



RACE LEYS JUNIOR SCHOOL PROSPECTUS

High Achievement ~ Proud Traditions ~ Wide Horizons



Sue-Ellen Lamb, Head of School, says...

Welcome

Welcome to Race Leys Junior School. I look forward to getting to know you and your child. Race Leys Junior School is a happy and vibrant school where we, with your support, aim to provide an excellent education for all pupils living in our community. Our staff build upon the aspiration amongst our students to be the next generation of artists, scientists, musicians, entrepreneurs and sports professionals. Together we are a committed, caring staff, all of whom endeavour to provide the finest educational experiences and a wide range of exciting opportunities.

Answering your questions

If you have any questions that are not answered within this handbook, please contact the school office on 024 76 490644 and we will be happy to help.

High Achievement ~ Proud Traditions ~ Wide Horizons

"A good relationship between families and school, working together"

Transition from Infants to Juniors

We chose RLJS for our son Alex because our daughter Jasmine attended the school 4 years prior and we were so pleased with what she achieved there and so felt we wanted to give Alex the same opportunity of a good school. Although there were lots of new faces when Alex joined RLJS he had no problem settling in, he embraced the changes and formed new friendships thanks to the warm welcome and induction.

Values Based Education

RLJS, being a values based school, was one of the reasons we chose it for both our children. I feel that encouraging children from a young age to understand the meaning of values and why they are important helps to mould them as individuals and encourages them to use those values in everyday life, not just in school.

Communication

The school communicates well with us as parents and I believe this is key to any child's development. A good relationship between families and school, working together, I believe makes the best possible foundation for our child's learning.

The School Environment

The school environment is warm and welcoming, with staff that are approachable and caring, not just for the children, but for parents also. It's great how the school gets parents involved in activities and events such as bingo, Bollywood dancing and parent/child workshops. Alex has formed good friendships here and has a confident sense of belonging.

The Curriculum

"RLJS offers a wide range of after school clubs, made available for everyone and changed frequently to keep a variety on offer"

Alex enjoys the rich and varied curriculum that RLJS has to offer. I believe he is supported and challenged to learn, whilst encouraged to grow as an individual. He loves the variety of lessons, the freedom of after school clubs and the challenge to achieve and be rewarded when he works hard. I would totally recommend RLJS to other parents.



School Day: Settling in

School Times

Children should arrive at school for 8.40am and line up on the playground with their class teacher ready for an 8.50am start. The school day ends at 3.20pm.

Uniform

We have a smart but simple uniform that we require all pupils to wear. Parents/carers should ensure that their child has the correct uniform which comprises of: white shirt, black trousers or skirt with navy blue jumper or cardigan and a school tie. Year 6 children are issued with blazers. School uniform- including PE Kit- can be purchased from our supplier.

School Meals and Snacks

Children have the choice of either a hot nutritious school dinner or bringing a healthy packed lunch into school. The menus are available to view on our school app and are on display in school. Paper copies are also available on request.

Free School Meals

Children in Year 3 and above can qualify for free school meals if their family are in receipt of certain income related benefits. If you think that your child may be eligible please do not hesitate to apply. You can find additional information and apply at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Break Time and Drinks

During the morning break, children are allowed to bring a small healthy snack. We encourage children to drink water regularly during the day.



Curriculum

Our Mission Statement

To provide an education and environment where challenge and excitement is intrinsically woven into the heart of every day.



Raising Aspirations with Exciting and Varied Learning Experiences

In creating a curriculum that is bespoke to our school we are raising aspirations and ambitions so that our children are able to become independent lifelong learners and be ready to compete successfully nationally and internally with their peers. Our curriculum is also very practical and offers many opportunities for children to access varied and exciting experiences to enrich their lives.

The Central Aims of Our Curriculum

The central aims of our curriculum are to work in collaboration with families and the local community to provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and achieve. Promoting pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and preparing all pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life.

Pupil Voice

Pupil voice is a key driver in our curriculum design; through consultation with the children we are encouraging them to be instrumental in shaping the curriculum to broaden their interests.



