



Ian Ramsey
CE Academy
Dayspring Trust

Together to learn, to grow, to serve

RAMSEY

3-4-5

3 Rules

**READY
RESPECTFUL
SAFE**

4 Objectives

**DEVELOP
ENGAGE
ENCOURAGE
PRACTISE**

5 Values

**JOY
HOPE
WISDOM
FORGIVENESS
PERSEVERANCE**

Key Dates:

End of term

Friday 18th December
1pm finish

School reopens

Monday 4th January '21

Y11 Parents Evenings

25th and 26th January '21

Y10 Parents Evenings

8th and 9th February '21

End of half term

Friday 12th February '21



Ian Ramsey Church of England Academy

TOGETHER TO LEARN, TO GROW, TO SERVE

Message from the Head Teacher

It has been an incredibly successful term so far at Ian Ramsey. The attitude and resilience of both the pupils and staff have been wonderful. We are dealing with a very stressful moment in time, and no one in our life-time has had to cope with a worldwide pandemic, lockdown, social distancing and home-learning to name just a few. The children are a credit to you, their parents and carers, and to themselves.

During this turbulent time, we have had children at home self-isolating, staff self-isolating and others that have contracted coronavirus. This has required the staff to provide lessons in school, as well as resources for those studying at home through Google classroom. I want to thank you for your support and understanding during this unpredictable time. We have truly come together to support the children, keeping the



school open and reducing the risk of transmission. We are now starting to see the

Check out our Google Classroom Help Video Guides on our website:

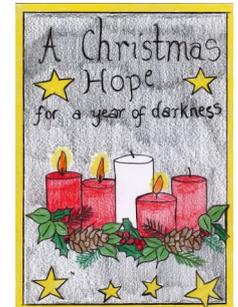
ianramsey.org.uk/google-classroom/

beginning of the end, and we hope that life can return to a new normal in the Spring and Summer of 2021.

Please continue to be vigilant over the Christmas period, keeping yourself and your loved ones safe. Have a

Happy Christmas and I hope you have a peaceful New Year!

**This year's Christmas Card Competition Winners:
Brooke and Alice.**



Collective Worship



It's not quite been the same this term at Ian Ramsey. Gone are the gatherings, twice weekly in the halls. Instead, we've been broadcasting from our chapel. Streamed worship could be the future! Churches all up and down Britain are doing it weekly, and we've been doing the same.

Senior leaders have led wor-

ship on Mondays and Heads of Year, together with contributions from every tutor group, have finished the week's worship on Fridays. In between, members of the teaching staff, working with their tutees, have provided mid-week worship. It has been absolutely wonderful.

Our worship leaders have even led worship to end a

Guiding Light conference in the Blackburn Diocese in November. In the meantime, watch out for Ian Ramsey's first ever Book of Prayers, which will be available early next term and written entirely by the pupils here in school. It will be well worth getting a copy and reflecting with our pupils on the academy's 5 Christian values.



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Together to learn, to grow, to serve

Love your neighbour as yourself

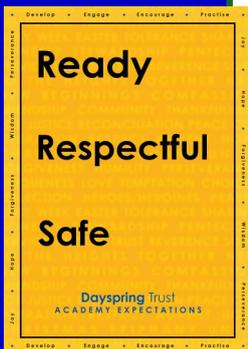
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MARK 12:31

Information



CHROMEBOOKS



IAN
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Chromebooks

Remote learning continues to be provided, through Google Classroom, to all pupils that are self-isolating. If you are having difficulty accessing this on-line, please contact the academy. We have purchased a number of Chromebooks to loan out to pupils in order to support home learning. These can also be loaned out to Year 11 pupils to support their blended intervention package.

Uniform

Up-cycled Shop

We currently have a large stock of up-cycled, high quality items of uniform. If you would like to purchase any of these items, please see our website for details. We are asking for a minimum of £1 contribution towards each item. The money will be donated to the academy hardship fund.

You can continue to donate any items of uniform. Please drop them off at the main reception in a plastic bag. We will then ensure these items are made Covid secure before making them available.

2021-22 Uniform

Any new blazers or ties that you need to buy will have a

colour coding added to the blazer badge and tie. This is so we can identify which year group each child is in. We introduced it this year with the pin badges. This helps us to track the bubbles in school. However, these pin-badges will fall off and are often lost.

The colour will link to the year that your child started at Ian Ramsey. This colour will follow the child throughout their time at Ian Ramsey.

2020 Red
2019 Blue
2018 Green
2017 Purple
2021 Yellow



You do not need to replace blazers or ties until you require a new one.

Year 9 Options

During the Spring term, Year 9 pupils will choose the options that they wish to study during their final two years at secondary school. Details about the process and the Virtual Options Evening are available on the academy website.

