Rackheath Primary School Newsletter

Friday 10th November 2023

It has been an exciting week in school with Year 6 at Aylmerton and Year 1 and 2 enjoying a Victorian Day the highlights. Whisper it but thoughts are also turning to Christmas Concerts and Nativity Plays.

Year 6 at Aylmerton – The Year 6 children have been away all this week. From the communication I've had with the staff team at Aylmerton the children have had an amazing time! A full report will follow next week. In the meantime a huge thank you to Mr Edwards, Mr Cavender, Mrs Goddard and Mrs Roe who have given up their time (and sleep) to give the children an incredible week. I am hugely grateful to them!

Cluster Cross Country



The cluster cross country is next Friday morning at Coltishall Primary. The race itself are held on the Bure Valley Football Club field behind the school. We held cross country club this morning before school and then we will have another run on Monday at lunchtime so I can sort the team out. To get there we are travelling by coach with Salhouse. On the coach we can take 32 children. We

could take a few more if some parents are planning to watch and would be happy to transport children to Coltishall and back. If you know your child is keen to run and you were planning to go along please let me know. If we have a few parent helpers it means we can take more than 32. I will send out letters early next week. Please return them as soon as possible.

Bombers Cleaner Role – We are looking for a cleaner in our Bombers setting. This would be for 5 hours a week either before or after school depending on what hours would work best. If anyone is interested please let the office know.







Next Friday 17th is Children In Need and we will celebrate it in our usual way. Children can come into school in non-uniform for a voluntary donation of a £1. Classes will run some fun activities and at lunch we will hold fun games with sweets as prizes. Each race will cost 20p to enter all money raised will go to Children In Need.



SEND Parent Forum

The November SEND Parent Forum takes place this Monday 13th November at 9am in the school hall. We have a guest speaker Nikki Corcoran, from the Norfolk SEN Parent Network visiting. Nikki will

be talking about the parents tool kit. The toolkit provides suggestions of questions for parents to ask when looking to secure the support needed for their young person. It gives ideas on working with the local authority and their children's placement whilst keeping their young person and their voice at the centre of all communication and plans moving forward. It will be an engaging and collaborative session and we will ask parents who might be unsure of the support available to come and join us. There will be nice coffee and biscuits!

Christmas Dates

There is lots happening this term in the run up to Christmas. No doubt more dates will be added to the list below as the term progresses.

- Friday 1st December FORS Christmas Fayre straight after school
- Monday 11th December am Reception Dress Rehearsal Year 1/2 dress rehearsal pm
- Tuesday 12th December Year 1/2 performance am Reception Performance pm
- Wednesday 13th December Reception performance am Year 1/2 Performance pm
- Tuesday 12th December KS2 Carols with the Salvation Army @7pm
- Tuesday 19th December Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day

Class Show and Tell Assemblies

This week we've had 2 class assemblies. Year 2 and 3 have shared their learning so far this year... both classes have certainly been busy. Next week we have 2 further assemblies from Reception and Year 1. The assemblies will start at 2:45 and parents should arrive for 2:40. Entrance will be through the main gates near the hall. Dates are as follows:

- Tuesday 14th November Year 1
- Wednesday 15th November Reception
- Tuesday 21st November Year 6
- Thursday 23rd November Year 5

Wellbeing tip from Mr; Cookson

Wellbeing tip from Mrs Cookson - Have you ever noticed how dogs, (and some other animals) rapidly shake themselves after a stressful event? My dog Willis does it after she's encountered another dog who isn't on her select list of friends! The shaking releases excess energy or tension and helps the animal to return to being



mentally and physically relaxed. We can learn from this behaviour by shaking our bodies to release any energy we're storing in our bodies too. If you follow this link you'll see what I'm talking about! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MEK2iyGmFyU I'd recommend your family do this every day, even when you've had a good day. I'll be reminding the children about this wellbeing activity over the next week, so please feel free to ask your child for a demonstration! Best wishes, Mrs Cookson (you can email me at cookson6nrf@nsix.org.uk).



