

Rackheath Primary School Newsletter

Friday 26th April 2024



It has been a great start to the term. Last week Year 4 enjoyed their Horstead trip and this week it is the turn of the Year 3's to visit Horstead.

Year 4 Horstead Residential

I had the pleasure of joining Year 4 on their Horstead residential last week and what a super few days we had. The children all participated in a number of great activities including: a vertical climb, a tower climb with zip line, archery, a night-line walk, a bush-craft session where we learned how to build, and light, a fire and also raft-building (with a refreshing dip in the river after)! We also enjoyed an evening bonfire with toasted marshmallows, popcorn and a Year 4 talent show; which was an absolute joy to watch. All the children had an amazing attitude to these new experiences and many of them faced their fears whilst doing so. They showed great kindness and excellent team work throughout the 3 days. Night-time brought the added fun of sharing a room with friends which all the children took in their stride and thoroughly enjoyed. During our periods of downtime, the children (and myself) enjoyed loom-band making also playing pool, table tennis and foosball in the games room. Thank you to Mrs Goddard, Mrs Crook, Mrs Rivet and all the children for making it such a wonderful experience.

Mrs Cavender



Netball Tournament

On Wednesday 24th April 2024 we attended the cluster netball tournament at St John's Primary School. At the event, both of our teams performed and represented the school incredibly well. Rackheath 1 finished 3rd and Rackheath 2 finished 9th with lots of their games being very close. A massive well done to all of the children that attended.



Premier Sports Dance Workshop – On Tuesday, Miss Mackie from Premier Sports came to teach Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 a dance! Year 1 and 2 performed a routine to 'Naughty' from Matilda, and Reception learnt a Lion King dance. They had a fantastic time and their performances were amazing!



Norwich City League Tournament – After the last competition in January when we won the Championship the school team were in the big league of the Premiership this Monday. The team performed well and perhaps were unlucky to only win one of their three games. We started well against Hethersett but they scored against the run of play. As we pushed for an equaliser we were hit on the break and lost 2-0. After that disappointment the team played their best game against Acle and were deserved 1-0 winners, with our goal scored by Josh. In our last game we narrowly lost, 1-0 to the eventual winners, Lionwood. Well done to the squad: Alex, Josh, Isabel, George, Ellis, Maxwell, Harlan and Freddie. Thanks to our super parental support!



Norwich Canoe Club – We are really lucky to be able to welcome Norwich Canoe Club to school on Monday morning. They will be running an assembly to the entire school to show children what canoeing is and then children in Y4 – Y6 will have an opportunity to practise canoeing on their paddle machines! Keep an eye out next week for photographs. A big thank you to Mrs Pallent for organising.

Class Assemblies

In the summer term we have class assemblies to a full audience of the school and parents. These all start at 2:40pm. Parents should arrive for 2:35pm. The first 3 are before half term as follows:

- Thursday 2nd May – Year 3
- Wednesday 8th May – Year 5
- Thursday 23rd May – Year 1



Social Moments Enterprise – Food hub



Dear Rackheath Primary School Community,

Starting from Monday 13th May, you can find us in the school playground every Monday from 3.15pm onwards. We'll be bringing along a generous donation of fresh bakery items from Lidl's Bakery. These are gorgeous, high-quality items that would otherwise go to waste, so we're inviting all families to come down, bring a bag, and take home some delicious treats. It's a great opportunity to get creative with your recipes and get the kids involved in some baking fun!

But that's not all – over the coming months, we'll be launching our mobile affordable food hub. This will be a van stocked with a variety of food items available at reduced costs, including free and highly affordable options. From chilled to frozen to ambient items, we'll have something for everyone. To stay updated on our progress and be the first to know about our launch, we encourage you to follow our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/social.moments.enterprise>

A little bit about us: Social Moments was founded by our CEO, Chantelle Tyrrell, in October 2023. As parents ourselves, we understand the challenges families face and are passionate about giving back to our communities. Our mission is to bring smiles to everyone's faces and ensure that no child goes without. Every child, every heart, every dream – that's our mantra.

If you ever need support or just want to reach out, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We're here for you!

Warm regards,

Chantelle Tyrrell

Social Moments Enterprise

Wellbeing with Mrs Cookson – Social Media



I read the other day, that my generation is the last one to have experienced a childhood without the influence of smart phones and social media. This means I could leave any hassles behind at the school gate and take an emotional and mental break from things like friendship issues, whether they were big or small.

