



# RAVENSTHORPE PRIMARY ACADEMY

Respectful, Proud, Aspirational

**May Newsletter 08.05.2026**



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*Message from Headteacher*

*Dear Parents/Carers*

*We have had a positive start to the summer term and been blessed with some beautiful sunny days. The children have been able to enjoy OPAL at lunchtimes.*

*A HUGE Thank you to everyone for your continued support for OPAL with the donations. They are all most welcome and are helping us develop the provision.*

*We have already had plenty of interesting things happen this term: reception children have enjoyed seeing chicks hatch, the team from Nene Park have continued their work in Year 4 and installed hibernaculums.*

*School leaders have carried out a review of behaviour - transitions, behaviour at lunchtimes etc. the findings are being used to inform our continued development this term.*

*Our wonderful Year 6 pupils are sitting the SATs next week. We are all so proud of their positive attitude and determination. We wish them the best of luck for the coming week.*

*Following the success of the swimming I am pleased to confirm we have booked it again for September 2026 for pupils in Year 5 and Year 6. We are hoping to extend the after school swimming club. We will share more information towards the end of the term.*

*Mrs Ward*

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## **Important Dates**

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***Week Beginning Monday 11th May - KS2 SATs - Y6***

***Monday 18th May - RPA Summer Sports Festival EYFS/Y1/Y2***

***Tuesday 19th May - RPA Summer Sports Festival Y3/Y4***

***Wednesday 20th May - EYFS Vision Screening 9:30am-11:30am***

***Thursday 21st May - RPA Summer Sports Festival Y5/Y6***

*- Rainbow Lunch*

**\*\*\*Friday 22nd May - Training Day - School Closed\*\*\***

**\*\*\*Half term Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May\*\*\***

**Friday 19th June - Father's Day Breakfast - 9am-10:15am**

**Thursday 25th June - Year 3 Parent Cafe 2:30pm-3pm**

**Monday 29th June - Wimbledon Lunch**

**Wednesday 1st July - Year 1/2 Trip to Hunstanton**

**Thursday 2nd July - Year 5 Summer Fun Activity Evening**

**Friday 3rd July - 4th July Lunch**

**Friday 17th July - Teddy Bears Picnic Lunch**

**- Last day of term 1:15pm finish**

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## RAVENSTHORPE PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Term Dates 2025 - 2026

AUTUMN TERM 2025		
<b>PROFESSIONAL DAYS 1,2 &amp; 3</b>	<b>Monday 1st September 2025</b>	<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025</b>
	<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b>	
<b>PLANNING DAYS 1&amp;2 (School closed)</b>	<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025</b>	<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025</b>
Term 1	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept 2025	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025
<b>Half term/ School closed</b>	<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b>	<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025</b>
Term 2	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
SPRING TERM 2026		
<b>PROFESSIONAL DAY 4 &amp; PLANNING DAY 3</b>	<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026</b>	
Term 3	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
<b>Half term/ School closed</b>	<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026</b>	<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026</b>
Term 4	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
SUMMER TERM 2026		
Term 5	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026</b>
<b>May Bank Hol/ school closed</b>	<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>	
<b>Half term/ school closed</b>	<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>	<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026</b>
Term 6	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026

### PROFESSIONAL DAYS

- 1 disaggregated day (6 hours) spread across the year (3 x 2-hour CPD sessions)
- These dates could be subject to some changes. Any changes will be posted on the School Website.
- PLEASE NOTE SCHOOL CLOSES AT normal time on the last day of each half term and 1:15pm at the end of term
  - Holidays will not be authorised during term time.
  - Routine dental and optician appointments should be made outside of school hours or during school holidays.
  - If your child needs to attend an emergency dental, optician appointment or hospital. appointment during school hours, the school office must be notified and a record of this made on the attendance file.
  - If your child is absent, you must notify the school office by 9.15am on each day of absence.

## Ravensthorpe Primary Academy

School Term Dates 2026 - 2027

AUTUMN TERM 2026		
PROFESSIONAL DAYS 1, 2, 3 & 4 (School Closed)	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2026	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2026
	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2026	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2026
PLANNING DAY 1 (School closed)	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2026	
Term 1	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept 2026	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2026
Half term/ School closed	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2026	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2026
Term 2	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2026	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2026
SPRING TERM 2027		
PROFESSIONAL DAY 5 (School closed)	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2027	
PLANNING DAY 2 (School closed)	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2027	
Term 3	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2027	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2027
Half term/ School closed	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2027	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2027
Term 4	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2027	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2027
SUMMER TERM 2027		
PLANNING DAY 3 (School closed)	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2027	
May Bank Holiday	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2027	
Term 5	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2027	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2027
Half term/ school closed	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2027	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2027
Term 6	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2027	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2027

### PROFESSIONAL DAYS

- 1 disaggregated day (6 hours) spread across the year (3 x 2-hour CPD sessions until 6pm)
- These dates could be subject to some changes. Any changes will be posted on the School Website.
- **PLEASE NOTE** school closes at **normal time on the last day of each half term** and **1:15pm at the end of term**
- Holidays will not be authorised during term time.
- Routine dental and optician appointments should be made outside of school hours or during school holidays.
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## Year 6 SATs - Week beginning Monday 11th May

As SATs approach, we would like to thank you for your continued support at home.