The curriculum is enriched by a wide variety of extra curricular and cross curricular links
OFSTED 2019



Enriched Curriculum

Wide Range

To further enrich our curriculum, all children are offered a wide range of visits, both locally and further afield.

Education Trips

Examples of our recent trips include:

- National Space Centre
- Warwick Castle
- Stratford Upon Avon
- St John's Museum
- Houses of Parliament
- Elmhurst Ballet School



Visitors

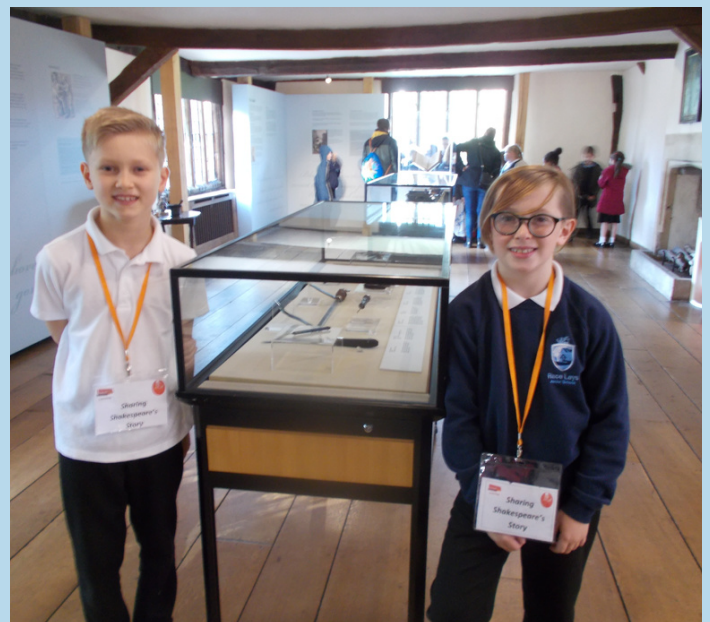
We have an interesting mix of visitors who come into school and they provide a range of curriculum expertise and opportunities for pupils to learn through workshops, music, drama and much more. Visitors provide our learners with real life experiences that can help them relate what they learn at school to the world around them and develop their confidence.

Other Creative Experiences

We regularly engage with other schools in a variety of creative and inspirational and enjoyable cultural experiences such as :

Griffin Arts Festival: this is a spectacular event with a fortnight of inspirational and enjoyable cultural experiences.

Regional Creative Symposium: six Midland's schools were involved in their very own 'Creative Symposium' which was held at the Midlands Art Centre (MAC) in Birmingham.



Your Child's Achievements

How will I know how my child is doing in school?

We value the part which parents and carers play in their child's learning and are committed to keeping parents informed regularly through updates on the curriculum and homework so that they are well informed to support their child's learning. Each year group provides parents and carers with details regarding the skills and content to be taught each term so that progression in skills is evident.

Our teachers make ongoing assessments of all children in order to help them better plan the next unit of work. At the end of Key Stage 2, children are assessed in the core subjects by their teachers and by Standard Assessment tests (SATs) against the requirements in the National Curriculum. At the end of the academic year, parents will receive information on their child's progress as well as school results.

Parent Evenings

We offer a range of opportunities for parents to see and hear feedback on their child's progress. We also hold pupil progress meetings when we meet with parents on a more formal basis to discuss their child's progress and keep them informed about the school curriculum.

School Reports

We provide all parents with an annual written report from the class teacher at the end of the summer term. This provides information about your child's academic achievement and summarises their personal and social development. You are welcome to arrange to see the teacher at other times if you have particular questions.

News

Our website (<http://www.raceleys-gst.org>) has lots of useful information including news updates, term dates and information on our activities. Please see the 'News' section where you will find a collection of useful information and copies of our Newsletters to parents.



Working With Parents

Parental Involvement

We believe that school is successful when it works in partnership with people and organisations that can enhance the quality of education it provides. The most important partnership is with parents. Children make maximum progress when home and school work closely together. We have an 'open door' policy and welcome parents into school to talk to staff, to work in classrooms or to help support activities.

