Rackheath Primary School Newsletter

Friday 10th July 2026

The penultimate week of the year has been a busy one. It started (or maybe the last week ended) with the Camp Out and stretches into Saturday with the excitement of the Summer Fair. The heart has certainly brought its challenges. Given the heat and the time of the year the children have been brilliant to stay focussed and working hard. We have also been talking a lot about kindness and empathy - thinking about how the heat can affect us all. Again the children have impressed us all with their kindness and thoughtfulness for each other.

Camp Out

I am just about recovered from a night of VERY little sleep on the camp out last Friday. The children and staff had a brilliant time playing lots of different games including midnight manhunt (10:30pm manhunt doesn't have the same ring to it!) and having a disco and a picnic tea. This class may well have set a new record for smallest amount of sleep. When I woke up at 3am there were still children chatting away outside of their tents!



A huge thank you to the parents who provided tents and put them up. Thank you to Ms Holmes, Mrs Pilbrow and Mr Cavender for camping with the children too!

Clubs next week – There are no after school sports clubs next week.

After School Club on Friday 17th July - After School Club will finish at 4:15pm on the last day of term. Families of the children attending that day have been contacted about this.

Wimbledon Session – Tennis Edge

On Tuesday and Wednesday this week, every class had a one-hour Wimbledon tennis session with Tennis Edge. You have received a message with details of their summer tennis camps. The children and staff all loved the lessons and Barnaby the coach was very impressed with the children's attitude and behaviour.





The Performance and Oracy Festival – Monday 6th July

I would like to say a huge thank you to all of the children who participated in 'The Performance and Oracy Festival' on Monday at Broadland High School. The purpose behind the event was to raise standards in performance confidence, public speaking and expressive language among pupils. In total, 20 children from Rackheath attended – along with children from other schools within our cluster. In the lead-up to the event, all of the children were enthusiastic when practising their poems at lunchtimes, and we all had lots of fun! I'd also like to say thank you to the parents and family members for your fantastic support too!

The structure of the day was for children in KS1, LKS2 and UKS2 to perform either a solo or paired poem plus a choral (group) poem. Everyone represented our school brilliantly, and the feedback from all of the staff who attended was how impressed they were with the children's confidence and expressiveness.

Well done again to the 20 chosen children for all of their hard work throughout the term…

KS1 – Isabelle, Maggie, Isla, Larna, Ruby, Thora and Enid

LKS2 – Emmy, Ivy, Niamh, Ada, Charlotte, Aminah, Jasmine and Willow

UKS2 – Stan, Max, Isla, Edie and Ava

In the new academic year, I will confirm if there will be a 2026/27 festival.

Thanks once again,

Mr Edwards - English Lead

Year 6 Leavers Assembly

Leaver's assembly on Friday 17th July will start around 9:15am. Parents can stay in school after drop off.

Annual Reports

As mentioned last week, our annual reports will go out on Monday 13th July. They will be sent out as a paper copy. Within the report there will be results from statutory assessment. This will cover Early Learning Goals for Reception, Phonics screening for Year 1 and some Year 2's and the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check.



Normally, the reports would also include results from the Key Stage 2 SATS. Unfortunately, it was announced yesterday by the DFE that the results will not be available to download by schools until Thursday 16th July – the day before the end of school. As such we will have to send these results out separately then.

KS2 Cluster Sports



On Tuesday we took part in Cluster Athletics at Broadland. It was lovely to see all the schools cheering each other on. We had 37 children from Year 3 to 6 representing the school in different events; 100 metres, 200 metres, 400 metres, ball throw, long jump and relay. In the end we came second overall, finishing 22 points behind the winners Coltishall. There were lots of great performances across the team. This year we started recording times and distances so we can have cluster records moving forward. The following children won their race and also ran the quickest time or recorded the furthest distance out of all the competitors:

- Year 3 & 4 boys 100m — Elliot - 15:59 seconds
- Year 3 & 4 girls 100m — Emily - 16:00 seconds
- Year 5 & 6 girls 100m — Mila - 15:40 seconds
- Year 3 & 4 girls 200m — Karina - 37:22 seconds
- Year 3 & 4 boys relay — Jamie, Elliot, Henry, Archie - 1:08:49
- Year 3 & 4 boys ball throw — Ben - 26 metres
- Year 5 & 6 boys ball throw — Harley - 37 m 12 cm