There are lots of simple ways you can help your Year 6 child feel confident and prepared.

- Please encourage regular reading and talk with them about what they have read to build understanding.
- Practising times tables and quick mental maths little and often can also make a big difference
- Supporting them with any homework or revision tasks set by school.

We also ask that you help maintain calm, consistent routines, ensuring your child gets plenty of sleep, eats a healthy breakfast and arrives at school on time each day. Most importantly, please reassure them and praise their efforts – confidence and a positive mindset are key to helping them do their best.

## RPA Sports Festival - week beginning 18th May

Sports Day will be split into 3 separate days across the week beginning Monday 18th May: **EYFS, Year 1 and 2** taking place on **Monday 18th May**, **Year 3 and 4** on **Tuesday 19th May** and **Year 5 and 6** on the **Thursday 21st May**.

With the help of Just Do Sports, students will participate in a range of events designed to challenge and engage.

Parents are encouraged and welcome to attend with more details to follow in the coming weeks.

We hope to see you there!

## Attendance

<p><b>School Gates Open</b> 8:30am</p> <p><b>Registration Time</b> All pupils should arrive by 8:40am</p> <p><b>Arriving Late?</b> After 8:40am: Pupils must go to the school office to sign in → This will be recorded as a late mark (L code)</p> <p>After 9:10am: arrival is recorded as a U code → This counts as an unauthorised absence</p> <p><b>Important Reminder</b> Frequent late arrivals may result in penalty notices being issued by the local authority</p> <p><b>We're Here to Help</b> If you are having difficulty getting your child to school on time, please contact the school office.</p> <p>We are here to support you and your child and work together to improve attendance.</p>	<p><b>Attendance Rewards at School</b> We have lots of fun and encouraging rewards in school to celebrate great attendance!</p> <p><b>Weekly Class Rewards</b> Each week, the KS1 class and KS2 class with the best attendance will: Collect an RPA Way letter to add to their class door Look after our Attendance Mascot – Rocky or Rachel – for the week Spin the wheel for a class treat</p> <p><b>Half-Termly Rewards</b> Pupils who achieve 10 days of attendance in a half term will receive: 1 entry into our Amazon Voucher raffle for every 10 consecutive days of attendance 3 prizes are available each half term – £10 Amazon voucher Winning children will visit the office to order their chosen prize from Amazon</p> <p><b>Termly Class Reward</b> At the end of each term: The KS1 class and KS2 class with the best overall attendance will enjoy a pizza party together</p> <p><b>Annual Reward</b> For every 10 consecutive days of attendance throughout the school year, pupils earn 1 entry into a raffle to win a bike</p>					
<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="695 1646 791 1832"> <p><b>190 Days</b> 100% attendance very best chance of success</p> </td> <td data-bbox="791 1646 887 1832"> <p><b>183 Days</b> 96% attendance off to a flying start</p> </td> <td data-bbox="887 1646 983 1832"> <p><b>179 Days</b> 94% attendance best chance of success</p> </td> <td data-bbox="983 1646 1078 1832"> <p><b>175 Days</b> 92% attendance harder to make progress</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1078 1646 1182 1832"> <p><b>More than 18 days absence</b> less than 90% attendance persistent absentee Not here on your child</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p><b>190 Days</b> 100% attendance very best chance of success</p>	<p><b>183 Days</b> 96% attendance off to a flying start</p>	<p><b>179 Days</b> 94% attendance best chance of success</p>	<p><b>175 Days</b> 92% attendance harder to make progress</p>	<p><b>More than 18 days absence</b> less than 90% attendance persistent absentee Not here on your child</p>
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## Notices



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### ***New Entrance System – Important Information for Parents***

*We're pleased to let you know that the new automatic doors have now been fitted and are fully operational.*

*A new gate has also been installed. If you are trying to enter the school, please press the buzzer and a member of the office team will open the gate for you. If you need assistance with the gate, as it is quite heavy, please contact the office and a member of staff will come out to help. For everyone's safety, please do not allow others to enter at the same time as you.*

*Thank you for your cooperation.*

### ***Ready for All Weather!***

*The weather can change a lot, but we still want children to enjoy OPAL outdoor play every day, even when it is wet. Playing outside in all weathers helps children build confidence and*

*have fun with their friends. Please make sure your child brings a waterproof coat to school each day so they can take part.*

### ***Children's Shoes Needed***

*Do you have any children's shoes that are still in good, wearable condition but no longer fit? We would be very grateful for any donations to support families in our school community.*

*If you are able to help, please send donated shoes into the school office. Thank you for your kindness and support.*

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## **Smart Watches**

We have noticed an increase in the number of children wearing smart watches in school.

