Rackheath Primary School Newsletter



Friday 20th June 2025

Sports Week – What a week of sport it has been. All the children have given their all and tried really hard for their teams. The children showed super team spirit and great sportsmanship. I loved running the water relay at fun sports (as did my parent helpers!) and it was a joy to watch the children support and cheer for each other and encourage everyone over the 3 days. It has also been lovely to share sports week with so many family members too! Even the weather behaved!



A big thank you to everyone involved, especially Mrs Pallant and Mr Cavender, who organised fun sports as well as KS2 and KS1 sports.

All teams performed really well:

- Sportsmanship award – Yellow and Red
- EYFS Winners - Green
- KS1 Winners – Blue
- KS2 Winners – Blue

In a very close contest it was the Blues who won the overall prize!

Visitors to School - This morning we were visited by 12 students from Harford Manor School who spent some time in our wild area and also did a litter pick. It was lovely to welcome them to our school and we look forward to them visiting again the in the future.

Reception 2025 Stay and Play sessions

Our transition plan for reception class 2025-26 continues with two stay and play sessions on Monday 30th June and Thursday 3rd July. Both sessions run from 3:30-4:15. This is a great chance for children to spend time in the classroom and outside area of Reception with their parents before they start in September.





Transition Day – Our school transition morning will be on Thursday 10th July. On the morning the children will move up to meet their teachers for the year ahead. Reception Class 2025-26 are also coming in for the morning in 3 groups of 10. Each group will spend an hour in the school.

Year 6 Transition Days - Year 6 are off to Broadland on Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th July for their transition days. Transition days for Year 6 children going to Thorpe are on Thursday 10th and Friday 11th July.

Year 5 Broadland Visit – Meanwhile our Year 5 class are visiting Broadland by coach for a curriculum day on Friday 11th July.

Head for the Day



"First, we came into and visited the staff briefing. Next, we went outside to greet everyone and rang the bell. Then we walked around the school finding out what they were learning, and after we were able to give stickers out to whom we thought were listening well from each class. Then we checked our emails as we deleted some and forwarded some. We went into assembly and Mr Ashman mentioned we are heads for the day. Then it was break time where we visited some students and played with them until we were able to ring the bell again. Then we helped set up for reception and bombers sports day. Then we judged who won and gave out stickers to the children who raced.

After that, we went to the staff room where we had some yummy biscuits, muffins and some squash to cool ourselves down from the heat. Then we helped Mr A too put away the water relay equipment from yesterday. Mrs Pilbrow let us go through a book to find some new toys and equipment for after school club. Then it was lunchtime we went outside to play. After we had our lunch, we went around the classes using two people to answer us some questions about the school, their trips and equipment (playground boxes). Then we went and helped in reception class for half an hour until we went and saw Mr C who had written a booklet for parents for tomorrow but wanted us to check it so that everything was correct. Then we took our headteacher photo with Mr A. Finally, we started writing our report about the fun day we have had.

Thank you, Mr A and all the staff,"

Harrison and Izzy

Wellbeing with Mrs Cookson

Wellbeing with Mrs Cookson - There's just over four weeks before this school year draws to a close. It's natural for children to feel a mix of excitement and nerves about moving up a year - or into a new school entirely.

Whether your child is stepping into a new classroom or heading off to high school, there are simple ways you can help ease the transition:

Talk together about what's changing and what will stay the same.

Acknowledge worries as completely normal - listening can definitely be more powerful than fixing!

Visit or revisit the new setting (in person or online) to build familiarity.

Keep routines steady at home to offer a sense of security.

Transitions are a big deal, and with gentle support and encouragement, they can also be a time of resilience and confidence building. If you'd like to share your concerns or questions about your child's transition to the next year group/school, please get in touch.

If you have any activities that work well for your family and would like to share them with the rest of our school community, please email me at ccookson6nrf@nsix.org.uk.

Best wishes, Claire Cookson (Pupil and Family Wellbeing Practitioner) 01603 720098



Selected dates for the next few weeks:

Monday 23rd June	Reception Class trip to Thrigby Hall
Thursday 26th June	Year 5 and 6 Mexico Day
Tuesday 1st July	FORS organised Bombers Party after school
Friday 4th July	Year 6 Camp Out – 5.00pm (unless putting up tents then it's 4.15pm)
Monday 7th July	Guitar Performance in school
Tuesday 8th July	Key Stage 2 Cluster Athletics
Monday 14th July	Cluster Swimming Gala
Tuesday 15th July	Whole School Trip to The Hippodrome - AM
Wednesday 16th July	Reports Out to parents
Tue 15th / Weds 16th July	Leaver's Performances – 6.00pm
Monday 21st July	Celebration Assembly – 10.00am
Tuesday 22nd July	Leaver's Assembly – 9.30am



Reception

Wow! Sports Week has been a blast in reception class. The children had so much enjoyment on Monday working through all the Fun Sports activity stations. Then on Tuesday we were very proud of all the effort and concentration they put in for their Sports Day events. They all did so well - especially in the heat!

