

Rackheath Primary School

Newsletter

HAPPY NEW YEAR

10th January 2014

I would like to start by wishing everyone connected to the school a Happy New Year. I hope 2014 is a good year for everyone! It will certainly be an exciting year in school as I know the staff are planning lots of exciting new learning opportunities.

Rackheath Bombers Moving In

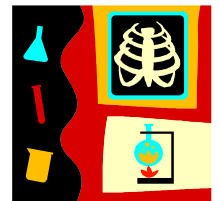
This week has seen the Rackheath Bombers Pre-School move in to their new purpose built classroom in the new build. It is very exciting that the school and pre-school are now on the same site, it will be hugely beneficial for all the children who move from there into our school. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the children, parents and staff to their new base. I'm sure it will be the start of a long and very fruitful partnership between Rackheath Bombers and Rackheath Primary School.



ICT – During this half term the school's ICT resources will be transformed as a considerable amount of new ICT equipment is installed. Amongst other things we are getting 15 laptops on a trolley, new desktops in the classroom and a projector and screen in the hall. Alongside the iPads bought for us by FORS for Christmas we would like to say a huge thank you to Mr and Mrs Finch, parents of Ben and William for their very generous donation of a new iPad mini. This will allow us to use ICT far more and use ICT to excite the children and improve their learning experience still more.



Science - Another one of our priorities for this term is to develop our Science Curriculum and make our Science lessons more practical. We are working with the John Innes Centre and their Teacher Scientist Network to improve our science resources and ability to carry out experiments.



Library – We have tidied up the area by the entrance so that it can become a proper library area. We are looking into getting some new furniture so that groups of children can use the library together. We are also looking to involve some of the older children as librarians.

Rev. Lorna Allies - On Wednesday we are having a special assembly for Lorna from Holy Trinity Church to mark the end of her time working in the area. Lorna has contributed greatly to the school and community and she will be missed, we wish her all the best for the future. If you would like to make a donation for a gift please send it in a marked envelope to the office on Monday morning.



Clubs – Clubs run by school staff will commence from Monday January 13th. This term we have our widest variety yet, which is fantastic. A separate list was sent out yesterday.

Year 6 SATS – There will be an information session for parents of Year 6 children on Tuesday 4th February – your child has already been given a letter regarding this.

Pick 'n' Mix - We will be starting up a new round of Pick 'n' Mix on Friday afternoons starting from Friday 17th January. At the moment the children are making their selections and being sorted into groups ready for next week.

Class Assemblies – The dates for this term’s class assemblies are listed below. They are all on a Thursday starting at 2.40pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

- Thursday January 30th - Year 5 and 6 (Virgin Money joint assembly)
- Thursday February 6th - Year 3 and 4 (Horstead Residential joint assembly)
- Thursday March 6th - Year 2
- Thursday March 13th - Year 1
- Thursday March 20th - Reception

Literacy Cafés

This half term we are holding literacy cafés between Monday 20th January and Friday 31st January. The format will be the same. Drinks will be available for parents in the DT room from 8.40am and the sessions will run from 9.00 - 10.00am

- Monday 20th January – Year 5
- Tuesday 21st January – Year 1
- Wednesday 22nd January – Year 4
- Thursday 23rd January – Year 3
- Wednesday 29th January – Year 2
- Friday 31st January – Year 6



Sign to Sing

Our school is attempting to break the world record for signing and singing! Over the next few weeks our children will be learning some sign language at school. This is because we are taking part in SignHealth’s national fundraising and deaf awareness day in February, and we need to practice for it. On Wednesday 5th February 2014, our school, and thousands of other schools, businesses and choirs across the UK and abroad, will sign and sing for SignHealth*, the healthcare charity for deaf children and adults. We are simply asking for a £1 donation and for your child to wear non-uniform and a scarf like Olli the monkey, the mascot, on Wednesday 5th February 2014. All money raised will go towards helping SignHealth transform the lives of thousands of people living in the UK. Thank you for supporting this exciting challenge and helping to “inspire a generation to sign”.



Star, Angel and Diamond Certificate Winners – Well done to the following children who got their certificates in assembly today.

	STAR	ANGEL	DIAMOND
Reception	Darcey Wright	Liam Cowey	Eleanor Collin
Year 1	Alfie Hughes	Aaron Knights	Isabelle Mann
Year 2	Freya Henderson	Grace Spurling	Harry Brown
Year 3	Macy Wickham	Annabelle Horan	Cian McAulay
Year 4	Ethan Mann	Gemma Smith	Lottie Allison
Year 5	Kacie Banwell	Tili-Mae Cutting	Freya Grime
Year 6	Kai Wickham	Ebony Culling	Ellie Clarke