Smart watches are not permitted to be worn in school. While many of these devices are designed for children and offer features such as GPS tracking, messaging, and internet connectivity, they can present significant concerns within a school setting. If not properly secured, these functions may expose personal data, and in some cases, the technology can be compromised, potentially allowing unauthorised individuals to track or communicate with children. For these reasons, smart watches can pose safety and safeguarding risks.

In addition to these concerns, smart watches can be disruptive during lessons. Vibrations, notifications, and alerts can distract pupils from their learning and affect the focus of others in the classroom.

As a school, we are committed to provide a safe, secure, and focused learning environment for all our pupils. Restricting the use of smart watches helps us to minimise potential risks and maintain high standards of behaviour and engagement in lessons.

We kindly ask for your support in ensuring that children do not wear smart watches to school. If a pupil does bring one, they will be asked to remove it and store it safely in accordance with school procedures.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

## **Themed lunches this term**

We've got some exciting themed lunches coming up this term! 🍽️

These fun menu days are a great way to try something new and add a bit of extra enjoyment to lunchtime.

See below for upcoming dates and menus – we hope the children love them!

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May

# RAINBOW MENU

A colourful meal to brighten your day!

**Blue Option**  
Bolognese & Coloured Pasta

**Yellow Option (Vegan)**  
Vegan Bolognese & Coloured Pasta

**Vegetables**  
Garlic Bread & Sweetcorn

**Dessert**  
Rainbow Ice Cream Pots

**There will be no green option available**

All dietary requirements will be catered for

# Wimbledon Menu

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June

**Blue**  
Serena Williams  
Popcorn Chicken & Net Fries

**Yellow**  
Novak Djokovic  
Vegan Nuggets & Net Fries

**Veg**  
Roger Federer  
Sweetcorn, Venus Williams Peas

**Dessert**  
Andy Murray  
Strawberry Cupcake

All Dietary Requirements Catered For  
There will be no green option

# 4<sup>TH</sup> JULY MENU

FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JULY

**BLUE:** Hot Dog & Fries

**YELLOW:** Quorn Dog & Fries

**VEG:** Sweetcorn, Salad

**DESSERT:** Rocket Ice Lolly

THERE WILL BE NO GREEN OPTION.

ALL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS WILL BE CATERED FOR.



## Year 5 Trip to Peterborough Museum

Year 5 had a wonderful day at the museum as part of their Ancient Romans topic. The visit was a fantastic opportunity for the children to bring their classroom learning to life through a range of exciting hands-on activities.

During the day, the children made clay faces, dressed up in togas and Roman helmets, explored what life might have been like in a Roman town by working in a Roman kitchen and market and looked at an example of a Roman mosaic floor. They also enjoyed completing puzzles of Roman coins and jars, as well as playing Roman card games.

In the afternoon, Year 5 became archaeologists, working together to investigate a range of artefacts. They used their inference skills to think carefully about what each object might have been used for before searching the museum displays for more clues. The children then confidently shared their findings with the rest of the group. They also had the chance to meet a Roman surgeon, where they took part in role play and learned about how the Romans treated different illnesses and injuries.

It was lovely to see the children so engaged, enthusiastic and eager to share their knowledge throughout the day. The trip was a brilliant way to end our learning on the Romans, and Year 5 should be very proud of how well they represented the school.





## Our Chick Adventure

There has been lots of excitement in EYFS over the past two weeks! As part of our learning about life cycles and growing, the children have watched chick eggs hatch and seen the chicks grow.

The children have learnt how to look after them by giving them food and water, and by being very gentle when holding them. It has been a really special experience for everyone.

We will be sad to see the chicks go, but they will be going back to the farm where they can carry on growing and live happily.







## Helping Wildlife Thrive

Recently, we were delighted to welcome the Nene Park Trust to our school. Working alongside our Year 4 pupils, they helped create new hibernaculum on our field to support local amphibians, insects and small mammals through the winter months.

The children worked incredibly hard, digging holes and carefully filling them with sticks, logs, rocks, moss and other natural materials to create safe, warm shelters for wildlife.

As well as this, they also helped to maintain and de-weed the planters they had previously filled with a variety of vegetables and flowers earlier in the year.

It was a fantastic hands-on experience for our pupils, helping them learn more about caring for the environment and supporting local wildlife.