



## READY RESPECTFUL ENGAGED

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Merry Christmas to everyone who will be celebrating over the next couple of weeks and a happy new year to you all.

We hope you enjoyed the Christmas performances; year 1 and 2 performed their carols and readings and it was wonderful to hear them singing and see them enjoying themselves. The FS2/Reception children performed a wonderful nativity which of course was a delight for us all to watch. FSI/Nursery sang carols to their families, which was lovely. Thank you to the staff who have worked so hard with the children to learn the songs, the readings and put together the costumes.

This week we were all lucky to enjoy a tasty Christmas dinner prepared by our kitchen team. There were lots of happy faces and clean plates! Thank you to the team who did such a good job.

This term we have been raising money for OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) and for our Mastering Number programme. From the sponsored event we had at the beginning of term you raised and donated £3971.56. From this amount we have spent £1,089.00 on Rekenreks which support the children when counting. We have bought enough for each child to use during their maths sessions.



Further to this we have so far spent £872.90 on resources for OPAL such as a gardening trolley with wooden sides, a climbing rope, gym ring, monkey bars, hammock strap hanging kit, sand and water trays, tuff tray cover and play sand. We have a balance now of just over £2,000 which will allow us to buy further resources, equipment and storage for the children to access when they need to, during lunch and play times.

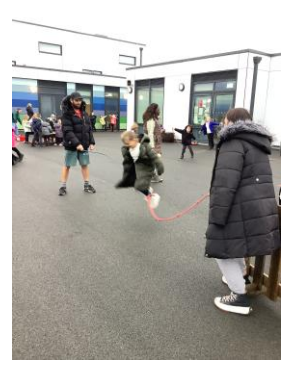
The Christmas Fair raised a total of £1004.15. The total amount spent on the stalls, including prizes was £124.00, leaving a total of £880.55 to spend.

This money will be shared between year groups and allow for the staff to purchase much needed resources for both inside and outside learning. Thank you for joining us last week and to those who helped out on the stalls. The atmosphere in the hall was vibrant and festive! The children were clearly enjoying themselves, thank you for supporting us at this event.



At the book fair we sold £569.34 worth of books giving us the commission value of £227.74. We now have a rewards balance of £256.26 which will be used to buy books for the vending machine which will be gifted to the children over the year. From the book vending machine we gift the children two books each during the year.

It was great to see so many of you join us for the play afternoon where we demonstrated how OPAL works in school. The children loved having you in school and I hope you gained a greater idea of what we do over lunchtime and how your donations can support us all to *'build better play together!'* For more information about OPAL please visit our website at <https://www.ravensdalei.derby.sch.uk/outdoor-play-and-learning-opal/>



Next term all year groups will begin their new projects. You should have received the end of term achievements from your classes on Parent Hub, showcasing what the children have been taking part in and learning during the Autumn term. On our website you will find the knowledge organisers at <https://www.ravensdalei.derby.sch.uk/curriculum/> informing you of some of the learning, including key vocabulary for the new projects next term. These are for you to support your child's learning at home and maybe enjoy a bit of pre-learning during the holiday.

Meet our Governing Board – Dan Liddane (Chair), Julie Hodgkinson and Laura Kitchen (Co-vice chairs), Laura-Jayne Appleton, Hyangmen Acuda, Lucy Gayton (staff Governor), Lorna Blanchenot (Head Teacher), Michelle Hoyle (Clerk). For more information about the Governors please visit our website at <https://www.ravensdalei.derby.sch.uk/governors/>

We break up on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December and will return to school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026. If during this period you have any safeguarding concerns, please email our safeguarding inbox at [safeguarding@ravensdalei.derby.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@ravensdalei.derby.sch.uk) which will be checked during the break. For any serious concerns where a child might be at risk of significant harm please ring 999 or 101.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and new year 🎄

Kindest regards,  
Mrs L. Blanchenot  
Head Teacher