

# Rackheath Primary School

## Newsletter

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022



### House Captain Elections

Last Friday each house voted for their new House Captains. Year 6's from each house put themselves forward for election and then the children voted for their house captains. This year I was particularly struck by the fact that all the children would have made fantastic house captains. The voting was very close but, in the end, the following children were chosen. I am sure they will do a fantastic job.

Hickling (Green)	Jack and Olivia H
Oulton (Yellow)	Lucca and Natalia
Barton (Blue)	Noah and Katy
Ranworth (Red)	Ralph and Maisie



**Online E-safety** – It is a few weeks since the 'Two Johns' E-Safety Workshop and Parent Meeting. The Two Johns have a Facebook page (search EST E-Safety Training) and also a website <https://esafetytraining.org/resources/> with lots of useful information for parents.

Their site is well worth a look as are the following websites: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/> and <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

We have a new menu starting after half term. A letter with the new menu was sent home on Thursday and also sent via Ping. The letter also includes information about the system we are putting in place to simplify the ordering of lunches. We are asking parents to look at the menu with your children and then decide when the children will have either a school packed lunch or jacket potato across the 3-week rotation of lunches. This means that they can be pre-ordered in the registers.



**Falconry Day** – I'm really pleased to say that at the moment our Falconry Day is going ahead next Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October. Parents are able to join us for the flying display which will start at 2:15pm.

## Pupil Survey 2022

Year 1 to 6 took part in a pupil survey last week. The results have been collated and are summarised below:

- 90% enjoy school most or all of the time
- 83% think playground behaviour is always or nearly always excellent
- 90% say that the children in the school are always or nearly always kind and caring
- 98% say they know what to do if being bullied
- 92% say that bullying is dealt with well most or all of the time
- 96% agree or strongly agree there are adults to help them if worried
- 98% agree or strongly agree that the school helps them to look after their emotional and mental health
- 99% agree or strongly agree we help them stay safe online

We are pleased with what the children are saying about the school. We do have some actions from the surveys for each class to follow up. We are going to explore with the children any issues raised around the playground. As the weather changes the sheer number of children on the playground at times can occasionally cause problems so we want to look at how we can alleviate any issues linked to overcrowding.



**Parents Evening** – These are taking place next Tuesday and Wednesday. The late day being Wednesday 19th. The vast majority of parents have already signed up, there are still spaces to book up via SchoolPing. We look forward to welcoming you into the school for the first face-to-face meetings since 2019. Should anyone like to catch up with me either visit the office to make an appointment or just ask to speak to me on the day.

### FOR\$ Christmas Project

A reminder regarding the Christmas project we recently informed you about:

- Orders need to be placed online using a special code before the 17<sup>th</sup> October.
- All completed forms with the design attached need to be returned to school ready for collection. Designs and forms need to be returned by Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October at the very latest, to ensure that everything is ready in time for collection. Any orders in later may not be ready in time for Christmas.



### School Photographs

Individual and sibling photographs were taken on Tuesday this week. The children were given their proofs to take home on the day. Any orders need to be made online and information regarding this was on the proofs.



Year 6 held their café on Monday. It was another very well attended session. Mr Edwards shared some information linked to the imminent Aylmerton residential and shared some fun maths games.

### **Bikeability**

*"This week you will probably have seen different groups of Year 5 and 6 children out in the village practicing their cycling skills. The children have been working with the Bikeability organisation on their Level 2 cycling skills which are linked to riding safely on the road. We are very pleased to say that all 26 children have passed their Level 2, something they should all be very proud of. They will receive a Level 2 badge and a certificate detailing how they got on.*

*However, the thing that has impressed me the most is the praise that the two instructors gave about our children. They were described as being some of the best children that they have ever worked with in terms of how polite and respectful they are - the two instructors couldn't have been more impressed with them!*

*Well done to you all!"*

Mr C



**Horrible History Lunch** – A ping has been sent out this afternoon regarding the changes to the menu on Thursday and Friday as there will be a special Horrible History Lunch.

