too chatty in between tasks (concentrate)
- Some pupils need to listen carefully and follow instructions (listen)
- Some children could give the teacher more eye contact (pay attention)
- Once a child is given a reminder, the child should respectfully follow it (demonstrate good manners)

Our lead pupils then fed back their findings to the school through an assembly, where they also shared their recommendations on what all children can do to improve. The fact that our pupils are feeding back to their peers is a very very strong improvement tool, and it is clear that many children are taking a great deal of responsibility for their own behaviour and their approaches to learning. Disruption to teaching and learning is a rare thing at Raleigh and Admirals, but the fact that our pupils recognise where and when it happens and what they can do to stop it means that our entire school community is clearly on the same page!

It's been a very long half-term for the children, so I do hope that they are able to enjoy a restful half-term holiday. Thank you for your ongoing support.

**Greg Sadler, Executive Principal**



### Upcoming Term Dates 2024/25

**Mon 4th Nov '24**

Autumn '24 half-term 2 begins

**Friday 20th Dec '24**

End of Autumn Term '24

**Tuesday 7th January '25**

Spring term '25 begins

### Our Academy Improvement Priorities for 2024/25

***Leadership at all levels within the Academies secures sustained improvement in the delivery of the curriculum***

***Across the Academies, outcomes for all pupils demonstrate a sustainable & improving trend***

***Continue to embed high quality teaching & learning, ensuring that assessment in all subjects informs curriculum delivery***

***Continue to embed a high standard of pupil welfare which promotes pupil independence and responsibility***

### **Farewell Mrs Hazeldine**

Sadly we say farewell and thankyou to Mrs Hazeldine, who left us at the beginning of the Autumn term. We wish her all the very best for the future and thank her for all of her work in supporting the children of Raleigh and Admirals Academy.



## Curriculum Time...

### Year 6 History



Our Year 6 children have been learning about the life story of Susannah Holmes and Henry Kable in our History lessons. We visited the Guildhall - where the couple were actually trialed - for our trip this term, to watch a theatrical show about their life story. The children enjoyed getting involved with some of the props during the show and watching the story come to life after learning about



it in their history lessons. Also, the children enjoyed a question-and-answer session with the actors, who were also Historians, where they asked a number of historically relevant questions. This helped them in their next History lesson, where they wrote letters as if they were Susannah or Henry. Overall, the trip was a success, and we are now looking forward to sharing these letters with the Guildhall, Thetford.

***"Educational experiences beyond the classroom enable pupils to make sense of their world. Carefully chosen activities enrich the taught curriculum well. For example, through links to Thetford Guildhall Heritage, pupils develop a strong sense of community." (Ofsted, June '24)***

### Year 4 Geography

This term in Year 4 Geography we have focussed on Spatial Sense and understanding our local area. We learnt about the key features of Thetford as well as its history, discovering how much it has changed over the years. To end this topic, we spent the afternoon creating 3D models of Thetford's key features, such as The Ancient House Museum, The marketplace, The train and bus station and The Little Ouse River.





## Year 2 Science



This half term, Year 2 has been studying the human body and all the different systems that operate within our body and help keep us alive. The children explored the skeletal system, where we discovered that our skeletons give our bodies shape,



protect vital organs, and help us move. We worked as scientists, spending some time exploring the digestive system and creating our own models to represent the different parts. It was fascinating to see how this system breaks down and sorts out all the food we eat. We also reflected upon the need for good personal hygiene, such as washing hands, to limit the spread of harmful bacteria and the importance of maintaining healthy lifestyles to keep our bodies healthy, such as drinking water, eating fruit and exercising.



## Year 5 Design & Technology



Year 5 rose to the challenge set on their DT Day to design, make and evaluate a cam toy. They learnt that the cam mechanism was included in a book called 'The Book of Knowledge of Ingenious Devices', written in 1206



during the Golden Age of Islam, which links to their current History topic. They had very imaginative design ideas, persevered when things didn't always go according to plan, and worked well with one another to help solve problems together. The children were very honest when evaluating their final designs and knew how they could improve their mechanisms if they were to do the task again. We definitely have some future engineers in the year group!

