

Rackheath Primary School

hello Spring Newsletter

Friday 24th March 2023

It is hard to believe that we only have one more week left of the Spring Term. The last few months since Christmas seem to have flown by in school. So much so that we are nearly at Easter in the calendar. They do say time flies when you are having fun!

Here Comes the Sun - Presentation of Learning

As previously mentioned, the children are all very keen to share their learning from this term with you. As such we are holding 3 interactive museum sessions during the last week of term. During these sessions the children will present their learning to you orally as well as visually. The classes will start off by presenting their learning to the other classes before parents are invited in from 2:15pm. The dates for the presentations are:



- Monday 27th March Year 3 and 4 presentations
- Tuesday 28th March Reception, Year 1 and 2 presentations
- Wednesday 29th March Year 5 and 6 presentations

The children will be based in the hall as well as their classrooms. Parents to come in through the front of the school. We look forward to seeing lots of you there.

RE Trips – On Thursday Year 5 and 6 went on a trip visiting two different places of worship - Norwich Cathedral and a Mosque. All the children I spoke to said they enjoyed their day and learnt a lot. The staff from Year 5 and 6 all commented on how impressed they were with the children throughout the day. They said the children showed good knowledge and asked lots of thoughtful questions. Most importantly, they were all very respectful in their attitudes whilst in the two places of worship. Well done everyone. Year 3 and 4 are going on the same trip next Tuesday.



Horstead Residential Trips

As you know, the Horstead residential trips for Year 3 and 4 are coming up fast. Year 4 will be going to Horstead in the first week back after Easter from Wednesday 19th to Friday 21st April, whilst Year 3 go the following week from Wednesday 26th to Friday 28th April.

Staff attending will be:

- Year 4 – Mrs Watson, Mrs Goddard, Mrs Tunmore, Mrs Coull, Mrs Pilbrow and Mr Ashman
- Year 3 – Miss Hornagold, Mrs Milligan, Mrs Spurling and Mrs Rivett

A reminder that ahead of the trip, there will be a meeting for parents about Horstead next Tuesday 28th March starting at the end of the school day. Will, the centre manager, will be joining us to talk about the trip and answer your questions. The meeting will be in the hall.



Comic relief races – we finally managed to get the races going over Tuesday lunchtime. We had some super races and lots and lots of fun. Thanks to everyone who took part. A big thank you to Ms Holmes for bringing in the prizes. **Altogether we raised an excellent £228.60!**

Celebration Assembly – Next Thursday we are holding our spring term Celebration Assembly at 10am. Letters have gone out to the families of the children chosen for the special class awards for the term.



Autism Awareness Week

The last week of term coincides with the International Autism Awareness Week. This is something we will be supporting in school. Mrs Watson has already shared resources with teachers, which celebrate difference in a supportive, age appropriate and sensitive way.

Badminton Taster Sessions

It has been great to see children in Year 4 to 6 playing badminton over the last 2 weeks after Ian Murphy, a county player and coach, came into school to promote his badminton club based at Blofield. On Thursday Year 4 had sessions during the afternoon and then there was an extra session for Year 5 and 6 children, which Ian put on.

At the end he was very complementary about our children. Praising both their skills and their excellent attitude and behaviour. If any children from Year 4 to 6 are interested Ian does run a junior badminton club as well as sessions over the Easter break. You can contact Ian on 07789 438567 for more information.



Cluster Rugby – We start the week on Monday with the cluster rugby day. 20 of our children, from Year 5 and 6, will be taking part in a fun day of coaching and tag rugby games at North Walsham Rugby Club.

SEND (Special Educational Needs) Parents Forum – Following the success of our first parent forum the next meeting will be on Friday 5th May at 9.00am in the school hall. We look forward to seeing you



Volunteers We need You!!

Volunteering can be a really rewarding experience and could be a first step into a career working with children. We are looking to expand on our existing band of volunteers and are particularly looking for people who would like to volunteer in Rackheath Bombers working with our youngest children. If you are interested in joining us please contact the school office or speak to the Bombers staff.

Vet Visit

After the Easter holidays, on Thursday 20th April, we are going to have a visit from Chris at Rackheath vets. He is going to be running a Teddy Bear Clinic with children from Reception to Year 3. This will involve the children that would like to take part bringing a teddy bear into school. The vets will provide bandages and show the children how to bandage different parts of the body and discuss what is wrong with their teddy and what we can do to make it better.





