

Rackheath Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 15th July 2022



Reports – School reports have gone out today. The reports include an attendance sheet along with results from any national assessments taken this year. A letter covering all of these assessments and what the results show is also included in the report. All the children can be proud of what they have achieved this year. Please do contact the school if you would like anything clarified from the report.

SATS Results

For the first time since 2019 children in Year 1, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 took part in national assessments. Children in Year 1, 2 and 4 all performed very well in their different tests. In Year 6 we have results for the school alongside the national averages.

- In maths 88% of our children reached the expected standard compared to 71% nationally
- In reading 88% of our children reached the expected standard compared to 74% nationally
- In grammar, punctuation and spelling 81% of our children reached the expected standard compared to 72% nationally
- In writing 78% of our children reached the expected standard compared to 69% nationally
- 72% of our children reached the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to 59% nationally.

Whatever their results all of our children can be proud of what they have achieved and the progress they have made, especially considering the unique challenges they have faced over the last few years. This year, more than ever, I believe the results reflect the hard work of all in the school community – parents, staff and above all the children – to limit the impact of the last few years on learning. A special mention to Mr Edwards and Ms Holmes for all their hard work in Year 6.

Clubs update - There are no school clubs next week other than after school club.

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.

Camp Out

On Friday the 8th the year 6 class had their camp out on the school field. After putting up the tents, we could then start the fun! A little while later the class played a big football match and even Mr Ashman and Mr Edwards joined in (we even discovered their amazing skills on the ball)!

After the game finished it was time for the tug of war. As the boys had 18, people and the girls had 12 we had to split the boys into two teams. The girls won the first two rounds but when the teams were even, the boys took the victory! It finished 2-1 to the girls but the boys acted as if they won the World Cup.

Around half an hour later we had a buffet of all kinds of different foods like Doritos, pizza, Pringles and scotch eggs. After eating, most of the boys went back to football and the girls danced to music on the playground. Joseph and Harry brought their lightsabres and had a mini battle in the hall. They turned them on so the lightsabres glowed in the dark. After a long fight, Joseph came out on top.

At 10:30pm it was time to play midnight manhunt. We split ourselves into five teams of five or six. Group 1 counted first while the rest of us went to hide. Every team had a go at counting before we played a different kind of midnight manhunt where instead of being tagged you just had to be found. Then because of our play, there is a song called find the boy where we are looking for Jim (Joseph) and Joseph had to go and hide for two minutes while 30 people went looking for him. Unfortunately, he did not stay hidden for the two minutes and was found after around 1½ minutes.

About an hour later, it was time to settle down and go to sleep. In the middle of the night, we heard weird noises but do not worry Mr Ashman was on the case. In the morning, everyone was tired and at 8:00am, everybody packed up and went home. A really big thank you to Mr Edwards, Ms Holmes, Mrs Pilbrow and Mr Ashman for organising the event and staying all night and not getting much sleep!

By Ellie Trabelsi and Joseph Tandy



KS2 Cluster Sports

On Tuesday we took part in Cluster Athletics at Broadland. On a very hot day the team performed extremely well. As the organiser of the event it was lovely to see all the schools cheering for each other following an enforced three year break. 32 children from Years 3 to 6 represented the school in different events; 100 metres, 200 metres, 400 metres, ball throw, long jump and relay. In the end we came second overall, narrowly losing out on winning the cluster athletics trophy with Coltishall finishing just ahead of us. There were lots of great performances across the team. The following children won their events and deserve a special mention:

- 100m Year 5 and 6 boys – Joe B and Joseph T
- 100m Year 5 and 6 girls – Maisie H
- 200m Year 5 and 6 boys – Lennon B and Charlie C
- 200m year and 6 girls – Olivia H

- 400m Year 3 and 4 girls – Isabel C
- 4 X 100m Relay Year 5 and 6 boys – Jack B, Joe B, Lennon B, Joseph T
- Year 5 and 6 girls long jump – Ellie T
- Year 5 and 6 boys ball throw – Kody A
- Year 5 and 6 girls ball throw – Ava W

Thank you to Ms Holmes for scoring the event and to Mrs Goddard, Mrs Milligan and Mr Palmer who took the team. Thanks also to the Bakers for lending us their gazebo!



National Don't Step on a Bee Day!

On Monday, we were pleased to welcome Paul Barrs, from the Norwich Beekeeper's Society, in to school to talk to us about bees!

Paul spoke to the whole school about bees, their habitats and why they are endangered. We then got to spend some time with his beehive which we were all fascinated by!

We also enjoyed tasting some honey made by the bees and we learnt lots of amazing facts about them.

Some of the children finished their day by going on a bee hunt around the school and we were all surprised to find a lovely selection of mining bees. We watched them dig and hunt for a very long while!



Lunches next year – New for 2022-23 - The school kitchen are planning to introduce a packed lunch option to go alongside the hot lunch options. Details to follow soon. This will likely become an option from Week 2 of the autumn term!

