

# Rackheath Primary School

## Newsletter

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Year 2 SATS** – This week the Year 2 children have been sitting their SATS. They've nearly finished with just one test left to go next week. This is done in an age appropriate way and the children have taken them in their stride! Well done to all the children and staff in Year 2 and thank you to all the staff from other classes who helped out!

**Parent Book Looks** – This week has been the first of two weeks of parent drop-ins at the end of the day, to look at books. Lots of parents from Reception, Year 3, 5 and 6 have been able to come in and it is good to know that they were impressed with the work they saw. Next week there are book looks for Year 1, 2 and 4. Dates are below. Parents can come in from 2:30pm via the front of the school.

- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Year 1
- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Year 2
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May – Year 4



**Class Assemblies** – This week we had the treat of two class assemblies, with Year 5 sharing their learning on Tuesday and Reception on Thursday. Both classes can be very proud of their efforts and the work that they shared. It was lovely to see the audience of family members and the other classes really enjoy the two assemblies.

**Year 1 and 2 Assembly Dates** – As mentioned last week we have had to change the Year 1 assembly date to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 2:30pm apologies for any inconvenience this causes. Year 2's class assembly is on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. These both start at 2:30pm. Parents should arrive for 2:25pm when the gate will be opened.

### Events week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> May

**Thomas Taylor Author Visit** – On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May Thomas Taylor will be visiting the school in the afternoon. Thomas is an author and illustrator. He is the author of The Eerie-on-Sea Mystery series and illustrated the front cover of the first Harry Potter book! Thomas will be working with children from Year 3 to 6 as his books are aimed at this age range. At the end of the day there will be a book signing and an opportunity to buy his books, which parents will be able to attend. More details on this to follow. In the meantime, you can find out more about Thomas and his books at <https://www.thomastaylor-author.com/>



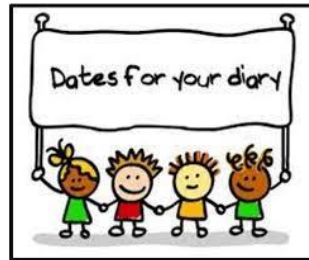
**Sports Fixtures** – On Wednesday, our mixed cricket team will take part in the cluster cricket tournament at Ashmanhaugh. Then on Thursday our Year 4 boys' team are playing away at Colby Primary School. The girl's game which was due to take place on the same day has been re-scheduled for Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June. **There is no football club next week on Thursday because of the away game for Year 4.**



### Club: After Half Term

Football club for Year 3 to 6 will stop at the end of this half term. After half term there will be an athletics club instead (day to be confirmed). A full list of clubs will go out in next week's letter.

**Parent Surveys** - Thank you to everyone who has already returned their parent surveys. It is always useful to read your views about the school. It would be great to get a response from as many families as possible for the end of this half term.



We have sporting events taking place over 3 days starting on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June. Details below:

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June** - Fun Sports Day - 9:15am - 11:45am. All children from Reception to Year 6 will compete in teams in a fun sports event. This year we are incorporating some events based on Paralympic and disabled sports. Parents can stay at school from the start of the day and then follow their children round and cheer them on. On this day children will come to school in their PE kit

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June** - Reception Sports Day - 10:30am - 11:30am. Our youngest children will compete in a special sports day where parents of children at Bombers, who are due to start school in September, are invited to bring their little one to join in with some races too!

Parents to arrive from 10.20am.

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June** - Key Stage 2 Sports Day - 9:30am - 11:45am. Year 3 to 6 will compete in a series of races in the morning. Parents to arrive from 9:15

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June** - Key Stage 1 Sports Day - 1:20pm - 2:45pm. Year 1 and 2 will compete in a series of races in the afternoon. Parents can arrive from 1:10pm

#### General Information:

- Please ensure children bring plenty to drink and have sun cream applied and a hat.
- Thursday and Friday are designated reserve days in case the weather is against us.



### New intake Reception 2023

Letters are in the process of being sent out to the parents of our September 2023 Reception Class. The letter includes information about transition in the second half of the Summer Term. The most important date for your diaries being Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June at 6:30pm which is the date of our meeting for new parents.

