



**Safeguarding at the Heart of Our Academies – A Principal's view**

At our Academies, safeguarding is not an add-on or a separate responsibility; it is at the very heart of everything we do. The safety, wellbeing and protection of our children underpin all decisions, systems and practices across the school community. We are fully committed to creating an environment where children feel safe, listened to and supported, and where concerns are acted upon swiftly and effectively.



Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. All staff, governors and volunteers receive regular training to ensure they understand current safeguarding guidance and are confident in recognising the signs of potential concern. This includes understanding issues such as neglect, online safety, peer-on-peer abuse and emotional wellbeing. By maintaining a strong culture of vigilance, we ensure that no concern is ever considered too small to report.

A key tool that supports our safeguarding practice is CPOMs (Child Protection On-line Monitoring system), our secure internal reporting system. CPOMs allows staff to record and share safeguarding concerns in a timely and consistent manner. Any member of staff can log a concern, which is then immediately visible to our 'Circle of Safety', our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) team. This ensures that concerns are not only captured accurately but are also followed up without delay.

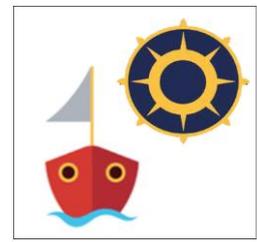


Importantly, CPOMs enables us to build a clear and detailed picture over time. Individual incidents that may appear minor in isolation can reveal significant patterns or trends when viewed collectively. This helps us to identify emerging concerns early, respond appropriately and put the right support in place for children and families. It also allows us to work effectively with external agencies, providing clear, chronological evidence when referrals or further intervention are required.

Confidentiality and professionalism are central to our use of CPOMs. Access is carefully controlled, and information is shared strictly on a need-to-know basis, ensuring that children's privacy is respected while their safety remains paramount. Safeguarding also relies on strong partnerships with parents and carers. We encourage open communication and value your role in helping us keep children safe, particularly in relation to online safety and wellbeing beyond the school gates. When school and homework together, children are best supported. In summary, our robust safeguarding systems, underpinned by the effective use of CPOMs, ensure that children's safety is continuously monitored, concerns are acted upon promptly and trends are carefully analysed. We remain steadfast in our commitment to safeguarding and will continue to place the wellbeing of every child at the centre of our work.

Our staff team here at Raleigh and Admirals wish all of you and your children a very Merry Christmas! Stay safe, enjoy the down time and relax.

**Greg Sadler, Executive Principal**



**Upcoming Term Dates 25/26**

**Tuesday 6th September '26**

Spring term '25/26 begins

**Friday 13th Feb '26 @ 3pm**

Spring half term begins

**Friday 27th March '26**

Spring term '26 ends

**Staff news**



**Congratulations** to Mrs Monk who was recently awarded the **'Communicate Excellence Award'** for her inspiring work with our pupils. **'Communicate'** is a speech and language therapy service for children, adults and schools across the UK, based in East Anglia. Mrs Monk was nominated by Megan Billman, a Speech therapist who works with our children. She said 'Aggie, without your hard work, flexibility, and fun sessions, my job would be much harder. I am so grateful for your time and energy, for all you do within my follow up sessions. You are a true credit to your lovely school.'



# Curriculum Time

## Nursery News



This half term Nursery have enjoyed the theme of 'Journeys' in their Primary Knowledge Curriculum (PKC) learning. They have learnt about different types of transport, maps and about the explorer Ernest Shackleton and his adventures to the South Pole. The children were challenged to make boats using junk boxes and test them in water to see if they would sink or float, there were many successful boats! Finally, to end the half term we were very impressed with the children in their first little performance for Christmas! The children tried really hard and enjoyed parents/carers joining in with some festive crafts. **Mr Collins**



## Reception – Transport & Journey's

Reception have had a great half term full of fun learning! Reception loved their Primary Knowledge Curriculum (PKC) learning, developing their knowledge on 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! The children demonstrated their knowledge in a range of ways, including writing facts and role-playing, modelling incredible vocabulary along the way. Reception have also demonstrated some fantastic progress across the half term. They



have been working particularly hard in Phonics, practicing their knowledge both in and out of school. The result of this is some incredible progress, further supporting them in both reading and writing! Well done everyone!

Finally, 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!

**Miss Cousins**



## Year 1 - Design & Technology



This half term in Design and Technology, Year 1 explored basic food preparation through making jam tarts. The children were introduced to what a recipe is and learned the meaning of the word raw. We discussed the importance of baking food before it is ready to eat.

The children developed their practical skills by mixing, rolling and cutting pastry before carefully filling it with raspberry jam. After baking, they wrote

simple instructions and drew pictures to reflect on the process they had followed. The children were very proud to take their finished jam tarts home to share with their families.

