Rackheath Primary School Newsletter

MAY HALF TERM

Friday 22nd May 2026

We finished last week with a lovely trip to the seaside with Year 6. It was an absolute pleasure to spend the day with the class and we all had a brilliant time! I even beat Mr Cavender at air hockey, which was great (although he did beat me at bowling!)

This week we are finishing up what has been a lovely half term with the FORS Funday. We really are incredibly lucky to have such an amazing group of volunteers. Their work means we can run brilliant days like today. Without them we wouldn't have the brilliant Bunker!

Heads For The Day – Jack and Erin

"Today has been a great day….

It started with us arriving in at half 8 for a meeting with all the teachers.

Next, we went around every class to see how they were getting on. After that we helped with assembly, we got to sit at the front! Then we had break like usual and also got to stay out with KS1 which was fun. Next, we went round each class and picked 2 children to do a survey about how they liked break time, then that brought us to lunch. In the afternoon we handed out 2 stickers to 2 people in each class who were getting on very well. Then we moved on to the next survey about science and again picked 2 children from each class, most children liked it a lot. After that we went round each class to gather what new play equipment everyone wanted, some people wanted electric cars! Lastly, we had some free time in reception.



Our favourite part of the day was having a hot chocolate and 4 biscuits! We also loved doing all of the surveys and hearing everyone's opinions".

JACK and ERIN

Class Assemblies

Our class assemblies continued with Year 1's assembly on Thursday. It was a lovely assembly during which the children showcased all their learning in a fun and interesting way! Normally our assemblies start at 2:45pm and family members should arrive by 2:40pm. **Year 2' assembly on Thursday 11th June will start at 2.30pm (parents arrive by 2.25pm) to allow us to get the hall ready for FORS Father's Day Event.**

- Tuesday 9th June Year 4
- Thursday 11th June Year 2 (2.30pm start)
- Thursday 25th June Reception Class

Cluster Cricket

On Wednesday we took part in the Cluster Cricket tournament at AB Wanderers Cricket Club. As usual it was a super day. We started with a strong performance and good win against Tunstead. We then had a key game against Coltishall. We bowled and batted well but lost a few too many wickets to get really close to Coltishall's total. We then beat Neatishead in our final group game. This meant we came second in our group and played Salhouse who had finished second in their group. This was a very exciting and close game going right down to the last ball. Salhouse eventually winning by 2 runs. All the team did well. For quite a few it was their first experience of playing and I hope they continue to play. Special mentions for Xander who captained the team well and showed lots of ability with the bat and the ball as well as to Harley who hit some huge sixes and took an incredible one-handed catch. Our player of the day was Stanley who kept the run rate down and picked up some wickets bowling the key last over in all four games and was also our highest run scorer. In one game he scored 34 of 9 balls!! Well done to them and the rest of the team; Nicola, Ava, Esme, William, Jenson, Max and Jack who all played their part with the ball, bat and in the field.







New Parent Meeting – We have sent out letters to the parents of our Reception Intake for September 2026. Our meeting for new parents is on Tuesday 9th June at 6:30pm. Following that we will have other transition events, the dates of which we will share on June 9th.

Clubs After Half Term – Football clubs for years 3 to 6 will stop at the end of this half term. We will run an athletics club instead. The sign-up sheet for this has been sent out on Scopay.

- Monday Year 3 & 4 - Tennis
- Tuesday Year 3 to 6 - Athletics
- Wednesday Year 1 & 2 - Football
- Thursday Year 5 & 6 - Netball
- Friday Year 5 & 6 - Cricket

Cross Country will also still be on Friday morning before school.

Transition Morning – Our children will have a move up morning on Thursday 2nd July. New Reception children will also come in for a visit on that day.

Cricket Taster Day with Chance to Shine Cricket

On Monday Year 1 to 6 took part in a super day of cricket run by Will at Chance to Shine Cricket. Everyone really enjoyed their sessions and Will was very complementary about all our children's attitudes. Well done everyone!



World Cup 2026

The Men's Football World Cup starts on June 11th. We will hold a draw in an assembly after half term. Each class will then have 6 teams to "follow"

Summer Term Dates

If you thought this half term was busy, the next one is even busier! As per the diary sheet you were sent out in September here is a reminder plus some extras!