Parent Volunteers

We value the contribution of parents and we actively encourage your help during the school day. Parents and family help with a variety of activities which include reading with our children, helping with events, activities and acting as an extra pair of hands on educational visits.

If you are interested in getting involved please contact the class teacher or our school office.



Helping to Support Children's Learning at Home

Home learning supports learning in class and is set according to children's ability. Homework also provides a link between home and school which allows parents to directly support the work of the school. Race Leys has always encouraged children to take books home to share with parents. However, we also encourage children to complete specific activities at home. These mainly focus on Literacy and Numeracy skills and topic work.

At Key Stage 2 homework provides a further opportunity for children to develop independent learning skills and hopefully this will become its main purpose. Children need to develop confidence, self-discipline and good learning habits, to enable them to study on their own. In addition to reading, literacy, numeracy and science tasks, children will be encouraged to research project work.

Issues Concerning Children's Welfare

If you are concerned about any aspect of your child's schooling the first step is to speak to the class teacher. If it is confidential or a complex matter, please do not try to deal with it immediately before or after school but ask to see the teacher at a suitable time.

Frequently Asked Questions

Here are our answers to what we find, are the most frequently asked questions. If you have any questions that are not answered here, please contact the school office who will be happy to help.

School Attendance

At Race Leys Junior School we believe that children learn effectively if they attend school regularly. The staff work with parents and carers to ensure each pupil attends regularly and punctually and is collected on time. School education lays the vital foundations of a child's life. Research clearly demonstrates the link between regular attendance and educational progress and attainment.

When attendance falls below 70% we are required to make a referral to the ACE (Attendance, Compliance & Enforcement) Team. We will then work together with the family to ensure that attendance improves.

Illness

If you suspect that your child is unwell please do not send them in to school. Some illnesses are infectious and the must stay at home. Children must always stay at home for a full 48 hours after any illness that includes vomiting and/or diarrhoea.

Reporting your child's absence

Parents may contact the school by telephone or in person on the first day of any absence with an explanation for their child's absence. Text messages are sent to parents on the first day of absence if they have not contacted us.

Holidays

Headteachers can no longer authorise absence for holidays in term time. It should be remembered that this is a Government led directive. Children are required to attend school for 38 weeks each year, leaving 14 weeks to attend family holidays and we give plenty of advance notice relating to forthcoming School holiday dates and end of Key Stage Assessment dates.

Request for Absence

If you are considering leave within term time please put the request in writing and addressed to the Head of School stating the exceptional circumstances. Applications must be made in advance and failure to do so will result in the absence being unauthorised.

Medical Appointments

If your child needs to leave school during the day for a medical appointment, please notify the school by telephone. The school may also request sight of the appointment card or letter; but wherever possible these appointments should be arranged for outside school hours.

Jewellery

Jewellery, other than watches and small studs for pierced ears, are not permitted.

Internet Safety

Race Leys Junior School has an online safety policy which explains how we try to keep pupils safe in schools and how we respond to online safety incidents. Pupils are taught about online safety throughout the curriculum. The school has a designated online safety coordinator.



Frequently Asked Questions

Charging Policy

School Trips

When organising school trips, the school may invite parents to contribute to the cost of the trip. All contributions are voluntary. If we do not receive sufficient voluntary contributions, it may be necessary to either subsidise or cancel a trip.

Materials, books and equipment

Text books and other materials are provided by the school. Charges may be made for any materials, books, instruments or equipment where a parent wishes their child to own them. If school materials or equipment is damaged, parents will be asked to pay for the cost of such damage.

Residential Visits

A charge may be made to cover accommodation and transport. Participation in the Residential visits will be on the basis of parental choice and a willingness to meet the charges. Parents are given the opportunity to pay in instalments.



Support for Payments

In order to remove financial barriers from disadvantaged pupils, the Governing body has agreed that some activities and visits where charges can be made legally, will be offered at no charge or a reduced charge to parents in particular circumstances.

