

Rackheath Primary School

Newsletter

17th January 2014

It has been great to see how quickly the children have settled back into the routine of school life. Whenever I visit a class they are all working quietly and with focus. On the playground and around the school behaviour has been great and there have been lots of happy smiling young faces.

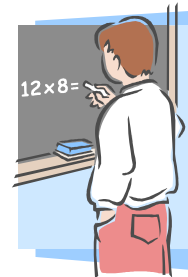
Exciting News in Year 1

Congratulations to Mrs Pulford and her husband who are expecting their first child in June. On behalf of all the staff it gives me great pleasure to pass on all our best wishes to them both. We are in the process of advertising for a high quality teacher to cover Mrs Pulford's maternity cover working alongside Mrs Pallant and Mrs Penson in Year 1. At present Mrs Pulford hopes to work until May half term.



Times tables – Our whole school focus this week links to learning tables. Indeed the learning of tables is going to be a big priority for us all this half term. In November we introduced certificates that link to key maths skills. When children earn a certificate it means they have achieved a key maths skill which will support their future mathematical learning. These key skills are:

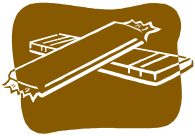
- Counting to 20
- Counting in 2's
- Counting in 10's
- **Counting in 5's**
- Counting backwards in 2's, 5's and 10's
- **Knowing number bonds for 10, 20 and 100.**
- Learning their 2 and 10 times tables
- Learning their 5 and 9 times tables
- Learning their 3 and 4 times tables
- Learning their 6, 7 and 8 times tables
- **Learning all their tables up to 12X12**
- **Use their knowledge of tables to learn division and multiplication facts**



All these certificates represent key landmarks in a child's maths development. In school the children do a lot of work on these skills and anything they can do at home to support this learning is great. At the same time we sent home a guide to learning tables to help you with this, spare copies of this can be collected from the office. Those certificates in bold have been chosen as extra special landmarks and will be presented in assembly. Our first special maths assembly is on Wednesday 22nd January.

SATS Briefing – Thank you for returning your slips. I can confirm from these that we will be holding 2 sessions – one at 2.15pm and one at 5.30pm

Clubs re-starting- It has been great to see so many of our children enjoying a range of clubs this week. A big thank you to all staff, who give up their time, to provide such a wide variety of opportunities.



Catherine Player has asked us to pass on her thanks to those of you who donated selection boxes for the Norwich Food Bank. She was able to deliver 45 in total!

Rev Lorna Allies

On Wednesday we said goodbye to Lorna with a special assembly. The choir and the school sang some of Lorna's favourite songs and each class presented her with a card.



iPads – Our iPads have been set up by Miss Maibaum and the Digital Leaders in Year 5 and 6. Over the course of this week and next each class will use them in their classrooms.

FORS News / Events

There is a list on the FORS noticeboard detailing all our fundraising events throughout the year and a list of the items purchased for school. These include: an amplifier, waterproofs, nativity costumes, leavers 'do' and medals to name but a few. We raised over £2000 with your help and spent in the region of £3,500!!

Look out for further details on the following events soon:



Race Night on 8th March
School Disco on 14th February



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

	STAR	ANGEL	DIAMOND
Reception	Connie Snowden	Sophie Appleton	Rebecca Hill
Year 1	Lola Wickham	Ruby Gabell	Katie Moore
Year 2	Eloisa Orme	Dylan Cullum	Marshall Newton
Year 3	Oliver Firman	Elizabeth Ritchie	Max Penson
Year 4	Elinor Grimmer	Madeleine Jenkins	Nathan Nicholls
Year 5	Tristan Wilson	Sam Watts	Ben Finch
Year 6	Ellie Clarke	Lydia Moll	Toby Grime

Best wishes

Chris Ashman