Year 11 Mock Exams

Well done to our Year 11 pupils for their approach to

their mock exams. Their behaviour was exemplary and showed great maturity. The results will be delivered in a mock results day with their form tutor. Pupils will then review and set targets for each subject in their Personal Development lessons. A programme of support and guidance will help the children plan for, and revise for, the final examinations in the summer term.

Year 11 Intervention

This year intervention will be a blended programme of in-school targeted face to face sessions, targeted live or recorded online lessons and online programmes to supplement individual revision. There is no substitute to hard work and following a planned revision programme. There is no doubt that this is a difficult year to be taking your GCSE exams. However, we must all roll our sleeves up and do the very best we can. We need a no-excuse mentality. It is vital that we can evidence the current working grade, in case we are asked again to provide 'centre assessed grades'. We are working towards the current government intention for GCSE examinations to go ahead as normal.

Face Masks

Over the term we have been giving out single use paper facemasks. We are conscious that these are not good for the environment, so we are going to change our strategy. Re-usable face masks will be issued to those pupils who regularly do not bring one into school. Two masks will be issued, so that they can be washed.



We encourage all our pupils to wear their own mask, but it is key that they are worn and looked after properly.

See the video clip:

For guidance on face masks see the BBC News Clip

www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMSqc9SpbJc

Charity Work

5 Values

JOY
HOPE
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At Ian Ramsey CE Academy we are really trying to help others at this festive time of year, and have lots of charity fundraising activities going on.

Food Bank Bingo

After the success of our Foodbank Bingo earlier in the year, we have decided to run a festive version, adding Christmas crackers, mince pies and chocolate amongst the items we are asking pupils and staff to donate. Each Tutor group gets a Bingo card with twenty-five items on it, as shown below by Oli and Maisie, two of our Year 7s. They receive a point for every item they collect, an extra ten points for a line, one per card, and an extra twenty points for a full house. The Tutor group with the most points will get a Christmas-themed prize. Hopefully we will be able to make a difference to families in our area who are struggling this Christmas.



North Pole Challenge

Over thirty-three members of staff are taking part in the Walk to the North Pole Challenge - 2700 miles in fifteen school days. People can donate money to encourage us to walk further, with everything raised going to the **Clic Sargent Teenage Cancer charity**. Photographed are some of the staff taking part on the stairs, which are getting a lot more used since the challenge began.
(Steps = 2,661,465
Miles = 1323 after 6 days)



(Social Distancing was followed during the taking of this image)



Pupils and staff have already raise £1776.85 for Clic Sargent in 2020!

Christmas Tree Memory Stars

We are asking people to donate £1 to add a memory star tag to our academy tree. This could be for someone that is no longer in their life, or for someone



who has put the memory of cancer, or any other disease, behind them. Louis is photographed with the memory star tags. Again, all money raised will be going to Clic Sargent, as they have helped pupils in our academy in their recovery from cancer, and we want to say thank you.

Advent Reflections

We are also posting the links, each day, to the Diocese of Durham's Advent Reflections on You Tube, to encourage all our friends to take a quiet moment of reflection at what can be a busy time of year.

DofE



Our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award group worked hard throughout Year 10,

completing their Skill, Physical and Volunteering sections. The pupils were all set to start preparing for their expedition when lockdown hit. While we won't be out on the moors for a while, the group made the most of the chance to get outside and showed fantastic teamwork, practising putting up and taking down tents. Hopefully the



weather will be just as good when we complete our practice expedition.

Reading

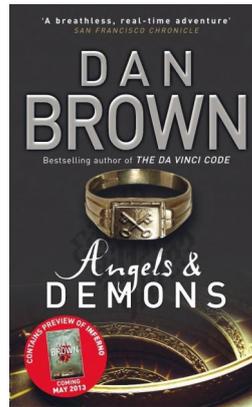
Reading School

Exciting times have arrived on the Ian Ramsey Academy Website, with the launch of our dedicated 'Reading' section. Located in the 'Curriculum' tab, the page offers lists of recommended reads for pupils, parents, and staff. The lists are updated each term to link to the topics being taught in each curriculum area for each year group. There are recommendations for both pupils and parents so that you can be reading something thematically linked at the same time as your child. There is a huge range of fiction and non-fiction; we guarantee that there is something there for everyone! There are also reading challenges to try and prizes to be won for those who hand in the completed challenges to Mrs Poppleton, as well as 'Desert Island Books' which have been completed by our staff and which are full of unusual, eclectic reads - the perfect starting point for anyone looking for a recommendation. And if you have a recommendation or a review of a book you want to share, simply click the link on the page and send us a message - we can include it in the next list, which we will start compiling as soon as we publish an update!

Access to a full-time education is every pupil's right. However, to truly benefit from the opportunity, so much more is required. Amongst other things, one key element is a pupil's ability to read. As the curriculum has substantially changed over recent years in content and challenge, poor reading ability is a factor that can significantly impact on pupils' access to a wide range of subjects.

