

Rackheath Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 16th October 2020

Governor Elections – On Monday a letter went out on school ping regarding 2 vacancies on our governing body. We are seeking nominations of parents interested in taking up this role. Being a governor can be very enjoyable and worthwhile and it is an important and valued role in our school community. To find out if it is for you, Mrs Tandy, our Chair of Governors, would be happy to meet you to discuss this further if you so wished. Our office staff can put you in touch with her to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet.

If you are interested, or know someone who might be, you can pick up nomination papers from the school office. The completed nomination papers must be returned to the school by the 21st October 2020.

Virtual Tour of the reception space for 2021 starters – Mrs Petraglia has put together a super virtual tour of the school filmed early in the morning before the children arrived. It can be found here <https://youtu.be/cbq-Qi6KyHY> . The video can also be accessed from the home page of the school website <http://www.rackheath.norfolk.sch.uk/>

New Parent Visits – Last week a flier was sent out inviting prospective new parents of children starting in September 2021 to visit the school. Like most things these will be done differently to normal. The visits will take place outside of the times when children are in school and with visitors only looking round the school from the outside of the building. These visits will take place at various times over a period of a month beginning on Monday 12th October. If you would like to look round or know someone who would like to an appointment can be made through the school office.



School Uniform and Keeping Warm - Following advice from the LEA, amongst others, we have slightly changed the way we are making sure there is sufficient ventilation in rooms. Windows are always at least partially open but we are not routinely keeping doors open rather making sure we blast the classrooms with fresh air at different times during the day - often when the children are not in the room - this coupled with the fact that the heat is now on has meant the classes are less cold than they have been.

As we head into winter the rooms will be colder than usual as the windows will remain open. As such we still recommend children wear extra layers either under or over their uniform. The children should still wear a school jumper and only add another layer over that if they are cold. Where possible those extra layers should be a plain colour.

Coats – A small minority of children haven't been bringing a coat every day. It is really important that everyone does have an outer layer so that the clothes they have on when they are inside stay as dry as possible.



Parent's Evening – We are halfway through this term parent's evening which are being held remotely. Despite a few technical issues feedback from staff and families has been positive so far which is great to hear. Next week the evenings continue on Monday 19th and Wednesday 21st October. If you haven't yet booked an appointment for a zoom meeting or phone call you still can.

We will endeavour to keep to time through the evenings. To help with this please join the waiting room a few minutes before your allotted time. To avoid any potential confusion it would be useful if your zoom name could be parent of NAME OF CHILD.

Inventors Week - This week has been inventor's week in school. Each class looked at the work of an inventor and one of the highlights was the inventing challenge. Children from across the school came up with some amazing inventions and lots of these were shared in a special zoom assembly today.



School photographer – It was great that the school photographer could come in on Thursday to take individual photos. The proofs will be sent home on Monday.

FORS

We are having an optional NON-SCHOOL UNIFORM Day on Wednesday 21st October. If your child would like to take part the cost is £1. A pot will be placed at each School gate For you to pop your £1 in (please do not pass your money to your child's class teacher or the school office). Money raised will go towards our Halloween prizes.

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Bags2School appeal. We've not had the total raised back yet but will let you all know as soon as we do.

Reminder that I need return slip and money by Monday 19th October for pumpkins (I can print copies for anyone who needs them).

Halloween House Decorating Competition - I will need slip and money returned by Wednesday 28th October if you are entering your house.

Reminder to return your slips and money to Treena or Suzanne Fleetwood at their home address, please don't return to the school ... all info was sent out via ping last week.

For any further information contact us at friendsofrackheathschool@hotmail.com. We also have a Facebook page : [Friends of Rackheath school \(FORS\)Events Page](#)

Finally if you would like to join our team and become a FORS Trustee or volunteer member we have our Annual AGM meeting via zoom on Wednesday 21st October 10am. The Meeting ID is 609-164-7082 and Password is AGM2020

Thank You
Treena Barrett – FORS Chair



Remote Learning Technology Survey - Thank you to everyone who has completed the survey about access to technology at home. This helps us understand your circumstances and helps us to plan for any period of remote learning. If you haven't had a chance to complete the survey it will only take about a minute. The link is below:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=IOM_8mowLU-yDq7UATSAsd71ahEnGFtLqGTKDrtZnX1UQ1IWVDIPUVdTWjFJV0dVMklJSktIMEpBMS4u



Reception

jpetraglia5gr8@nsix.org.uk and lbrannan6zr7@nsix.org.uk

This week we have learned all about George Stephenson, one of the main inventors of the first steam train. We then read the story 'The Train Ride' and watched videos of old and new trains to compare the differences. Finally, we did our own science experiments to test what would be the best surface for a train to travel along. We compared foil, plastic, material and carpet on ramps and then measured using felt-tip pens as non-standard units, which the children recorded. It was a tricky task but the children listened well to instructions and counted the number of measurements very carefully.

We have also learned lots of new sounds now and some of the children have loved being challenged to even begin to try to write their own simple words. Outside we also practised our positional language through games of hide-and-seek. What a busy but lovely week together!

Year 1

ping7rre@nsix.org.uk and jpallant2qre@nsix.org.uk

This week has been all about Inventors! We found out about Garrett Morgan who invented the modern traffic light system, and Percy Shaw who invented Cats' Eyes. We made our own traffic lights with coloured paper and paper plates and we had fun investigating reflective materials with torches. On Thursday, we became inventors ourselves!

