



27th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the Spring Term closes, I want to share with you some highlights from the term, the results of our recent parent survey and upcoming dates to add to your calendars for the Summer Term.

Some Spring Term Highlights

It might have been a short term, but we seem to have packed all sorts of things in! Here's a quick look back on a period filled with incredible learning journeys, sporting triumphs, and creative exploration. From the depths of history to the far reaches of the galaxy, our pupils have truly embraced every opportunity.

Early Years Adventures: Little City and Living Eggs

It has been a particularly magical term for our youngest learners in Nursery and Reception:

- **Little City:** Our classrooms were transformed into a bustling high street for the day! The children explored various professions by dressing up and trying their hands at different trades, from budding mechanics to busy shopkeepers.
- **Living Eggs:** We were all moved by the awe and wonder of the Living Eggs programme. The children watched with bated breath as incubated eggs hatched into fluffy chicks, learning first-hand about life cycles and how to care for young animals.

A Stage for the Arts

This term brought the magic of live performance directly to our students:

- **Toscana Strings:** We were delighted to welcome the Toscana Strings string quintet and a professional ballet dancer. They provided an enchanting series of performances for Nursery, Reception and Years 1, 2 and 3, blending classical music with expressive storytelling.
- **The Red Shoes at Sadler's Wells:** A group of our Year 5 and 6 pupils enjoyed a sophisticated cultural outing to the world-renowned Sadler's Wells theatre to watch a breathtaking performance of *The Red Shoes*.
- Groups of children across the school have been participating in our **Movement Mondays** workshops over a seven week period, led by Sadlers Wells Theatre and Mr Towell. These workshops were designed to develop children's confidence, teamwork, communication and problem solving skills through creativity.

History and Science Come to Life

Our curriculum trips and workshops this term allowed students to step back in time and explore the universe:

- **A Stellar Surprise:** Our Year 5 pupils reached for the stars during a visit from a **mobile planetarium**. It was a truly out-of-this-world experience as they discovered the wonders of the Solar System right in our school hall.

- **Roman Britain:** Year 3 stepped into the ancient world with an immersive Roman theatre workshop, practicing battle tactics and learning about life in the empire. They followed this with a day of discovery at the Science Museum, exploring the invisible world of forces. They ended the term by dressing up as Romans for a Roman Day in school full of exciting activities.
- **RAF Hendon:** History truly came alive for Year 4 during their visit to RAF Hendon. Taking part in an immersive World War II workshop, the children stepped into the shoes of those who lived through the 1940s.
- **Museum Explorers:** Year 5 continued their scientific journey with a trip to the Natural History Museum. Year 2 enjoyed a "full steam ahead" trip to the local Pumphouse Museum and to the London Transport Museum in Covent Garden.
- **Air Quality Awareness:** As part of the Mayor's School Filters Programme, Years 3,4,5 and 6 attended an assembly delivered by the charity Walk, Wheel, Cycle Trust. They learnt about the causes and impact of air pollution and steps we can all take to address the issue. This was followed by workshops for children in Year 3. The school has been supplied with air filters for every classroom.

Strategy and Sporting Success

It has been a season of victory on the field, the mat, and the chessboard:

- **Borough Tri-Golf Champions:** Huge congratulations to our Year 3 and Year 4 Tri-Golf team, who were officially crowned Borough Champions in February!
- **Chess Excellence:** A group of children from across the juniors showed incredible focus during the recent inter-school Chess Competition, playing brilliantly to secure 3rd place overall.
- **Gymnastics:** Children showcased their grace and agility during our school gymnastics showcase, proving that practice truly makes perfect.
- **Cross Country Racers:** 10 children in Years 3 to 6 ran a mile courageously competing with children from across the borough on a Saturday morning at Chingford Plains with their parents and Ms Scott cheering them on.