## Year 1 Physical Education - Orienteering



Year 1 went on a trip to Redcastle school. When we arrived, we got into our 6 teams. We were led by adults and some very helpful Redcastle Year 6 pupils. We then had a map of Redcastle school and had to find the right numbers to get to the clues. We then had to answer the questions to get the letter. The letters then made the word Orienteering. We had a great time exploring the grounds of Redcastle School, which were very big! We had some very tired legs on the way home.



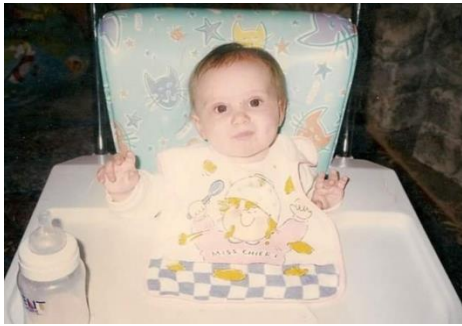
## Year 3 - Science

In Year 3, we have been exploring Forces and Magnets, investigating the strength of magnetism and identifying where magnetic fields are. At the end of the unit, we mind-mapped all our knowledge using our new Science journals. The practical element of the Science lessons enabled the children to retain new knowledge and use it very quickly when responding to teacher lesson Q&A sessions.





## Reception – All About Me



Reception has loved starting their learning journey in Reception at Raleigh this half term! We have enjoyed getting to know each other well through our PKC learning theme of 'All About Me'. We explored the past, and how we have grown and changed since we were babies. We even played a

game of guessing the baby using our baby photos (can you guess the baby teachers?!). We explored the present, including what makes us unique and special, who is in our family, and where we live. We also explored the future,

thinking about our aspirations for our future.

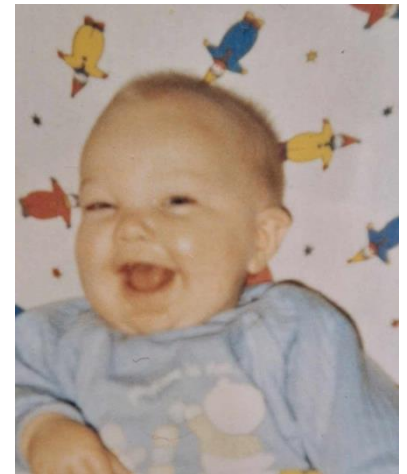
The children came to school dressed as what they wanted to be when they grew up. They spent the day talking

about their hopes and dreams, as well as role-playing what it might

be like! We can't wait to continue getting to know each other,

celebrating our uniqueness, and

growing our knowledge throughout Reception!



growing our knowledge throughout Reception!

## Pupil Leadership Team (PLT)



Our Pupil Leadership Team

(PLT), which is made up of Year 6 pupils, have all been appointed and delegated their areas of responsibility.

The PLT will be involved in Academy-wide decision-making to assist with improving the Academy's performance, and they will work alongside the Senior Leadership Team. They will represent the Academy, engage with parents & visitors,

and will assist teachers in monitoring curriculum delivery. Following their submission of a 250-word personal statement outlining how they individually hold up our ARK values, all applicants have been awarded specific House responsibilities.

Congratulations go to **Fastnet:** Lacey Pittman, Joni Lawrence **Rockall:** Cerys Poole-Hunt, Nico Monk **Biscay:** Maisy Dwyer, Georgie Horgan **Trafalgar:** Layla Parish, Emilia Struthers **Head Pupils:** Sonny Cornwall, Ruby Ingram



# SANTA RUN



Our School Field  
Wednesday 18th Decmeber  
Race starts at 3.15pm  
£2.50 per runner, this includes your  
santa hat

tickets available from the office



It's the season to be jolly

# THETFORD'S CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY  
ALL ACROSS THE TOWN!

4:30pm Santa Arriving at Riverside  
6.15pm Lights Switch On

Visit your favourite  
Christmas Movies across the  
town, Christmas Craft & Gift  
Stalls, Entertainment &  
Performers

Friday 2nd  
December

Market Square  
Kings Street  
The Carnegie



# Wreath Making

Come and join us for some festive floral fun  
£10 per person  
No experience or materials needed.

