

Rackheath Primary School Newsletter

Friday 4th July 2025

I can't believe we are only 12 days from the end of the term. I can't remember a quicker year!

This week has been a fun one in school for the Year 6 Leaver's on Tuesday we held the Year 6 water fight, which was great fun and given the heat I enjoyed getting soaked by Year 6!

Tonight we end the week with the Year 6 Camp Out. Thank you to Mr Edwards, Ms Holmes, Mrs Culling, Mr Palmer and Mrs Pilbrow for giving up their time and sleep! Hopefully the weather will be kind!

The last few days of term are always very busy ones. Next week we have the Guitar Concert and KS2 Athletics before we move in to Leavers Performances in the last full week!

Reception 2025 Stay and Play sessions

It was lovely to see lots of parents and children from the reception class 2025-26 enjoying the chance to spend time in the Reception Classroom. It was great to see children, parents and staff all getting to know each other ahead of the new year!





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

Euro 2025 Draw

On Wednesday we held our class draw for the 2025 Euro's Championship. Each class picked out 2 teams in a special assembly. The tournament starts on Wednesday 2nd July Come on the Lionesses!

CLASS	POT A TEAM	POT B TEAM
Reception	Norway	Wales
Year 1	Germany	Iceland
Year 2	England	Denmark
Year 3	Spain	Italy
Year 4	Sweden	Belgium
Year 5	France	Poland
Year 6	Switzerland	Portugal
Bombers	Holland	Finland



Wellbeing with Mrs Cookson

Let Your Child See You Learn - Children are natural learners - they're always watching, absorbing, and mimicking the world around them. One of the most powerful ways you can encourage their curiosity and love of learning is by letting them *see you* learn something new.

This doesn't have to mean studying for a qualification or taking a formal class (though that's great too!). It could be as simple as: following a new recipe and laughing when it doesn't quite go to plan; trying to knit, garden, or build flat-pack furniture for the first time; learning a few words of a new language together; having a go at fixing a bike or sewing a button; watching a documentary and sharing something surprising you've learned; practising a new dance move or a musical instrument.

When children see adults embracing learning - with patience, perseverance, and a sense of humour - they learn that it's okay not to get things right first time. They see that learning isn't just for school; it's a lifelong adventure that can be exciting, frustrating, rewarding and fun. It also gives them permission to make mistakes, try again, and stay curious.

This summer holiday, I'm going to learn how to play the ukulele. What's something new you could learn this week? Remember, you're not just learning a new skill… you're showing them how to be a learner for life.

Best wishes, Claire Cookson (email: ccookson6nrf@nsix.org.uk or 01603 720 098).

Selected dates for the next few weeks



Monday 7th July	Guitar Performance in school
Tuesday 8th July	Key Stage 2 Cluster Athletics
Saturday 12th July	FORS Summer Fayre – 11am to 3pm
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



Bombers

Hello to all. Another warm and extremely busy week has flown by. We have been looking at the letter 'Gg' and our focus area of development has been maths. There has been some lovely counting and numeral skills and we have played shape games, sung number rhymes and looked at differing sizes. Next week we are focusing on 'Understanding the World' and our letter of the week will be 'Oo'. We took another small group of leavers for an interactive storytelling and dancing activity at Ashfield's Care Home this morning and we had a great time. There

was lots of fun and laughter with balloons, dancing, parachute and bubbles. The children were on their best behaviour and received stickers as a thank you for being such a good bunch. They would really like us to carry on visiting next term, which would be lovely, and then more children will get a turn. Please remember that it is transition morning at the reception class next Thursday. Each child has been allocated a time slot so please check what time you need to take your child along. If it's not the first hour then they can come to Bombers first then be collected or go straight to school at the allotted time.



Our lovely student Mai has now finished her time with us. She has been a superstar and very popular. She has been such a help, the children made a Thank You card for her, and we gave her a little Thank you gift today. Bless her she bought some goodies for staff / children and a card to show her thanks for making her welcome. She will still help with lunch cover for the last few Fridays.

We are happy for parents / carers to come for a stay and play at any time over the last few sessions and particularly would welcome an extra pair of eyes on a Thursday or Friday afternoon.

Reception

The children have loved using the Beebots this week to practise their computing and coding skills. We said that although real bees love honey, these bees love money so that the children could practise this week's maths topic. So, the children had to work out how to best program the Bee-Bot to follow a route towards different coins. It was brilliant hearing them discussing plans, predicting distances (e.g. *"I think it will be 4 pushes to the 10p coin!")* and then adapting the program when needed.



Lots of the children chose to write books about our visit to Thrigby Zoo last week – they have produced some amazing, independent writing!