Research into reading states:

- Reading for pleasure is important for educational purposes, as well as benefiting personal development.
- There is a positive link between attitudes towards reading and scoring well on assessments that have a strong basis in reading.
- Reading for pleasure is an activity that has emotional and social consequences. For this reason, reading is woven throughout our **DEEP curriculum** to provide pupils with the skills they need to effectively comprehend information, access learning and enjoy reading for pleasure



Pupils must be able to read for them to achieve academically. As pupils progress through an increasingly specialised curriculum, there is a growing need to ensure that pupils are trained to access the academic language and conventions of different subjects. Therefore, putting reading at the heart of the curriculum will support all pupils to be able to read well.

7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Good reading is a great way to develop literacy, language and communication skills to boost your medical skills. Reading every night can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school hours.

- 1 Concentrate on reading quality**
It isn't all about reading time!
• Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading and the 'how' and 'when' of reading. Quality, content, interest and structure are the things that will get you reading more and make your reading more enjoyable.
- 2 Ask your child to read to you**
• Encourage them to read to you. It's a great way to check they understand what they are reading and to help them with any problems they have.
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- 6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family**
• Encourage your child to read to you. It's a great way to check they understand what they are reading and to help them with any problems they have.
- 7 Monitor the motivation to read**
• Encourage your child to read to you. It's a great way to check they understand what they are reading and to help them with any problems they have.

https://ianramsey.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/7_Top_Tips_to_Support_Reading_at_Home.pdf

READING SCHOOL

Studies show that reading for 6 minutes or more a day reduces stress by 68%!

IAN RAMSEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Vocabulary

Bedrock Vocabulary is a digital literacy and vocabulary curriculum designed for pupils of all abilities in KS2, KS3 and GCSE (Years 3-11). Bedrock also includes GCSE Literature schemes includes a growing range of units to support learning of specific texts and terms for KS4 pupils. As a learning resource, Bedrock enables pupils to learn independent-



feedback – meaning that they are ideal for setting as homework or to support our strategy for remote and blended learning, as well as classroom learning. Bedrock Vocabulary uses adaptive technology that adjusts to suit each pupil to ensure they maximise pro-

As an academy we have made 23% improvement in the last four weeks. Zara in Year 10 and Hasanin in Year 11 have completed the most lessons and Bethany in Year 7 has made the most progress with 152% from her starting point. Well done and keep up the good work.

<https://ianramsey.org.uk/curriculum/reading/bedrock-learning/>

Information

Seating Plans

In September, we returned from the national lockdown and school closure. To support with track and trace, we introduced seating plans, not only in classrooms but also during lunchtime. To do this, we had to extend our dining areas into both our Main Hall and Activity Studio. Children have been sitting in alphabetical order. Having listened to the children and recognising we are going to have to continue to track and trace well into next year, we have decided to allow pupils to organise their own seating plan for lunchtime, within their own form class, from January onwards. It is essential that they remain in their seats to ensure the correct children are asked to self-isolate when necessary, but also that the correct children can remain at the academy. Staff will set their seating plans in January for their classrooms to ensure the children can make maximum learning and make strong progress. These will then stay in place for the Spring Term. Thank you for your support throughout this challenging period.



This year, more than ever, there will be families who have found themselves living in poverty through no fault of their own. 1 in 3 children will be living in poverty this Christmas and are at risk of waking up on Christmas day with no presents to open.

The Science department has pledged to donate the money that would usually be spent on Secret Santa gifts to go to the **Kids-Mission Christmas campaign**. Instead of giving gifts to each other, we decided to donate the money to families who are facing hardship this year.

The idea was so well received that it was opened up to include all staff.

As I write this, we have raised £130, beating our target of £50 with 16 days to go. Let's hope we can raise even more for such a worthy cause.

I am humbled by the kind donations from the school community, and it is a privilege to be able to serve

families in need in the local area. Everything raised in our area stays in our area, with a focus on alleviating poverty, supporting disability and improving quality of life.

"Feed the hungry and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon" (Isaiah 58:10).

If you can and wish to donate, the link is

<https://www.cashforkidsgive.co.uk/campaign/north-east-mission-christmas-fundraising-2020/fundraisers/ian-ramsey-academy%20hn/>

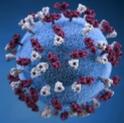
Once again, thank you to everyone who has donated. This money will really make a difference to our local community.

I wish you all a peaceful and safe Christmas.



Miss Nicholson

COVID-19



TRACK & TRACE

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Ruldolp Run



Year 7 to 10 pupils, at Ian Ramsey, have completed the Rudolph run in aid of the **Butterwick Hospice** during their PE lessons last week. They have already raised **over £2000** and the money is still rolling in. It got very muddy by the end of the week, but we had some great performances with some pupils completing over 9 laps!