When attendance falls below 70% we are required to make a referral to the ACE (Attendance, Compliance & Enforcement) Team. We will then work together with the family to ensure that attendance improves.

Safeguarding

Race Leys Junior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment. Staff work hard to maintain an environment where children feel safe and secure.

The curriculum is designed to ensure opportunities for children to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse.

‘Under the Education Act 2002 (Section 175), schools must make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Parent/carers should know that the law (Childrens Act 1989) requires all school staff to pass on information which gives rise to a concern about a child's welfare including risk from neglect, physical, emotional or sexual abuse.

If you would like to know more about our policy or procedures for Safeguarding, please speak to Sue-Ellen Lamb, Head of School, who is the Designated Safeguarding Lead

Behaviour and Self Development

Happy, Productive and Successful

We strongly believe that a happy, productive and successful school relies on a set of agreed values and high expectations of behaviour. Pupils are encouraged to be independent in making choices and are sensitively guided when problems arise.



Rewards

House Tokens

House tokens can be issued to any pupils at any time for demonstrating the school values. These are collated on a School House basis. The winning team is announced in the Achievement Assembly with the winning House at the end of a term will receive the Head of School's treat.



Achievements Celebrated

All achievements are celebrated and all pupils are made to feel valued. Values are principles that drive behaviour. They influence our actions and attitudes and become our framework for living. They influence our relationship with ourselves and others.

We have a responsibility to help children understand that they have choices about how to behave and help them develop the strategies to make appropriate choices.

Our aim is to create an environment where children feel valued, safe and motivated to learn. We know that children respond best to praise and encouragement. We look for every opportunity to praise children when they are showing appropriate behaviour.



Inclusion

Special Educational Needs

Children are assessed according to levels of needs and targets set, monitored and reviewed considering the progress made. Where necessary, time focused interventions are put in place to address any identified barrier. If the child still does not make accelerated progress, parental consent will be sought for school to liaise with external agencies, e.g. Educational Psychologists, Early Intervention Service, Speech and Language Therapy, IDS, CAMHS for advice and assessment.

Following discussions with parents and carers, pupils may be placed onto the SEN register at some point in their school career. For many, this involves a short burst of targeted intervention which may lead to them being removed again, while for others the support process is a longer one. In all cases our aim is to provide the very best education for pupils, allowing all children to fully achieve their potential.

Parental Involvement and Partnerships

Parents are consulted regularly at the termly parent consultations and review discussion. Phone and email contact is maintained which ensures that difficulties and anxieties can be resolved swiftly. School Agency Partners include: Education Psychologists, Child Development Centre, Child and Adult Mental Health Service, Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Health, Physiotherapy Service, Social Communication, Outreach Service, Hearing Sensory Support, Visual Sensory support, learning difficulties and disabilities.

Gifted and Talented Children

We recognise that all children are individuals with their own specific needs, gifts and talents. Children who are identified as being exceptionally able or talented are monitored and provided with stimulating and enriching lessons, challenges and opportunities appropriate to their needs.



Additional Information

Policies

Why do we need policies?

For a school to offer high quality education and care, it needs policies. Policies help develop and define a set of consistent rules, regulations, procedures and protocols.

Parents Need Policies

Policies are also useful to parents, For example a prospective parent might wish to view a school's behaviour policy or special educational needs policy, before deciding whether to apply for their child to attend the school.

High Standards

Policies are vitally important and help us to create standards of quality for learning and safety, as well as expectations and accountability. If you want to know what policies we have you can contact the school office or visit the school website www.raceleys-gst.org and click on the 'About' section then select 'Other Documentation' to read our key policies.

Key Policies

Some of our key policies are:

- Equality
- Charging and Remissions
- Safeguarding
- Data Protection
- Behaviour
- Attendance
- Complaints
- SEND



"Leaders are highly aspirational, promoting many opportunities
....to widen pupil's horizons"
OFSTED 2019

Friends of Race Leys

The Friends group supports the life and work of the school and is open to all members of the school community. The Association organises many social and fundraising events involving parents and the wider local community. Money raised provides extra equipment and facilities for the pupils. The group holds regular meetings in school, with dates and details published in the school's newsletter.