We have related our sporting activities to science – we had great fun with Mrs Rivett finding our heartbeat and exercising so that we could find out what happens to our bodies when we are active – we then got very tired biceps today as we exercised our arms / wrists for 1 minute – we felt out of breath and our muscles felt tired afterwards for a short time but some of the children said it made them feel like they had more energy too! It has also been a great opportunity to revise the vocabulary of body parts and think about where they are, e.g. stomach, heart and lungs.

We are looking forward to next week when we visit Thrigby Zoo on Monday together! Remember to pack lunches / drink if your child is not having a school one, apply plenty of sunscreen before they come to school (please don't send any in, we do not apply) and ensure they are wearing comfy shoes with their uniform and have a hat for shade. They don't need to bring any spending money at all. Your child will need to carry their home packed lunch/ drink so if you wish to send those in a little backpack, that would be ideal. Many thanks.







Year 1

What a super week we've had in Year 1. We kicked off the week with fun sports morning which was a great success; the children loved having parents with them to join in the activities! We then moved on to sports afternoon on Wednesday which the children did so well at. We were very proud of how confidently the children participated and how beautifully they sat in the shade in between races. Great work Year 1!

This week in topic work we have been learning all about weaving and different artists who use weaving in their work. The children have created their own woven mat using a paper loom and strips of paper to weave. They then completed their work by adding other decorative items (such as sequins and buttons) onto their mats. They all look fantastic and they make our 'wow wall' look very pleasing.



In English this week the children have been writing the story of Peter Rabbit. We have been focusing on telling the events in order, using full stops, capital letters, finger spaces and even some speech. The children have made a super start with their writing which we will continue into next week.

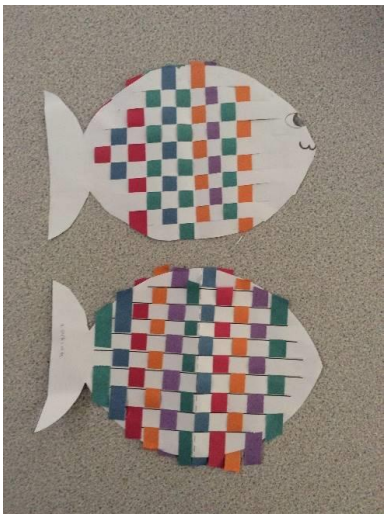
In maths this week we have spent another week learning about 'place value within 100.' The children have been playing lots of dice games to see who can role the largest 2-digit number. We have also been ordering the 2-digit numbers from smallest to biggest making sure that the children know to look at the tens value first before the ones value. They have done a great job at this.

Year 2

It's been a busy and exciting week in Year 2!

On Monday, we enjoyed fun sports, and on Wednesday afternoon we had our much-anticipated Sports Day. The children did a fantastic job – participating with determination and enthusiasm, celebrating each other's achievements, and feeling proud of their own efforts. Well done to everyone in Year 2!

In English, we continued reading our class book 'Hansel and Gretel'. We practiced using subordinating conjunctions to write about the story, and had fun writing in role as either Hansel or Gretel. We finished the week by writing some expanded noun phrases to describe the cottage in the woods.



In Maths, we began a new unit on statistics. The children learned how to use tally charts and tables, and discussed when we would use each one.

In RSHE, we explored the topic of bullying. We talked about the four key signs of bullying: it happens more than once, it's hurtful, it's done on purpose and the bully feels they have power over someone else. The children then took part in some role-play, acting out different scenarios to practice what to do if they or someone else experiences bullying. Their responses showed great empathy and understanding, along with lots of laughter to!

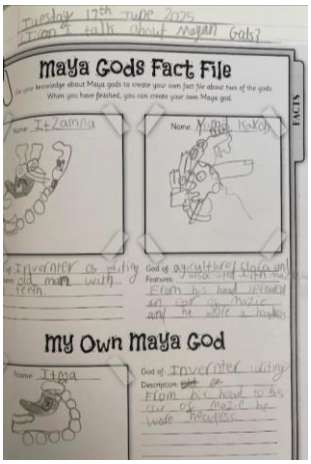
In Art, we had a go at paper weaving and created some brilliant fish-themed artwork. The results were impressive – full of colour and creativity.

Our spelling rule this week focused on the 'j' sound, and knowing when to use 'j', 'g', 'ge', or 'dge' to spell it correctly.

Year 3

What a busy week we've had in Year 3! In English, the children have been planning their own adventure stories. On Thursday, the children developed expanded noun phrases linked to their chosen setting. They then applied these expanded noun phrases to their own adventure story in Friday's lesson. I am really looking forward to reading their first drafts once they're all finished.

In Maths, we have completed our unit on telling the time. This week, the children compared different units of time, solved worded questions involving time and completed an end of unit assessment.



During topic lessons, the children have learnt about the role and responsibilities of Maya priests and four Maya Gods: Itzamna (one of the creator gods), Yumil Kaxob (God of agriculture/ crop production), Chac (controller of rain) and K'inich Ahau (God of sun). In addition to this, the children have explored Maya temples and created their own using LEGO.

In French, the children have been busy learning to read, say and order the days of the week.