Maggie wrote: "*They (the turtles) have a shell on ther back."*

Mia wrote: "*The miacat (Meerkat) is sleeping."*

Ethan wrote: "The gibbon is climing the tree."

Elijah wrote: "The snake lookd like my pet."

We also really enjoyed being fact finders about the animals – today we discovered how you could tell the difference between a crocodile and an alligator – see if your child can remember (hint – teeth!)

We are excited about Music week starting Monday! If any parents/ family members are musical and fancy giving us a little demo; please email the office or you could send in a video!

Year 1

It's been a warm one this week but the children have all coped very well. In topic this week we have been continuing our geography unit by looking at the human and physical features of the two counties that were picked for us from the Women's Euros. We have been learning a little bit about Germany and its national animal (the eagle) and drawing a picture of Iceland's landscape, which included an ice-capped volcano. The children also learned about the features of a coastline using the vocabulary: beach, cliff, coast, sea, ocean, river. If you get the chance to visit the seaside anytime soon, please point these features out to your child to reinforce what they have learnt first-hand. We then finished the week by comparing a local beach with a Caribbean one.

In English we have begun Paddington by Michael Bond. The children started the week by listening to the story and being introduced to the character of Paddington. We then moved on to think about the setting of London and writing sentences about London. The children finished the week by writing sentences to describe Paddington, ensuring the use of full stops, capital letters and adjectives. A super start to this new book by all!

In maths we have been continuing learning all about time. We have recapped last week's telling the time to the nearest o'clock and half past (please practise this at home whenever you can). This week we have focused on understanding time and how long it takes to do something. The children have had great fun seeing how many smiley

faces they can draw in 10 seconds, how many star jumps they can do in 1 minute and timing how long it takes them to build a tower of 10 cubes. Stopwatches are great fun and a super tool for help children understand how long things take.

Year 2

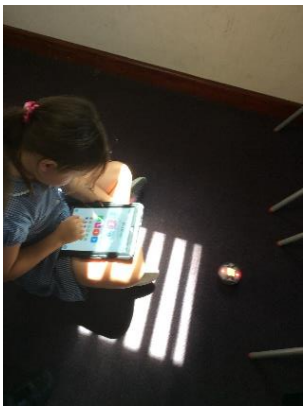
It's been another fantastic week in Year 2!



In English this week, we completed our final writing piece based on *Hansel and Gretel*. In role as either Hansel or Gretel, we wrote heartfelt letters to our father, explaining everything that had happened at the witch's house. We worked hard to include expanded noun phrases, subordinating conjunctions, the past progressive tense, and a mixture of questions and statements in our writing.



In Maths, we began exploring the language of position and direction. Using iPads and Spheros, we programmed movements to go forwards, backwards, left, and right. We even challenged ourselves to make the Sphero move in the shape of a square and a rectangle! At the end of the week, we focused on describing and understanding different types of turns.



Our Geography topic this week focused on coasts. We discussed the various features you might find at the seaside and whether they are physical or human features. We then compared two local beaches – Cromer and Holkham – identifying and contrasting their physical and human characteristics.

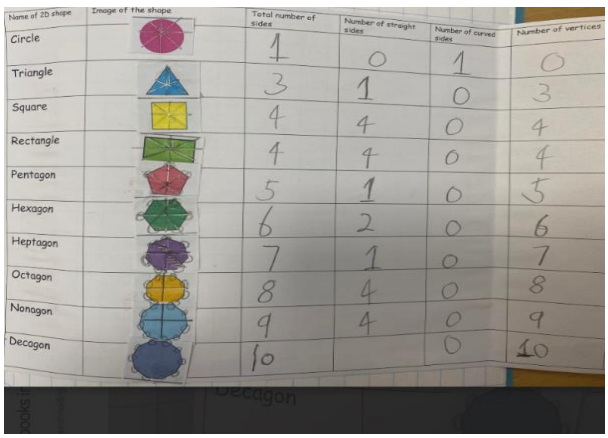
In RSHE, we discussed different types of touch and the importance of respecting personal space. We talked about what to do if someone touches us in a way that makes us feel uncomfortable and reminded ourselves that it is never okay for someone to touch our private parts without our permission.

Our spelling focus this week was on adding -ed to form the past tense. We learned that if a word ends in two consonants, we simply add -ed. However, if a word ends with a short vowel followed by a consonant, we double the consonant before adding -ed (e.g., drop becomes dropped).

Year 3

This week in English, the children edited and improved their letters to Miss Farrow and wrote a final draft ready to give to her on transition morning (next Thursday). Alongside this, they have been very busy completing an end of term reading assessment and begun a new unit based on three types of poetry (Haiku, Tanka and Kenning).