Other Rackheath winners were:

- Year 3 & 4 boys 100m — Jamie - 16:34 seconds
- Year 5 & 6 boys 100m — Jack - 15:31 seconds
- Year 5 & 6 boys 200m — Jenson - 35:81 seconds
- Year 3 & 4 girls 400m — Charlotte - 1:27:81
- Year 3 & 4 boys relay — Leo, Jackson, Ben, Elliott - 1:11:03
- Year 3 & 4 girls relay — Jasmine, Rosie, Ella, Charlotte - 1:14:47

Thank you to Ms Holmes for scoring the event and to Mr Palmer who timed all the races as well as Mrs Duckmanton, Mrs Goddard and Mrs Penson who took the team.

Summer Term Dates

Year 6

- Tues 14th / Weds 15th July — End of term performances – 6.00pm
- Thursday 16th July — Leavers Assembly Awards (children only)
- Friday 17th July — Leaver's Assembly for children and parents (AM)



General Dates

- Monday 13th July — Cluster Swimming Gala at Broadland
- Friday 17th July — Last day of term



Bombers

Our school leavers have enjoyed some truly unforgettable experiences as they continue preparing for their exciting move to Reception.

One of the highlights was a very special visit from Cheryl and her wonderful tortoises. The children met a large, medium and small tortoise, learning how to care for them through hands on experiences. They carefully stroked the tortoises, helped to feed them and even had the opportunity to hold one. The children were fascinated, asking thoughtful questions and showing care and kindness throughout.

There were plenty of smiles as the children discovered that gently stroking a tortoise's shell often made it wiggle its little bottom! This quickly became a favourite part of the visit, filling the room with laughter. Another exciting moment came when one adventurous tortoise decided to make a little escape from its enclosure. The children watched with great excitement, carefully remembering to keep their voices calm so they did not frighten their tiny explorer.

A huge thank you to Cheryl for giving the children such a memorable and enjoyable experience.

Our school leavers also had a wonderful time at their celebration, thoughtfully organised by the Friends of Rackheath School and Preschool (FORS). A heartfelt thank you to everyone involved in creating such a special afternoon. The hall was filled with music, balloons, laughter and smiling faces as the children danced, skipped, jumped, enjoyed delicious refreshments and made the most of every moment alongside their friends and families.

It was a lovely opportunity for the children to celebrate themselves, the friendships they have built and everything they have achieved during their time at Bombers. Watching them laugh together, enjoy every moment and create such happy memories made it a truly special celebration for everyone involved.

As we look forward to our final week together, we are excited to enjoy a few more special moments before our school leavers begin their next adventure.



Year 1

Another fabulous week in Year 1, we can't believe there's only a week to go! All the children have grown up so much since September and we're really going to miss them when they move into Year 2; but we know that they'll have a fantastic time!

This week in English we have been finishing our Paddington Bear unit by creating a fact leaflet all about Peru! The children have worked really hard to independently write sentences all about Peru and include some brilliant pictures with it too! Each day we have been looking at each other's work, under the visualizer, and picking out all the things we love about it, as well as making suggestions on how to improve. Great work everyone!

In maths we have been working on money. The children have been recognising different coins and different notes. They have also been adding different coins together to making amounts to £1. On Thursday the children played café's and had to order different items from each other and work out how much they would need to pay.

Today's Crazy Hair Day was great fun and we loved seeing all the children's incredible hair creations! Next week we will be sending the children's books home and emptying trays on Wednesday, so please can you ensure that your child has AT LEAST 1 plastic bag to put their books in.

We hope you have a lovely weekend. Keep Reading!!!

Year 2

I can't believe there is only one week left of the school year – where has the time gone!

On Tuesday, we had an exciting visit from Tennis Edge. The children thoroughly enjoyed their tennis session, which was inspired by Wimbledon.

