

Rackheath Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 1st July 2022



Passport Day – This week has ended with Passport Day, which is one of my favourite events we do in school. This is the first one since 2018, which has made it all the more special. As I write this the children have all safely reached their destinations after flying from Rackheath International in a plane piloted by Captain Edwards. A full report will follow next week.

Talent Show Report - Last Friday's Talent Show was a lot of fun and showcased some great talent across the school. The audience were treated to a show containing fantastic dancing, singing, acting, musicianship, comedy and magic. All together the judges saw 40 acts. They had a very tough judging job for both the EYFS / KS1 show and the KS2 show. Mrs Goddards report on the event is below:

“Rackheath’s DEFINITELY Got Talent 2022!! A massive well done to everyone who took part in the talent show. I was totally blown away with how brave, confident and talented everybody was when they stood up on the stage in front of the whole school. You should all be very proud of what you have achieved. Also a great big than you to my Year 6 councillors who hosted the event.

We had a diverse line up of singers, dancers, gymnasts, magicians, comedians, tap dancers, cheerleaders, footballers and musicians.

Our three judges, Simon Cowell (Mrs Cookson), David Walliams (Mr Palmer) and Alisha Dixon (Mrs Pilbrow) plus Mrs Cookson’s daughter Izzy had a very hard decision to make to choose our winners. I am glad I did not have their job!”

Mrs Goddard



EYFS/KS1

- 3rd “The Sunshine Girls” (Isla and Matilda Year 1) – Gymnastics
- 2nd Florence (Reception) – Gymnastics
- 1st William (Year 2) – Magic

KS2

- 3rd Isaac (Year 3)– Comedy
- 2nd Isabella (Year 6) – Singing
- 1st Cairo (Year 5) – Keyboard

Well done to everyone who took part. A big thank you to Mrs Goddard and the school council for organising it all.



Bombers Next Year – Bombers numbers for next year are looking good, which is great news. There are spaces available, especially on the new Thursday and Friday afternoon sessions. Hopefully the popularity of these two sessions will rise. Should you wish to have more than the 15 funded hours for your child you can pay for extra sessions. Please contact the Bombers if you are interested in either starting or taking up extra sessions.



Attendance Letter

In the next week I will be writing to all families where attendance has been below 90% this year. Normally, attendance under 90% is classed as persistent absence and would be a cause for concern. Given the year we have had, and the amount of Covid related absence, we know that the figures aren't a true reflection of a normal year's attendance. However, I think it is important to inform parents and offer the opportunity for parents to meet with school to discuss any underlying issues and concerns so that we can minimise any attendance worries before the start of next year.

Head for the Day

"Yesterday we were head for the day! The first thing we did was count and share out the passports for Passport Day. Then we did a learning walk. We looked around every classroom to see what everyone was doing. During this, we even gave out stickers to children who were working especially hard. When it was assembly, we helped Mr Cavender to give out certificates. After that, once our break had ended, we supervised the KS1 break. After that, we did a music survey, which Miss Hornagold had given us. This was where we took two people from each KS2 class who plays an instrument and interviewed them about their music lessons. After Lunch, we helped share out some play-time equipment to each class. Finally, as we couldn't find the stamp to stamp some books, we helped take down the stage.



We had a really good day. Plus, we also got squash and snacks."

Olivia and Theo H

Year 6 Leavers

On Wednesday I loved taking part in the traditional Year 6 water fight. Everyone had a fantastic time and got soaking wet in the process. As we head into the last few weeks of term there is lots happening for our Year 6 children:

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| Friday 8th July | Camp Out |
| Monday 18th July | Leaver's Social (3:15pm-4:15pm) more details to follow from Mr Edwards |
| Tues 19th/Weds 20th | The Leaver's Play (6.00pm) start |
| Friday 22nd July | Leaver's assembly – this is a long one! (9:30am - 11:30am) |

It will be lovely to hold all of these events without any restrictions this year!

Cluster Sports and Swimming Gala – Our last two sports events of the year are coming up soon. On Tuesday 12th July it is the Cluster Athletics for Years 3 to 6 at Broadland High School. A letter for children taking part will go out next week. Then On Monday 19th July eight Year 6 swimmers will take part in the Swimming Gala – again at Broadland.