In Maths, we have continued learning about shape. This week the children have learned about vertical and horizontal lines, parallel and perpendicular lines and properties of 2D shapes. To conclude the week, they will complete end of term arithmetic paper.



In Science, the children have developed their knowledge of the human body through exploring how bones and muscles work together to aid body movement! Whilst studying the body, the children discussed examples of voluntary and involuntary muscle movement.

In Art, we have begun learning about Maya masks, ready to design and make our own masks in subsequent lessons.

In French, the children have developed their understanding and spoken knowledge of character descriptions.

Finally, in PE the children have continued learning about cricket with a specific focus on developing their batting skills to score points in this week's lesson.

Year 4

What a week with the warm temperatures! In topic we began looking at Mayan Masks ahead of some art work next week and in science we have started looking at the human body especially skeletons. As part of this we discussed an experiment looking into femur length and how far someone can jump. We will complete this investigation early next week. In maths we have been looking at tables and charts, discussing what they tell us and how we can find out more information. On top of this we have also completed our end of year maths assessments, which the children focused for wonderfully considering the heat!

This week in English we have been looking at writing a balanced argument. Our question has been "Should Robin Hood steal from the rich and give to the poor?". We have looked at reasons for stealing and reasons against stealing and considered that in a balanced argument we need to consider both before sharing our own opinion in the conclusion. On Friday the children held debates against each other relating to this question, many of the children even debated for an opposing view to their own. Reflecting on our debates back in autumn term the children have come on such a long way and it was wonderful to see their confidence.

Year 5



It has been end of term test week in year 5…something we just have to do…but the children have been brilliant. In between tests, we have been finishing some perspective art work just to keep things nice and relaxed!

Maths lessons that have taken place have focussed on Ratio – the children have been using cubes to make creatures but they had to only use two colours in the ratio of 1:3… they came up with some brilliant animals!

In English, we are moving onto our last unit which is persuasive and descriptive writing linked to making a travel brochure for Mexico. So far, we have looked at existing brochures to build up a bank of words that can be used such as 'exquisite' and 'picturesque'.



In our History lessons, we have become history detectives by looking at Aztec artefacts and trying to figure out what they could have been and what they tell us about Aztec life. We also started to learn about Aztec society, with each child being given a person to be for the rest of term. We finished this off by having our first 'Aztec sacrifice' where we got rid of one member of society to appease the gods! We also finished painting our Calendar stones.

In our RSHE work, with the support of Mrs Duckmanton, we have been learning about periods and what is available for girls. We start off as a whole class and then we split into boys and girls groups to allow for any questions that children may not have been comfortable to ask. We were incredibly impressed with them all… the questions that they were asking showed that they were being incredibly thoughtful about this stage of puberty.

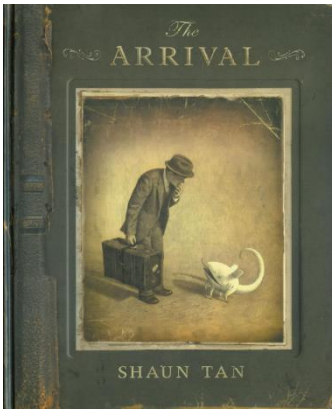
Year 6

Another week has flown and it's great to see how excited the children are about the camp out tonight. I'm sure it will be a fantastic event with lots of fun activities planned! Just a reminder that children will need to by picked up **by 8am** at the latest on Saturday morning. I want to say a huge thank you to the staff who are giving up their time (and sleep) to enable the camp out to go ahead!

In class this week, we have had further Maths lessons linked to puzzles and problem solving. We then had some algebra code-breaker challenges and this topic will continue into next week. During English lessons, the class were introduced to a new book… 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan. It is a wordless novel and the class had to use their detective skills to try and work out what's happening throughout the story.

In History lessons, we continued our learning of the Aztecs – where the class researched information linked to their daily life, clothing, homes and food. In addition to a further RSHE lesson, the children who are going to Broadland completed their 'All About Me' projects. This will be taken with them to Broadland next week as part of their

transition days. Similar to last week, we have spent some of our afternoons practising for our Treasure Island play – and on Thursday, we had water polo matches during our swimming lesson.





Read at Home for a Star

Reading Bear will spend time with:

Year 2 who had **22 out of 29** and
Year 4 who had **28 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 98%.
Attendance bear will spend the week with them yet again!!

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

	STARS, ANGELS AND DIAMONDS
Reception	Ruby, Jacob, Teddy H-J
Year 1	Pippa, Jacob, Max
Year 2	Freddie, Emmy, Eve
Year 3	Leo, Jackson, Hunter
Year 4	Ali, Izzy, Eden
Year 5	Sophia, Lilah, Lola
Year 6	Isaac, Ellie, Maxwell

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Chris Ashman