Thursday 5th December  
4.30pm - 6pm

Tickets available from Academy office  
until Monday 25th November



# CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE

JOIN US FOR CRAFTS, MUSIC  
AND DELICIOUS TREATS!

MONDAY 9TH DECEMBER  
3PM-4:30PM

IN THE MAIN SCHOOL HALL



## Governor Election

Following the recent resignation from our Academy Committee of a parent governor, we are now in a position to hold an election for any parent or member of the wider community who would be interested in joining the committee. The time commitment is not too onerous as we hold our meetings in the daytime, one per half term, and encourage members to visit the academy to understand how the Academies operate, engage in strategic thinking, and analyse key areas of Academy performance. If you would like to be considered for the election or would indeed like to know more about the post, please do contact Mr Sadler via the main office.



## Uniform Policy

We have now updated our uniform policy, which is available to parents and carers via the website. The updated policy is inclusive of all aspects of uniform, including daily requirements and expectations for keeping children warm, dry and safe. We also revisited the clothing list for Physical Education (PE) lessons and additional advice and guidance regarding wearing jewellery and make-up. As with any uniform policy, we have adopted a standardised approach to ensure that all children are encouraged to dress the same and that the required appearance is achievable for every child within our community.

## Rock Kidz

Our annual visit from Rock Kidz happened on Tuesday, and we saw a huge effort from all of the children and staff as they dressed to impress by getting into roles as real 'Rock Stars'. The theme for the day was based around 'resilience and never giving up', which aligned with our current assembly theme of 'being your best' and 'committing to improve'. All year groups enjoyed workshops with the Rock Kidz staff before then enjoying the afternoon celebration concert, where everyone joined together to hear the final messages and sing the anthem of the day!!! It was another very successful day spent with the Rock Kidz crew.



## Cross Country Running

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October, 24 children from KS2 visited Hockwold Hall to participate in the West Norfolk Cross Country Championships. The children were supported by sports leaders from Iceni Academy, who marshalled the course and ran each race as pacemakers. Children also had a meet and greet with Bradley the Breckland Bear.



Children in years 3 and 4 ran a total distance of 1000 meters, while the older children ran 1500 meters. Each child showed real grit and determination to finish the course and great sportsmanship by cheering on their peers and those from the other schools taking part.



Thirteen Admirals Academy students finished their races in the top 20 which included 6 finishing in the top 10, and the top finishers have made it through into the County Cross Country Championship.



We wish the following children the very best of luck: Primrose (YR3 finished 6th), Evan (YR3 finished 1st), Mia (YR4 finished 2nd), Ruby (YR6 finished 10th), Sonny (YR6 finished 4th) and Patrick (YR6 finished 9th).

## Year 6 Football - A Tournament to Remember!

In a 5-a-side tournament that had us all on the edge of our seats, our Year 6 boys football team gave it their all and left everything on the pitch. It was a rollercoaster of emotions, filled with nail-biting moments and heart-stopping action. Despite our valiant efforts, we finished second in the league, narrowly missing out on the top spot.



One of the highlights of the tournament was our incredible goal-scoring prowess. Our teams found the back of the net more than 30 times, a testament to their attacking prowess and relentless spirit. Every single member of the boys' squad managed to score a goal, showcasing the depth of talent and the all-around strength of our team. The girl's squad enjoyed a different football experience with a range of skill-based activities that pushed them to the limit as they experienced many new aspects of the games. This then allowed them to participate in a small-sided game with a focus on further skills development. Off the pitch, our children were exemplary in their behaviour, showing respect to their opponents and the officials. They played with passion and integrity, embodying the true spirit of the game. Coach 'Pep Harris'





