

Rackheath Primary School Newsletter



Happy Easter

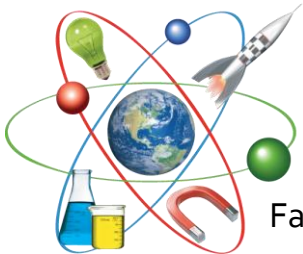
Wednesday 27th March 2024

Wedding News - Last Friday was a special day for Mrs Bird as she got married! A huge congratulations from us all to her and her husband Ian, the new Mr and Mrs Duckmanton! Everyone at school is very pleased for you both. After Easter Mrs Bird will be Mrs Duckmanton (or Mrs D!)



A Drop in The Ocean Presentation of Learning

Tuesday and Wednesday saw the children welcome family members to the interactive Rackheath museum. It was brilliant to see how confidently the children shared their learning with the rest of the school and their adult audience. Thank you to all of you who were able to attend. Having such a responsive and interested audience gave a real purpose to the children's learning. Speaking to lots of the children afterwards it was clear they really enjoyed the experience.



Science Fair

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, I was so impressed with the children's efforts and knowledge in our Science Fair. A huge thank you needs to go to the children and family members for making it such a special morning. It was also lovely to hear positive feedback from family members and I'm sure there will be another Rackheath Science Fair in the near future. In total, 28 children entered – all of whom presented brilliantly. All 3 judges noticed the enthusiasm, knowledge and scientific language being used when walking around the hall. Each class had at least 15 minutes to visit and I know they thoroughly enjoyed themselves too! Every single child who entered received a certificate in Thursday's assembly for their efforts. After a very hard decision, the 3 judges had to choose a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place from EYFS and KS1, as well as a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place from KS2.



The winners were as follows...

EYFS and KS1

1st place = Elsie Aspey 2nd place = Harry Pentney

3rd place = Jamie Smith & Zachery Parish

KS2

1st = Alex Bland 2nd place = Nathan Brink 3rd place = Cara Rayner

Well done again to everyone who took part as well as the family members who had a huge input into the presentations.

Mr Edwards



Spring Term Celebration Assembly

On Monday we held our Celebration Assembly for the term. Where two children per class who have particularly impressed receive their awards. It was clear from the lovely words of the teachers that this term's winners fully deserved their awards. They were:

- Reception – Jace and Amelia
- Year 1 – Cian and Alexa
- Year 2 – Archie and Mia
- Year 3 – Alfie and Edie
- Year 4 – Harley and Nicky
- Year 5 – Jack and Maxwell
- Year 6 – Harlow and Isabelle



Sheringham Shantymen Concert



We ended last week with a fantastic concert from The Sheringham Shantymen. The band performed for an hour and there was plenty of audience participation along the way! The children especially enjoyed "Drunken Sailor" and "The Wellerman." It was a shame we couldn't hold the concert

outside but we still raised some money to support the RNLI. It was lovely to see the children enjoying a live music concert. We were very lucky that the Shantymen could come in. A huge thank you to them and to Mrs Grogutt who organised it all.



Wellbeing with Mrs Cookson



Wellbeing with Mrs Cookson - If you've been struggling with something for a while, it can leave you feeling stuck and unable to figure out what the first step could be to make things easier or better. I'd like to share information about The Norfolk Family Hub as they are there to make it easier for families to get help as soon as they need it. From the moment parents know a baby is on the way, right through to their child's 19th birthday (25 if they have special educational needs) they provide help and advice on parenting, support with children's learning at home, better access to mental health support and help with infant feeding. You can get help wherever you see the family hubs logo, or you can drop into a family hub site. More information about the family hubs and where they are located can be found here: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/familyhubs>

Our Family Hub for Broadland is located in Hellesdon (next to Hellesdon Library), and parents can drop in for advice and guidance. However, keep a look out in my future newsletter entries for details of when they'll be visiting our school later this school year.

