

Rackheath Primary School

Newsletter

25th October 2013



It is hard to believe that half a term has gone by already. We have enjoyed a very exciting first half term in school. Next half term promises to be just as packed with memorable learning experiences as we lead up to Christmas. From a personal point of view it has flown by but at the same time I feel like I have been here a long time, if that makes sense! For me this is most definitely a good thing. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first half term as head teacher at Rackheath. I feel extremely fortunate to be working with such positive and committed staff. I really appreciate the friendly welcome I have had from parents and value your comments and opinions regardless of whether they are about something you feel we have done well or about something we could improve.

As we know it is the children who really make a school. From the first day of term to the last they have shown great attitudes to their work, friendliness and support for each other and a pride in themselves and their school. They are a real credit to you all and I feel privileged to work with them on a daily basis. I look forward to continuing to do so for many years to come.

Parents' Evening – It was great to see so many of you over the course of the two evenings. I know the governors appreciated your input. We hope that you found the report card showing how your child has settled into the year useful. Any thoughts on the evenings please let me know.

Clubs After Half Term – Choir, netball, football, gym and Slanted Dance clubs will all carry on as normal from Monday 4th November. There will be no recorder club for the younger children this half term but Miss Maibaum will be running a club on Tuesday lunchtimes for years 4, 5 and 6.



For anyone who would like to do homework in school, for any reason, Miss Brannan will be running a homework club for Years 3 to 6. This will be on a Wednesday lunchtime from 12.15pm – 12.45pm.

Film Club is starting on Tuesday 5th November for Year 4,5 and 6. The film being shown is *Journey 2 The Mysterious Island* (PG). The film will start at 3.05pm and finish at 4.45pm. As before there will be 30 spaces and a sign up board in reception.



Free School Meals – Lower income families can apply for free school meals. In a time of rising costs we appreciate that families can struggle financially. Some of you may be eligible for free school meals and not realise it. Information about free school meals can be found at www.norfolk.gov.uk or alternatively you can phone 0344 8008020 for advice. Office staff in school would also be able to offer advice and guidance.

Church Service on Sunday 20th October

Last Sunday morning the choir were invited to a special service at Holy Trinity Church. The Bishop of Thetford led the service during which he dedicated the improvements that have been made to the 467 room (the room in the church where all of the photographs and other records of the time spent by the American Air Force at Rackheath during WW2 are kept) and also the new patio and fence. Mrs Grogutt, Mrs Howard and two other members of the churches here in Rackheath and in Salhouse were also Commissioned as Authorised Worship Assistants by the Bishop.



The choir girls sang two songs beautifully and were so well behaved during the hour long service. The Bishop was incredibly impressed with them and invited them up at the end to bless the congregation with him.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to all the choir girls and their families who gave up their Sunday morning to make a special service for me even more wonderful!

Mrs Grogutt

MSA (Midday Supervisory Assistant) – There is the possibility that we will be recruiting an additional member of staff in the near future. If this is something you would be interested in please contact the office and let us know

Field Use – As a school we think it is important to use our field as often as we can at break and lunchtimes to give the children the most enjoyable experience possible. As the weather gets worse we have to make a decision as to whether to go on the field or not. I know that some children have got their school clothes muddy over the last week and I apologise for that. From now until further notice children must bring trainers if they want to go on the field. Children in Year 5 and 6 should also bring in tracksuit trousers to change into for those times when it is deemed too muddy for anyone else to use the field.

Aylmerton Residential – I am looking forward to spending part of the week with Year 5 and 6 at Aylmerton. Please use the half term to get any equipment your child will need. It could get pretty cold!

Horstead Residential for Year 3 and 4 – The children should have brought home a letter about their residential trip which detailed a timescale for deposits and payments. We would really like as many children as possible to go on the residential, should there be any reasons, financial or otherwise, why you may be hesitating to sign up please let the school know as we may be able to help.

Lost Property – Please check lost property in football alley. Thanks to Year 4 staff who have been sorting it out!

Assembly Dates

Year 2 (DATE CHANGE) - Thursday 7th November

Year 1 - Thursday 21st November

Reception - Thursday 28th November

All assemblies start at 2.40pm

Cluster Rugby – On Wednesday twenty children from Year 5 and 6 competed in a cluster Tag Rugby competition at North Walsham Rugby Club. The children really enjoyed the morning and it was great that so many of them had the chance to play a new sport. Thanks to Mr Edwards and Mrs Holmes who organised the teams as well as Mr Kelly the CSF coach who led a lot of the practice.



Football v Tunstead

On Thursday 24th October, Rackheath played Tunstead. The overall score was 1-1. The first half we played well but the score was still 0-0. 27 minutes in Oliver set up Sam to volley home the ball GOAL!!! 0-1 to Rackheath! Kai was sooo close to scoring another goal but Tunstead's keeper made a great save, shame. Then Tunstead had a corner, it was cleared by Toby, Tunstead shot and scored. The final score was 1-1. All the team played really well and showed a great attitude. As it was such a good team performance Mr Ashman decided that everyone deserved to be player of the match.



Sam and Charlotte



Trips this week – On Wednesday Year 1 enjoyed a trip to the cinema in Norwich. On Friday Year 2 went to the Playhouse to see “Stick Man” at the theatre and had a fantastic time.

Year 2 have also had lots of real life heroes visit the school over the last few weeks including the blood bike, ambulance service and the air ambulance. Sadly they did not bring their helicopter!



15th November – Our new school council have decided that our non-school uniform for the day should be PYJAMAS. Pay a £1 and you can come to school in your onesie or PJs!

Eco-Council Names: Congratulations to our new councillors who are Year 3: Finley Betts and Georgie Greenfield, Year 4: Freddie Smith and Madeleine Jenkins, Year 5 – Oliver Milligan and Maria Braithwaite, Year 6 – Ebony Culling and Ben Lace.



FORS

Bags2School – Your child should bring home a bag with them today for you to fill with all your unwanted items of clothing and linens. These can be returned after the holiday!

House Points – We have been totalling up team points for the last two weeks. The current scores are.

First	560 points	Barton
Second	552 points	Oulton
Third	523 points	Hickling
Fourth	520 points	Ranworth



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

	STAR	ANGEL	DIAMOND
Reception	Lucy Eglen	Rhianna Dashwood	Lewis Mann
Year 1	Danielle Ramm	Lily Stone	Ethan Royston
Year 2	Mia Westley	Eloisa Orme	Calum Buckingham
Year 3	Georgie Greenfield	Stanley Bond	Cian McAulay
Year 4	Lewis Story	Dylan Parnell-Crook	William Barnes
Year 5	William Grant	Caitlin Ettridge	Daisy Stone
Year 6	Salvu Keeble	Toby Grime	Ellie Clarke

I look forward to seeing some of the children and you tonight at the **Friends Halloween Disco**. On behalf of the staff I wish you all a happy and safe half term. See you on Monday 4th for the new half term.

With Best Wishes

Chris Ashman