The children were absolutely amazing during Fun Sports and Sports Day; they were all full of joy and brilliant team spirit. I would like to mention that they blew me away with their fantastic opening ceremony dance – despite only practising a handful of times, they aced it!

I hope you all have a lovely, restful weekend!

Year 4

What an amazing week we have had! Our two sports mornings were great fun and enjoyed by all despite some initial worries. I am very proud of how everyone joined in and supported each other regardless of their final position in each event! After each morning the children were exhausted so we settled in to some gentle lessons such as art and a little bit of geography as well as enjoying the KS1 sports day.

In English we are in the final stages of preparing to write our own version of Robin Hood. Next week the children will finalise plans, write, edit and publish their stories. So far in this unit, the children have used co-ordinating and subordinating conjunctions, direct speech, apostrophes for possession and expanded noun phrases all of which they are aiming to include in their work.

In maths we have continued looking at shape, the children have ordered and compared different angles. As we continue this unit, we will begin to look at the properties of different shapes and answer some word problems using this knowledge.

The children have been set a maths challenge this week based on the format similar to the number questions from countdown! They have been asked to make 749 using the numbers 100, 10, 1, 10, 2 and 2, they can only use each number once. If you have a few minutes over the next few days this may be a fun challenge to tackle together, the solution I have found uses all four number operations.

Year 5

This week saw the start of our Y5 Mini Olympics…where the children will compete in a series of Olympic style events to see who comes out on top! So far with have had the Finger Triple Jump, Times table Bowls and the Straw Javelin! Through this we are learning measure and averages. After each event, children score points for 1st, 2nd and 3rd and then by the end of all events we will total these up to get an overall winner!



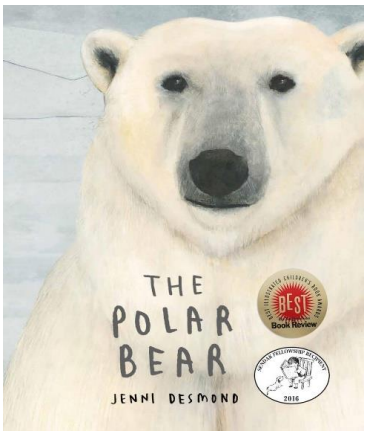
In English, we have almost completed our class book! It has been a bit of a roller-coaster week for our main character (Bradley) having finally completed some work only for him to rip it up after he found out his councillor was leaving. Do not worry…everything is back to normal now for Bradley as he has just been to his first birthday party in years and he loved it. We are now planning letters to write to Carla to tell her how we are feeling and what has happened to us.

In topic, we have been comparing the UK to Mexico. We studied the land and described differences and then we have started to plan for a holiday to Mexico by researching things to do their…be aware…some of the children have some very grand plans!

QUICK NOTE: **On Thursday 26th June**, as part of our look into Mexican culture and comparing it with Britain, we will be having a Mexican themed day. The children can dress up with the colours of the Mexican flag (green, White and Red!) They could wear all of the colours, or just one colour! AS IT IS SHORT NOTICE, WE ARE NOT EXPECTING COSTUMES… but you still can dress in something Mexican themed if you want.

Year 6

It's been another fantastic week for the Year 6s. I have to start by talking about the KS2 Sports Day – which took place on Wednesday morning. Without lots of time to rehearse, the class did a fantastic job with their dance and they should all be proud of themselves. Everyone tried their best during the races too and represented the school brilliantly. It was also lovely to see each team cheering their peers on! A big thank you needs to go to all of the children, parents and family members for making it another Sports Day to remember. Well done to the blues of Barton who won for KS2. We were fortunate enough to have amazing weather for Monday's Fun Sports as well. Yet again, the children had a lovely time and supported the younger children of the school. It was great to see how many family members were taking part in the sports too. The Year 6s were able to watch some of the Bombers / EYFS Sports Day and the KS1 Sports Day – with some helping out.



On the days where we did not have sporting events, the children completed a money problem in Maths as well as calculating percentage discounts from items in shops. In English, we continued comparing our Treasure Island scrips to the novel written by Robert Louis Stevenson and then began writing a report linked to one of our science topis of adaptation. This linked to the book 'The Polar Bear' by Jenni Desmond.

We had a further RSHE lesson followed by a history activity linked to the Aztecs. The children had to place a timeline in chronological order and will use this next week to discover facts about the Aztec society. Play rehearsals are also in full swing and the children are excited that the stage will be up next week! Finally, I'd like to say a big well done to Isabelle and Harrison who were fantastic Head Teachers for the day on Tuesday.

Read at Home for a Star

Reading Bear will spend time with:

Year 1 who had **16 out of 30** and
Year 6 who had **26 out of 32**

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

Attendance Bear

Well done to Year 2 for the highest attendance again last week of 100%.
Attendance bear will spend the week with them

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

	STARS, ANGELS AND DIAMONDS
Reception	Elijah, Owen, Larna
Year 1	Ava, Freya, Harrison
Year 2	Lucas, Yana, Summer
Year 3	Myla, Lily, Mia, All of Year 3
Year 4	Ali, Oscar, Bonnie
Year 5	Anya, Sophie, Aria
Year 6	Kayden, Harrison, Millie