

# Rackheath Primary School

## Welcome Newsletter

### Back to School



Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

We are very pleased to say that our regular Friday newsletter is back! Each week this is the place to find out what each class has been up to as well as to keep up to date with wider news from the school. The newsletter will be sent out via SchoolPing and will also be posted on the school website.

In addition I will still be sending out my own updates most Friday's on ping and via email.

**Star, Angel, Diamond Assembly** – It is really important that in these new and unusual times we have the chance to get together as a whole school. We can't hold assemblies together so today we held our first virtual Star, Angel, Diamond assembly on Zoom. It was great to get everyone together to catch up and find out about our weeks.



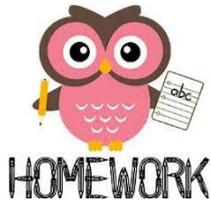
### Contacting the school

Later in this letter you will find the email addresses of your child's teacher you can use this to contact them with good news, any concerns or questions. Although staff will be checking their emails regularly if you have an urgent message linked to the day it is best to call the office and they will pass it on to the class team.

If a reply or a follow-up is needed staff will contact you by phone or email. This will not routinely happen straight away, as during the school day adults will be with their class so it is likely to be after school. If a longer meeting is needed this could be held using zoom.

If you would like to talk to me, you would also call the office who will either make an appointment for me to call back or put you straight through if I am available.

**Reading Books** – Mrs Petraglia has finalised our systems for sharing and sending books home. To keep to a 72 hour quarantine period not all classes will be able to visit the library or change their reading scheme books in a week. With this in mind children will be encouraged to take a selection of books that will last for a few weeks. Class teachers will be in touch to confirm the dates to return books.



**Homework** – In the early part of this half term reading together is the main homework along with practising things like multiplication tables in maths. In the coming weeks staff will share other homework ideas such as using Sumdog for maths.

**Music Lessons** – Mr Hodson is coming in to teach the ukulele from next Tuesday. Initially he will be teaching 2 classes one class at a time (year 5 and 6) in the hall. We plan to have our peripatetic music lessons up and running from the week of the 22<sup>nd</sup>. At the moment we have over 40 children interested from Year 3 to 6. Children will be taught in the hall and will only be with children from their class.



**Mandarin** - On Tuesday afternoon Mrs Song will also start teaching Mandarin with Year 4 and year 5.

## Whole School Topic: Heroes and Heroines

This term we will be continuing on with our new look curriculum and our topic will be based on Heroes and Heroines – we decided on this topic as we believe that now is the right time to be thinking of others who have supported us as people and as a country. For this, we will be looking at ourselves as heroes, thinking about heroes in our communities and then thinking about heroes of our country. We will also spend some time thinking about heroes of the past who have helped to shape our world.

Inventors and Explorers will also be a focus and we will be having themed weeks with each class learning about a specific person. More details will follow about these weeks soon as we will spending some time next week planning for them.



To finish the term, we will be holding a 'Hero Day' where we will be asking children to dress up as either someone who inspires them or their own personal hero. Again, more details will be added to future newsletters.

If any parents feel that they may be able to support this topic in any way, please feel free to email the school office with your ideas.

**COVID update** – this week we have shared information about “what to do if your child is ill this term” you can find this on the school website <http://www.rackheath.norfolk.sch.uk/> along with other important documents like our FAQs for parents.



## Reception

[jpetraglia5gr8@nsix.org.uk](mailto:jpetraglia5gr8@nsix.org.uk) and [lbrannan6zr7@nsix.org.uk](mailto:lbrannan6zr7@nsix.org.uk)

The Reception children have made a brilliant start to life at 'Big School' and each group of children have come in confidently and enjoyed exploring their new classroom, as well as making new friends. We have been delighted to see how quickly they are adjusting to new routines and we look forward to welcoming the whole class in together next week.

## Year 1

[ping7rre@nsix.org.uk](mailto:ping7rre@nsix.org.uk) and [jpallant2qre@nsix.org.uk](mailto:jpallant2qre@nsix.org.uk)

Year 1 have made a fantastic start to the new term. They are adjusting well to new routines in school and have been very smiley this week! It's so good to see them back learning alongside their friends. We have shared the story of The Colour Monster in Literacy and explored different feelings each day. Year 1 had a try at meditation this week which went down well! In Numeracy we have been practicing our counting skills. In phonics we have been learning new sounds "ay" and "ee" and beginning to write sentences using words with these sounds. In PSE we have created our own class charter and talked about our personal heroes.

