



Chilton Primary School / Ramsgate Arts Primary School / Upton Junior School

Term 2 Viking Newsletter

Dear Viking Families,

As the end of Term 2 approaches, I wanted to use our 'Viking Newsletter' to share the many successes achieved across our Viking schools and also celebrate the collaborative team events that have taken place trust-wide between children attending Chilton Primary, Ramsgate Arts and Upton Juniors.

This term has been extremely busy for children as our staff look to ensure learning is as engaging as it is purposeful. The Viking team are constantly looking for ways to bring learning to life, opening our classroom doors to visitors in various guises to add the extra sprinkle of magic to create the awe and wonder we want for our children.

Blogs...

Families, we thank you for working in partnership with us and are pleased to see how our 'Class and Year Groups Blogs' have become the main point for communication from teachers into your home. The blogs allow us to celebrate with you the fantastic learning taking place across each week as well as updates on the 'what next' – sharing what the children will be focusing upon next in their learning as well as news and information specific to your class. We recommend you save your child's class 'Blog Page' to your 'favourites' for easy access!

We are always looking to find new and exciting ways for the Viking family to come together. The new year will see children compete at school and trust levels in 'The Speaker' competition, Maths Mastermind and Spelling Bee as well as our annual Viking Games. Details will follow closer to the dates.



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Viking's 'One Voice' for democracy...

Elected representatives from our Junior Leadership Teams (Chilton & RAPS), Members of Parliament (Upton) and House Captains have had the opportunity to meet together this term to share suggestions for ways Miss Arthur (Upton), Mr Budge (RAPS), and Mr McAuley (Chilton) could make our schools even better. As they say, 'out of the mouth of babes' – if it needs saying and doing, we have no doubt our children will tell us!

*Viking Junior Leaders
with local
environmentalist,
George Cooper.*



Safeguarding the environment is a united task adopted by our Junior Leaders. They have vowed to increase their support for the natural world and local habitats following an inspirational meeting from local environmentalist George Cooper, winner of the BBC Kent 'make a difference' green award, who was a special guest at their first meeting of the school year. [Click here](#) to read our recent press release in TloTN.



*Viking Junior Leaders
examining wood
chewed through by
beavers.*



Ramsgate
Arts Primary School





'Tis the season for glitter and tinsel...

Festive fun is well underway at Chilton, RAPS and Upton as our schools have fully embraced the Christmas spirit with a variety of festive events taking place for children and families across the trust to enjoy. Nativity and Panto performances (Oh no it's not!!), Christmas carols, choirs singing, parties, fairs and decorations – and not forgetting the 'naughty elf on the shelf' that seems to enjoy wreaking havoc in our classrooms on a daily basis!



*A selection of
Upton's Christmas
'hoop' decorations.*



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*Chilton children
'dress' their tree.*



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*RAPS children
made wreaths in a
parent workshop.*

*RAPS Year 1
children
after their
Christmas
performance*



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Thank You 'Viking Volunteers'...

As 2025 draws to a close, the staff and children across Viking would like to express their gratitude to the small army of Viking volunteers we have supporting Chilton, RAPS and Upton. We are immensely grateful to everyone that gives up their time to help us - be that as a Volunteer Reader; a School Governor or Trustee, Parent Council/PTFA, Parent Helper on school trips, assisting in the classroom or across the extended school day, helping with gardening, or feeding our pets (rabbits and chickens at RAPS). The service you provide to us makes such a difference; whether that be encouraging children with their reading or working with school leaders to ensure our 'One Childhood One Chance' mantra is a living, breathing reality for every child attending a Viking school. As a supermarket chain is keen to remind us, "Every Little Helps" and every single volunteer at Viking allows us to do a little bit more than we could have done without your kindness and willingness to give up your time – so thank you!

If the new year brings a little more 'free time' and you would like to volunteer in one of our schools, please email your school office in the first instance with an expression of interest. We thank you in anticipation!

Emergency 'Out of Hours' Contact Form...

Reminder: At Viking, we appreciate, despite best efforts, not everything fits within the window of a school day and emergency situations may leave you urgently wanting to contact the school. Office and Head of School emails are shared on school websites – but, as you may have seen – staff are under no obligation to read or respond to work emails outside of the 'working day'.



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The message on all Viking email accounts reads as follows...The Viking Academy Trust respects the wellbeing of its staff. There is no expectation that emails are responded to before 8am or after 5pm Monday to Friday, at the weekend or during school holidays.

We have therefore created an 'Emergency Out of Hours' contact form for parents or carers to use if they feel they urgently need to share information / get in touch prior to the start of the next working day. To access this form, please click the 'Contact Us' tab on the school website and the emergency out of hours link can be accessed.

See the example below taken from Upton's website:





Joining the Viking family...

A reminder: Admissions for new Reception classes at Chilton and RAPS and Upton Year 3. The deadline date to submit your form is Thursday 15th January 2026. [Click here](#) for KCC Admissions website and don't forget to contact the school office to book in for a January tour if you haven't already done so!

The magic of Christmas...

As busy as life is for everyone at the moment in amongst the hustle and bustle of Christmas shopping; grid-locked traffic jams at Westwood Cross, present wrapping, costume making and card writing – I can only share how fortunate the Viking staff team feel to be working with your children as they weave their special Christmas magic at this time of year. There really is no better place to be to remind us of why we do what we do for the children. On behalf of my 'Viking family', may I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2026. We look forward to working with you in the new year, continuing to strengthen the partnership between home and school!

Warmest wishes,

Mrs M Lewis
Executive Headteacher



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Stay in the know and keep in touch...



<https://www.ramsgateartsprimaryschool.co.uk>

<https://www.uptonjunior.com/>

<https://www.chiltonprimary.co.uk/>



RAPS - @ramsgate_arts_primary

Chilton - @ChiltonRamsgate

Upton - @UptonJuniorsBroadstairs



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