### **Class Assemblies**

Year 4 kicked off our class assemblies this year with a fantastic assembly all about Roman times (with some excellent conversational French thrown in!). It was lovely to watch the children present information about their learning so enthusiastically. It was also great to see many parents and other family members in attendance.

Year 5's assembly is next on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October with the other dates falling after half term:

- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – Year 6
- Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November – Year 3
- Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Year 2
- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Year 1
- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Reception

All assemblies start at 2:30pm and parents will come in through the main gates into the hall. The gates will be opened from around 2:25pm.



## **FORS NEWS**

As previously advertised FORS are holding a Halloween themed bake sale on the playground on Thursday 20 October. Items will be available to purchase from 50p after school.

Please bring any donations to the school office by Thursday morning. No nuts please and please provide a list of ingredients for any home baked items.

Many thanks for your ongoing support FORS



## **Bombers Pre-School**

We have been having fun with messy play. The children have enjoyed more making in flour, shower foam and exploring cornflour. There has been lots of dancing to the "Wiggles" CD and playing 'Pirate Pairs' and other PSE games, sharing and taking turns with the use of our sand timers.

## **Reception**

In Reception this week we have focused on learning the story of The Little Red Hen and the children are now almost able to re-tell it by heart! We learnt about the ingredients The Little Red Hen needed to make bread and then we made our own bread rolls by kneading the dough carefully and baking them. The children couldn't wait to take them home and eat them!

The children continue to make good strides forward in phonics and thank you again to all the parents who faithfully practice the sounds together each week – it makes such a difference to the children's learning! We are also continuing to go over number recognition and formation.

## **Year 1**

In Year 1 this week, we had a Christmassy afternoon! We listened to Christmas music as we painted the design for our Christmas card for FORS. We all tried our best to do it independently, and we are very proud of our designs.

In Phonics, we have started to learn the new sound, 'ea' (cup of tea). We already knew an 'ee' sound, 'ee what can you see!' We tried hard to remember when we needed to use which sound by saying 'same sound, different appearance'. Every child now has a sound pot so please help your child to practise these at home. We will add to them each week. Our new sound is even a password to get through the doors to our classroom! We have been enjoying the challenge of getting on Gold by using our writing and reading challenge area!

In Maths, we have been adding! We reminded ourselves of how to write number sentences with + and =. We used part-whole models to show adding two parts to make a whole, and used lots of practical resources like toys and Numicon to help us. We also continued with Little Red Riding Hood this week. We thought about whether she should walk on her own through the forest, wrote letters from other characters thanking Red Riding Hood when she helps them, acted out scenes from the story and wrote sentences with 'and'.

We started the Geography part of our Under Attack unit by learning about the four counties of the UK. We looked closely at Northern Ireland and Scotland this week.



## **Year 2**

Year 2 have had a busy week again. Last week the children designed their Christmas cards and this week we looked at the Holy Family (Mary, Joseph and Jesus). We used the figures from our Nativity Scene to talk through the story

and then discussed questions such as who is the most important character in the Christmas story. Next time we have an RE lesson we will make a Christingle and learn about the significance of each item in it.

In maths the children have compared and ordered 2-digit numbers before moving on to counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. Please can you help your child with their learning by counting with them forwards and backwards in 2s, 5s and 10s at home.

In English we have looked at some more poems. The children have performed poems, illustrated poems and written their own. We also had a lesson on the use of apostrophes in contracted words such as he's, she's, didn't and don't.

The children have learnt a little about the Countries and flags of the UK in topic and enjoyed a PE lesson with Mr Ashman, and a music lesson with me.

Thank you to everyone who has sent a large piece of cardboard in. There is still time if you haven't as we will make shields during our Horrible History Day next Friday.

### Year 3

What a fun week we have had in year 3! In English, we started our instructions unit linked to our history topic the Romans. We have been learning about how the Romans made roads in Britain and then had a go at making our own Roman road made out of biscuits, custard and chocolatey sweets! We had lots of fun following the instructions and getting to eat them afterwards 😊



In maths, we have been continuing our addition and subtraction unit. We had a Sumdog lesson yesterday, so all of the children should know how to access and use it. If you do not have your child's logins, please let me know and I can get some more printed off, as Sumdog is a really fun way to help your child practise their maths at home.