**Year 1 Phonics Screening** – The Year 1 children have their phonics screening check during the week of 12<sup>th</sup> June (with the option of using the next week if anyone is not in school during the week). The check is done 1:1 with their teachers and in a relaxed and informal way with the children having 40 words to read.

**Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check** – The Year 4's take their tables check online. The check doesn't take very long and the children are getting familiar with the format as part of their learning. The check window is between Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June.



## FORS News

Thank you to everyone who attended the Quiz and chips last Friday. It was a great evening. The winning team were "Simple Minds", well done!

We would like to thank Marty Addison who collated all the questions / answers, Brian and Paula for being our quiz masters for the evening, Shane for cooking our fish and chips with the help of our very own Treena ..... and to everyone who attended and supported the event.



Our next few events coming up:

**Father's Day Pop-up Shop** – Letters were sent home today.

**Hippodrome Circus Trip** - Letters will be sent home very soon.

**Summer Fayre** - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July... we are looking for volunteers for the day if you are able to help please get in touch.



### Reception

It's been absolutely lovely to share our learning this week with lots of our families! On Thursday, we had our class assembly and on Friday our 'learning look'. Many thanks for taking the time to come along though we know it's not always possible to attend everything! As always, any questions that arose as a result of visiting, please feel free to let us know.

We have been busy again revising previously learned sounds: 'ar' and 'or' – we found this really tricky as the sounds look and sound very similar so if the children can spot them in signs, books, cards etc; great! We want to say a huge thank you if you've been practising the tricky red words we sent home – we can already see a big difference in children's confidence and recall when practised regularly.

We had a great day on Monday when the police visited our class – they are definitely 'planet protectors' as they help to keep us safe. We asked lots of questions and learned lots of new things about what the police do and what the job is like. We will continue our police theme next week!



Finally, as you will read shortly, WELL DONE to all of our stars, angels and diamonds – the whole of reception class was awarded this week for their superb assembly – they are so brave – their previous assembly was in front of one class so to perform in front of such a big audience this time was a real achievement. We are very proud.

## Year 1

This week, in Maths, we started to learn about fractions. We have been finding half of a shape and half of a number of toys. There has been a lot of folding, cutting and sticking! We talked about how we can write 'one half' as  $\frac{1}{2}$ . We learnt that the two parts have to be equal to be halves.

In Phonics, we looked at two new sounds, 'au' (Paul the astronaut) and 'ie' (terrible tie). We continued with our book, Clem and Crab in English. We followed instructions to make our own paper crabs (then wrote the instructions ourselves as a class). We wrote sentences and descriptive phrases about what was happening in the story. We wrote our own instructions for how to look after a crab.

We started the History part of our Planet Protectors topic this week. We have been looking at old and new toys. We loved looking at and playing with some toys that Miss Brannan brought in – some of them were about 50 years old! We thought about how we know a toy is old and what differences and similarities there are between old and new toys. Technology was the biggest change we found!

We continued with our Art and Music work as well this week.



## Year 2

Year 2 have worked incredibly hard this week. Most of them have completed two reading papers and the maths reasoning paper over the course of three mornings. Next week they will just have the arithmetic paper to do, other than a few who still have some reading to do.

In English the children have written letters of advice to a character and then written the reply in role. They have also had their usual spelling zone lesson learning the rule about dropping the 'e' before adding 'ing' this week. In maths they have revised their knowledge of partitioning using it to make the same number in different ways.

On Monday the children enjoyed PE with Mr Ashman, whilst on Tuesday they had a coding lesson with Miss Hornagold. With Mrs Bird on Wednesday afternoon the children had a lovely time looking at and discussing all of the old toys, games, comics and books which you kindly sent in.

Please could you try to hear your son or daughter read at least 3 times a week as we only had 17 reading stars this week - thank you.

## Year 3

We started our week in year 3 with our class book look. The children absolutely loved having their grown-ups come around to look at some of their favourite pieces of work and it was lovely to hear them all talking about work they had done throughout the year and remembering all of their super learning!

In Maths, we have continued our work on fractions. We have been doing lots of problem-solving type activities this week and finished today with a fun lesson finding equivalent fractions using cake!

