

Rackheath Primary School



Newsletter

Friday 4th September

Welcome to another exciting school year at Rackheath. It has been great to see all the children and hear about what they have been getting up to during their holidays. I hope that you all have had a good summer too.

I would like to extend a special welcome to the children in our new reception class and their parents, as well as to the other children and families who have joined us in other classes this year. As a school we pride ourselves on being a friendly and welcoming place to be. We recognise that the first few days and weeks in a new school are a time of significant change and that for children and parents they can be nervous times. Should you have any concerns or worries or would just like to introduce yourself please feel free to talk to the reception staff or another member of staff.

You can normally find me outside school at the beginning and end of every day and I look forward to chatting to new and current parents over the coming days. Alternatively you can always visit the office and make an appointment to see me. One of the great strengths of the school last year was the link between home and school as good communication and mutual support is vital for children to reach their potential.

The Playground - Following on from our new playground markings installed before the holiday we have developed our trim trail and now are the proud owners of a pirate ship complete with Rackheath flag! As you can imagine this has caused a lot of excitement amongst all the school community. On Tuesday's staff inset day there was a lot of discussion about who should be captain!

In school time we have set up a rota for the ship and the trail. We have also taken each class out and talked about the importance of safe play. At break and lunch staff members also closely supervise the ship and trail. At the end of the day if your child is using either the ship or the trail, please keep a close eye on them too so everyone can enjoy the equipment in a safe way.

Reception Class - We have also added some panels to boost outdoor learning in Reception. The biggest transformation is thanks to our fantastic caretaker, Mr Grubb, who has been busy painting the fence and shed to create a vibrant and exciting outdoor space.

Class Meetings – These information sessions will take place next week as follows:

Year 1	Monday at 2.45pm	Year 4	Tuesday at 8.45am
Year 2	Tuesday at 3pm	Year 5	Tuesday at 8.45am
Year 3	Wednesday at 2.45pm	Year 6	Thursday at 9.00am



Music lessons – From next Thursday Years 4, 5 and 6 will have the chance to learn the Ukulele as a class, as we are joined by Tim Hodson from the Norfolk Music Service.

Our new peripatetic lessons start from the week beginning Monday 20th September. If your child is signed up for this more information will follow soon. I am looking forward immensely to seeing our music provision develop over this and future years.

Leicester Tigers Rugby and Maths – Once again Justin Loveridge from Leicester Tigers is joining the school to take our Year 3 and 4 children for some sessions linking Rugby and Maths. He is with us every Thursday this half term starting on Thursday 10th September. Last time Justin worked with us some of our children got to play on the pitch at Twickenham and watch the Premiership final. We may not be so lucky this time but I know it will be an enjoyable and valuable few weeks in Year 3 and 4.



Upcoming Church events – Reverend Sandy has been to visit and told me about some exciting upcoming events:

- Saturday 12th September – auditions for the Benefice Players 2016 Pantomime, Aladdin, are being held at Jubilee Hall Salhouse from 10am until 12pm.
- October 4th – A special service for pets and their owners at 3pm All Saints Church, Salhouse
- Sunday 20th September – enjoy a bacon roll at a special Harvest themed event.



School Calendar – Next Friday's letter will include a calendar with many of the important dates for the year attached.

School Clubs – Clubs run by school staff will start on the week beginning Monday September 14th.

Monday	Multi-Skills Choir	Reception to Year 2 (max 24) with Mr Cavender Year 2 to Year 6 with Mrs Chapman and Mrs Grogutt
Tuesday	Football	Year 4 and 6 (max 30) with Mr Ashman and Mr Edwards
Thursday	Football Netball	Year 2 to Year 3 (max 24) with Mr Ashman Year 4 to Year 6 (max 24) with Mrs Pilbrow

In addition cross country with Mr Ashman will continue on a Friday Mornings from 8.15am for Years 2 to Year 6. At lunchtime on a Monday Ms Holmes and Mrs Goddard are running a Re-cycled Craft Club for Years 5 and 6, while on Tuesday at lunchtime Miss Maibaum has recorders for Years 5 and 6.

Premier Sports are running a gymnastics club on Friday for Reception to Year 3 for which a flyer has been sent today. On Tuesday and Friday mornings Aaron from Premier Sports will continue running the Start Active club from 8.00am commencing next Tuesday. If you would like further details please speak to Mrs Roe or Mrs Pilbrow in the office.



Unfortunately **Slanted Dance** have informed us that their club will not be continuing this term. We are looking to add more clubs from outside providers; however we want to make sure that they represent value for money before making a commitment

Middy Supervisors – We are always keen to hear from anyone who would like to work as an MSA either as cover or on a permanent basis. Currently we are looking to recruit an MSA who would like to work on a permanent basis for 3 or maybe more days in the week. Should you be interested please let the office know in the first instance and then we will contact you from there. Please feel free to speak to me if you have any questions.

Finally we have been talking about trying hard and not giving up when you find something difficult. In the spirit of this I have set myself the challenge to learn one of the following by Christmas; skipping, juggling or hula-hooping. The children will pick which one they want me to learn and then help to teach me!

Chris Ashman