## Year 2

It has been wonderful to welcome back our gorgeous Year 2 children, some of whom were able to return to school for six weeks in the summer, and others of whom we have not seen since March. They have been so excited to get back to school and see their friends. We have been absolutely delighted with how amazingly adaptable they have been, fitting in to the new routines as if school had always been like this! They are incredibly enthusiastic learners, and although much of this week has been settling in and getting to know each other, they have worked hard revising phonics knowledge, and also counting and ordering numbers to 100. We have started a lovely new book called Juniper Jupiter in English and begun to think about superhero characteristics and our own strengths and weaknesses. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me if you have any questions or anything which you would like me to know about your child: [hrogutt8nrs@nsix.org.uk](mailto:hrogutt8nrs@nsix.org.uk)

I look forward to getting to know you and your children better during the next few weeks.

## Year 3

[hhornagold6jr9@nsix.org.uk](mailto:hhornagold6jr9@nsix.org.uk)

What a fantastic first week we have had in year 3. You wouldn't know it but we have had 5 new children join our class and what an amazing 5 they are! Everybody has settled in brilliantly and you would never have known that the children have not been in school since March. We have been doing lots of work around place value this week in maths and have found a new favourite game – times table bingo. We started the week practising our sentence writing and finished it off by writing some brilliant 'New School Year' acrostic poems. Well done year 3 - I can't wait for the year ahead!

#### Year 4

It really is hard to believe that most of Year 4 have not been in school since March. They have come back to school so eager to learn that our week has flown by in a flurry of smiles and beaten expectations! Mrs Goddard, Mrs Howes, Mrs Crook and I are so incredibly proud of each and every member of the class and so grateful to them for their positivity. This week we have spent lots of time getting to know each other again and talking about our targets for the year. We have written poems about ourselves in English and explored place value in Maths. We have had a wonderful time re-creating the work of Andy Warhol and Roy Liechtenstein in the afternoons. Don't hesitate to contact me on: [hhughes65rd@nsix.org.uk](mailto:hhughes65rd@nsix.org.uk)

#### Year 5

[deputy@rackheath.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:deputy@rackheath.norfolk.sch.uk)

Hello everyone. What a first week we have had back in year 5 – I've been incredibly tired and have been in bed by 9 every night! But the children in class just seem to have so much energy. They have all settled in incredibly well – you wouldn't know that they have not been at school for over 5 months. This week we have been playing a variety of maths games linked to place value, we had a go at writing a short story (and I liked what I read) and we have been thinking about why we are heroes. We have also just started our class book 'The Midnight Fox' by Betsy Byers. The class have all worked so hard to impress me – I can see why Mrs Cavender loves this class. I know it will be a great year! Mr C

#### Year 6

[sedwards2nrw@nsix.org.uk](mailto:sedwards2nrw@nsix.org.uk)

The Year 6 children have started the new school year brilliantly and both Ms Holmes and I have been very impressed with the work they have produced so far! It's hard to believe that they have not been in school since March as they have got back into school routines very quickly. In Maths lessons, the children have recapped their knowledge of column addition as well as solving a range of puzzles and problems linked to this area. In Literacy, the class have also made predictions about our class book 'Boy Overboard' by Morris Gleitzman. During some of our afternoon lessons, the children have discussed what it takes to be a hero or heroine and have told me who their own heroes are. Similar to last year, it's also lovely to see the children being so kind and supportive to one another. Well done Year 6!

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

	<b>STAR</b>	<b>ANGEL</b>	<b>DIAMOND</b>
Year 1	Whole Class	Emil Keshavarz	Olivia Watts
Year 2	Whole Class	Connor Appleton	Ibbie Cartwright
Year 3	Reid Sheldon-Smillie	Darla Youngs Layla King-Knott	Mia Yallop Lacey Bull
Year 4	Sasha Muzembe	Noah Collin	Whole Class
Year 5	Xane Brister	Theo Hallam	Whole Class
Year 6	Whole Class	Ashley Ofori	Olivia Bush

Have a super weekend.

*Chris Ashman*