I hope you all have a lovely half term holiday. Best Wishes Claire Cookson (ccookson6nrf@nsix.org.uk or 01603 720 098). Details about the school wellbeing service can be found here: <https://padlet.com/ccookson6nrf/wellbeing>

Girls' and Boys' Football Games against Coltishall



On Thursday we took part in back to back away games at Coltishall. Both games followed similar patterns with both games being exciting and end-to-end games of football. With Coltishall ahead for much of the time before Rackheath battled back to draw both games. The girl's game finished 2-2 with our goals coming from Isabel and Jasmine, who scored with the last kick of the game. The boy's game finished 4-4. Maxwell scored twice and Harlan once before Freddie scored with just a few minutes left to complete the scoring. Well done to everyone who played: Isabel, Jasmine, Harlow, Lacey, Skylar, Leyla, Nola, Holly, Rachel, Maisie, Alex, Josh, George, Sebastian, Ellis, Freddie, Maxwell, Harlan and Harrison.

Rugby – Last Tuesday we took part in a cluster tag rugby event at North Walsham Rugby Club. In the morning the volunteer coaches from the rugby club ran some different training drills. Then in the afternoon we took part in 6 quick fire games each. There was lots of great rugby on show from all the children that took part and the different teams scored a lot of tries! A big thank you to



everyone at North Walsham and to Mr Palmer and Mr Poole who took the team. Well done to all our players; Libby, Holly, Jasmine, Isabel, George H, Freddie, Alex, Josh, Reid, Oscar. Hopefully some of them will continue playing at North Walsham or at another local club.



Summer Term News

Summer Term Topic Healthy Me! – We are already planning events for the Summer Term, which seems to be coming round incredibly quickly! Our topic is “Healthy Me,” which will link in well with lots of sport taking place in school and around the world. A few dates for your diaries are below. These include dates for class assemblies, sports week and for Year 6 events.

Summer Term - Class Assemblies to school and parents. Assemblies starting at 2:40

- Wednesday 24th April – Year 4
- Thursday 2nd May– Year 3
- Wednesday 8th May – Year 5
- Thursday 23rd May – Year 1
- Thursday 6th June – Year 2
- Thursday 13th June – Reception

June 17th Sports Week – incorporating Sports Days

- Monday am – Fun Sports
- Tuesday am – EYFS- Reception and Nursery
 - Wednesday am – KS2
 - Wednesday pm – KS1
- Thursday - Reserve day
- Friday – Passport Day

Year 6 events

- Week 13th May – SATS Week
- Friday 17th May – Post SATS treat
- Friday July 5th Camp out
- Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th July - Broadland Academy Transition Days
- Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th July – 6.00 End of term performances
 - Thursday 18th July – Leavers Assembly Awards
 - Friday 19th July - Leaver’s Assembly for parents

Clubs after Easter

All sports clubs will start from the week beginning 15th April. Football for Year 3 to 6 will remain on their usual days as will cross country. Sign up information for new clubs went out on Ping yesterday. The clubs Mr Palmer will be running are:

- Year 1 & 2 Football – Monday – *(this club is full)*
- Year 3 & 4 Tennis – Wednesday *(moved from Monday)*
- Year 5/6 Netball – Thursday



There will also be a cricket club for Year 5 and 6 run by Mr Ashman on Fridays after school.
(this club is also full)

Hrstead Residential Trips

Straight after Easter we are off to Hrstead! In the first week back Year 4 will be off to Hrstead closely followed by Year 3 the week after. I am sure everyone will have a great time. I am looking forward to going with Year 3!



eats.

School Dinners – A reminder that after Easter school dinners will be going up in price. From the start of the Summer Term the cost of a meal will go up from £2.55 to £2.60. The cost will be changed on Scopay from April 15th.

Mrs Goddard would like to thank everyone for all their donations of clothes and toys for our Preloved Sale!


**Preloved
SALE**

We raised £500 to go towards our trim trail extension and repair fundraising fund from our sale on Saturday morning .