Year 6

Wednesday 1st / Thursday 2nd July	Broadland Transition Days
Friday 3rd July	Year 6 Camp Out
Tuesday 14th / Wednesday 15th July	End of term performances – 6.00pm
Thursday 16th July	Leavers Assembly Awards
Friday 17th July	Leaver's Assembly for children and parents (AM)

W/C 15th June Sports Week – incorporating Sports Days

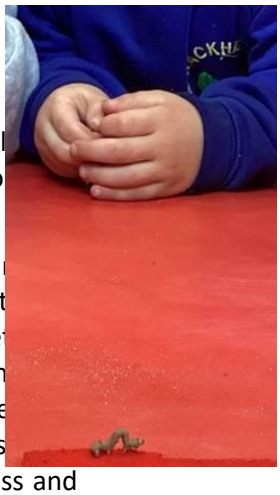
Monday	Fun Sports (AM)
Tuesday	EYFS- Reception and Nursery (AM)
Wednesday	KS2 Sports (AM)
Wednesday	KS1 Sports (PM)
Friday	Reserve Day

Second Half of the term

Monday 1st June	New half term starts
Thursday 4th June	Year 6 start swimming
Tuesday 9th June	New Intake Parents Evening
Friday 12th June	Whole School DT Day
Week of the 15th June	Sports Week
Wednesday 17th June	Reception Trip to Thrigby Hall
Friday 26th June	Whole School Passport Day
Wednesday 1st July	Year 1 & 2 trip to Amazona Zoo
Thursday 2nd July	Class Moving up morning
Friday 3rd July	Year 5 Art and Science Day at Broadland
Friday 17th July	Last Day of Term



Bombers



Keeping clean and learning how healthy habits help our bodies has been a wonderful for the children recently. Our little learners thoroughly enjoyed exploring healthy ro through hands-on activities, meaningful discussions, and imaginative play.

The children became mini dentists as they practised cleaning giant model teeth, ca brushing the teeth clean whilst discussing why it is important to look after our teet bodies. They also created hand pictures where they explored the difference be "germs" and "non-germs." The children were highly engaged in these discussion showed growing awareness and understanding around hygiene and keeping he During lunch times, many of the children proudly commented on how their hands "no germs" before eating their lunches, showing growing awareness and f the routines and discussions we had explored together.



Our School Leavers Group have continued building confidence and excitement through physical activities and team games. The children thoroughly enjoyed practising their races outdoors. "On your marks, get set, go!" echoed across the garden as the children sprinted down the track with enormous smiles, laughter, and determination. It was wonderful to see such freedom, joy, and confidence shining through as they encouraged one another and celebrated taking part together.

One particularly exciting moment happened when the children discovered a caterpillar sitting on somebody's coat in the classroom. The children were fascinated and immediately became protective of their tiny visitor. Thoughtful conversations quickly followed as they discussed making sure not to squash the caterpillar and carefully returning it to a leaf outside. One child expla e leaf so he can go to all his other caterpillar friends." Moments such as thes growing kindness, empathy, and respect for living things.



This naturally led us to sharing the much-loved story The Very H Caterpillar. The children laughed as the caterpillar munched his way th all the different foods before ending up with a sore tummy from eati too much! There were lots of giggles and excited storytelling as the ch joined in with familiar parts of the story. By the end, many of the ch decided the story had made them feel rather hungry too, and h headed off to enjoy their lunches together.

Reception

Wow what a fun last week of the half term. This week has been music week - we have had a great week listening to live music from Mr and Mrs Cavender who visited out classroom and played the guitar, ukulele and trumpet. We also played musical instruments ourselves and learned a funky song!

We have also been revising the sounds 'igh' and 'ow and reading and writing lots of words with those sounds. Our writing is improving lots, keeping our letters the same size, forming our letters correctly and writing on the line. In Maths we have also been revising, we have looked at counting, adding two numbers, one more and one less, double numbers and number bonds to 10.

On Friday, we finished our busy week with the FORS Fun day – we had a playground disco with our Y6 buddies, ate a delicious buffet lunch and ended the day with a super fun time on the bouncy castles! Well done Reception class – enjoy your week off in the sunshine.





Year 1

What a super, duper week we've had in Year 1! Every afternoon we have been practicing hard for our class assembly. We are very proud of the children and thought they did a fantastic job at the assembly yesterday; a huge thank you to all those parents who managed to come along to see their child's hard work in action. Today the children have had a huge amount of fun on the inflatables (organised by our FORS team) and we hope they are suitably exhausted for bedtime tonight!