Head for the Day

This Wednesday Ellie Trabelsi and Joseph Tandy were heads for the day. We arrived at school at 8:25am ready to start the day as a headteacher. The first thing the heads did was open the gates and ring the bell. After that, we went around the classes with stickers to give out to people who were working really well. For example, Landon in reception was answering his red words really quickly. Then Mr Tandy and Miss Trabelsi helped Mr Ashman in assembly by picking songs to sing. Next, we went out for KS1 and KS2 break time duty. After that, we completed the camp out report and stamped some new books until it was lunch. After lunch we then carried on stamping some more books. We then went on to do the survey about school lunches where the heads went to every class and asked for two people to answer the questions. To end the day, we wrote this report.



It was a great day and we really enjoyed it.



It is hard to believe that next week is the last one of term. The main events link to our Year 6 leavers:

- Year 6 leavers social Monday 3:15 to 4:15
- Leavers play on Tuesday and Wednesday (ably assisted by Year 5). The play starts at 6pm. Year 6 should arrive by 5:30 and the Year 5 singers for 5:45
- Leaver's assembly starting at 9:30 – time to say good bye and good luck!

We also have the now traditional end of year water fight for Reception and Year 1 taking place on Wednesday. Get ready guys – I am going to soak you all!!!



Reception

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This week the children have enjoyed a visit from a beekeeper and they enjoyed looking at the hive and learning all about the honey-making process. We also had a fantastic visit from some tortoises and even got to hold some of them!

We have also been learning about the animals that we will see on our zoo visit next week, including tigers, giraffes, lemurs and penguins! The children have loved making observational drawings and paintings of the animals as well.

We have continued to write sentences about zoo animals in phonics and enjoy lots of varied activities in maths – including 2D shapes, money, addition and subtraction.

Year 1

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This week, we finished writing our Jack and the Beanstalk books! We are so pleased with how well we have written them. We then designed and made a cover for our book, with illustrations and blurb on the back.

We have continued learning about time in Maths, and have moved on to telling the time to the hour and half past. We then looked at how long it takes us to do different things, like long does it take us to write our names 3 times, how many star jumps can we do in 1 minute? Maybe you could try timing things at home.

We carried on with our Charanga music sessions this week. We have added glockenspiels to our rapping and singing. Sometimes we have to play the note 'c' on every fourth beat, and sometimes we improvise using 'c' and 'd'.

The beekeeper visit on Monday was a highlight. We found it really interesting and enjoyed seeing the hive up close. One of the facts we remembered was that most bees are female! Two children got to try the beekeeper suit, and we could all try on his gloves. We found out how honey is made and where the babies grow into cocoons then nibble their way out when they are ready.

We harvested our potatoes, broad beans and lettuces this week. We really enjoyed eating them as part of our snack on Wednesday - Yum!



Year 2

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We started our week with an assembly led by a local beekeeper called Paul. Later in the day, we enjoyed looking at the 6000 honeybees he brought with him, trying on his beekeepers outfit and tasting some honey. On Tuesday, we also had an animal themed day with a visit from William's Nanny and three of her tortoises.

In English this week the children have enjoyed using activities such as hangman and another one where they have to put words in alphabetical order. We have also continued to read the story of The Secret Sky Garden, predicting what might happen next and thinking about what we like and dislike about the story as well as any questions we have. In maths we have continued to practise times tables and also learnt about capacity.

This week the children have also learn about sun and sea safety. They designed a safety poster that hopefully they have brought home and shared. Yesterday and today we have enjoyed learning a little about Ghana. The children especially enjoyed joining in a song using claves to keep the beat as well as our adaptation of a game called Pilolo where some of the children hid cubes around the field and the others found them.



Year 3

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In English this week, we have been finishing off our 'Taking Flight' adventure stories. The children have worked hard to make sure they have been including all of the writing and grammar techniques that we have learnt this year and have done a super job of writing up their stories in their neatest, joined up handwriting. In maths, the children have been doing some assessments and have really impressed me with their knowledge of fractions, counting in 50s and with how much they have retained since the start of Year 3.

We have also been having some brilliant Science lessons on electricity. The children have loved investigating with wires, crocodile clips, motors, bulbs and batteries to make an incomplete and complete circuit. They also enjoyed our visit on Monday from Paul the Beekeeper, we learnt so many interesting facts about bees and how we need to help protect them.

Ready for our last week of term, could children please bring in a named carrier bag and return any school books (library or levelled books). I cannot believe next week will be our last week-where has this year gone. Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the school fair!



Year 4

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This week started with our 'Bee Day!' which the children absolutely loved. Despite the heat, they were so eager and they have spent the whole week telling me loads of amazing facts about bees. For instance, did you know that bees direct their bee friends to tasty flowers by pointing their abdomens in the direction they need to fly? The girls also really appreciated learning that male bees (the drones) get evicted in the winter as they eat all the honey and don't do any work!