Fast forward to the current day and children are relentlessly navigating hassles because their mobile phones will bleep and vibrate with every single 'like', 'post', 'update' or 'comment'. It's no surprise this is having a negative impact on their emotional health as they're being overloaded with thoughts, concepts and problems which are way beyond their stage of brain development.

If you follow this link: <https://padlet.com/ccookson6nrf/wellbeing> it will take you to the school wellbeing Padlet. I've moved the section about keeping your child safe online to a priority position so it's easy to find. I'd encourage our whole school community to take a look, as when it comes to your child's online safety, it's important to keep up to date with current issues. You'll then know what to look out for and how to confidently support your child to have a safe, positive relationship with technology and social media.

Best wishes, Claire Cookson (email me at ccookson6nf@nsix.org.uk)



Bombers

Hi all, we have been super busy since returning from the Easter break. The children settled back happily and we can see many friendships emerging, which is always lovely to see. They have been busy developing their 'cutting' skills and engaging in a variety of collage and junk modelling.



We have looked at the letter 'li' with ice creams, insects and invitations. We also explored ice and arctic props to play with. As it was St George's day on Tuesday, we have had the Knights Castle small world out and some children made some flags. We have been doing lots of printing activities too and looking at healthy eating connecting and inset puzzles along with books. The children have also enjoyed a daily yoga activity. Next week we are focusing on ring games and action rhymes and looking at letters in our names.



Reception

We've had great fun this week reading the classic tale *The Enormous Turnip*. The children have loved acting out the story and attempting to pull and heave the giant vegetable out from the ground! We have thought about how the different characters (including animals) might do it.

We are very excited, as we wanted to plant our own vegetables, tend to them and watch them grow so we have all planted potatoes. We'll keep you posted about their progress – the children have had to think about what they'll need to help them grow.

The children adored their dance lesson – we hope you liked seeing the video on Evidence Me! We have lots of 'Lion King' fans and loved dancing to that music.

In phonics, we have learned the 'oy' sound as in *boy* / *joy*. In maths, we have been investigating number bonds – these are pairs of numbers which total 10, such as $7 + 3$ and $4 + 6$, etc. Numicom is a great resource for exploring this.

Next week, we are looking forward to more of our 'Healthy Me!' topic when we will be exploring another quality text – this time not just about harvesting the veg but eating it too!

Year 1

This week in Year 1, we looked at the importance of eating a balanced diet as part of our Healthy Me topic. We planted some vegetables – peas, beans, potatoes and lettuces – so we can watch them grow and hopefully eat them before the end of term! We then designed our own healthy lunchboxes.

We recognised Earth Day on Monday by colouring in some animals that we would like to help to protect by looking after our planet.

On Tuesday, we were lucky enough to have a dance session with Miss Mackie from Premier Sports. She taught us a routine to 'Naughty' from *Matilda*. We were amazing!

In Maths, we have been counting in 2s, 10s and 5s and practising the 2 times tables. We sang lots of songs, and did lots of actions to help us remember. We are very good at this! We are very good at doubling on the interactive game, Hit the Button, if you would like to try at home.

In English, we started looking at the story 'The Bee Who Spoke' by Al MacCuish. We looked carefully at the picture of the central character's view from her Paris window and wrote a class list poem about it. We looked closely at Paris, and shared what we thought about the main character Belle. In Phonics we have practised the sounds o-e (phone home) and u-e (huge brute).

In Art we have been learning about Kente cloth woven patterns, which originate from Ghana. We worked with a partner to weave with paper. We also sketched our own patterns and learned about the colours used in Kente cloth and what they represent.



Year 2

This week in Year 2 the children have been learning about the importance of a balanced diet. They have learnt about the different food groups and the fact that no food is a bad food. We have talked about the importance of dairy foods for healthy strong bones and teeth and how we should eat a variety of different food every day including at least 5 portions of fruit and vegetables. The children designed a healthy packed lunch.

In art we have started a unit on textiles and weaving. This afternoon we looked at pictures of examples of brightly coloured Ghanaian kente cloth.

In English the children have read most of a lovely story called The Paper bag Princess. Their writing has focused on making predictions and composing sentences including appropriate adjectives, verbs and adverbs.

In maths the children have worked hard to secure their understanding of unit and non-unit fractions with Miss Knight.

On Wednesday we enjoyed a fabulous dance session with a visitor from Premier Sport.

Please, please try to hear your child read at least 3 times each week (just a few pages will do each time). This week less than 50% of the class had read 3 or more times at home. (Please also make sure your child has their record book at school on a Friday when we count reading stars). Have a good weekend.

