

Raleigh & Admirals Academies

A time to reflect – A Principal's view

We have now reached the end of the lengthy Autumn term '24 – some 14 weeks and 3 days! It has been a particularly long term for our youngest children, some of whom had previously only ever experienced perhaps 'mornings' within a Nursery setting. They have however, equipped themselves admirably and this was no more evident than during their Christmas production of the 'Nativity' where they successfully remembered their lines,



putting together a performance that thrilled a very supportive and eager parent audience. Well done Reception, you were amazing.

Our children across Years 1&2 combined forces to deliver a very notable Key Stage 1 production for everyone to be proud of. Multi-tasking their way through a performance with a significant number of lyrics and actions to remember was a sight to behold, and it was a joy to see the year groups performing together. Year 3 delivered an epic performance of 'Away in a Spaceship' which was brilliantly performed, with the entire cast performing to a packed hall of eager onlookers.



Year 4 delivered a more formal recital of carols and readings to their parents on Monday morning. They performed with confidence and character demonstrating that they are a strong and committed year group who work brilliantly as a young team. The readings were extremely well rehearsed and were presented with clarity, with the Christmas carols sung with gusto and passion. A very warm crowd showed their appreciation with a rapturous

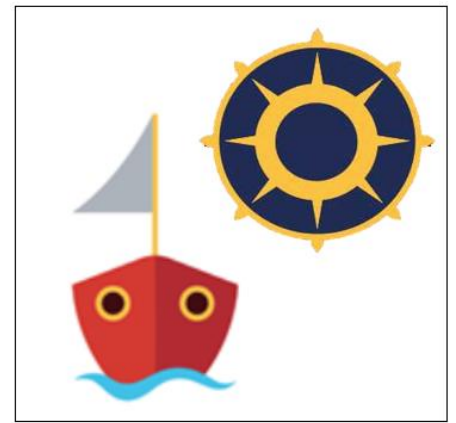


round of applause and the big cheer and the end of an excellent show.

Taking the entire Academy to the Cinema for a well-deserved Christmas treat was a brave undertaking that took a great deal of organisation. Ensuring that every eventuality had been covered was rather a long-winded affair but was something that was totally worthwhile and the experience was a positive one that the children thoroughly enjoyed. The importance of doing something different during 'school time' should never be underestimated; even visiting somewhere familiar with friends provides new experiences and creates memories that can be savoured.

Parties and Disco celebrations now seem to be the standard norm here at Raleigh and Admirals. At the end of any period of hard work and dedication it is important to always celebrate what has gone well and be rewarded for it. At the end of any term we aim to highlight this to the children; their effort, progress and attainment is so important to us, and it must be recognised, and enjoyed. Friday afternoon saw the children enjoy the delights of loud music, flashing lights, dancing, party games and treats. It was an appropriate end to another enjoyable and successful term. I wish you all a very peaceful and enjoyable Christmas, and we are looking forward to seeing you all in the NY.

Greg Sadler, Executive Principal



Upcoming Term Dates 2024/25

Tuesday 7th January '25

Spring term '25 begins

Monday 17th Feb '25

Spring Half Term '25

Monday 24th February '25

Spring term '25 resumes

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

Amazing fundraising success!

Over this term, our staff have made a strong commitment to support the Academy beyond the classroom by helping to raise money to fund exciting opportunities and experiences. Along with the support of our wonderful parents, our bake sales, wreathmaking, fayre and post play donations have so far raised **£1650**. Our efforts will continue throughout the Spring term. Thank you to all of you who have made a valued & vital contribution.



Curriculum Time.....



Year 6 Geography

This half term, year 6 have been learning about British Geography with a particular focus on some of the issues that are currently being faced across the United Kingdom. One of these issues, was 'litter'. To support their learning, the children went on a local litter pick where they needed to identify areas of large amounts of litter (fly-tipping) or small amounts of litter and mark these on a map. Their follow up study involved conversations and learning around improving the quality of their local environment.



Year 2 History visit



Towards the end of the term, Year 2 pupils visited the Ancient House Museum to explore what life was like during Roman times. During the visit, the children met a Roman soldier and an Iceni warrior. The Roman soldier presented his impressive armour and weapons and allowed the children to handle real Roman pottery and artefacts from the past. The children learned about the different symbols that represented the Iceni Tribe and had the opportunity to make their own torcs (Celtic necklaces).



