

Rackheath Primary School

Newsletter



Friday 23rd April 2021

It has been a very enjoyable first few weeks in school. It has been great to feel that more of the things we love to do are taking place. We have more clubs going on, music lessons are in full swing as well as our swimming and Mandarin lessons taking place. Soon Year 3, 4 and 6 will have two fun packed days at either Horstead or Aylmerton. Plus, the sun is shining!!

This week has seen the launch of the Big Ask from the Children's Commissioner, which schools across the country are completing. This is the largest ever survey of children in England, designed to find out what their concerns and aspirations about the future are. The aim of the survey is to identify the barriers preventing children from reaching their potential, put forward solutions and set ambitious goals for the country to achieve.



We are planning to complete this in the week beginning the 10th May. The survey will only take about 10 minutes, it is completely anonymous and there are different surveys for different age groups. For more information for parents you can visit:

<https://cco-web.azureedge.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/cco-the-big-ask-parent-information-sheet.pdf>



It seems a long time ago but just before the pandemic struck the School Council and Eco-Committee worked alongside all the children and staff to put together lots of fund raising ideas for Water Aid. This was part of our Drop in the Ocean topic back in Spring 2020. Your generosity at the time was staggering as we raised £2,048.90. This week Water Aid were able to send us a certificate congratulating us on this incredible achievement.

RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) – This term each class will be teaching RSE as part of the curriculum. More information was sent out earlier in the week about the RSE curriculum via School Ping.

Parent Survey 2021

Thanks to everyone who has already returned a parent survey. This year's survey is all about our response to the Coronavirus Pandemic covering the time period from March 2020 to March 2021. There is still plenty of time to complete a questionnaire and return to the box outside the school office by Friday 7th May. Thank you.



Clubs – From next Thursday 22nd April there will be a Football Club for Year 3 and 4 children which will run until Thursday 27th May. A SchoolPing has been sent out with details. To sign your child up just complete the online form at the bottom of the message by lunchtime on Monday). After May half term I am planning on starting a Cricket Club initially for Year 6 and a Football Club for Year 2.



Optional Parent - Staff Catch Up

Next Wednesday we are holding our optional catch up meetings with your child's class teacher. Staff will be in touch soon with those parents who have booked a slot to pass on the joining details for the meetings.



Year 1

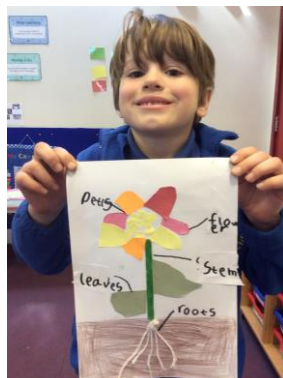
ping7rre@nsix.org.uk and jpallant2qre@nsix.org.uk

This week we have been able to get started with our planting! We have really enjoyed looking at plants and their structure, and we made collages to show the different parts of plants and trees.

We have been re-capping our 'ear' and 'ire' sounds in Phonics as these are two sounds that we are finding tricky to remember. In Literacy, we are continuing writing our own Jack and the Beanstalk stories, using adjectives, synonyms and similes.

We have been starting to multiply by making arrays this week, and practising our doubling skills. We had fun making doubling ladybirds!

The big excitement of this week was the pigeon that came and made friends with us! He even came in our classroom!



Year 2

hgrogutt8nrs@nsix.org.uk

This week has flown by as we have been incredibly busy and also enjoyed the most gorgeous weather – how lovely to see and feel the sun! Our plants have loved it too. The children have each planted a sunflower seed this week, their cress will be ready to take home next week and our pansies and herbs have been put in the wooden beds. Next week the children will plant runner beans and sweet peas. They are loving this aspect of our learning and hopefully being able to enjoy some gardening at home too.

We have continued with our poetry unit in English. I have worked the children hard and they have had to write, edit and improve a poem about red things following on from reading a poem about green things. Yesterday and today we have been trying to write a nature's alphabet poem based on one we have read. They have found thinking of words that rhyme tricky and we will continue with this next week.



In maths the children have learnt to recognise thirds and to find a third of an amount as well as recognising unit fractions.

We reintroduced guided reading groups at the beginning of this term. This week as well as our usual group activities we have introduced a time most afternoons where each group reads their guided reading book together either silently or out loud. This has worked incredibly well. The children have loved the opportunity to share the book without an adult and have been far more confident with their reading when it has been their turn to read with Mrs Bird or myself. Do please keep hearing your child read at home and try to encourage those who are less confident to sound out in their heads as this speeds up fluency.