The rest of this week has been about showing off our Year 4 achievements. The children have been diligently working on their Greek myths, I feel like there is just no stopping them!

We have also completed two maths test with one more to go next week.

We have finished our week by designing our own science experiments testing the impact of the sugar content of drinks on the enamel on an egg!

Next week is our last one together- but we've got loads of fun things planned.

Have a great weekend everyone- stay safe in the sun!

Year 5

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One word to describe this week – sweaty! We finally finished our Maths Mini-Olympics unit based on averages. The final events were the Tiddlywinks Archery and Cotton Wool Hammer throw. After each event, children in 1st, 2nd and 3rd place were awarded 10, 7 and 5 points and this was for best score / distance or best average. I am pleased to say that after all of the events the champions are:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 st Place | Natalia with 42 points |
| 2 nd Place | Fred with 25 points |
| 3 rd Place | Noah with 24 points |

I have been running these Olympics for several years and Natalia's winning total of 42 points was actually the highest I have ever had!

We then finished the week with maths assessments; these have been a joy to mark as the class have made amazing progress.

In Literacy, we have been writing our final piece based on suspense writing. These children have needed to bring together all of the skills that we have learnt over the past 3 weeks – I am pleased to say that they have been a joy to read!

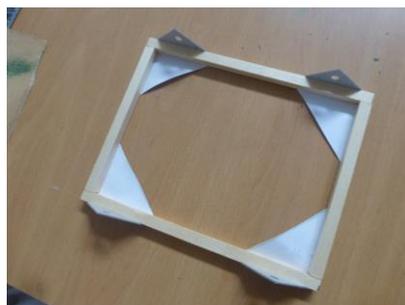
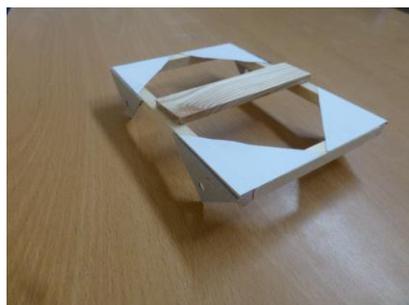
In RSHE, we have looked at our rights and responsibilities whilst online. We looked at sharing personal information and images. The activity we did was getting the children to show friends a photo that they had drawn, but some of those friends then shared the photo without permission – the children were all surprised at how quickly the images were shared around the class.

We also looked at air resistance in science – the children had to design an experiment that would prove that air resistance is real; it was a VERY scientific process (involving dropping paper to the floor!)

Year 6

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Like always, it's been an extremely busy week in Year 6 and it is hard to believe there's only five more school days left! On Monday, we had a special visitor in school – Paul who is a beekeeper. He brought in approximately 7,000 bees (including the Queen bee) as part of 'Don't step on a Bee day'. We learnt lots of interesting facts both in a morning assembly and in our workshop with him. In Literacy this week, the children planned and wrote their Leavers Speeches. I will put these into a booklet for each child to take home on their last day. As we have two dress rehearsals and two evening performances of Treasure Island next week, a lot of the last few days has focused on preparation for the play! The children have been superb with knowing their lines and remembering to say them with expression. Recently we've focused on where to stand on stage, the actions and using props effectively. In addition to finishing off a variety of tasks this week, the children have started a car making D.T project. The cars will be put to the test next week to link to air resistance and friction! They've all been very accurate in their measuring and cutting and have worked brilliantly in pairs. On Thursday we had our final swimming session and towards the end of the week, we completed booklets for Treasure Island. We voted for the best one and this copy will be given to parents and family members during Tuesday and Wednesday's evening performances. A massive well done needs to go to all of the children who attended the cluster athletics tournament – they came 2nd and performed brilliantly. Also, well done to Ellie and Joseph (or should I say Miss Trabelsi and Mr Tandy) for being excellent Head Teachers for the day earlier this week. Finally, the children will receive their reports and SATs results today. I'm sure this will be mentioned in today's newsletter, but the Year 6s have performed incredibly well and should be proud of their achievements. It is thoroughly deserved for all of their hard work since the beginning of the school year.



Well done to Year 1 who had the highest attendance last week with:

98%

Attendance Bear will spend next week with them!

Attendance Bear
Attendance Bear

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

| | STARS, ANGELS AND DIAMONDS |
|-----------|---|
| Reception | Elsie, Harley, Mia |
| Year 1 | George, Ava, Parker |
| Year 2 | Vinnie Johns, Darcy High, All of Year 2 |
| Year 3 | Rachel, Connor, All of Year 3 |
| Year 4 | Alex, Olive, Jayden |
| Year 5 | Olivia, Sasha, All of Year 5 |
| Year 6 | Harry S, Joseph T, All of Year 6 |