Eco Committee- Hedgehog Box

We have decided to put a 'hedgehog' box in the foyer of the school so that anyone who has any old pens or felt tips that no longer work, can dispose of them in school so that they can be recycled.



Bombers

Hello from all at 'Bombers'.

The children have had a very busy time looking at 'Spring' books, puzzles and playing with the 'farm'. We have been creating 'Easter' crafts, building lots of lovely construction, singing and moving with 'action' songs. They have enjoyed having Lily our student in for the last three days and we want to thank her and our volunteers ,Roxy and Tina for all their help. The children are definitely getting tired and ready for their Easter break. We will be looking at 'healthy' eating on return with puzzles, books and games alongside discussions at snack/lunch. 'Happy Easter' to all.

Reception

What a great end to our term! The children looked fabulous last Friday for our dress up day! They enjoyed seeing each other's costumes and loved Mrs Coull's shark costume! We also enjoyed the visit from the Sheringham Shantymen – the children joined in clapping and singing! The class went on a pirate treasure hunt in the wild area and enjoyed the less rainy weather.

In phonics, our new sound has been 'ir' – we learned how to spell the words bird, dirt, girl, twirl, third and shirt. We have sent out some red words in the book bags for the children to practise at home – these are words you cannot sound out so they have to be learned by sight. No pressure to do over the Easter holidays – just in their



book bags for the start of the Summer term. In maths, we have been learning about Time – we looked at the book 'Grandfather Clock' which told us about lots of o'clock times and we also looked at half past too! The children enjoyed making their own clocks, finding times on clocks and doing timed activities too.



What a great end to our term – thanks to all the parents that were able to attend our Presentation of Learning today. The children enjoyed sharing their classroom with you and showing you what we have learned in Reception class. Hope you all have a fantastic Easter break!



Year 1

For the last week and a bit in Year 1, we continued our Science work on materials. We tested different objects to see if they would float or sink, and talked about why. We then used the results from this, and our waterproof materials testing last week, to design and make our own boats!

In Phonics, we recapped the split digraph sounds, a-e (make a cake), o-e (phone home), i-e (nice smile) and u-e (huge brute).

In Maths, we have been weighing objects using balance scales. We started by comparing which was heavier/lighter, then moved on to seeing how many cubes the items weighed. We ordered objects from heaviest to lightest, and solved some problems involving weighing.

We continued with 'The Storm Whale' in English. We found out facts about whales and wrote them in simple sentences.

Last week ended with the fantastic Sheringham Shanty Men! This week, we had our Presentations of Learning to Parents – we loved the chance to show our grown ups all the hard work we have done this term.

Have a fantastic Easter Holiday and we will see you for the Summer Term!



Year 2

We have had a busy, fun-filled last week or so of learning, the highlight of which has been preparing and presenting our learning presentations. Mrs Crook and I are so very proud of how well the children rose to this challenge, working in a caring, cooperative way, taking a pride in their presentation and really thinking about what they have learnt as well as how to present it to an audience. Thank you if you were able to come and share this experience with us.



In maths we have continued to focus on fractions, learning to recognize and find a half, quarter and third. We have finished the story of The Storm Whale in Winter and the children worked hard to write their own versions of the story as if they were Noi.

The class have enjoyed PE and ICT lessons, thought about objects which represent the importance of Easter and found out what plastic is made from and both the advantages and disadvantages of using it as a material.



Last Friday we welcomed the Sheringham Shanty Singers to school for a really wonderful performance which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

Mrs Crook and I hope you have a very healthy and happy Easter holiday. I am off to Boston (USA) on Easter Monday to see my son, daughter in law and family and am very much looking forward to it!

Year 3

I have been so proud of Year 3 this term! They have worked so hard and have continued to make great progress across all areas of the curriculum.

Over the past eight days, we have continued to work on statistics in Maths. We have enjoyed interpreting data from pictograms, bar graphs and two-way tables. We have also collected and represented our own data using pictograms and bar charts.