Celebrating Our Community

At RAPS, we take great pride in who we are together:

- **Eid Show and Tell:** We were delighted to welcome so many parents into the school on Monday as we shared traditions, stories, food and heritage together in celebration.
- **Lunar New Year:** Years 1, 2 & 3 enjoyed a special assembly, and Year 1 and 2 engaged in vibrant workshops in February, exploring the traditions and legends of this festival.
- **New Playground Addition:** Following the fundraising efforts valiantly led by FRAPS, our School Council recently took the lead in officially unveiling our brand-new Trim Trail, which is already proving to be a massive hit during break times!
- **Comic Relief:** Children enjoyed wearing red, an extra playtime and raised money for those in need. Assemblies focused on the importance of play and how to play and get along with each other.

World Book Day 2026: Breakfast & Books

Our World Book Day celebrations began in the best way possible—with a shared breakfast and a good story! It was wonderful to see so many parents join their children for our Breakfast & Books event. The school was filled with children, parents and staff in their pyjamas.

The Scholastic Book Fair: A Reading Record!

A huge thank you to all the grown-ups and children who attended our Scholastic Book Fair in March. We are also very grateful to FRAPS and all the volunteers who helped and to Mrs Petridou for organising the event.

The fair was a staggering success, with total sales reaching **£1,783.40**. This means we have earned **£1,070.04 in Scholastic rewards** to spend on new project books, library stock, and class story-time favourites.

Creativity & Life Skills

Our after-school scene has been buzzing with the launch of several new initiatives, in addition to a number of new sports clubs:

- **Family Cookery Club:** Our young chefs have been "stirring up success," mastering the art of the kitchen and learning vital life skills alongside their parents with Mr Musgrave from Waltham Forest and Mrs Bain.
- **Crochet, Sewing & Craft Club:** Our new club for crafters has seen pupils unleash their imagination through complex designs and textiles led by Mrs Day and Mrs Bain.
- **Family Craft Club:** A wonderful opportunity for Year 1 and 2 families to create together with Ms Patel from Waltham Forest.
- **Junior Choir:** Our Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 choir have enjoyed singing some upbeat, joyous songs together on Tuesdays with Mrs Cjupko and Mrs Selwanes.
- **Lego & Construction Club:** Year 1, 2 & 3 have all had the opportunity to build and play together on Mondays with Mrs Pupla and Ms Ade.
- **Yoga:** Year 1 and Year 2 have enjoyed balancing and calming movements with Mr Anderson on Mondays.

Parent Questionnaire

Thank you to everyone who responded in our Spring 2026 Parent Questionnaire. We received a good balance of responses from parents across all year groups, and I am delighted to share the highlights and respond to some of the points that were raised.

The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, particularly regarding the environment we have built together. We are incredibly proud of the following results:

- 100% of parents say their child is happy at school.
- 100% of parents would recommend this school to others.
- 99% of parents feel their child is safe on site.
- 96% of parents agree that pupils are well-behaved.

It is also wonderful to see that our focus on enrichment is being felt, with satisfaction regarding clubs and activities rising to 87%.

While the general sentiment is excellent, it is important to address the following areas:

1. Communication & Learning Progress. Some parents requested more day-to-day insight into the curriculum and how their child is progressing. To support with this:

- You can find detailed overviews of what your child is learning each half term on our website here in the [Curriculum section](#) of our website and knowledge organisers on the [Year Group pages](#).
- We send home three termly reports per year (two progress updates and one full end-of-year report).
- While we hold one formal Parents' Evening per year, please remember you can also request a meeting with your child's teacher at any time. Simply email office@rapsch.co.uk to arrange an appointment.

2. **Bullying & Behaviour:** Our updated Behaviour Policy now clarifies the process the school takes if concerns are raised around bullying. This will be uploaded to the school website at the start of the Summer Term. All bullying allegations are reported directly to the Headteacher and addressed as soon as they are raised to ensure swift resolution.

3. **Clubs & Provision:** This term we have again added to the wide variety of clubs that are offered to families free of charge. To remain fair, clubs are rotated between year groups. As there is a limit to the number of clubs we can run each evening, this rotation ensures every child has access to enrichment over the course of the year.