Year 3

hhornagold6jr9@nsix.org.uk

Year 3 have worked incredibly hard in English this week, writing some beautiful traditional Japanese Haiku and Tanka poems. On Thursday, the children worked in pairs to write some Haiku poems based on specific animals, which they then performed for the class. Today, each pair were given a seasonal picture and a word bank to use as inspiration for their Tanka poems, which were wonderful and all followed the syllable pattern of 5-7-5-7-7. In maths, we have been learning about equivalent fractions, using a fraction wall to help find equivalents of halves, thirds and quarters and finished today by solving their own equivalent fractions worded problem and then joining them all up with our equivalent fraction domino cards.

The children were also very excited on Tuesday to welcome back Mrs Song, who will be teaching Mandarin again this term. She talked to the children about the craziness of the last year and how the last time she saw them was December 2019! In PE, the children had fun competing in relay races and playing games outside with Mrs Pulford. In our topic afternoons we have been studying world climate zones and will be starting to look at time zones next week. Have a super weekend all 😊

Year 4

hhughes65rd@nsix.org.uk

It has been so lovely this week to feel like we are truly back in the swing of things. We have continued to explore decimals in our maths and, although it was tricky to begin with, we are now feeling very proud of our ability to divide by 10 and 100 using the tenths and hundredths column. Well done! Today, I have taught the children a trick to use to help them with their 9x tables. I wonder if they could show you what it is?

We have had a wonderful time in English this week too. The story of The Iron Man continues to be a big hit and we had a great time doing some freeze frames today. Next week, we will be writing diary entries and exploring dialogue in a text.

I hope you all have a really great weekend - I'm hopeful Mr Sun will come out to play!

Year 5

deputy@rackheath.norfolk.sch.uk

It has been so nice to have the sun starting to shine through this week – my class have absolutely loved being out on the field during break times. I'd like to start by saying how amazing with each they have been this week – supportive, kind a fair. In other hot news, Theo Orme mentioned to me earlier in the week that our class needs a representative; someone who would speak for the class if they felt they needed something. He put himself forward, along with Jack U, and they both delivered brilliant speeches stating what they could do in the role. After a class vote, I am very pleased to say that both children received 16 votes meaning that they will both take on the role – well done boys!

In science this week we tested out James 'Egg' Bond devices by throwing them off the roof next to Reception – much to the delight of the younger children of the school who were cheering! I am sad to say (although it did make for a fun afternoon) that not all of the spacemen made it back to Earth safely and we ended up with several Egg deaths – it was hilarious!

We continued our fractions work in maths and have continued to practise times tables as these are the most important skills. In literacy, we have been writing our diary entries imagining that we are Bradley Chalkers from our book 'There is a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom'



Year 6

sedwards2nrw@nsix.org.uk

Like always, the Year 6 children have been amazing and have produced a range of super work! In Maths, we have continued our statistics unit of work and the children have interpreted a variety of pie charts as well as draw their own from a set of data. In English, the class have planned and written a creative story linked to mountains and I was so impressed by their ideas. In a series of guided reading activities, the children have learnt about the Bermuda Triangle and have given their own thoughts about the numerous events that occurred. Please feel free to test their knowledge! In afternoon activities, the children have had additional lessons based on our whole-school topic of 'Our Wonderful World' and have learnt about physical and human features of Asia as well as finding out about Ramadan. The children put their creative skills to good use on Thursday afternoon as I entered the school into a 'Design a stamp' national competition created by the Royal Mail. It has to link to a hero during the pandemic. The children began discussing their ideas and then created a draft design. Eight lucky winners from across the UK will have their stamp design created as part of a set. More news on this to follow. Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Attendance Bear

Well done to Year 5 who had
99.7%
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	Oscar Bunn	Ella Fowler	George Barcham
Year 1	Sophia Seymour	Jenson Ayres	Jack Nobbs
Year 2	Isabelle Neville	Honey Allard	Emily Thoullass
Year 3	Trinity Beck	Josh Webb	Darla Youngs
Year 4	Jessica Lines	Orlaith Hebron	Sasha Muzembe
Year 5	Theo Orme	Jack Unsworth	Dylan Viner
Year 6	Ashley Ofori	Charlotte Ritchie	Ruby Cozens

Have a lovely weekend!

Chris Ashman