Year 3

Well done, Year 3 - What a super, busy week we've had. That's your first ever school residential trip complete! We have had so much fun, completing a range of team building activities including camp cookery, canoeing, crate stacking, caving with low ropes and environmental based art. We also experienced a wonderful campfire with toasted marshmallows and popcorn alongside a ten-star talent show. Alongside so much more!

We can't wait to share more with you next week in our class assembly.

A huge thank you to Mr Ashman, Mrs Howes, Mrs Tunmore, Mrs Spurling, Mrs Penson and (most importantly) all the children for making it such a wonderful experience. I know we have all made superb memories that will last a lifetime! Have a restful weekend and I will see you all next week.



Year 4

A report on Year 4s trip to Horstead last week is at the start of the newsletter.

Year 5

What a great week in year 5!

In maths, we have continued our work on angles. This week we have been trying to find missing angles of triangles and quadrilaterals. Our key bit of knowledge was that triangle angles = 180 and quadrilateral angles = 360. We then had a go at drawing shapes with different angles... this was fun!!



In English, we have finished our shared writing about the clip of Alma and we are now moving on to using the skills that we have learnt to write our own suspense / mystery story. We will be typing these up so the children will be able to bring a copy home!

In science, we learnt about how our circulatory system works and how it delivers oxygen around the body. In geography, we looked at famous coastlines around the UK, such as Durdle Door, and talked about how they have been formed. In History, we looked at how the Ancient Egyptians managed to use the water from the Nile for their fields. We did this by making a Shaduf!



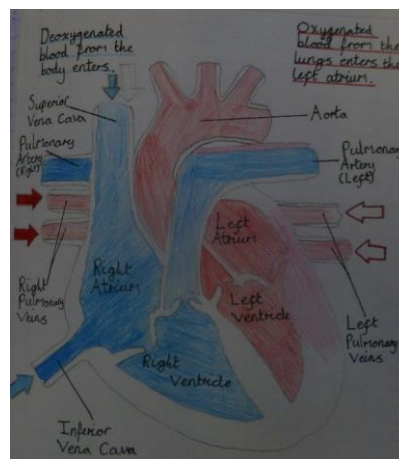
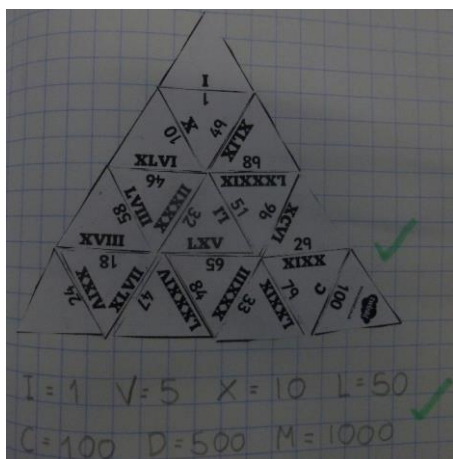
Year 6

The children have been absolutely amazing throughout their mock SATs tests and should be very proud of themselves. Even though I was impressed at their knowledge in all of the papers, I was particularly proud of how they approached a variety of Maths reasoning problems!

In English lessons this week, we learnt the importance of using dialogue effectively in narratives and how it can be used to 'move events forward'. This, along with using short sentences to create suspense, was put into another creative piece of writing.

In Maths lessons, we continued to convert units of measurements before learning about Roman Numerals. It was amazing to see how quickly they were able to pick this up! One of the tasks was to match up numbers to their equivalent Roman Numerals. This then created a triangle.

In Science, we continued to learn about the features of the heart and in Geography we located the countries within South America. On Thursday, the children had to see how many flags they could correctly identify from South American countries. Finally, the Year 6s had a great time coding their Spheros. The main challenge was to create a maze where the Spheros had to land exactly on each point before moving to the next. A lot of trial-and-error tactics were used!



Read at Home for a Star

Reading Bear will spend time with:

Year 1 who had **14 out of 30** and
Year 6 who had **30 out of 32**

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

Year 1 had

100%

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

Attendance Bear

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

	STARS, ANGELS AND DIAMONDS
Reception	Liam, Pippa, Caspar
Year 1	Elliott, Yanna, Aminah
Year 2	Evie, Sienna, Leighrye
Year 3	All of Year 3
Year 4	All of Year 4, Erin, Hugo
Year 5	Ibbie, Ethan, Leon
Year 6	Sienna, All of Year 6, Isabelle A

Have a lovely weekend, best wishes!

Chris Ashman