

Rackheath Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 16th September 2022

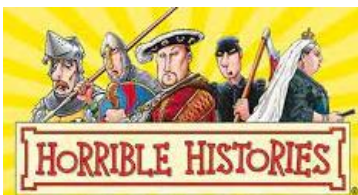
It has been an eventful week in school with lots of elements of our curriculum re-starting. It has been great to see various groups of children enjoying different after school clubs. Ukulele lessons re-started for Year 4, 5 and 6 as well as our peripatetic music lessons and Rockheath Orchestra. Mrs Zhao, our new Mandarin teacher, also started in Year 5 and 6 on Tuesday as did Chance to Shine Cricket with Kevin for Years 1, 2, 3 and 4.



Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Edwards

Last Saturday was a joyous day in the Edwards household, as they celebrated the birth of the first child, Freddie. Everyone at the school passes on our congratulations and we look forward to meeting Freddie soon. We have been lucky that Mrs Cavender has been able to teach Year 6 this week and will continue to do so next week. A big thank you to her as well as Ms Holmes and Mrs Howes for their super work in Year 6 this week. Mr Edwards will be back in school on Tuesday 27th September.

Reception Class 2022-23 – It has been great to see how well the new Reception class have gelled together and settled into the school, culminating in their first full day today. In the last few days the children have met their Year 6 buddies. Watching the relationships develop between the two classes is always a highlight of the year and already you can see firm friendships being made. I have been hugely impressed with the way the Year 6 children have taken to the role, they do such a great job helping the Reception class settle into the school. Over the last few days it has been lovely to see both classes eating lunch together too. Thanks also to the Reception Team for all their hard work in making the children's first two weeks so successful.



Horrible Histories Under Attack Day - On the last day of half term, Friday 21st October, we will be holding a special curriculum day all about different periods in history when the country was under attack. In this case by the "Slimy Saxons," "Vicious Vikings," and "Rotten Romans!" More details to follow but it promises to be lots of fun!

Parent Cafes - Our first cafes of the year take place over the next two weeks. Year 3 and 4 taking place first next week. As usual they will run from 9am until 10am. The focus for these cafes is to give you the opportunity to take part in some exciting learning whilst seeing the children in their new year groups with their new teachers. Before the café parents can wait in the hall before being collected and taken to the classroom. The only exception being a Tuesday café when the hall is in use for ukulele. In this case Year 2 parents can wait in the entrance hall.

- Wednesday 21st September Year 3
- Friday 23rd September Year 4
- Tuesday 27th September Year 2
- Wednesday 28th September Year 1
- Friday 30th September Year 5

Reception's Café will focus on Phonics and will take place on Thursday 6th October to give the children more chance to settle in and for phonics lessons to be embedded. The Café will be split in two with time in class and then a parent session on early reading led by Mrs Petraglia.

The date for the Year 6 Café will be arranged when Mr Edwards returns from paternity leave.

Clubs

After
School
Activities

This year we are tightening up our procedures linked to the start and end of clubs. We are doing this to ensure all our children are safe.

Firstly, we ask that if your child is not attending a club that they are signed up for please do let the office know so they can mark this on the register. This will mean that staff running the clubs know why someone down to attend the club isn't there.

Secondly, we are changing what happens when we postpone a club on the day. We are doing this mainly for safety reasons, to make sure children aren't going home when not expected. If a club is postponed during the day, for example due to bad weather, we will still let you know but will plan for all the children to stay in school until the clubs scheduled end.

Children can obviously go at 3pm if this is more convenient but we would ask that you let the office know that you will be there to pick up or in the case of those in Year 5 or 6 that are allowed to that they can walk home alone. This is especially important for Year 5 and 6 children who walk home by themselves. Without permission from parents we wouldn't let them leave before the scheduled end time of the club. This change only applies to clubs postponed on the day – not those where a longer notice period has been given.

School Lunches – From Monday 12th September the children have had the choice of ordering a school packed lunch in addition to the options already available of a hot dinner or a jacket potato. Please do remember to fill the forms out that are in the entrance hall if your child is having a packed lunch or a jacket potato.



Church car park – As we understand the church car park should be open for parents to park their cars from Tuesday 20th September. We will let you know if this changes.