Sports Update — Our planned football double header away against Coltishall, which was previously called off has been re-arranged for Friday 17th November. Some Year 6 children are taking part in a football competition at the Nest on Monday 13th November and will now be joined by a Year 5 team after we were contacted by Norwich CSF to see if we could replace a school that weren't able to attend.

Panto Time - Snow White

We are very lucky to have been offered a last minute visit from M & M Productions to a performance of Snow White on Monday afternoon next week. They have been to the school before in December 2019 and were amazing! The children thoroughly enjoyed it, so we are very excited to welcome them back!



Remembrance Assembly - Today we had a special assembly to mark remembrance day. The Royal British Legion theme for remembrance day this year is the contribution of soldiers from the Caribbean. We looked at the story of Trevor Edwards and RAF pilot and the history of black pilots in the RAF. Richard from the Salvation Army kindly came in to play the last post at the end of the assembly.



Bombers



The children have been very engaged this week exploring shape/patterns, and using their own ideas with some wonderful construction, the 'Tap-A-Shape' and the use of glitter, glue and paint. We discussed 'Divali'/ Fireworks and the children learnt some new songs. There has been some lovely turn taking and sharing and our slightly older ones have been kind to help settle some more new little ones. We should be welcoming a student very shortly for two days a week for work placement. We are hopeful that an extra pair of eyes will be most helpful and I am sure the children



will enjoy having a new face to play with. Please rest assured there would be supervision at all times. Next week we will be using many one handed tools in a variety of activities and exploring ways to enjoy 'mark making'.

Enjoy the week end.

Reception

We have been enjoying the picture book by John Hegley called 'Stanley's Stick.' We read 'Stick Man' at the beginning of the year when we studied Julia Donaldson books so it was great to explore another book with this theme – a very different story though! We have had fun painting with sticks, wrapping sticks with wool and investigating sticks with magnifying glasses and torches.

In phonics, we have learned the tricky, red words: be, she, and do. Our sounds were: j, v, y and w. In maths, we have loved looking at 2D shapes! Lots of the children are really confident to use the names of these shapes and we've been working on using language to describe their *properties* – how do they know it's a square/ triangle, etc? We used words like sides, corners, straight and curved.

Today, we thought a little about remembrance and watched a beautiful CBeebies video which helps explain that sometimes countries can disagree over things but the world is a much nicer place when we all agree to get along. Some of the children wanted to watch again, if so, Google: CBeebies remembrance rabbits video.

Next week, we are excited to look again at Nursery Rhymes as it's World Nursery Rhyme week! We will enjoy old favourites and explore some new ones! Also, we are very much looking forward to seeing you at our first class assembly on Wednesday at 2.30pm. We hope you have a super weekend!





Year 1

We started the week in Year 1 with our very exciting Victorian school day! We were so impressed with the children's costumes – thank you so much! We lined up outside the classroom then came in to sit in rows. Our Whiteboard pretended to be a blackboard and chalk for the day, and we couldn't use the laptops! We recited and wrote the alphabet, counted in 2s, 1os and 5s and did some add and subtract questions, we played 'Pass the Slipper' and watched a Magic Grandad video on You Tube about life in Victorian times.

We travelled further back in time for the rest of the week when we started to learn about The Great Fire of London. We were history detectives looking for clues about how the fire started. We looked at the timeline of what happened and matched facts to evidence about the events at the time.

In Phonics, we learnt the new sound 'oi' (spoil the boy) and compared it to 'oy' (toy for a boy). In English, we had further excitement when something appeared outside our classroom with danger tape surrounding it! We had a close look (but not too close!) and wrote questions that we wanted to answer about it. We looked for clues all day. We discovered it was an alien spaceship and that the alien was called Beegu! We looked at pictures of her and labelled them, then wrote descriptive sentences about her.

We started to practise our Class Assembly and are very excited about showing it to you all. Please come and watch us on Tuesday at 2.45pm!









Year 2

What a fabulous week we have had, starting with our Victorian School Day on Monday, and ending with the news that we have an unexpected Pantomime performance next Monday afternoon!

On Thursday we enjoyed sharing some of our learning in our class assembly. The children performed fantastically. We were very proud of how beautifully and clearly they read. The songs they performed were great too!