4. **Site Security & Gates:** The safety of our children is our absolute priority.

- We ask that parents leave the site promptly after drop-off in the morning. This allows us to secure the gates and ensure the site is ready for learning. This is vital for school security. The school gates open at 8:40. Children arriving after 8:45 must enter through the school office.
- Williams Avenue Gate: Following the development of our new Trim Trail, the Williams Avenue gate will no longer be used. The gate next to the office provides a much safer waiting area for families, away from the road.
- If children use any of the playground equipment after school, it is the responsibility of parents to supervise them. Please also ensure that children are not riding bikes and scooters within the school grounds.

5. **SEND Support:** For our families with children who have SEND, we are committed to improving our systems of communication particularly around children's ongoing progress to ensure we are working in partnership to get the best for every child.

6. **Local Environment:** We have noted parental concerns regarding dog fouling on the public paths outside the school. We have raised this with our local councillor, as these areas are maintained by the council rather than the school. To help tackle this, please report any incidents of fouling to the council using this [link](#).

Dates for the Summer Term

*Additional trips and events could also happen

EYFS

Nursery & Reception Mini First Aid - Wednesday 22nd April

Reception Higham Hill Library visits - Thursday 14th May pm, Monday 18th May am & pm

Nursery Higham Hill Library visits - Thursday 21st May am and pm

Reception visit William Morris Gallery - RA Wednesday 24th June & RB Wednesday 1st July

Reception visit Discover - Wednesday 8th July

Nursery & Reception visited by The Hive - Tuesday 14th July

Year 1

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check - Monday 8th June to Friday 12th June

Year 1 visiting a local church - Thursday 18th June

Year 1 visit to the seaside. Date to be confirmed.

Year 2

William Morris - Wednesday 22nd April

Year 2 Visit Woburn Safari Park - Friday 3rd July

Year 3

3A Swimming - Monday 20th April to Friday 1st May

3B Swimming - Monday 11th May to Friday 22nd May

Walthamstow Wetlands - Wild Wellbeing Workshop: 3A 30th June & 3B 1st July
Year 3 Movie Night - Tuesday 7th July

Year 4

Year 4 Parents meeting about residentials - Tuesday 2nd June, 3:15pm
Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check - Monday 1st June - Friday 12th June
Year 4 Sleepover - Thursday 2nd July

Year 5

Year 5 Higham Hill Library - Friday 1st May
Year 5 Rainbow Theatre visiting - Tuesday 16th June

Year 6

Year 6 SATs Week - Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May
Year 6 Trip to Lloyd Park - Friday 15th May
Year 6 Bikeability Course - Monday 1st June to Friday 12th June
Year 6 First Aid Course - Thursday 18th June
Year 6 Kayaking - Tuesday 30th June
Year 6 Waltham Forest Secondary School Transition Day - Wednesday 1st July
Year 6 Junior Citizenship Workshop - Thursday 2nd July and Friday 3rd July
Year 6 Enterprise Day - Friday 10th July
Year 6 Leavers Disco - Monday - 13th July
Year 6 Leavers' Ceremony - Wednesday 15th July

Whole School

FRAPS Big Fundraising Event - Friday 1st May
Half-term holiday: Monday 25th - Friday 29th May Transitioning into the new academic year begins Monday 1st June
Walthamstow Art Trail Exhibition 8th - 12th June after school
Years 1 - 6 Sports Day - Tuesday 23rd June @ The Feel Good Centre, 10 am start
EYFS Sports Day - Wednesday 17th June, 9.30 am on the school field
Community Picnic - Tuesday 30th June from 3:15pm on the school field
Summer Concert & Fair - Tuesday 14th July
Last day of term - Wednesday 15th July 2pm School Uniform to be worn. No ASC
Children return to school on Thursday 3rd September at 8:45am.

Finally, I want to wish you all a wonderful rest over the holidays and look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 13th April.

Best wishes,

Mr Desoer