Bombers

Hi to all our families. We are fast approaching the Easter Holidays, can't believe it is nearly the end of another half term!! We have been busy this week looking at the letter 'Tt' with 'The Tiger That Came for Tea' role play, story and floor puzzle. We have had the 'trains' out and letter 't' stencils and 'Trio' construction. The children have also enjoyed 'The Three Bears' story sack complete with porridge and various size cups / bowls to explore.

We have also been looking at our oral health care with 'toothbrushing' activity and information books. We are sending a 'toothbrushing' sheet home that you can have fun completing with your children over the Easter break. In the garden we have been busy looking after our 'strawberry' plants that we put in and this week we planted a tub of 'Violas' which will look pretty with their lovely purple and yellow colours. Some of the children made our 'strawberry' plant labels and next week hopefully we can make 'Viola' labels. The children have also been 'cooking' in the 'mud kitchen' and getting very messy!!

Last Friday the children all worked together to make our big 'Red Nose' collage and we had lots of 'red' resources out. We are continuing to nurture 'listening ears', 'sharing' and 'turn taking' with a variety of games such as the parachute, sound lotto and favourite board games like 'Tummy Ache', 'Shopping Trolley' and 'Animal Lotto'. A reminder that next week we are inviting parents back prior to collection for 'stay and play' if any would like to. Our new staff member 'Michelle' is fitting in really well and hopefully you will all get to know her gradually. A thank you also for the positive response we have had so far for volunteers. We are extremely busy with our little people and an extra pair of hands / eyes are always welcome.

Reception

Did you know a group of zebras is called a dazzle?! And the collective noun for giraffes is a tower! We have loved exploring all things South Africa this week. We have looked at satellite images to find where it is and even pretended to board the famous, luxury Blue Train which traverses the country. We found out about the Savannah habitat and crafted fantastic giraffes, zebras and elephants! We want to extend a huge thank you to Mrs Brink, Ella's mummy, for kindly coming to talk to us about her wonderful native country - we had thought of lots of questions to ask her and we learned so much! For example, there are 11 languages and we found out about what the colours meant on the country's flag. Mrs Brink even brought us food to try and lots of us loved tasting an apple drink which originated in South Africa – thank you again, Mrs Brink – we really enjoyed your visit!

Phonics has been fun this week as we've learned the 'ir' sound (as in 'bird' and 'dirt'). In maths, we've explored doubling using lots of hands on apparatus such as mirrors and Numicom – for smaller doubles we can, of course, practise on our fingers at home!

We can't wait to celebrate Easter in reception class next week and we are looking forward to seeing you at our Presentation of Learning on Tuesday afternoon.



Year 1

In Year 1 this week, we have enjoyed looking back at all our learning this term. We remembered more than the teachers could! We decided who would like to present which parts of our topic at our Rackheath Museum presentation to parents next week. We started to think about and make our displays.

In English, we continued our poetry work looking at rhythm and rhyme. We chose our favourite poems and practised learning them so we can perform them! We finished the week by writing our own poems about a season of our choice. In Phonics, we recapped the sounds 'ew' (chew the stew) and 'u-e' (huge brute) with more reading and sorting real and alien words.

In Maths, we have counted in 2s, 10s and 5s and even started learning a 2 times table song! We tried to remember all the maths skills we have learnt so far this year to complete a special booklet. We did very well!

In Art we completed our print making unit, the children designed their own patterns inspired by Orla Kiely and created relief prints using styrofoam tiles. We think they look fantastic! We used Purple Mash to create repeating patterns on the computer too.



Year 2

It's been another busy week in which the children have been working hard and responding well to our class target which has been to keep the cloakroom tidy.

In maths the children stuck photos of them making 3D shapes into their books and wrote sentences about them. They have tackled missing number statements and undertaken arithmetic assessments. Next week they will have a go at some end of KS1 past papers for reasoning and problem solving in maths.

On Tuesday the class enjoyed their last cricket session with Kevin. In Wednesday's science lesson they secured their understanding and knowledge of carnivores, omnivores and herbivores. This afternoon they enjoyed printing using every day found objects. Thank you to the families who collected items and sent them in for us to use.