The Friends group needs the support of parents to ensure it is able to continue to enrich the lives of children. For further details please contact the school office.

Governance

As an Academy, Race Leys is part of the Griffin Schools Trust (GST). Governance is a key element of the leadership and management of the Trust. The Trust Board is made up of experts in UK and international education as well as private sector professionals with a wide range of commercial experience and expertise. We also have Trustees who have backgrounds and networks in Sport and the Arts. The Board ensures that progress is underpinned with the highest standards of compliance with our regulators so that public funding is well-used. GST Governors meet formally every thirteen weeks and much of the real work is done between these meetings, through working groups and individual contributions to the school's life according to each governor's skills and the needs of the school.

Vision and Values

Our Vision

Our vision for Race Leys Junior School reflects a passionate commitment to learning which is driven by our desire to offer the best possible education for our pupils in partnership with parents and the local community.

Our Values

Values are fundamental expressions of what we think and believe. As a school we encourage children to think about personal and social values, to become aware of and become involved in the life and concerns of their community and society, and so develop their capacity to be active and effective future citizens.

At Race Leys Junior School we are firmly committed to values-led education. We work towards a set of agreed values by children, parents, staff and governors.



Our Values are:

- Co-operation
- Freedom
- Love
- Happiness
- Tolerance
- Independence
- Perseverance
- Empathy
- Trust
- Determination
- Generosity
- Responsibility
- Peace
- Honesty
- Respect
- Humility
- Curiosity
- Resilience
- Patience
- Kindness
- Courage
- Pride



Clubs, Sports and Music

Clubs

The majority of our clubs are free of charge. Our range of clubs includes:

- Football
- Dodgeball
- Cookery
- LEGO
- Dance
- Singing
- Boxing
- Shakespeare Drama Project
- Netball
- Golf
- Mad Science
- Nerf Wars
- First Aid
- Minecraft



Music

Music and singing are an important part of school life at Race Leys and all children study music as part of the normal school curriculum. We work hard to introduce exciting and different musical experience to engage the children. We teach a range of music tuition including Ukelele, recorder and clarinet.

We also have a school choir who regularly perform locally.

Sports and PE

We aim to give as many children as possible extra opportunities and experiences in a range of sporting activities both within the curriculum and in extended activities and competitions. The children are provided with numerous opportunities to participate in competitive fixtures throughout the year in sports such as netball, football, athletic, swimming, rounders, cross country, Kwick Cricket and dodgeball. In addition to this our PE specialist has provided specific sporting opportunities for children identified as requiring special educational needs via the Inclusive Games Programme.



How We Communicate With You



Race Leys App

Take a look at our app to access our newsletters, up to date news and key date information. You can download, for free, using Google play or in the Apple store and searching for Race Leys Junior School.

Newsletter

Issued on the app, Facebook and our website every other Friday, this will provide you with information about our learning of the week and any upcoming events. A copy is always displayed in reception if you are unable to access it online.



Text Messages

We will notify you of any award assemblies, special events or information where possible, a week in advance. We will contact you, if you have not already notified us, on the first day of your child's absence from school via text. Please ensure that we have your current contact number.

Our Website

This is the hub of our communication with you. You will find key dates, school information, news and curriculum details here. Key dates are shown for the full academic year but please check back regularly for updates. You can find our website at www.raceleys-gst.org



Social Media

We have both a Facebook and Twitter page containing pictures and stories relating to our recent learning experiences.

www.facebook.co.uk/raceleysjuniorschool

Twitter - RaceLeys

Letters in Paper Format and Email

You will be informed about trips requiring permission with a fully detailed letter which is sent home with your child. These will be, depending on the type of trip, sent out around two weeks prior to the event.





Race Leys
Junior School

High Achievement ~ Proud Traditions ~ Wide Horizons



**Barton Road
Bedworth
Warwickshire
CV12 8HG**

admin2615@welearn365.com
www.raceleys-gst.org
024 76 490644