

Rackheath Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 2nd December 2016

Over the last 2 days we have had the Festive and Christmas Fairs in school. Two very different events but both great fun and both great examples of the way the community works together. Thank you to the fantastic FORS and everyone else who helped over the last 2 days.



Christmas Performances

Our Christmas performances start on Monday!



The dates and times of performances are below. Parents and other family members are welcome to attend the dress rehearsal if they cannot make another performance. Like last year we would ask anyone who wants to take photographs or record the performance to sit or stand at the back. Similarly if pre-school children come to watch could they sit in a place where they can quickly take a break if they are unsettled.

Dates and times for performances are listed below. For school based performances please arrive 10 minutes before the performance starts. Children should arrive at the church for 5.45pm.

Monday 5th December	Reception Dress Rehearsal 10.00am
Tuesday 6th December	Year 1/2 dress rehearsal 10.00am Reception Performance 1.50pm
Wednesday 7th December	Year 1/2 Performance 10.00am Reception Performance 1.50pm
Thursday 8th December	Year 1/2 Performance 1.50pm
Monday 12th December	KS2 Dress Rehearsal 1.30pm Performance at 6.00pm
Wednesday 14th December	KS2 Performance at 6.00pm



The church services are always special evenings. As the school grows we have discussed selling tickets but actually feel the packed out church with people standing helps make the evening extra special. We would only ask that anyone who really needs a seat has the chance to sit down. Thanks for your help.



Christmas Lunch Wednesday 14th December

Our Christmas Lunch is always a lovely occasion. The staff and children eat together in two sittings with staff taking the food to the children. It will also be **Christmas Jumper Day** in school when all children and staff can come in to school wearing a Christmas jumper.

Christmas Cards

Our Christmas Post will start on Monday 5th December. Special Christmas Post boxes will be outside each class for the children to put their cards in ready to be delivered.



Gingerbread Trail - You should have received a leaflet about the gingerbread trail taking place in Wroxham this weekend. Our brilliant gingerbread man is part of the trail - hope you find it! At the moment our Gingerbread Boy is in the lead for likes on the Facebook Gingerbread Go site. If you haven't had the chance yet please like and share to help make Rackheath's Gingerbread Boy the winner!

Eco-Committee Visit to NDR Site

On Tuesday Morning the Eco-Committee visited the site of the Northern Distributor Road off Newman Road. The children found out about the environmental measures put in place to protect animals like bats and newts which are affected by the construction and were the first group to plant new trees on the site. To make it extra special the media were in attendance and the children were featured in the EDP and Evening News as well as being on Anglia News, Mustard TV and Radio Norfolk.

In addition we were presented with bird and bat boxes as well as seeds for the school. We hope that this will be the first of many links with the site as it affords very powerful learning experiences for the children.

"On Tuesday 28 November 2016 the eco committee (Charlie Cramer-McConnell, Molly Burdett, Mason Parfitt-Bland, Lily Stone, Ruby Donnelly, Sonny Hurn, Freddie Ottolangu, Amelia-Mae Evans, Miss Bartlett and Mr Ashman) all went to the NDR (Northern Distributor Route) to plant the first of 30,000 trees. Also there, was Mustard TV, JTV Anglia news and BBC radio Norfolk. They gave us a bat box, bird boxes, butterfly homes and seeds for a vegetable patch. After we planted the tree we went inside to warm up and have some biscuits (they were very tasty) and talk about what the new road will be like."

By Freddie and Amelia (Year 6)

Cross Country – On Wednesday 30 children from the school took part in the Cluster Cross Country at Coltishall. On a beautiful winter's day all the children put in a great effort and gave their all in the different races. Overall we came 3rd with some excellent individual performances. Seven of the children finished in the top 10. Bethan Lancaster 8th (Year 3 and 4 girls) Archie Fiddy 5th and Alfie Hughes 8th (Year 3 and 4 boys) Rosie Milligan 8th and Georgie Greenfield 9th (Year 5 and 6 girls) Charlie Clarke 6th and Samuel Abramson 10th (Year 5 and 6 boys)



Brancaster Report

Last week the year 6's left the safety of their parent's hugs and ventured out on their own to Brancaster for a week (much to the excitement of the parents!). While away the children took part in crabbing, sailing, night walks, orienteering and the hilarious coastal safari, where the children had to struggle through reeds and coastal mud. The children all had an amazing time and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. They were also impeccably behaved and were easily the best group that any of the adults had EVER taken away on residential.

A massive thank you to Ms Holmes, Mrs Goddard, Mr Cavender and Mr Edwards who gave up their time to take the children away.

Photographs can be found on the year 6 page of the school website if you fancy a laugh!

Year 4 Trip To Norwich Castle

When we got onto the coach I sat next to Emily but on the way back I sat next to Lily. When we arrived we went to sit down and we put our coats and bags on the table. Our first activity we did was handling delicate Egyptian artefacts. I held a fragile animal amulet, it was very detailed. Isis was a little shaped figure and she had a baby on her lap, also her husband was called Osiris.



Then we split into two groups and took part in different activities. My group first went into the Boudicca section and we counted how many shiny scarab beetles and Horus eyes we could find. We found 102 scarab beetles and 103 Horus eyes and we saw some very patterned mummies. Then we went to the roman gallery and went on the horse and carriage also we dressed up.

By Katie Moore

When we went back up the stairs we looked at the Roman pottery. The pottery was very rough and tough. We also looked at roof tiles. Some of the tiles/bricks were quite curved. The pottery was also very smooth. There was a replica of a sponge on a stick.

While people were finishing off their lunch we went in the Norfolk wildlife room. There was a really creepy looking animal.

Then we got split into two groups of 14. I had Mason and Olly in my group and we worked together. Mrs Crook was leading our group. First we went into the Boudicca and Roman

gallery. Before we left the Castle we needed to find a fact we didn't already know. Me, Olly, Josh and Rebecca dressed up in a toga. Then we went upstairs to look for eyes of Horus and scarab beetles. We found 33 scarab beetles and 49 eyes of Horus. One of the coffins was made out of wood and the other one was made out of plaster. One of the coffins had never been opened.

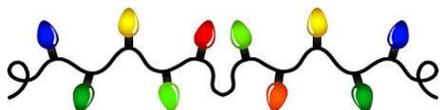
Then we went downstairs to the art gallery and looked at what people from Norwich had painted. They went to Egypt and painted what they saw. Then we went to a huge gallery of teapots. I liked a large fish one.

By Rory Watts



Nativity Assembly – On Tuesday Reverend Sandy came in to school with Mary and Joseph and told us all about the Rackheath Nativity Sheep Hunt taking place in December. Lots of sheep are visiting houses in the village. How many can you spot?

Panto visit – On Tuesday the Panto Company performed Cinderella for the children. It was a great show which was enjoyed by all.



FORS



Festive Fayre – A big thank you to everyone who both helped and attended the event we raised £1005!! Special thanks go to Angela St Hill, Clare Betts and Jo Potter for doing such an amazing job of organising the whole thing.

100 Club – There are still some numbers available if you would like to be in this coming years 100 club. £12 for the year.

Christmas Disco – Tickets came home this week. Please return £1.50 by Monday if your child is wishing to come.

New Year Party – Our annual New Year party will be held at the Village hall. Flyers will be sent home next week. Please ask at reception for further information.

School Aprons – Thank you for all your orders. If you still require one please message Leisa 07780796038 ASAP.

Attendance Bear
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Well done to Year 2 once again who had 98% attendance last week!