

Rackheath Primary School



Newsletter



Friday 28th June 2024

Passport Day – We are very excited about passport day, which is on Tuesday 2nd July. The children brought home tickets for the country they are visiting earlier in the week. On the day the children can come into school in their own clothes. There is no expectation that they dress in clothes linked to their country but if they want to and they can then that would be great. A few years ago some children brought in artefacts linked to the country they are visiting or a suitcase and that is fine too.



On the day all the children will have a chance to buy snacks from the airport café. As Shane and Abi will be opening up for the morning so that each flight can visit the café. When the children visit the café they can get a biscuit or cake for 30p.

Class Teachers September 2024

- **Reception** – Miss Brannan and Mrs Pulford
- **Year 1** – Mrs Pallant and Miss Magee
- **Year 2** – Miss Shorten
- **Year 3** – Miss Holding
- **Year 4** – Miss Farrow
- **Year 5** – Mr Cavender
- **Year 6** – Mr Edwards



Bombers FORS Party

The Bombers Leavers and their families enjoyed a fantastic party on Tuesday. It was hosted by the ever entertaining Chilly and everyone had a fantastic time.

Thanks to the FORS for organising a lovely party!



Rio Carnival Day!

This week, to end year our topic on Brazil, year 5 and 6 help a carnival day to celebrate! The children were asked to wear bright clothes or dress in a carnival style and they didn't disappoint!

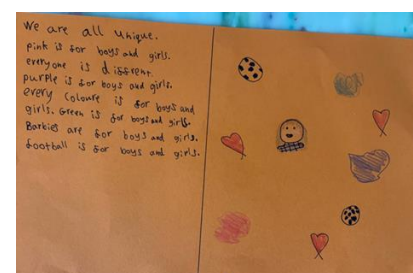
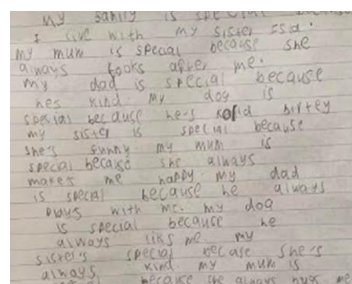
We used abstract art to paint a section of a rainforest picture, made carnival masks, learnt about the history of the Rio Carnival, used instruments to make Samba beats and then sampled some samba dancing.

A highlight of the day had to be our south American stew of Chorizo and Butternut squash cooked by Mrs Duckmanton...it was amazing!! A massive thank you to all of the adults involved for the effort they put in, but also the children who danced their socks on whenever a specific samba song was played!



Communities Week

This week, each class has been studying a story about diversity in our community. The children have filled the school with colour today for their non-school uniform day. We have celebrated our uniqueness and considered how we can welcome all members of our community. Each class has completed a piece of work which will contribute to a display in the hall.



New Class Alert!

Move up Morning 4th July – On Thursday next week it is our move up morning, when the children will spend the morning with their new teachers. We will also be joined by our new Reception class and parents, who are visiting the school in 3 groups for an hour each.

Year 6 Camp Out – After the Broadland transition days on Wednesday and Thursday we have the annual Year 6 Camp Out on Friday 5th. Lots of fun and very little sleep guaranteed! Mr Edwards has sent out a letter about the Camp Out as well as other Year 6 events like “The Keymaster” leavers play.



As you will all probably know Mrs Grogutt is retiring in July after 20 fantastic years at Rackheath. To celebrate the amazing job Mrs Grogutt has done over the years we are planning a special event in school for current and ex pupils, staff and parents. This will be on Thursday 18th July in the school hall between 4:30 and 6:30pm. The idea being that anyone who would like to come along to see Mrs Grogutt can drop in for as short or as long a time as you can stay. We will have some drinks and snacks as part of the celebration.

You can just drop in on the day but it would be really helpful if you could call the school so we have an idea of numbers. **Please do share in the community with anyone you think would like to come.**

Sports Week

The overall winners were announced in assembly on Monday. The winners this year were the **Blues!**

Sports day as a whole was very close with all 4 houses winning something:

- Sportsmanship award – **Green**
 - EYFS Winners – **Blue**
 - KS1 Winners – **Red**
 - KS2 Winners – **Yellow**



Euro 2024 - There have been lots of exciting games so far in the tournament. Sadly none of those involved England! However, the draw does look promising from an England point of view... so fingers crossed! The teams left in for each class are:

- Bombers – Netherlands
- Reception – Germany and Romania
- Year 1 – France and Turkey
- Year 2 - Italy
- Year 3 – England, Denmark and Austria
- Year 4 – Spain and Slovenia
- Year 5 – Portugal, Switzerland and Georgia
- Year 6 – Belgium and Slovakia



So Year 3 and 5 doing the best at this moment!

Next Week Key Dates

- Monday 1st July – Reception Trip to Thrigby Hall
 - Tuesday 2nd July – Passport Day
- Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th July – Broadland Transition Days
 - Thursday 4th July – Move up morning at Rackheath
- Friday 5th July – Year 4 football at the Nest – re-arranged date
 - Friday 5th July – Camp Out for Year 6



Wellbeing with Mrs Cookson

Following my last newsletter entry, I hope you've found an opportunity to simply sit and 'be' - allowing your mind and body to take a well-deserved breather.