# Useful QR codes



## Aspens

Order school lunches here

سفارش ناهار مدرسه در اینجا

Zamów obiady szkolne tutaj

Užsisakykite mokyklinius pietus čia

Peça almoços escolares aqui

Okul ǔgle yemaklerini buradan sipariş edin



## Price & Buckland

Order school uniform here

سفارش لباس مدرسه در اینجا

Zamów mundurki szkolny tutaj

Užsisakykite mokyklinę uniformą čia

Encomende o uniforme escolar aqui

Buradan okul üniformasını sipariş edin



## Tapestry

Log into tapestry here

ورود به ورد های نقش دار در اینجا

Zaloguj się do tapetstry tutaj

Prisijunkite prie gobieno čia

Faça login na tapeçaria aqui

Gobien'e buradan giriş yapın



## Pupil Asset

Log into pupil asset here

ورود به دتاری بی دانش آموز در اینجا

Zaloguj się do zasobu ucznia tutaj

Prisijunkite prie mdklinių turto čia

Inicie sessão no recurso do aluno aqui

Öğrenci varışına buradan giriş yapın



## TT Rockstars

Log into TT Rockstars here

سفارش لباس مدرسه در اینجا

Zamów mundurki szkolny tutaj

Užsisakykite mokyklinę uniformą čia

Encomende o uniforme escolar aqui

Buradan okul üniformasını sipariş edin



## Free School Meals

Apply for Free School Meals here

ورود به ورد های نقش دار در اینجا

Zaloguj się do tapetstry tutaj

Prisijunkite prie gobieno čia

Faça login na tapeçaria aqui

Gobien'e buradan giriş yapın



## Our Website

View our website here

سفارش ناهار مدرسه در اینجا

Zamów obiady szkolne tutaj

Užsisakykite mokyklinius pietus čia

Peça almoços escolares aqui

Okul ǔgle yemaklerini buradan sipariş edin



## Facebook

View our facebook page here

سفارش لباس مدرسه در اینجا

Zamów mundurki szkolny tutaj

Užsisakykite mokyklinę uniformą čia

Encomende o uniforme escolar aqui

Buradan okul üniformasını sipariş edin



## Trust Website

View the trust website here

ورود به ورد های نقش دار در اینجا

Zaloguj się do tapetstry tutaj

Prisijunkite prie gobieno čia

Faça login na tapeçaria aqui

Gobien'e buradan giriş yapın



## Important dates – Autumn term 2 (subject to change)

Date	Event	Involvement
Fri 8th Nov	Year 6 Bake Sale after school, 3pm	Open to All
Thurs 14th Nov	Swimming Competition, 9am-12pm @Leisure Centre	Y5 & Y6 pupils
Fri 15th Nov	Children in Need – Wear something spotty	Open to all pupils
Wed 20th Nov	Winter Crafts Open Afternoon, 2.00-2.45pm	YR to Y6 parents
Thurs 21st Nov	SATS information evening	Y6 parents
Fri 29th Nov	Year 5 Bake Sale after school 3pm	Open to All
Thurs 5th Dec	Fundraising Committee Event - Wreath Making 4.30pm	Open to all parents
Mon 9th Dec	Fundraising Committee - Craft Fayre 3pm	Open to all parents
Tue 10th Dec	Christmas Productions (Y1 / N / Y2) times tbc	Nursery, Y1, Y2 parents
Thurs 12th Dec	Christmas Production (YR) times tbc	YR parents
Fri 13th Dec	Year 4 Bake Sale after school 3pm	Open to All
Mon 16th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day	All children
Mon 16th Dec	Christmas Production (Y4 – carols and readings) times tbc	Y4 parents
Tues 17th Dec	Christmas Production (Y3 - play) Times tbc	Y3 parents
Wed 18th Dec	Cinema (Admirals pupils)	Y4 to Y6 pupils
Wed 18th Dec	Christmas Dinner (Raleigh)	YR to Y3 pupils
Wed 18th Dec	Fundraising Committee – Santa Run 3.15pm tbc	Open to All
Thurs 19th Dec	Cinema (Raleigh pupils)	YR to Y3 pupils
Thurs 19th Dec	Christmas Dinner (Admirals)	Y4 to Y6 pupils
Fri 20th Dec	Christmas Disco and parties (pm)	YR to Y6 pupils

***‘In addition, there is an extensive range of clubs, festivals and competitive sporting opportunities for all pupils.’ Ofsted, June 2024***