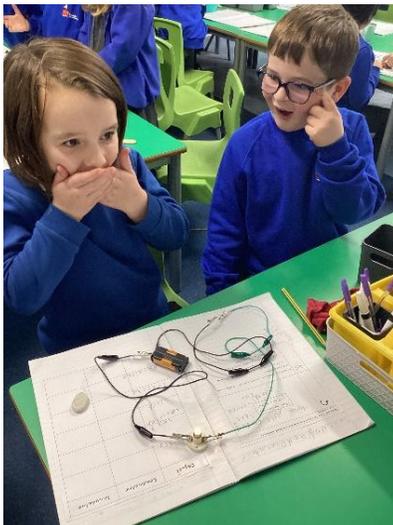
**Mrs Bishop and Mrs Maxwell**

## Year 2 – Weird Science

This half term, Year 2 were introduced to the exciting world of electricity in science. We studied what electricity is used for, how it behaves and how to use it safely. We explored the differences between battery-powered and mains electricity and learned how our electrical system is connected across the country. The children enjoyed identifying a range of everyday appliances in the classroom and



discovering whether they are powered by batteries or plugged into the mains, helping them make real-life connections to their learning.



Before being let loose with any electrical equipment, the children reflected on the potential dangers of electricity. They demonstrated excellent knowledge of how to stay safe and how to avoid risks. The children were able to create their own simple electrical circuits using a range of components. We then worked as scientists by carrying out an investigation to test different materials. The children incorporated these materials into their circuits to discover whether they were

conductors or insulators of electricity. The children showed great curiosity, teamwork and scientific thinking throughout the topic. **Miss McDougal**



## Year 3 – History & Geography

This term, Year 3 have been learning about lots of exciting topics such as Ancient Egypt in History, Settlements in Geography and Rocks in Science. In Science, the children thoroughly enjoyed using marshmallows to create different types of rock formations including sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic. In History, the children have learnt how to write their names in hieroglyphics and understood the importance of learning to read this language to understand Ancient History of Egypt. In addition, the children acquired new knowledge about mummification, tombs, the afterlife and about the River Nile. In Geography, the children were able to create their own settlements; they began to understand the concept and difference between rural or urban and the specific features that



would need to be included.



Year 3 have also enjoyed getting into the Christmas spirit this term by practising for their Christmas production 'The Grinch who stole Christmas', creating crafts in our Christmas craft afternoon and going on our annual cinema trip to watch a Christmas film. **Mrs Fowler**



### Our Academy Attendance Headlines

<b>Raleigh</b>	<b>Autumn 1</b>	<b>95.41%</b>	<b>Autumn 2</b>	<b>94.96%</b> (target 96%)
<b>Raleigh</b>	<b>Unauthorised absence</b>	<b>Aut1 1.79%,</b>	<b>Aut2</b>	<b>1.78%</b>
<b>Admirals</b>	<b>Autumn 1</b>	<b>95.90%</b>	<b>Autumn 2</b>	<b>95.78%</b> (target 96%)
<b>Admirals</b>	<b>Unauthorised absence</b>	<b>Aut1 1.30%,</b>	<b>Aut2</b>	<b>1.25%</b>

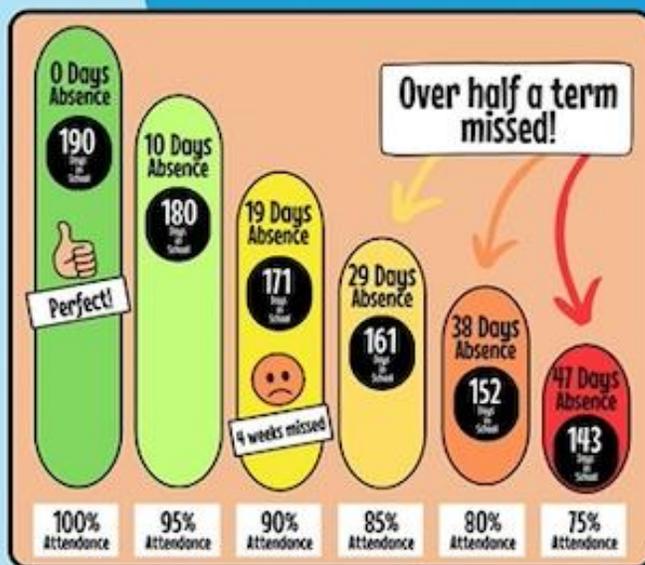
# School Attendance

Every day counts...