Finally, we have been learning some more about Boudicca's rebellion and the impact the Romans had on Britain when they invaded. We had a wonderful lesson yesterday, looking at and studying Roman artefacts that a local archaeologist had found in Acle, Norfolk. The children all enjoyed being able to see and hold some of the artefacts that had been found and we had some great discussions about what we could find out about Roman Britain.

### Year 4

Year 4 have had another spectacular week this week with loads packed in!

We were super proud to show our amazing learning in our assembly on Tuesday. Thank so much to all of the adults who attended to support us. The children love having people from home come into school to listen to their learning!

In Maths, the children have been amazing this week. We have been working on our column addition for maths and they are feeling really proud of their achievements- rightly so!

In English, we have begun a poetry unit looking at free verse poetry that explains life as a Roman soldier. I'm excited to get our own poems written next week!

### Year 5

It has been a rather disrupted week for us in year 5 as we have had so many children out at different points due to Bikeability so we have not carried on with the normal curriculum. Before I go into the week, I must point out that the instructors couldn't praise our children enough saying that they were "some of the best" that they have ever had!!

In maths, we have been focussing on our times tables in preparation for our formal multiplication method. We have done this by creating our own times table grids to keep in our books. We then moved onto prime numbers, which is a number that is only in its own times table and the 1 times table (only has two factors).

In English, we have been writing using complex sentences by adding adverbial phrases, relative clauses, conjunctions along with other features. E.g.

*The girl ran (turned into)*

*With only 5 minutes left before the bell, the panicked girl (who knew she would be in trouble) quickly ran to school so that she wouldn't be too late; little did she know it would make no difference.*

During the afternoons, we have been looking at how the Anglo Saxons chronicled their thoughts in texts which were beautifully detailed with fancy lettering – we then tried to recreate these with the letters of our names.

## Year 6

This week has been very busy and the children have continued to work hard and complete a variety of tasks. On Monday, we had our Year 6 café and it was fantastic to see so many family members! As well as discussing information (including the kit list) for Aylmerton, we discussed lots of other key events happening later on in the year as well as tackling a range of activities linked to Maths. It was lovely to see the children being desperate to beat the adults in our times table battle game as well as wanting to solve some challenging puzzles.



In Literacy lessons, we completed a refugee camp activity linked to our class book – where the class used advanced vocabulary to describe how refugees may feel. Feel free to ask your child if they can remember the definition of any of these words: melancholy, perilous, precarious, despondent and frantically. These are just five – they were able to understand even more! These words were then used in a piece of poetry and I was amazed by the quality of them.

In Maths lessons, we concluded our rounding unit of work, where we rounded money to the nearest tenth (10p), £1, £10, £100 and £1000. We then moved on to learning what integers are and finding the difference between positive and negative integers.

In afternoon lessons, we completed our storyboard that focused on why the Anglo-Saxons came to Britain, and then the children researched Anglo-Saxon society. Finally, we discussed the key aspects of a settlement before designing our own village. **Please don't forget that we have our Anglo-Saxon and Viking Day next Friday (21<sup>st</sup> October)**

**Read at Home for a Star**

Reading Bear will spend time with:

Year 2 who had **24 out of 31** and  
Year 6 who had **30 out of 31**

of their children read to their family at  
least 3 times at home this week!

**Well done to Year 1 who had  
99%  
attendance last week. Attendance  
Bear will spend next week with them.**

**Attendance Bear**

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

	<b>STARS, ANGELS AND DIAMONDS</b>
Reception	Ada, Niamh, William
Year 1	Willow, Ben, Leighrye
Year 2	Isobel, Charlie, Matilda
Year 3	Sidney, Lilah-Mae, Millie
Year 4	Mia, Isabelle, Jacob
Year 5	Austin, Libby, Darla
Year 6	Alice, Honey, Jack

Have a lovely weekend.

*Chris Ashman*