In English this week we have completed our final week of Peter Rabbit. The children have all finished retelling the story of Peter Rabbit and have been learning how to edit and improve their writing. They have also completed their own book review of the story and have enjoyed watching the Peter Rabbit film as an end this unit.

In Maths we have been looking at positron and direction. The children have been learning how to describe whole, half, quarter and three-quarter turns. They have had lots of fun creating their own treasure maps and guiding others to the treasure. We have done lots of different position and directions game to get the children using the correct key language: left, right, above, below, next to, beside' etc. Great work Year 1!

Year 2

As we reach the end of another half term, it's hard to believe how quickly this school year is flying by!

In English this week, the children explored how to use the subordinating conjunction *"if"* to connect a possibility to a main idea. They then began planning an extended writing piece inspired by *Hansel and Gretel*, working collaboratively in small groups to create a shared class plan. Later in the week, the children independently wrote letters in role as Gretel to her father, describing her experiences in the forest and at the witch's house. They also spent time editing and improving their work — a challenging skill that requires thoughtful proofreading and reflection — and they approached this brilliantly.

In Maths, we continued our learning on fractions. The children learned to recognise one quarter as one of four equal parts and practised finding one quarter of different numbers. They also explored one third as one of three equal parts and worked on calculating one third of various amounts.

In Science, the children investigated the importance of exercise in maintaining a healthy body. They took part in a variety of physical activities and observed the effects on their bodies, particularly changes in heart rate and breathing.

In History, we concluded our unit on significant people from the past by comparing the three inspirational nurses we have studied: Florence Nightingale, Edith Cavell and Mary Seacole. The children then used their knowledge and creativity to design a monument dedicated to their chosen nurse, thinking carefully about how to celebrate their achievements and contributions to history.

The children also thoroughly enjoyed a cricket taster session earlier in the week, as well as our fun day today. Despite the warm weather leaving everyone feeling rather hot and sweaty, they had a fantastic time on the inflatables before cooling down with some colouring and short films.

Year 3

What a fabulous end to the penultimate half term we have had in Year 3!



In English, the children completed the first draft of their instructions explaining how to care for their own dragon or mythical creature. They then carefully edited and improved their work before producing a final published version on a scroll-style poster. The children showed great creativity and enthusiasm throughout the writing process.

In Maths, the children learned how to tell the time to the nearest minute, both past and to the hour. They also explored reading time using a digital clock and learned the difference between am and pm. To conclude the week, the children investigated different units of time, comparing and discussing years, months and days.

In Science, we explored the importance of vitamins and minerals, discovering which foods contain different nutrients and why they are important for keeping our bodies healthy. The children also identified and named the parts of the human digestive system before exploring the digestive process through a fun, hands-on activity. Finally, we identified the different types of human teeth and learned about their simple functions.



In RSE, the children discussed how our bodies belong to us and that we all have the right to decide what happens to our own bodies. We talked about safe and comfortable touches, recognising that we may feel more comfortable with certain trusted people helping us or touching us than others. The children also practised using clear and confident language, including saying, ‘‘Stop, I don’t like it,’’ to help them understand how to communicate their feelings and set boundaries if someone touches them in a way that makes them uncomfortable.

Have a wonderful half-term break and I look forward to seeing everyone again the following week!

Year 4

I cannot quite believe we are at half term already! We have, as always, been really busy again this week, squeezing lots into the last five days. In English we have finished our Horstead work by writing newspaper reports. These have been lovely to read through as they really tell their individual perspective of our Trip. As we have focused on our word choices this half term, they were full of adverbs and adjectives which really helped to retell the experience (in third person, of course!).



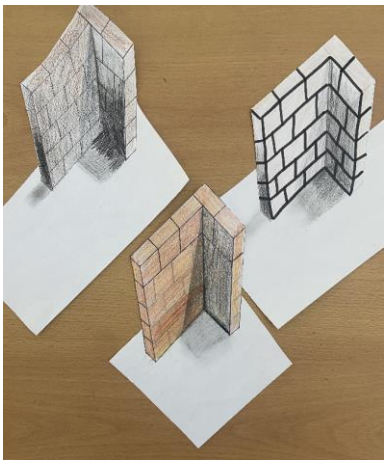
In Maths we have whizzed through our work on statistics, looking at pictograms and line graphs. We have learnt the importance of first checking some key areas such as the scale, axis label and the key before we work out the answer. Towards the end of the week the children attempted to plot their own line graphs and some even attempted creating a line graph to show the weather forecast!