Transition Morning – On Thursday 7th July classes will be taught for part of the morning by their new teachers from September. This is to give all the children the chance to spend some time getting to know their new adults. As part of the day our new Reception class will be in as well. They are coming in to school in three groups and spending an hour in Reception. The new parents are also coming for a coffee and a chat with the FORS.

Year 6 Broadland Transition Days – On Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th July it is the Broadland High Transition Day. Nearly all of our Year 6 children are joining Broadland in September and so will be attending Broadland for those two days.

Year 5 football - The Year 5 team are playing Poringland this Tuesday in a home game.

Non-school Uniform Day - On Friday 15th July there will be a non-school uniform day in support of the FORS fair the next day. The cost to take part in this will be £1.

National Don't Step on a Bee Day!

On Sunday 10th July it is National Don't Step on a Bee day! A day to celebrate our amazing pollinators and also learn about how we can protect them.

To celebrate, on Monday 11th July we have Paul Barrs, a member of the Norwich Bee Keeping Society to talk to us about bees. During the day, the children will take part in a whole school assembly where they will learn what it is like being a beekeeper. Then each class will get a 15 minute session with Paul to observe bees inside a viewing case and learn about the life of a bee. The viewing case is enclosed and there will be no free-flying bees. We're sure it will be a bee-riliant day!



Reception

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Reception had a very noisy music week! We looked at the Albert Hall as a famous landmark and we watched the Cbeebies prom 'Off to the Moon', which was held there. We then used the music to help inspire our writing in phonics, saying what instruments we could see, what the music sounded like and how it made us feel.

We also learned the song 'Big Bear Funk', which we sang and performed to. Then we used lots of different percussion instruments to play along to the pulse of the song and then follow a different rhythm at the end. The children did really well following along to their conductor (Mrs Petraglia)!

In maths we also looked at money this week and learned about all the different coins and how much they are worth. Next time they go to a shop, perhaps your child could try and pay for something using the correct coins.

We finished the week with Passport Day and all of Reception loved visiting different countries and said that they had a fantastic time.

Year 1

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This week in Year 1, we have started reading and re-writing the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. We are looking very closely at writing interesting sentences with correct punctuation and strong vocabulary choices.

In Maths, we have been looking at position and direction. We have practised directing and making whole, half, quarter and three-quarter turns. We used the Spheros and iPads to help us with this. We have looking at whether objects are above or below, and have been trying to remember our left and right! This has linked beautifully to our

Geography work on compass directions and locational language. We directed our friends around areas of the school and made simple maps to show where different things are.

As part of our whole-school topic, we found out about a famous landmark. We looked at the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. We found out some interesting facts, and tried to walk the 1665 steps it would take to get to the top! We were worn out after 100! We then chose to draw the Eiffel Tower, or make it with art straws, Lego or large building blocks.

On Friday, we were so excited to have Passport Day! We loved pretending to fly to a different country and do activities with children from all the other classes for the day. We found out lots of interesting things about our country, and really enjoyed the 'flight'!

Year 2

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This week has absolutely flown by and I find it hard to believe that we only have three more weeks until the Summer Holidays.

The children enjoyed a PE lesson with Mr Ashman on Monday, learnt about the life of Florence Nightingale with Mrs Bird on Wednesday and considered how families come in different shapes and sizes on Thursday with me. They have had the usual Spelling Zone and handwriting lessons plus our daily guided reading sessions.

In maths we have worked hard in an attempt to secure knowledge of quarter to and quarter past times. The children really do need to keep practising this thought or some will have forgotten before September! Yesterday the children enjoyed thinking of different things which they could do in a second, a minute and an hour.

In English we have been working on using adverbs in sentences. This has been great for developing vocabulary knowledge as we have worked out together the meaning of words such as irritatingly, wearily, suspiciously and regularly.

