

Rackheath Primary School

Newsletter



Thursday 3rd April 2014

Dear Parents

Our weekly newsletter is a day early this week as Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 are going to Jimmy's Farm tomorrow. It is hard to believe that there is only one day left in the term, time is just flying past. It has been another busy and exciting term with lots going on. This week has been all about science, there have been lots of great experiments going on as well as visits from the RSPB and National Wildlife Trust. I would like to say a big thank you to all the staff, parent volunteers and especially Mrs Pulford, for making the week so enjoyable.

During the term I have shown a lot of people round the school for different reasons and at different times of the day. Almost without exception they have commented on the fantastic behaviour, manners and learning behaviour of the children. The vast majority also comment on the community feel of the school which is due in large part to you as parents. The relationship between home and school is so important if children are to maximise their potential and as a relative newcomer to the community it feels like that at Rackheath these links are very strong.

Deputy Headteacher Appointment – The governors and I are very pleased to say that we have appointed Mr James Cavender to the post of Deputy Headteacher. Mr Cavender currently teaches at Attleborough Junior School and will be starting with us in September.

Catering after Easter – Last week's letter included the exciting news that after Easter EATS will be taking over as our caterers. The children have brought home their Summer Menu along with this newsletter. We hope that even if your child doesn't normally have a school dinner they could give it a go, as we are confident that they won't be disappointed.



Year 3 Rugby

Over this half term Year 3 and 4 have been having rugby coaching from Justin, a Leicester Tigers Coach. He has been very impressed by the effort and attitude of our children. As a result our Year 3 children have the fantastic opportunity to not only attend the Rugby Premiership Final at Twickenham but play on the pitch as well. Miss Hughes has sent a letter with more information to the Year 3's. It would have been lovely to include the Year 4's who also deserve the opportunity but it has been specified that all schools attending must send Year 3 children.

In addition we also have the opportunity for other children and parents to attend the final, as we understand it there would be some space on the coach and so all you would have to pay for is the ticket, you should have received a letter about this too.



Summer Term Clubs – Again we have lots of clubs after Easter. The following clubs existing clubs are confirmed:

- Film Club for Year 1 and 2 will start on Tuesday 29th April.
- Football clubs will carry on up until May half term. Year 2 & 3 football will start on Tuesday 6th May while Year 4, 5 and 6 will start on Thursday 24th April.
- Cross Country will continue on a Monday and Friday morning starting on Monday 28th April.
- Choir will be on Fridays after school starting 25th April.
- Recorders remain on a Tuesday and Thursday lunchtime.
- The Premier Sports Monday club will carry on for Reception and Year 1 starting Monday 28th April.
- Slanted Dance also remains ongoing.

New Clubs:

- Mrs Pilbrow and Mrs Goddard are starting a rounders club for Year 4 to 6 on Monday 28th April.
- Mrs Pallant is running an ICT/Maths club on Monday at lunchtime.

I would like to say a big thank you to all staff who keep giving up their time to run such a wide variety of clubs.

Year 6 SATs week – Year 6 SATs week is fast approaching. The week starts on Monday 12th May. During the week we will have special SATs breakfasts for the Year 6, more details to follow. Year 6 will also have a practise SATs week starting on Thursday 28th April to familiarise them with the process so when they take the tests they are comfortable with the way it works.

German Teaching Students – After Easter we will be welcoming two German Trainee Teachers to the school. They will be with us for a month. They will be based with Year 5 but will also be working with other groups of children from across the school. This is an exciting opportunity for our children to learn about another European country and learn some of the language.



Science Week



Here are quotes from some of the children who were all asked what the best bits of science week were:

Reception: *"The goats tongues tickled us at Jimmy's Farm"* (Alfie Betts)



Year 1: *"We loved the bubbles experiments! To get big bubbles you blow slowly. When you have soapy hands the bubble won't pop, you can even poke it!"* (Ethan, Hannah and Oliver)

Year 2: *"I enjoyed being 'cocooned' in toilet roll in Mrs Pulford's assembly"* (Marshall Newton)



Year 3: *"I enjoyed making goo, because it was fun! If you moved it in your hand it stayed together, but if you don't move it around it was liquid".* (Marcus Gardner)

Year 4: *"We saw fire change and experimented mixing 'stuff' so it fizzed and overflowed, that was our favourite!"* (Gemma, Millie and Elinor)



Year 5: *"We enjoyed science week as we did explosions using alkali and acids. Also it was really inspiring"* (Jenny and Ellie)



Football Semi Final – We are playing Cawston VC Primary School in our semi-final. The game will be played on Tuesday 29th April away at Cawston. The children involved will be the nine children who played against Holt. More details to follow soon.



Go-Go-Gorillas – You may remember all the painted gorillas that were dotted around Norwich last year. Now the gorillas are coming to Rackheath. Next half term we will have a baby go-go-gorilla in school. Mrs Magee is organising a competition to see which class gets the opportunity to paint the gorilla.

Class Assemblies in the Summer Term

Thursday May 8 th	Year 5
Thursday May 15 th	Year 4
Thursday June 5 th	Year 3
Thursday June 12 th	Year 2
Thursday June 19 th	Year 1
Thursday July 3 rd	Reception

Literacy Café dates

Monday 28 th April	Year 3
Tuesday 29 th April	Year 2
Thursday 1 st May	Year 1
Friday 2 nd May	Year 4
Tuesday 6 th May	Year 5
Weds 7 th & Thurs 8 th	Reception (Please sign up for one date only – sheet will be outside the classroom)
Monday 19 th May	Year 6

All cafes run between 9.00am and 10.00am. See you for a cup of tea or coffee at 8.45am in the DT room.

We will send out a full list of Summer Term dates in the first newsletter of the Summer Term.



Teatime Church will be held on Sunday 6th April from 4pm – 5pm at Holy Trinity Church. All welcome for Hot Cross Buns, games and a craft, story, a song and a prayer.

Have a lovely Easter Holiday. See you all again on Wednesday 23rd April.

Chris Ashman