In science we have looked at food chains and in art we have been looking at plants. This began with some observational drawings of leaves. First the children had 3 minutes to look at their leaf then cover it up, before attempting to draw it from memory. They then redrew the leaf with constant observation to help them get all the small details!



Now for the best bit of the week, Fun Day! We began the day continuing our art work, each child picked an image of a flower to recreate. They were then given just a few colours and white and black to mix the shades and tints they needed. Once they were happy with their palette, they used their observation skills again to paint in detail. After break it was Year 4’s turn on the inflatables, this was 40 minutes of great fun! Lots of jumping, racing and big smiles for everyone! At lunch we were treated to a wonderful picnic outside on the playground which was finished off with an ice cream. Finally, to finish off the afternoon we had a choice of activities from creating masterpieces to TTRS and a group of children sewing bookmarks. Overall a really lovely day. I hope you all have a lovely half term break and can enjoy this sunshine!

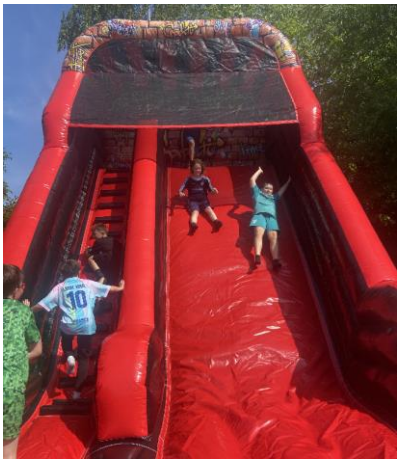
Year 5



I still cannot believe that we are (somehow) half way through the summer term! I have been so proud of the children's work rate this week and they thoroughly deserved to have their 'FORS Fun Day' today!

In Maths lessons, we moved on to a new topic, which focuses on converting units of measurements. The children understood that 'kilo' means thousand and confidently converted between metres and kilometres as well as grams and kilograms. In recent lessons, we moved on to other units of measurements such as millimetres, centimetres and metres.

During our English lessons (linked to The Midnight Fox) the children completed their newspaper reports – where Tom (the main character) was interviewed in relation to his fox sighting. We also added in an extra section to our diary entries (in the role of Tom) and will continue this after half term.



In Science, we learnt about the function of blood and its components. After learning about the roles of red blood cells, white blood cells, platelets and plasma, the children designed a circulatory system diagram. As a fun challenge in an art lesson, the class had to replicate an optical illusion. They were brilliant at understanding perspective as well as knowing how shading helps create a 3D effect. In an R.E lesson, linked to our study of Hinduism, we learnt the differences between: Dharma, Karma, Samsara and Moksha.

Finally, we all had an amazing 'FORS Fun Day' today – where we had a disco, picnic lunch, played on all of the inflatables and watched a film! Thank you to the FORs for organising such a memorable day for the children!

Year 6

For just this week, it has been a slightly more relaxed few days for us in year 6! But after half term, the hard work will start again as we prepare for the play and for High School!

In maths, we have been looking at the 'Lunar Theme park' project! The children are given an amount of money to build a theme park on the moon. We then work out the costings of staff, maintenance and earn money from the gate tickets. The aim is to build a park that entices people but doesn't end up costing too much to run!

In English, we have taken what we have learnt from our work on Alma and have used this to write our own mystery stories following a similar pattern. We have not finished these yet but we have some really creative ideas!

In topic, we have been looking at comparing towns in Rio to towns in Norwich – we did this through a piece of artwork to show how they differ. We also finished our worked linked to Brazilian Artist Beatriz Milhazes.

However, the absolute highlight of the week for the children has been The Traitors! We have had two people voted out…Nicola (who was a faithful) and Lola (who was a traitor). Each day, we are having challenges to try and earn more prizes for the eventual winners and we also had a competition to win a shield…which Olivia W won! Hopefully, the children will keep the secrets and the game will go smoothly!

Have a great half term!





Read at Home for a Star

Attendance Bear

Reading Bear will spend time with:

Years 1 who had **18 out of 30** and
Years 5 who had **29 out of 30**

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

Well done to Year 6 for

99%

attendance last week.
Attendance Bear will spend the week after half term with them!

Have a lovely half term holiday.

Best wishes

Chris Ashman