"Educational experiences beyond the classroom enable pupils to make sense of the world they live in. 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)

Raleigh & Admirals Choir

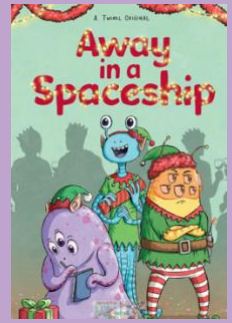
This year, for the very first time, our lovely choir formed of both Raleigh and Admiral pupils, joined other local schools of Thetford to switch on the town Christmas Lights. The children sang 'We wish you a merry Christmas' and 'Somewhere in my Memory' and they sang beautifully. During this half term, they have also performed in a Friday assembly. Thank you to all the parents and children who were able to attend this after school event.



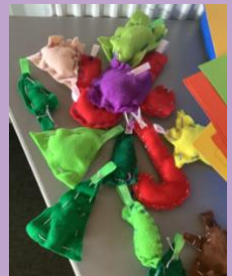
Year 3 Music/Drama/Design & Technology



This half term has been extremely busy! Year 3 have been working exceptionally hard on their Christmas production 'Away in a spaceship'. The children have been dedicated to learning lines, singing songs and getting into character! The children performed to a large audience to whom gave feedback of their excellent storytelling and acting skills. The children have been doing themselves proud.

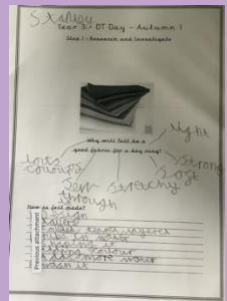


Year 3 also took part in a DT day where they created their very own Christmas hanging decoration from felt. They learnt how to do a cross stitch and filled these with stuffing. The children had to take care with sewing the fabric together, and ensuring their stitches were even and proportionate. We hope these will be hung on each of your Christmas trees this year for the children to celebrate their success.



County Cross Country Championships

This half term, 6 Admirals Academy pupils attended the County Championships for Cross Country running. The children ran a distance of either 1km or 1.5km competing against over 100 children in their age group from all over Norfolk.



The children were a credit to the school, showing exceptional behaviours and resilience, alongside their sporting skill. We are very proud of the children having made it through to such a high graded event. An individual mention must go to Evan in Year 3 who finished in third place which is an amazing achievement and bodes well for his future Athletic career.

Congratulations to all those who took part.



Year 1 – Science

In year 1 this half term, we have been learning about different materials. We have been looking in depth at materials and their properties. We discussed how materials are used for different purposes. We also used magnets to find out which materials are magnetic. The children really enjoyed this unit of Science learning. Our favourite lesson has to be our scientific investigation. Our 'class teddy' needed a raincoat but didn't know which material would be the best use. We made a prediction about the materials which would be waterproof and the ones which wouldn't. We then put the materials over the teddy to test them out! We had lots of fun pouring water all over the materials and poor teddy ended up getting quite wet, but our conclusion saw us select the material with waterproof properties.



A wander into town

This week we had a fantastic trip to the cinema with pupils from both academies, and I'm delighted to report that the children were impeccably behaved throughout the outing.



The excitement in the air was palpable as they settled into their seats and awaited the film. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience, and it was heartwarming to see their faces light up, especially when it came to their snacks! The popcorn and sweet treats were certainly a highlight for many. A huge thank you to all the parents for your amazing support and response in allowing us to take the children on such a lovely outing. It was a special day for all, with members of the public commenting how lovely it was to see a whole school venturing off-site and enjoying a local trip. The joy and laughter shared on this trip will surely be remembered for a long time to come! Mrs McArdle





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 õgje yemaklerini buradan sipariş edin



Price & Buckland

Order school uniform here

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Buradan okul üniformasını sipariş edin



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Zamów obiady szkolne tutaj

Užsisakykite mokyklinius pietus čia

Peça almoços escolares aqui

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Encomende o uniforme escolar aqui

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Trust Website

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Prisijunkite prie gobieno čia

Façã login na tapeçaria aqui

Gobien'e buradan giriş yapın



A busy time in Reception

Our reception classes have had a great half term full of fun learning! They have developed their skills across all areas of learning, including developing their knowledge about transport.



The children particularly enjoyed exploring transport from around the world, including gondolas in Italy, tuk tuks in Thailand, bullet trains in Japan, and even Ernest Shackleton's various modes of transport in Antarctica!



Another highlight from Reception's half term was having a visit from Norfolk Constabulary, to help embed their PKC learning from last half term. They loved talking to the Police Officers, finding out how they help our community, trying on some of their uniform, and even arresting Miss McElvogue! (Don't worry, she was released for good behaviour!)



