



Rackheath Primary School Newsletter

Friday 19th December

The children at Rackheath never stop amazing me. It has been a really busy and exciting term. Over the last few weeks the children's thoughts have been turning to Christmas, some have been feeling tired, others have been shaking off coughs and colds and yet they remain enthusiastic, keen to learn, motivated and impeccably behaved. It is a real privilege to come to school and work with them every day.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank the staff who I know are also feeling excited about Christmas as well as tired! They work really hard every day to make sure our school is a happy place where learning is fun and children make good progress. I hope you agree that the children at Rackheath enjoy lots of rich opportunities and memorable experiences during a term. This is only possible because all the staff work as a team and are so caring, positive, enthusiastic and hard working.

KS2 Christmas Service

In a packed church the Key Stage 2 children put on a fantastic Carol Concert on Monday and Wednesday evenings. It was a lovely, magical experience in the church on those nights and we really appreciate the links we have with Sandy and her team at Holy Trinity.

All the children did themselves proud, the singing was beautiful and all the children reading the Nativity story read in very clear voices. I was especially impressed by all the solo singers who sang beautifully. I would like to thank everyone who helped organise the service, with a special mention going to Mrs Chapman for her fantastic piano playing.

Before the service the school council decided that our charity for the year would be East Anglia Children's Hospices (EACH). Thanks to your generosity we raised £301.87

Finally, it was great to see so many of you at the church over the two nights. Quite a few of you had to stand, which from my point of view added to the atmosphere. We would appreciate your thoughts on this as potentially we could consider introducing tickets and limiting the number of tickets for each family. However, this could well detract from the whole family atmosphere created which contributes to the whole feel of the evening.

Christmas Presents from the Friends – Each class had a special surprise this week. The Friends of the school have bought each class a camera for Christmas!! What a fantastic treat – they will be really useful and help us learn as well as be lots of fun! I would like to say a big thank you on behalf of all the children and staff for these generous gifts and for everything that FORS have done for the school this term.

Wes Hoolahan Visit

Yesterday we had an extra special visitor to assembly when Wes Hoolahan came to school. Wes answered a selection of questions from the children and then stayed for each class to have a photo with him. I would like to express my thanks to Wes for giving up his time to visit us.



Throughout his visit he was fantastic with the children and I know they all loved him visiting. From a personal point of view it was great to meet my favourite Norwich player and find out that he is a top man as well as a great footballer. OTBC!

Christmas Dinner – The children and staff enjoyed a lovely Christmas Dinner on Wednesday cooked by our fantastic chefs from EATS Natalie, Amanda and Kelly. On Wednesday they cooked lovely meals for 180 children and staff by themselves and regularly cook lovely meals from scratch for well over 100 throughout the week. Quite an achievement!

FORS NEWS

100 Club – We still have a few 30 spaces in our 100 club so make sure you enter before the end of next week to be in with a chance of winning. Extra forms available from the office.

New Year's Eve – Don't forget to buy your tickets and join us for our annual family party, with children's entertainment and disco. Bring your own drinks and nibbles! Tickets only £15 per family (2 adults, 2 children). Tel: Michelle 07799 258509 or Leisa 07780 796038.



Celebration names – A big well done to all the children who received their special certificate and badge in our Celebration Assembly on Thursday. You have all been brilliant role models this term.



Reception - Issey Carpenter and Frazer Braithwaite, Year 1 - Liam Cowey and Bethany Dampier, Year 2 - Isobel Crisp and Caedn Huckle, Year 3 - Mia Westley and Harry Brown, Year 4 - Olivia Crook and Logan St Hill, Year 5 - Nathan Nicholls and Kiera Braithwaite and Year 6 - Kacie Banwell and Tristan Wilson.

100%

Attendance Assembly – On Wednesday we presented all the children who have managed to achieve 100% attendance this term with a certificate. Well done to all the children who got their certificate.



Carols with Ashfield - On Tuesday some of the residents of Ashfield's Care Home visited the school for a special Christmas Carol Service with our choir. The children sang beautifully and I know their audience really enjoyed their afternoon.





Rackheath Bombers Pre-School – They have a vacancy for an Early Years Practitioner / Administrator – for further details please email Anne Tandy on annetandy@hotmail.co.uk

Aladdin – It wasn't quite the West End but panto came to Rackheath today, as for the second time the staff put on a panto! This time the children were "treated" to Aladdin. Fortunately no video footage of this performance exists! Although there are photos! The children certainly got to see the staff in a different light! (*Oh no they didn't! Oh yes they did! etc*)



On behalf of all the staff I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing all the children again on Tuesday January 6th.

Have a lovely holiday!

Chris Ashman