Today we had the most wonderful day travelling to various countries around the world in mixed year groups. The children learnt some facts about the country they flew to, tasted food, took part in art and craft activities and played games. Who would have known that our school hall could so easily turn into an airport or that it was possible to travel across the world and back in just a few hours!

Year 3

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We have had a fab week in Year 3. In maths, we have been learning lots of new vocabulary linked to properties of shape. We have been studying horizontal, vertical, symmetry, parallel and perpendicular. We went on a horizontal and vertical hunt around the school; did lots of sorting activities around parallel and perpendicular lines and used mirrors to find lines of symmetry in shapes. In English, we have started to write the introductions to our adventure stories and will be continuing with this next week.

In Science, we have had fun learning about the different types of teeth and their functions and on Thursday, we set up our own scientific enquiry to investigate how sugar affects tooth decay. We put hard-boiled eggs into four different types of liquid: coke, pineapple juice, milk and water and will be observing them over the next few days to see how they are affected.

Finally, we had our wonderful passport day, where all of the children had so much fun going to different countries around the world, learning about the different cultures, playing games, eating food and doing some fantastic pieces of artwork. I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and a well-deserved rest! Miss H 😊

Year 4

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Another week has flown by and we have once again packed loads in! The children were feeling a little jet lagged after their wonderful time in different countries today but it sounded like they had all had a great time.

Back in class, we have explored regular and irregular polygons in Maths this week and we have also investigated acute, right and obtuse angles. The children are working hard to master this.

In English, we have been creating story map pictures to help us to be able to write our own Greek Myths. We had a great time yesterday doing some storytelling and I'm excited to get story writing next week.

Year 5

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It has been a much quieter and calmer week in year 5 now that the Rio Carnival has finished!

In maths, we have been looking at BIDMAS – the order in which calculations are solved. Try these ones out... you solve them and then ask your child to answer them... are they the same answers?

$$3 + 5 \times 3$$

$$3 \times (3 + 4) \times 2$$

In English, we have finished our writing based on the Alma clip and I must say...they are brilliant! We are going to write them up next week for them to bring them home so you will get a chance to read their work.

In topic, we have been looking at holidays in Brazil and have been writing postcards home based on our trip. It has helped us to get an understanding of life in Brazil.

In RSHE, we have been looking at Relationships, thinking about healthy and unhealthy ones. We looked at some situations and talked about how we could handle them.

Finally, we were treated to a visit from Mr Grimmer. The children were incredibly excited by this! I am pleased to say that he has completed his training and has a job close to his home by the coast – he will have a Y5 class and he is very excited.

Year 6

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What a brilliant week it has been! I couldn't start this paragraph without mentioning Wednesday's water fight. I won't give too much away as it will feature in our Leavers' DVD, but everyone had an amazing time - Mr Ashman and I did as well because we managed to throw a 'few' buckets of water over the children! Ms Holmes took some incredible photos which were shared with the class this week and a big thank you also needs to go to Mr Gardner for giving up his time to film it all.



In Maths activities this week, we recapped a range of arithmetic skills including short-cuts to get to answers mentally and then moved on to solving a range of investigations. In Literacy, we continued our poetry unit linked to one of my favourite poems - 'Jabberwocky' by Lewis Carroll. Although it's classed as a nonsense poem because lots of the words are made up, the children were still able to understand what it's about! They underlined the words they thought were adjectives, adverbs, verbs and nouns and then produced a glossary with their own definitions. Their most recent lesson was to plan their own nonsense poem inspired by the Jabberwocky which they will finish writing them next week.



In French lessons, we started learning about parts of the body and then simple phrases, in RSHE we had our sixth lesson, which was linked to sexuality as well as recapping changes to the body for both boys and girls during puberty. The children had another swimming lesson on Thursday too. Year 6 had a fun end to the week as they, along with the whole school, took part in a Passport Day. I was fortunate to be the pilot and enjoyed taking everyone to a variety of destinations around the world. The children were able to retain lots of interesting facts about traditions, foods and cultures from the places they visited.

Well done to Year 5 who had the highest attendance last week with:

98%

Attendance Bear will spend next week with them!

Attendance Bear
Attendance Bear

Have a good weekend!