In English we have worked on words with the j sound (large, fudge, gem, giant, lodge, barge etc) as well as completing punctuation activities. The children have also edited and improved their Lost and Found stories.

Year 3

The children in Year 3 have been working nonstop this week. They have been doing tests in maths; preparing their 'Presentations of Learning' posters that they will present to the school and grown-ups next week, as well as starting a new poetry unit in English and having our final cricket and Mandarin lessons of the term!

The children have surprised me with how much they have enjoyed doing the maths papers this week, showing off all of the wonderful maths work they can remember from the year so far. One thing that did stand out, however, was how few children could tell me how many days there were in each month. We have been doing lots of work on this since, but it would be great if you could do some practising at home and have some fun listening to this song that has helped us to remember: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=drH3_Flt85g.

We are really looking forward to seeing everyone next week and to show you all the learning that we have been doing this term. It will also be our final swimming lesson of the year next week and of course, we have our trip to the Cathedral and Mosque on Tuesday, so it will be another busy one! Have a lovely weekend, Miss H ☺

Year 4

This week Year 4 have had a busy week! In Maths, we have finally finished our fractions unit and then we completed our end of term tests. We started our new decimals topic today and the children are very excited about being able to use decimal points next week!

In English, we have been writing our draft explanation texts and we will be creating neat versions of these next week.

In topic, we have been working hard on our museum presentations for next week. Please do come and visit us at 2.15pm on Monday - the children are SO excited to share their learning with you.

Also, just to let you know that Mrs Cavender is teaching the class all day on Wednesday.

Finally, don't forget that we have our school trip to the Cathedral and Mosque on Tuesday. We are currently short of adult helpers so if you are able to support please let me know!

Year 5

I must say, it has not been a very interesting week in year 5 as we have been completing our end of term tests all week – but I will say that the children have been absolute troopers! I have not heard them complain once! It has actually been quite nice as they have made some excellent progress.

The highlight of our week has to be our trip to the cathedral and the mosque. We started by taking a quick walk around the cathedral to look at some of the key features before walking to Rose Lane Mosque where we heard, first hand, about Islam. Ramadan has just started so we also got to find out about this important aspect; the children asked lots of questions about this as they were all amazed by it! Once back in the cathedral, we then got a behind the scenes tour of different parts of the cathedral, as well as having an opportunity to dress up and get involved.

I was incredibly impressed with all of the children as they listened to everything that was said, asked some really thoughtful questions and were impeccably well behaved. Special mention to Oscar, Finn and Reid who had their hand up at every opportunity!



Year 6

We're heading in to our last week of this term! Where has the time gone? In Maths lessons this week, we have calculated the area of compound shapes that have missing values and have understood how to calculate the area of triangles whilst using a formula.

In Literacy, we began the week with a series of grammar challenges and it was great to see how much the children could retain. I then set them a task of writing a guide to next year's Reception parents – explaining key information about the school. This ranged from our buddy system, the houses / teams, assemblies, play equipment at break and lunchtimes, and even more!

On Wednesday, in a Geography task, the children were fantastic at completing an activity linked to longitude and latitude. On a world map, they placed where they thought the centre of each continent would be and then estimated the coordinates using their prior knowledge of the hemispheres.

Yesterday, I was incredibly proud of the children on our R.E trip to Norwich Cathedral and then the Mosque on Rose Lane. The purpose of the trip was to discover even more about life and traditions as either a Christian or Muslim. Not only did the children behave amazingly well, but I was really impressed by their subject knowledge.



Read at Home for a Star

Reading Bear will spend time with:

Year 1 who had **16 out of 24** and
Year 6 who had **32 out of 32**

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

Well done to Year 5 who had
98%
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.

	STARS, ANGELS AND DIAMONDS
Reception	Arthur, Lucas, Kipp
Year 1	Landon, Finley, Ben
Year 2	Louis, Sidney, Mila
Year 3	Harley, Hugo, William
Year 4	Ibbie, Millie, Maxwell
Year 5	Finn, Skylar, Reid, Oscar
Year 6	Ollie B, All of Year 6, Sasha

Have a great weekend.

Chris Ashman