## Good attendance helps with...

<p><b>Academic Achievement</b> Regular attendance helps children stay on track with the curriculum and achieve stronger academic results.</p>	<p><b>Social Skills</b> Being in school every day helps children make friends, develop important social skills and feel part of the school community.</p>	<p><b>Routine &amp; Responsibility</b> Attending school regularly teaches the importance of commitment, routine and responsibility, helping children build valuable life skills.</p>	<p><b>Focus &amp; Engagement</b> Children who attend school regularly are more likely to stay engaged in their learning and develop a positive attitude towards education.</p>	<p><b>Building Confidence</b> Regular attendance can boost a child's self-esteem and confidence, as they see their progress and achievements over time.</p>	<p><b>Enhanced Learning Opportunities</b> School offers more than academic learning - it provides clubs, activities and enrichment opportunities that help children discover new interests and talents.</p>
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## Did you know there are...

- 365 Days in a Year
- 190 School Days
- 175 Non School Days

Having 90% over 5 school years, is half a school year's work missed!

## Tips for Supporting Good Attendance...

<p><b>Set a regular routine</b> A consistent bedtime and morning routine helps children feel ready for school and reduces last-minute stress.</p>	<p><b>Aim for every day</b> Try to make school attendance the default. Only keep your child off if they are genuinely unwell.</p>	<p><b>Plan appointments carefully</b> Where possible, book medical or dental appointments outside school hours so your child doesn't miss lessons.</p>	<p><b>Talk positively about school</b> Ask about your child's day and celebrate the little things they enjoy. Your positivity helps them look forward to school.</p>	<p><b>Stay in touch</b> When a child is struggling, early communication with the school helps everyone find solutions and makes things easier for the child.</p>	<p><b>Prepare the night before</b> Pack bags, lay out uniforms and check homework in the evening to make mornings smoother and less stressful.</p>
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Silly School Education



## Year 4 – Singers visit Residential Care Homes

Year 4 were privileged to attend 'Red House and Red Care House' Residential Care Homes this week to share our wonderful Christmas singing. The children behaved immaculately, and the residents were overjoyed with the Christmas cheer we brought. It was a pleasure to work together as a community and to give both the children and the residents this wonderful experience! **Mrs McArdle**



## Year 5 – Science & Careers



Year 5 were lucky enough to have a visit from Sharon Azzopardi and Wayne Thomson, from Azzotech Ltd, as part of their science topic studies on 'Materials'. Azzotech Ltd are a local company who lay resin flooring. The children found out about the different jobs that are carried out by the company, from initial visits and pricing up jobs, to

making the resin and laying the flooring.

They also learnt where the raw materials come from, as well as where Azzotech Ltd lay their specialised flooring such as warehouses, car showrooms and shops. The children were fascinated by Wayne's demonstration of how to make the resin and how colour and sparkle can be added for the finishing touches. Azzotech Ltd have hopefully inspired the next generation of resin floor specialists! Many thanks to Sharon & Wayne. **Mrs Wilsoncroff**



## Year 6 – History

This Half-Term, our Year 6 pupils embarked on an exciting trip to the Ancient House Museum, where they delved into the fascinating world of World War 1. The children were captivated by the stories of tanks and the brave local town crier, Florrie Clarke, who played a vital role during the war.



They explored the realities of rationing, discovering how families adapted to shortages, and enjoyed learning about wartime entertainment that brought communities together. The children also gained insight The Royal Flying Corps and the challenges faced by pilots as well as what it was like for soldiers on fighting on the front lines in the trenches. It was a memorable experience that truly brought history to life, and we are proud of our children for their enthusiasm and curiosity!

**Mr Smith**

## News from Pupil Leadership Team (PLT)

The PLT spent some time this term carrying out behaviour observations in our classrooms. They were taught how to observe and what to specifically look for when evaluating how well children behave, and how staff implement the Academy behaviour policy. Head pupils, Leo and Maisy, presented the PLT findings to the Academy Council (Governors) and during the Spring term '26, the PLT will focus their monitoring on playground behaviours and dismissal from assembly ensuring that children return to their classrooms calm and ready to begin learning. **Mr Sadler**

### 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)

## Year 6 Pupil Leadership Team Spread Festive Cheer at Ford Place

On Friday, 5th December, six members of the Year 6 Pupil Leadership Team from Admirals Academy, accompanied by Mrs Lamb and Mrs Monk, visited Ford Place Residential and Nursing Home in Theford for a festive community activity.



The purpose of the visit was to bring pupils and residents together through Christmas crafts. The children enjoyed making and decorating gingerbread houses alongside residents, sharing conversation, laughter, and plenty of creativity. Everyone also had a festive hot chocolate as they worked.

The visit was incredibly well-received.

Residents spoke warmly about having the younger generation involved, and our pupils represented the school beautifully. It was a wonderful opportunity to build links within our community and spread some Christmas cheer. **Mrs Monk**



*Have a great Christmas Holiday, see you all on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026*