In English, we learned our final writing skills, focusing on using the subordinating conjunctions so that and so before beginning to write our newspaper reports at the end of the week. The children have made a fantastic start by writing their summaries, ensuring they tell the reader who, what, where, when, and why, before moving on to the first part of the main body. Many of them are looking forward to finishing their reports next week!

In Maths, we have started our new unit on statistics. So far, we have practised creating and interpreting tally charts, tables, block diagrams, and pictograms. We have had lots of fun deciding what questions to ask our friends in order to collect data, with topics including favourite footballers, ice cream flavours, and animals.

In the afternoons, we have been learning about places of worship. We began by thinking about our own special places, describing what they are like, how they make us feel, and what we do there. We then learned that places of worship are special places where people go to worship. So far, we have focused on mosques, labelling their key features and creating our own 3D mosque models.

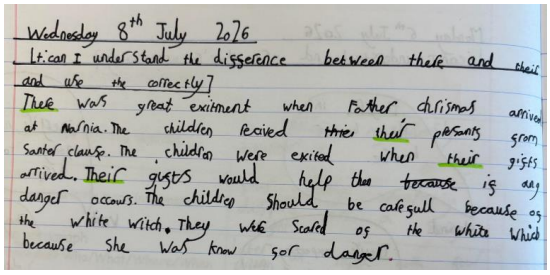






Year 3

It has been another fantastic week of learning in Year 3! In Maths, the children explored the 2D representations of 3D shapes by investigating their nets. On Tuesday, they demonstrated excellent resilience and teamwork as they carefully cut, folded and assembled their own 3D shapes from nets. To consolidate their learning, the children completed a range of shape challenges on Purple Mash and enjoyed playing 2D and 3D shape games, helping them to further develop their understanding of the properties of different shapes.



Wednesday 8th July 2026

L.I. can I understand the disgerence between there and their and use the correctly?

There was great exitment when Father chrismas arrived at Narnia. The children recived ~~thier~~ their persons from Santor clause. The children were exited when their gifts arrived. Their guests would help the ~~because~~ is any danger occurs. The children should be cafegull because of the white witch. They wre scared of the White Whid because She was know sor danger.

In English, we focused on spelling, punctuation and grammar. The children spent time securing their understanding of how and when to use the contraction **they're** before moving on to distinguish between the commonly confused homophones **there**, **their** and **they're**. We are pleased to see their confidence growing with these tricky words and look forward to seeing this accuracy reflected in their future writing. To conclude the week, the children recapped how to punctuate direct speech correctly, focusing on using reporting clauses before and after the spoken words.



During Art, the children continued their exciting unit inspired by the work of Georgia O'Keeffe. They carefully analysed examples of her artwork, making thoughtful observations about her use of shading, texture, contrasting colours and composition. The children then selected a flower from the school grounds and completed detailed observational sketches before producing a second drawing inspired by O'Keeffe's distinctive style. Later in the week, they experimented with blending colours using oil pastels before creating their own abstract artwork inspired by Georgia O'Keeffe. They finished by evaluating their final pieces and reflecting on the techniques they had used. Well done, Year 3, for another week of fantastic effort, creativity and enthusiasm for learning!

Year 4

I cannot believe we only has one week left! As it always is, it has been very busy this week as we approach the end of term. We have squeezed a lot into this week, even with lots of the class at cluster sports on Tuesday. Whilst some of the children were at cluster sports we took part in a live workshop with the Royal Opera House, this was a lovely morning with some great tasks that had everyone up and moving around the room. Once everyone returned to school we were then treated to a tennis session, the children were excellent and showed lots of resilience in the hot weather.

In class we have continued looking at Robin Hood and begun preparing to share a balanced argument next week linked to the question 'Should Robin Hood steal?'. This week we have been coming up with ideas for both sides of the argument. In maths we have looked at position and direction, this has mainly focused on coordinates and how to translate them on a grid. We finished the week by playing a game to see if we could get our partner to place their counter in the exact spot we intended.