Parent's Evening – Thank you to everyone who has completed the short survey about parent's evening. There are still a few more days to register your view following this link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=IOM_8mowLU-yDq7UATSAsWs_NqsaWQIOnPFuaytvURtUQ1JTVkFZM0cwWjIHVjNXMEFENVROV1INWS4u



Parents E-Safety Briefing Date for Your Diary

A reminder that all Broadland Cluster children from Year 1 upwards are taking part in an E-Safety Day at Broadland High School on the 22nd and 23rd September. Thursday 22nd is the primary school day. The trainers are the "Two Johns" who have worked very successfully with the Broadland Schools before. As well as working with the children, the staff will be attending a briefing and there is also a parent event. This will be held on Thursday 22nd September at Broadland High School from 7pm - 8:30pm. This comes highly recommended by parents who have attended in the past and I would urge as many of you as possible to attend. A letter with more information was sent out yesterday. Please do complete and return the slip attached to the letter.

Diary Dates for 2022 – 2023



Term Dates

UNDER ATTACK!

Autumn 1 - Tuesday 6th September until Friday 21st October

Autumn 2 - Monday 31st October until Friday 16th December

HERE COMES THE SUN

Spring 1 - Wednesday 4th January until Friday 10th February

Spring 2 - Monday 20th February until Friday 31st March

PLANET PROTECTORS!

Summer 1 - Tuesday 18th April until Friday 26th May

Summer 2 - Monday 5th June until Friday 21st July

Class Show and Tell - Autumn Term

Tuesday 11th October Year 4

Thursday 13th October Year 5

Thursday 20th October Year 6

Tuesday 8th November Year 3

Thursday 10th November Year 2

Tuesday 15th November Year 1

Thursday 17th November Reception

These will take place at 2.30pm in the school hall. There will be another round of class assemblies in the summer term.

Parent Lunch weeks

These are taking place over 3 weeks (14th, 21st and 28th November)

Parent's Evening

The week of the 17th October

Christmas

Date TBC – Christmas Fayre

Monday 12th December am – Reception Dress Rehearsal Year 1/2 dress rehearsal pm

Date TBC – KS2 Performance at 6.00 with the Salvation Army!

Tuesday 13th December Year 1/2 performance am Reception Performance pm

Wednesday 14th December – Reception performance am Year 1/ 2 Performance pm

Thursday 15th December – Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day

Year 6

Week 8th May – SATS Week

Friday 12th May – Post SATS treat

Friday 7th July Camp out

Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th July – 6.00 End of term performances

Thursday 20th July – Leavers Assembly Awards

Friday 21st July - Leavers Assembly



Bombers

All of the Bombers team would like to say welcome back after the summer break. Our returning children have come back like they have never been away and all our new little ones have settled amazingly well and we are pleased so say seem really happy.

We have focused on 'Harvest' and farm activities alongside making flags today in red, white and blue. We have used lots of action songs, music and rhymes to keep us busy. Our overall theme this half term is 'All About Me' in keeping with reception class. The children are making handprint for us to display in the room and there will be lots more fun to come as the weeks move on.

Reception

A report from Reception will appear next week.

Year 1

We have all had a fabulous start to Year 1! Well done to all the children for coming in happily, working hard and playing beautifully together.

We enjoyed getting to know our new classroom better, and finding out about our new routines. We have spent lots of time playing and exploring all our new toys and our outside area.

In Phonics, we have started practising two of our sounds from last year, 'ay' and 'ee'. We also started Guided Reading this week and have sent the children home with books to practise. Please remember to keep reading *to* your children as well.

We have been practising counting forwards and backwards and writing our numbers in Maths. In English last week, we read the book, 'The Colour Monster' by Anna Llenas. We talked about how we have been feeling each day and looked in more detail at some of our emotions. This week, we have been looking at Michael Rosen and his books and poetry. We acted out 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', and listened to 'The Bear in the Cave', 'Chocolate Cake' and 'Little Rabbit Foo Foo', trying to spot good word choices and talking about the parts we liked best and why.

To start our new whole-school topic, 'Under Attack!' we talked about Kings and Queens. Last week, we found out what we could remember about Queen Elizabeth II and the Platinum Jubilee. Following the sad news of her death, we talked about what is happening next and King Charles III. We then looked back in history to Queen Elizabeth I and Queen Victoria.

Well done for such a great start to Year 1 everyone!