To end our super half term, Reception had their first school Nativity! The children did a wonderful job of remembering all their songs, lines and actions! They were stars!

Year 5 Commander Joe time

This term, our children have absolutely loved taking part in the Commando Joe programme! They've been fully engaged in a range of exciting tasks, from building dens to tackling obstacle courses and honing their problem-solving skills. It's been wonderful to see the benefits of this initiative, particularly with our Year 5 children who are working together much more collaboratively across the curriculum.



The focus on indoor and outdoor learning has really sparked their enthusiasm, and they've enjoyed every minute of it. It's a breath of fresh air to see them challenge themselves while learning in such a hands-on way. We're all eagerly looking forward to what else is in store for the remainder of the year. With Commando Joe, we're not just teaching; we're shaping confident, resilient young learners. Here's to more adventures ahead!



A Success Story from Admirals and Raleigh Academy - Written By Janine Orevillo-Atienza

The following is an article featuring our Academies and our implementation of Smart School Council

As we continue our journey through the new academic year, we're thrilled to share a remarkable success story from Admirals and Raleigh Academy, a part of Eastern Multi-Academy Trust. In Spring Term 2024, we had the pleasure of hearing directly from Mark King, the Academy's Lead Teacher and Year 6 Intervention Teacher, about how the Smart School Councils programme has transformed their school environment.

Inspiration and Initial Steps: The journey began when the Executive Principal, Mr. Greg Sadler, inspired by seeing Smart School Councils in action at another primary school, decided to implement it at Admirals and Raleigh Academy. With a shared vision of enhancing pupil voice, the school took initial steps by launching Smart School Councils with a dynamic assembly that captivated students and spurred a surge of interest. The response was overwhelming, with many eager to get involved. Here's how the programme has made a difference and how it's been implemented:

1. Boosting Student Confidence and Responsibility

The democratic, student-led approach of Smart School Councils has had a profound effect on the children. Students have embraced their roles with enthusiasm, feeling valued and important. The opportunity to choose roles that align with their personalities has significantly boosted their confidence and self-esteem. They are excited about finding and addressing questions from their peers, and they relish being in control of their school environment.

2. Visible Changes in the School

In just two terms, the Smart School Councils programme has led to these substantial improvements:

- **Curriculum Adjustments:** Student feedback has directly influenced changes to the curriculum.
- **Enhanced Break Times:** A daily tuck shop for Key Stage 2 and new opportunities for inter-year group mingling.
- **Expanded After-School Activities:** Increased options for clubs and private music lessons.
- **Outdoor Play Improvements:** Upgraded play areas and new equipment based on student requests.

3. Mixed-Age Group Meetings: A Unique Approach

The introduction of mixed-age group meetings, or House teams, was a creative solution to integrate a new format into their existing structure. These meetings, which happen weekly, have fostered a sense of community and encouraged interaction among students of different ages. This 'mini parliament' setup has been a hit, with students learning to discuss, debate, and vote on various issues together.

A Bright Future Ahead

The success story of Admirals and Raleigh Academy highlights the transformative power of the Smart School Councils programme. By valuing and implementing student feedback, the school has created a more inclusive and responsive environment. We hope this inspires some of our other member schools in their own journeys to truly reflect the voices of their students. Big thanks to Mark King and the entire team at Admirals and Raleigh Academy for sharing your inspiring journey with us. Here's to a new school year filled with continued growth and success!



Year 4 – Design & Technology

What a fantastic term Year 4 has had! We've been extremely busy exploring new topics and learning lots of new knowledge, and it's been wonderful to see everyone showing such great enthusiasm. As we wrap up the Autumn term, we had a brilliant Design Technology day where the children crafted their very own Christmas-themed appliqué cushions. The creativity on display was simply stunning, and it really got everyone into the festive spirit! Well done Year 4, you've all had an excellent term.



Governor Election

Following the recent resignation from our Academy Committee of a parent governor we are now in a position to be able 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 in order to be able to understand how the Academies operate, to engage in strategic thinking and to 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.



ATTENDANCE

WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

1

I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.

Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

£160



2

FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 1 parent = £640

Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE

10 IN 10

5

If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.

1 Day = 2 Sessions

3

FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS



+ £160 + £160 + £160 + £160

4 children & 2 parents = £1280

Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

4

2ND TIME

2 parents and

1 child = £320

2 children = 640

3 children = 960

4 children = 1280

No discount for early payment



3RD TIME

A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court.

A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child

1 parent & 4 children = £10,000

2 parents & 4 children = £20,000