In English, we have been doing lots of writing based on a short adventure film, 'Taking Flight', where evil monkeys, crocodiles and aliens chase Tony and Grandpa! Next week, we will begin to write our own adventure stories, which I know the children are already looking forward to doing.

In the afternoons, we have been learning about the hot and cold climates of the world and have been researching countries to find where they are located; their average rainfall; official language; average temperature and flag. The children have produced some amazing pieces of homework so far and I can't wait to see even more next week!



## Year 4

This week we have had another great week in Year 4. The highlight of the week has definitely been our story planning that the children have been completing. We have been designing their own story maps and today we have been doing some storytelling. I'm really excited to get writing next week!

In Maths, we have been dividing numbers by 100 and today we have looked at partitioning decimals in different ways. Next week, we will be completing our decimals unit and moving onto money. The children have been absolutely smashing their times tables certificates this week and they feel very proud of themselves.

In topic this week we have studied biomes and used the internet for research. Next week, we will be making power points about countries using the geographical knowledge we have learnt over the last few weeks.

Just a note to say that Mrs Cavender will be teaching the class all day on Monday as I am out on a course.

## Year 5

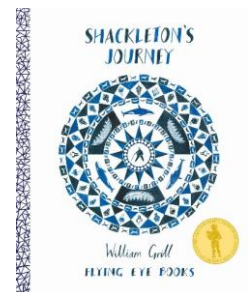
What a week we have had! We started off by spending some time preparing for the class assembly as the children were in charge of writing most of it – and what a great job they did in telling the school about the adaptations of different animals!

In maths this week we have moved onto fractions and have focussed on fractions of amounts. We have been looking questions such as  $\frac{3}{7}$  of £35. We have used a bar to help model this before moving on to an abstract method. E.g.

5	5	5	5	5	5	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

In English, we have moved on to our new class book: Shackleton's Journey. It is a Non-fiction text about Ernest Shackleton's expedition across the South Pole. So far, we have written a job advert trying to find men for the journey (based on the real advert) and we have each been given a member of the crew who we will be as we go through the book. Today, we were writing speeches to try and convince Ernest Shackleton (Freddie) to take us on this journey!

In topic, we have learnt more about Charles Darwin and then we have finished the week with some amazing art with Mrs Goddard which can be seen in the photo!



## Year 6

It's been another very busy week in Year 6 with a range of lessons and activities taking place! On Monday, we began our Lunar Theme Park Maths project. The children had to use a variety of Maths skills to open a theme park on the moon. Initially, this involved being given a budget and deciding what to buy. After mapping out their purchases, they decided ticket prices, calculated maintenance costs and they've now begun adding up their profit from their shops and cafes. This project will continue throughout next week too and I will keep you posted on their final profits!

In Literacy, we finished off our creative writing linked to a shipwreck before moving on to a very important task. Each child had to write a letter which we will send off to a variety of local businesses requesting raffle prizes for the summer fayre. We then recapped our understanding of how we can make our writing persuasive. This then led to the children creating persuasive brochures for the opening of their Lunar Theme Parks.

In Geography lessons, we learnt what 'relief' meant before comparing and contrasting Mexico to the United Kingdom. In French lessons, we recapped the children's understanding of numbers, colours and days of the week before understanding and writing sentences linked to these topics such as: 'ma couleur préférée est le vert et ma deuxième couleur préférée est le rouge.' Feel free to ask your child what this means! Although at the time of writing this, we have not yet gone on our Post-SATs trip today, I'm sure we will have an amazing time in Great Yarmouth by playing in the amusements, going ten-pin bowling and having fish and chips for lunch! This is a well-deserved treat for all of their incredible work throughout Year 6.

# Read at Home for a Star

Reading Bear will spend time with:

Reception who had **16 out of 24** and  
Year 6 who had **30 out of 32**

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

Well done to Reception and Year 6  
who both had  
**100%**  
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	All of Reception Class
Year 1	Rosie, Evie, Harriett
Year 2	Charlie, Ava, Seb
Year 3	William, Sophia, Joey
Year 4	Ellie-Mae, Leon, Ben
Year 5	Tallulah, Jasmine, Izzy
Year 6	Leo, Maisie, Polly

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend

Chris Ashman