Year 2

We have had a very busy week this week as children have settled in to the routine of Year 2. A new year is never easy and by today there were lots of weary children. They have been fabulous though, working hard and learning to listen carefully to both the adults in the room and to each other!

In math's we have continued our work consolidating understanding of place value and partitioning 2-digit numbers into tens and ones. We have also been counting forwards and backwards to 100, counting in 10s, 2s and 5s. These are all skills which you can practice at home too.

In English we have been looking at the Oliver Jeffer's story Stuck. The children have recalled events in the story and written them in their own words, as well as using illustrations to write questions and statements. We have also revisited the diagraphs sh, ch, th, ng and nk in phonics lessons.

The children have loved learning about Queen Elizabeth 1 and Queen Victoria. There are some fabulous portraits of Queen Elizabeth which the children have drawn on our classroom wall. The children have also all read to Mrs Crook and have enjoyed three PE lessons, one with Mr Ashman, one with Kevin our cricket coach and another with Mr Palmer.

Year 3

What a wonderful first full week of school we have had in Year 3! I have been so impressed with how all of the children have come in, settled into their new class and have risen to the expectation of being in Key Stage 2. They did some super work in maths, looking at the place value of 3-digit numbers and in English have been getting stuck into our new book for this half term, 'Escape from Pompeii'. The children have impressed me with their understanding of verbs, adjectives and adverbs and have learnt how to punctuate direct speech using inverted commas. They have done some super drama work and freeze frames of scenes from our book and their reading during our whole class guided reading sessions has blown me away.

We had a great cricket session with Kevin on Tuesday and have spent our other afternoons learning about the Romans. We have learnt about where, when and how the Roman Empire was formed and about their incredible army which made them so powerful. The children have also told me that they have been listening to our new favourite song from Horrible Histories a lot at home-so apologies for that!

I hope you have a relaxing and restful weekend and I look forward to seeing you all at our 'Welcome to Year 3' curiosity café next Wednesday. Miss Hornagold 😊



Year 4

Year 4 have had an amazing week with lots of great learning. We have been really focussing on getting used to our class routines and the children have been working hard on their class target of 'Being ready to listen and learn as soon as an adult asks for their attention.' This was tricky at the start of the week but we are getting better and better each day! I am so proud of them!

In Maths, we have been learning all about place value and the children have really enjoyed looking at Roman Numerals. Today we have looked at our times tables targets so the children each know which is their next target!

In English, we have been looking at what it would be like to be a Roman gladiator. Today the class have written their own diary entries about the day before battle! Next week, we will be writing instructions on how to be a gladiator!

Please don't forget to join us on Friday for our first Year 4 café where we will be discussing our class routines and sharing ideas on how to practise times tables!

We are currently on the lookout for some parent volunteers who may be able to give some time to hear readers or practise times tables. If you may be able to help, please let me know!

Year 5

It has been a brilliant first two weeks with this new class – they might be loud but they are very keen! In literacy we have started our unit based on a book by Betsie Byers called *The Midnight Fox...* it is one of my favourite books. One of the highlights so far has been our freeze frame work (see pictures below) and next week we will be trying out some cooking based on the book. In maths, we have been looking at place value by trying to read large numbers and rounding them – Olive has been excellent at reading these for us!

In topic we have started by looking at Anglo Saxons by discussing why they ended up here and where they came from – we used drama to help show this! We also looked at a time line of British history – I was pleased to see that the children knew lots of the eras that we talked about.

We also had the new Reading Journals sent out this week - we have had a look at them today to see how they are being used and it is great to see so many brilliant comments in there. From next week, they will be checked and marked every Friday so please ensure they have been sent in. Today we had 18 out of 30 books in so we will try to beat that next week.

Lots of people have been asking about homework. In year 5, we don't have homework books (even though I put that on the homework sheet – sorry!). Instead, the children complete them on paper and then handed in with names on. We have loads of paper and folders for the children if they need them.



Year 6

A report from Year 6 will appear next week.

**Well done to Reception and Year 3
who had **100%**
attendance last week. Attendance
Bear will spend next week with them.**

Attendance Bear
Attendance Bear

It has been a week full of emotion across the country as we pay our respects to Queen Elizabeth. I hope everyone has a peaceful weekend. We will see you all back in school on Tuesday.

Best Wishes

Chris Ashman