In English, have had lots of opportunities to practise writing direct speech. Once we had become competent with identifying the reporting clause, use of inverted commas, capital letters and punctuation we were able to write the next section of our alternative tales which included direct speech between our characters. Finally, we completed the term by writing our alternative story endings.

In Science, we looked at survival features of creatures. To explore this, I set the class the challenge of finding a number of 'caterpillars' (pipe cleaners) of different colours, hiding in and around the hedge at the bottom of the field. We found that the purple and red caterpillars were the easiest to find, whereas the brown caterpillars were very well camouflaged and much more difficult to find. Because of this, most of the children decided they would prefer to be either a brown caterpillar to camouflage against branches, twigs and fallen leaves or a green caterpillar to camouflage amongst grass and flowers.

Furthermore, we have had a super busy week with lots of Design and Technology fun! We loved making and trying our hot cross buns! The children worked collaboratively in their groups to create their hot cross bun mixture before individually shaping their own buns. They also spent care in designing and creating suitable packaging. We discussed the importance of including branding and an ingredients list on our packaging. Our eco-friendly approach to packaging linked nicely with our previous learning and discussions about looking after our environment.



I would like to say a final well done to all of the children for their super presentations of learning! It's not easy performing to an audience; they should be super proud of themselves!

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday!

Year 4

It has been a joy to be with the Year 4 children at the end of this term and discover all the wonderful learning they have obviously enjoyed with Mrs Watson. They have worked incredibly hard to prepare their presentations drawing on all their knowledge and skills independently, demonstrating great teamwork and resilience. They can be incredibly proud of their performance to a range of audiences.

The class has epitomised what makes Rackheath School so special, their maturity and ability to cope with change was fantastic. It has been a privilege to return year 4 to share their end of term and I hope they have a super Easter.

Miss Maibaum

Year 5

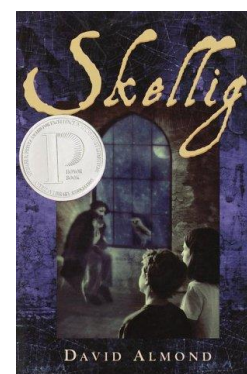
It is amazing to think that we are at the end of the term already!

In maths this week, we have continued our work on using data and showing it in graphs – we used the warm and cold temperatures of the last two weeks for this!

In English, we have continued on with our mystery writing by looking at a short clip called Alma. We have then thought about what we can hear and see and how we can use this to describe a setting. Our new class book is Skellig, by David Almond.

Our topic work has focussed on mummification and to do this we created a small flipbook to show what happened to a body after it had died.

Finally, I want to say a massive thank you to all the families that supported with homework this half term. We have had some fantastic pieces and they have really brightened up the classroom!



Year 6

It's been a fantastic term in Year 6 and as always it has flown by! I still cannot believe that we will soon be entering the summer term! Last week, during some of the mornings, the children completed a range of tests. I have been so impressed by the knowledge they have demonstrated, the progress they have made but most importantly...their positive attitudes! In Maths lessons, we have recapped how to draw and measure angles as well as calculating missing angles within triangles. In Literacy, the children continued their creative narratives and also learnt how to deliberately use short sentences to create suspense. Parts of our afternoons have linked to our Presentation of Learning Day, which took place yesterday. It was

brilliant to see so many parents and family members attend and I know the children enjoyed discussing all of the facts they had learnt in their chosen topic! We've also had additional computing lessons linked to coding Spheros and in Geography we learnt the different features of a river. This afternoon, the children also had an end-of-term quiz linked to their knowledge organisers and Ms Holmes and I were very impressed with what they could retain. I hope you all have a wonderful Easter holiday!



Year 5 had
97%
Attendance W/C 18th March.
Attendance Bear will spend the first
week back with them!!

Attendance Bear
Attendance Bear

Have a lovely Easter Break. We will see you all on Monday 15th April.

Chris Ashman