In topic this week we looked at Ancient Greek Philosophers and created fact files for Socrates, Plato and Aristotle. The children completed some research to add extra information to what we learnt in class. In art we created flower vases using clay. The first step was to create a flower template on paper, before rolling there clay and using the template to cut out the shape. Next the cut between the petals and carefully bent them upwards before joining them to form their bowl. As you can imagine in this warm weather they dried quickly so next week will paint them in time for the summer holidays. I hope you all have a lovely weekend and enjoy the sunshine.



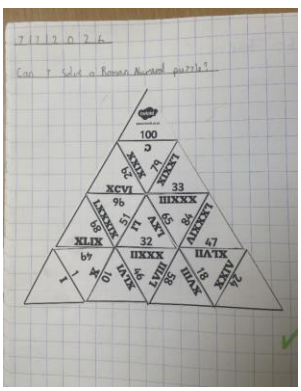




Year 5

The Year 5s have been amazing in their lead-up to the final week. During Maths lessons we focused on Roman Numerals. One of the activities involved building a large triangle where each number needed to be connected to its Roman Numeral equivalent.

In English lessons, the children wrote a narrative linked to our class book There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom. It was amazing to see the children confidently switch between writing as the narrator and characters from the story. We then learnt how to deliberately shorten sentences lengths to add suspense. I'd like to say a big well done to the children who attended the Oracy Festival at Broadland High School. Also, to those who went to the Cluster Athletics tournament. Throughout both of these events, the children gave their all and they represented the school brilliantly!



On Tuesday afternoon, we had a visit from Tennis Edge, where the children participated in a range of tennis activities and games. In a Geography activity, we learnt about vegetation belts and how they differ depending on their location. In addition to having a further RSHE lesson, the children continued practising their songs for the Year 6s production of Scheherazade and they found out their buddies for next year. The Year 5s were very excited and even got to make them a welcome card in preparation for September! Today, we had our Rio Carnival Day to conclude our South American Geography topic. During the day, we learnt about the history of carnivals, designed masks, created rainforest-themed artwork, and explored samba by both dancing and playing our own music!



On Wednesday, can you please ensure your child brings in a bag with them – as they will be taking their exercise books home. Some books may be passed up to Year 6, but the majority will be taken home. Also, we plan to have a movie afternoon on Friday. Although Mrs Duckmanton and I will provide snacks for the children, they are allowed to bring in additional popcorn or crisps if they wish.

Year 6

Our penultimate week of year 6! Whenever possible, we have spent every moment refining and fine-tuning the play. We spent a whole afternoon just going through the costumes and making sure people had enough time to change between scenes! We've also had some last minute props being made during break times… a big thank you to those children who have stayed in to help.

Away from the classroom we had a morning of 'TaskMasters' work where the children were split into groups to compete in a series of maths and non-maths related challenges. These included:

- Making the tallest tower with three sheets of paper
- Create a repeating pattern with a rule in the most creative but difficult way
- Making a shape with a perimeter as close to 1 meter as possible WITHOUT using anything to measure!



Children were awarded points for winning a challenge, or for being creative, or for excellent teamwork. The winning team were Madi, Lilah and Freya…Team CraftMasters!

Our RSE work was linked to our bodies and information around conception. If you would like more information of what was covered, please speak with Mr C!



Next week is our end of year 6 production of Scheherazade. These are Tuesday and Wednesday nights with the show starting at 6.00pm. Parents are able to be seated from 5.35pm but not before this as we will be setting up in the hall. Children must be back at school by 5.10pm and will need to go to the classroom. **NOTE: should England progress to the semi-finals, the Wednesday performance may be brought forward – keep an eye out for information regarding this!**

Attendance Bear

Well done to Year 3 for

99%

attendance last week.
Attendance Bear will spend next week with them!

Read at Home for a Star

Reading Bear will spend time with:

Years 1 who had **22 out of 30** and
Years 5 who had **27 out of 30**

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

	STARS, ANGELS AND DIAMONDS
Reception	Alesha, Mavis, Willow
Year 1	Teddy B, Teddy H-J, Isla
Year 2	Eden, Grace, Joshua
Year 3	Alexa, Niamh, Ella
Year 4	All of Year 4, Florence, Luke
Year 5	George, Isla, Hunter
Year 6	All of Year 6

Have a lovely weekend

Best wishes

Chris Ashman

