



Headteacher's Newsletter: September

Calendar:

INSET Days

~~02.09.21 – INSET 1~~

~~03.09.21 – INSET 2~~

04.01.22 – INSET 3

18.02.22 – INSET 4

06.06.22 – INSET 5

25.10.21 – 29.10.21 –
Half Term

17.12.21 – End of Term

20.12.21 – 03.01.22 –
Christmas Holidays

05.01.22 – Return to
school

21.02.22 – 25.02.22 –
Half Term

11.04.22 – 24.04.22 –
Easter Holidays

25.04.22 – Return to
school

09.05.22 – SATS Week

30.05.22 – 05.06.22 –
Half Term

07.06.22 – Return to
school

21.07.22 – last day of
Term

Welcome to the new academic Year

The children have started the year really well and we could not be more proud of them. Each year group had managed to visit their new classroom prior to the end of last term, but it is fair to say that the typical transition activities to support them had not taken place. Despite this, they have all settled so well into their new year groups and adapted to familiar routines.

A special mention to our new Year 3 pupils – they have bowled us over with their positive energy, enthusiasm, big smiles and confidence. They sing beautifully in assemblies, walk around the school so quietly and contribute their thinking and ideas at every opportunity. Well done Year 3 – you are fantastic new team members. I would also like to warmly welcome all our new pupil who have started in different years groups – welcome to the team 😊

ClassDojo

Please can I ask you to keep checking ClassDojo for news and information sent out from the school. We can see who has read posts and are a little worried that so many of you will not be updated. We are not emailing all communications that are uploaded to ClassDojo so please make sure you check it regularly to stay in touch.

I have asked our teachers to write a summary of the learning week for you. I really enjoy reading these posts that are uploaded to ClassDojo on a Friday. If you find this information useful or enjoy reading the teachers' updates, please can I ask you to like their post? At the moment I'm not sure if this is something you value or not so this feedback will be useful to enable us to decide whether to continue – thank you.

CCTV

Our new system is now fully installed and operational. Thank you to all who donated; it is great to have CCTV on site and for it to act as a deterrent. The office can observe the CCTV monitors and the system offers another level of security.

Air Purifiers

We have bought air purifiers for each classroom and for key spaces in our school. The purifiers have a 7 stage filter system whereby air is purified through a series of filters to kill bugs and purify the air. These systems make a noticeable difference to our classrooms and the lights act as a guide for teachers who can choose to take children outside for a break to allow the air in the classroom to purify.

Fogging

Our Site Manager, Simon Williams, continues to manage a weekly fogging programme for us. This offers us an additional level of reassurance that we are doing all we can to maintain a clean and hygienic school. Bugs / germs are killed through a process that is completed after school adhering to health and safety guidelines.

New Chairs

Our lovely, colourful new chairs for the classrooms and hall have arrived. Each year group has a different colour. The children love the bright colours and the chairs are more comfortable too. The classrooms have also been brightened.

Start and End to the school Days

Thank you to all our parents who have supported us by following our one-way system at the end of the school day. I appreciate that it might be an inconvenience for some of you who have to walk further. I also appreciate some of us have had to deal with tragic consequences and many of us have been affected negatively.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us, who has smiled through the challenges and adhered to our requests to follow system of control plans. Thank you to those who have not made short cuts, considerately thinking of the needs of others too; it is genuinely, much appreciated.

From Week beginning Monday 4 October, the children will be able to enter **and exit** the school from both the top and bottom gates. Teachers will walk the children to the current designated spaces at the end of the day and **from this location**, families can leave from either exit gate. Please do not ask your child to exit the line, with their teacher, until they have reached the playground. Thank you.

There are many families who prefer the one-way system; there are many families who dislike the one-way system. Please be considerate of space as you leave the school grounds so that we are mindful of everyone's needs, including traffic in the car park – thank you.

School Trips

Our school governors have approved school trips. Please look out for dates when we hope to take the children out to enhance the learning curriculum. I will add these dates to our school calendar when they have been secured. I am delighted to let you know that we plan to take the current Year 6 on a residential to Marchants Hill in February. We have been busy working on logistics to make this happen. Year 6 parents, please look out for a letter coming home very soon.

Parent Meetings

We will hold parent meetings on 9 and 10 of November. We have been focusing on assessment for learning to check how secure children are in key learning areas. We are looking forward to meeting with you to share how well the children have settled into their new year group and to share home / school learning targets. Further details will follow.

Pupil Leadership

We were very proud to announce our pupil leadership team on ClassDojo last week. The children wrote their letters of application at the end of year 5 and, having read each one of the letters very carefully, I can assure you that it was very tough to make some decisions. We are very much looking forward to encouraging the children in their new leadership roles and I know they will make great role models.

Litter Pickers

Last year Willow (now in Year 5) encouraged us to be more responsible picking up litter in our community. She led an online assembly and the children watched and listened to her compelling message with earnest. So...we have bought 16 litter pickers – 8 for each end of the school and to be shared out between each year group. Children from years 3 to 6 will help keep our school clean on a rotation programme. We are also buying more big bins to place around our school.

Music Teacher

Mr Paul Johnson, our new music teacher, has enjoyed teaching on a Thursday. The choir has also started and we have a music assembly on a Thursday too. The music room has been revamped and we are continuing with our displays. I would like to thank Mrs Johnson who was relentless in her pursuit to ensure the music room was brought to life again, and Mr Williams (our Site manager) who helped move so many instruments and items of furniture to create space. It is lovely that the room is being put to good musical use again.

Partnership with Ranvilles Infant School

The Governing Bodies of Ranvilles Infant and Junior schools have asked me to support Miss Barnes in her new Acting Headship role and I am delighted to be able to do this. I am very much looking forward to working with Miss Barnes while Miss Woodmore is on maternity leave. We met this month and look forward to sharing a periodic, joint newsletter with you. I am very passionate about building learning blocks, knowing the learning journey from Reception to GCSE and beyond. I will also invite the team at Ranvilles Infant school to work in close partnership with us and look forward to our planned learning enquiries.

Office Helpers

If you call our school office at lunchtime, you are likely to be greeted by one of our newly appointed Year 6 office helpers. The lovely children wrote wonderful applications and just really love being helpful and kind. They are new to the role this week – I am sure they will shine.

New Staff

Mrs Windsor and Mr Coppins joined our team as Teaching Support Assistants in Year 4 and Year 6. They have made a big difference already and I know they will continue to do so. It is lovely to welcome new staff and to build on our learning opportunities.

Monthly Newsletters

I look forward to updating you monthly with Ranvilles news. Please do keep checking ClassDojo for other key information and letters too.

With Very Best Wishes,

Angela Williams
Headteacher