



Dear Parents,

We realised that many of you will not have seen the fantastic pool facilities, and may even have memories of the outdoor pool of the past! Please scroll to the bottom of the [PE page](#) to watch a video showing our fantastic indoor pool facilities.

Swimming is an integral part of the PE curriculum at RPS. The air temperature, and the pool itself, is heated. Therefore, despite the time of year, the children swim comfortably. For those who are nervous, our swimming teachers get into the water in order to support and encourage. We are already seeing huge progress in water confidence for many children who have been swimming each week.

We look forward to the RPS choir performing on Thursday at the 'Rayleigh Lights Switch On'. Please do come along and support them- they are performing at approximately 4.25pm and we are very excited to see them!

We have accumulated a large amount of lost property; the office have returned anything named, but we have 54 jumpers without readable name labels! Please do label everything clearly (FoRPS recommend My Name Tags, and the school benefits if you add the code 24299 when you order). Also, check the lost property box in the office if you are missing items. These items will go into the pre-loved uniform sold by FoRPS at the end of the term if they are unclaimed

Finally, a huge thanks to our new Year 6 librarians who have been doing a sterling job keeping the books tidy and organised! .  
Have a wonderful weekend!

### Parking and Driving- Collection and Pick Up

We would like to remind you about considerate driving and parking around pick up and drop off, in order to ensure safety and access for all. Prolonged waiting or parking directly outside the school is not allowed due to parking restrictions and local access. We have received reports of parents blocking drives and even parking on local residents' driveways, which is causing significant issues for our neighbours. I am sure you will agree that this is unacceptable. We would like to encourage you to 'park and stride' or walk whenever possible to reduce the congestion outside of the school. We would strongly encourage you to raise any concerns with Essex Highways, using this link <https://www.essexhighways.org/tell-us>. This will help us in our ongoing conversations and consultations with the council to find solutions to parking issues.

### Attendance

As you will be aware, the Government has updated their statutory guidance for school attendance. [Working together to improve school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\) \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

This week's class winners are:

- 1st Place - Jet - 99.2%**
  - 2nd Place - Emerald - 99%**
  - 3rd Place - Onyx - 98%**
- Well done! Keep it up!

### Updates:

Confirmation of the dates for Elfridges - the sale for children will be held on **10th and 11th December**.

- Join Jack of All Sports in Wickford, Brentwood, Rayleigh and Chelmsford and get ready for Christmas with some [sporty fun!](#)
- Wake Up Wednesday this week is focussed on teaching children money management and saving and is [here](#).
- The Megacentre has a [Merry Mega Fest](#) on 20th December.
- RWC music offer music lessons at RPS - here are the [details](#).

### Diary Dates

Upcoming dates:

28.11.24 - [Rayleigh Christmas Lights switch on](#), **RPS Choir at 4.25pm**, Tree Fest begins - Holy Trinity Church.

2.12.24 - Pantomime at Towngate Theatre (Y1 - Y6)

3.12.24 - KS2 Christmas Service at Holy Trinity Church

10.12.24 and 11.12.24 - Nursery/Reception/KS1 Christmas Performances), Elfridges FoRPS Christmas Shopping event

12.12.24 - Christmas lunch EYFS/KS1

13.12.24 - Christmas lunch KS2.

18. 12. 24 - Christmas Jumper Day.

20.12.24 - Last day of term

23.12.24 - 3.1.25 - Christmas Break

[School dinners - Next week is Week One](#)



## Measles is circulating

### Have you had your 2 doses of MMR?

Check now, and get up to date with your routine vaccinations

**Be Pioneering,  
Be Altruistic,  
Be Ethical**