In Maths, we have been becoming more confident at adding within 10 by using the part-part-whole model. In Literacy, we made Wanted posters for the Big Bad Wolf from Little Red Riding Hood – and did lots of writing independently! We have recapped the sounds 'ou' and 'oy' in Phonics and we are now ready to learn some new sounds after Half Term.

Year 2

hgrogutt8nrs@nsix.org.uk

Year 2 have had a really fantastic week. The children are really settled, have developed fantastic attitudes to work and are making great progress with their reading and phonics in particular. This week they have learnt about a lady called Nancy Johnson who invented the first hand cranked ice-cream churn. We don't really know very much about her other than she was pretty amazing because her invention meant that ice-cream became available to everyone, not just the very rich. On Wednesday morning the children enjoyed another cricket session with Kevin. In the afternoon they worked in pairs, chosen by the lolly sticks to create the most amazing models of inventions. These were shared with the whole school in assembly today.

The children have all had new reading books this week. Please send library books in on Monday and we will change these too. Have a good weekend – hopefully a dry one!

Year 3

hhornagold6jr9@nsix.org.uk

It has been another incredibly busy week in year 3! We have really enjoyed studying the inventor of Monopoly, Elizabeth Magie and designed some super monopoly style fact files about her. On Tuesday, we spent the day designing, creating and building some of our own inventions that we then presented to the class. We finished the week by beginning to write our newspaper reports and in maths we have been subtracting by finding the difference. Next week we will finish our newspapers and finish our addition and subtraction topic by completing some worded problems.

On Monday, can you please bring back any reading books ready to change. Have a great weekend!



Year 4

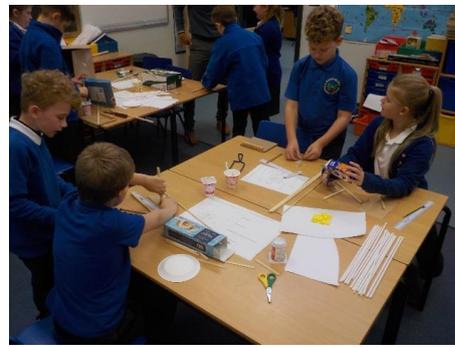
hhughes65rd@nsix.org.uk

Year 4 have had another amazing week. We have been busy inventing, the children have loved learning about Louis Pasteur and thinking about how vaccinations have improved our lives. Well done to all of the children for their amazing inventions, it was so hard to choose our favourite. Congratulations to Sasha and Olivia who got full marks in our skeleton in their spelling tests. They helped us to earn 505 points and our 10 class points.

Year 5

deputy@rackheath.norfolk.sch.uk

Another brilliant week with this lovely lot. Sadly, we have come to the end of the Midnight Fox work but we ended by writing a newspaper report linked to the rescue of the cub and the work produced was brilliant – they all worked hard and tried to include all the features that we had discussed. In maths, Times Tables and factors have been a focus of the week – any extra practise at home to secure these skills will be really helpful. Our main focus had been on our inventor this week – Lewis Latimer. We found out that even though it was Thomas Edison who invented the lightbulb it was Lewis Latimer who invented the carbon filament that allowed the lightbulb to be used. We also had our Inventor Day, where the children tried to come up with an idea that could help the planet; they were all incredibly excited as we used wood, saws and hot glue guns! Rhys and Harvey had the winning invention with their creation The HMR which cleans up our polluted oceans and runs on green gasses.



Year 6

sedwards2nrw@nsix.org.uk

It has been a very busy week in Year 6 and I cannot believe how much work the children have managed to complete! As part of Inventors Week, the children learnt about the life of Tim Berners-Lee, who created the world wide web. This led to children discussing a range of fantastic ideas for new inventions that can solve problems and make life easier. The class then put their creative minds to excellent use by building their inventions and explaining them to their peers. Everyone had a really enjoyable time and I'm confident there will be some future inventors in years to come! In Literacy lessons, the children planned and wrote a spooky/mystery story using a variety of grammar skills that they recapped earlier in the week. For our Maths focus, the children have been looking at a variety of division reasoning problems and then moved onto rounding decimal numbers.



'Bombers' Update

Just a quick update to say how well the children have returned and our new friends have settled.

They have adapted well to the slight changes in routine and presentation of activities without questioning. They are all happy and busy building friendships and sharing their own ideas.

We have talked about 'Harvest' and done some lovely printing, we are going to plant cress for them to take home individually to watch growth and we will discuss 'Halloween' next week. On return from half term we will look at 'Bonfire Night'. (A reminder that we are not having 'dressing up' at present.)

Thank you to all the families for complying with staggered drop off and collection and please remember you can call or email if you need further feedback from your key person or have any queries/concerns.

We will be looking to share and update with children's progress after half term.

We wish you all a happy and relaxing half term in these very difficult times.

Regards from - Denise, Dannie, Jo, Jasmine and Nancy



Attendance Bear

Well done to Years 4 & 5 who had
100%
Attendance last week!

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

	STAR	ANGEL	DIAMOND
Reception	Isobel Fisher	Edie Nicholls	Charlie Rice
Year 1	Joey Fairweather	Olivia Crisford	Jenson Ayres
Year 2	Rosa Green	Dolcie Pennycook	Olivia Hogarth
Year 3	Isabelle Avery	Isabel Chilvers	Freddie Pelan
Year 4	Alice Tandy	Maisie Hunt	Lila Ing
Year 5	Rhys Davison	Imogen Rump	Amy-Leigh Knights
Year 6	Hattie Smith	Issey Carpenter	Morgan Scotton