As well as preparing for our assembly the children have learnt to subtract using a hundred square, number line, bead string and tens and ones equipment. In English we have begun a unit of work on traditional tales.

The children have also had a PE lesson with Mr Palmer. Today we thought about sources of light and which are natural and which man-made. This links to a unit of work in RE that we will be doing in which we will answer the question: "Why is light an important symbol for Christians, Jews and Hindus?" Have a lovely weekend. At the risk of sounding like a stuck record, please, please try to spend a few minutes hearing your child read if you don't usually. We have yet to 'win' the Reading Bear.

Year 3

We started the week with our class assembly on Tuesday afternoon. The children absolutely loved showing their grown-ups all of the work they have done over the term, including reading out their 'Comet' stories, showing their 'Open Window' pictures and singing some of their favourite songs! They have also been working incredibly hard on their fable stories this week, using fronted adverbials to express time; adjectives to introduce their characters and inverted commas to show speech. In Maths, the children have been looking at multiplying and dividing by 3, and finished today by learning how to multiply by 10. See if your child can remember how to complete these sums: 15x10= 23x10= 74x10=.

In topic, the children have impressed me once again with their ability to code in Computing and are quickly learning to find and identify countries in Europe. I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you all next week-Miss H ©

Year 4

Year 4 have had another fantastic week this week.

The highlight was our local walk around Rackheath. We were treated to lovely weather and the children were really interested at looking at how land is used around them. A huge thank you to the adults who joined us!



Back in school, we have been looking at our times tables in Maths and I'm really pleased to say we had a number of children earn a new certificate today. Well done! In English, we have been looking at speech punctuation and powerful verbs. We completed a big write today and I'm excited to take a look at the stories to see how we got on! Next week, swimming will return on Thursday as normal.

Year 5

In maths this week, we have focused on our formal multiplication of 4 digit x 1 digit numbers and the children have smashed it! We even managed to move onto worded problems and again, they worked really hard.

In English, we continued our work with our robot rabbits by imagining how they do a strange jump called a binky. And then, whilst I was away, the class worked on some free writing based on different images.

In topic, we learnt about rationing and found out that adults were only allowed 1 egg a week! We also found out that as a result of rationing during the war, the country was the healthiest it had ever been. We finished our science unit linked to classification by learning about food chains and food webs, we then had a fun quiz to see what we had remembered. With Mr Edwards, we made non-fiction pages about our trip to Gressenhall as you can see from the work below.





Reminder: On Wednesday, we have our ww2 Evacuee day in school. We have asked the children to dress up in their WW2 outfits once again for this day. There is also a special WW2 meal that can be booked through the school SCOPAY app.

Year 6

Although the majority of Year 6s haven't been in school this week due to their residential trip to Aylmerton, I still wanted to write about how amazing they have been! Mrs Roe and Mrs Goddard kindly attended the trip all week and I was there on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and swapped with Mr Cavender. It has to be one of the best residentials I have ever been on as the class supported one another, behaved brilliantly, conquered their fears (by completing so many challenges) and most importantly... had lots of fun! It was lovely to hear the instructors telling me what an amazing group of children they are and how well they have represented the school. Ms Holmes has done a brilliant job, as always, by setting a variety of fun tasks for those children who did not attend. They've been amazing too! In next week's newsletter (plus in our Year 6 assembly) we will be sharing lots of memories and photos of the trip. A big thank you needs to go to the children and to Mrs Roe, Mrs Goddard and Mr Cavender for giving up their time to attend this year's residential.



Reading Bear will spend time with:

Year 1 who had 23 out of 29 and Year 4 who had 24 out of 32

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

Year 1 had **98%**

attendance week beginning 30th
October. Attendance Bear will spend
next week with them.





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

	STARS, ANGELS AND DIAMONDS
Reception	Tyler, Enid, Joshua
Year 1	Zachery, Summer, Kipp
Year 2	Henry, Willow, Eliora
Year 3	Hunter, Vienna, Matilda
Year 4	Emil, Olivia W, Iris
Year 5	Maisie, Maxwell, Harlan
Year 6	All of Year 6

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Chris Ashman