Here's another speedy wellbeing hack for the week ahead:

What's one thing you'd like to stop doing?

What's one thing you'd like to start doing?

What's one thing you'd like to continue doing?

It helps to write your answers down (you're more likely to take action if you do). What does this look like in practice? Here's my stop, start, and continue:

Stop: Guessing what's in the freezer when I do the online shopping!

Start: Every week, to have one night off cooking our evening meal

Continue: Going to yoga on a Tuesday (especially when I'd rather stay home!)

Your start, stop, and continue will be different to mine - however, I'd recommend being kind to yourself by doing the same as me by starting low and slow. This is a good hack to encourage your child to try - especially after they've been feeling a bit frazzled and overwhelmed.

Best wishes, Claire Cookson (ccookson6nrf@nsix.org.uk)



Bombers

Hi all. What a hot and busy week it has been. The children have coped really well with lots of in/out play. We monitored how long they were out at any one time to avoid too much sun/heat at once. They have been busy with small group ball games with rolling/ targets and basketball. They have also loved the 'bubble' machine. There has been lots of 'baby' play, gymnastic moves and mark making in our 'office'. We explored the letter 'Bb' with 'bug' activities and 'The Bear in the Cave' cd story. Today we also had a special treat. The children looked at some 'tortoise' eggs that had been laid from two of the tortoises that visited earlier. What a privilege. Many thanks to Cheryl (a grandparent) for allowing us to see them. Most of our 'leavers' going on to school had the most wonderful time at the party in the school hall on Tuesday. A big 'Thank you 'to FORS for putting this on for them. Next week we are looking at the letter 'Ff', focusing on letters in our names and making 'sea creatures' to decorate in craft.

Reception

The children have really enjoyed our Community and Diversity week. They have shown lots of curiosity when we talked about different families and groups that we might belong to – the children have loved telling us about any clubs that they belong to such as swimming, football and Rainbows! We enjoyed a brilliant book about diverse families, 'The Family Book' by Todd Parr. Again, the children showed lots of care when thinking about how other people's lives may be similar or different to their own. It inspired us to write our own class book!

The children have also demonstrated lots of teamwork, sharing and creativity as we have some new resources in our classroom, such as the large soft construction blocks. We have seen some fantastic castles, mansions, boats and skate parks!

In phonics, we have been busy revising all our sounds. In maths, we have learned about positional language such as above, beside, in the middle, etc. We had great fun playing a game with Duplo – first, someone would make a small model and hide it from everyone else. They then had to carefully describe their model using

positional language and adjectives, e.g. *"My model has a small, green block at the bottom. Next, I put a large yellow block on top of this..."* Sometimes, we got an exact match but more often we found it very hard to give and receive the instructions and got some very funny models compared to the original which made us giggle!

Next week, we're looking toward to our Thrigby Hall visit on Monday, Passport Day on Tuesday and meeting our new teachers on Thursday morning!



Year 1

This week in Year 1, we joined in our whole school Communities Week. We celebrated our differences and learnt about diversity. We drew and wrote about our families and what makes them special using the book 'My Friends and Me'. We then looked at 'Mixed' to learn about characters that are different colours living

happily together. We finished the week with a non-uniform day and made rainbows to share what we had learnt about diversity.

In Maths and Geography this week, we looked at position and direction and used words like 'quarter turn', 'half turn', 'whole turn' and clockwise and anticlockwise. We directed our friends around routes using these terms. We also made treasure maps to use more positional language. We looked at the Paris Olympics and Paralympics and learnt some facts about the games. We then began the Get Set 4 PE 'Paris Pursuit'. As a class we need to jump as high as the Eiffel Tower, run as far as the River Seine and throw around an Olympic stadium. We loved completing our first distances.

We continued our DT unit on moving pictures by making a card picture wheel. We made the wolf come closer and closer to Little Red Riding Hood!

We were very excited to harvest our potatoes this week. Mrs. Spurling kindly cooked them for us to enjoy – they were very tasty!

We started a new RE unit on Judaism and Shabbat. We looked at the Jewish Creation Story. We looked at and drew artefacts linked to Shabbat.



Year 2

Despite the heat, Year 2 have had a busy week and worked hard at their learning.

In English this week we have begun to explore our new story The Secret Sky Garden. The children have written longer sentences using different connectives to extend them.

The class have learnt about tables and pictograms in maths, and enjoyed PE with Mr Palmer.

In art the children created polka dot pictures in the style of Yayoi Kusama.

As a whole school we have been focusing on celebrating our diversity and community. We have read and discussed lots of stories and today created a piece of work sharing all that we have learnt. The children wrote things such as "We are all unique", and "Pink is for boys and girls."

This afternoon we welcomed Janet Marshall in role as Edith Cavell. We learnt all about this famous local nurse who came from Swardseton and was sadly shot by German soldiers for treating the injured and saving the lives of soldiers from both sides.



Year 3

As usual, Year 3 have been super busy this week!

In English, we began a unit based on adventure stories. On Monday, we watched a short adventure clip called Taking Flight and had a go writing an adventure story as though we were Tony (the main character in the clip). Whilst writing the children were given the challenge to include a variety of grammatical skills such as fronted adverbials, exciting adjectives, similes, metaphors and expanded noun phrases. Following this, we explored examples of adventure stories and continued to develop our writing skills ready to invent our own adventure stories next week.



In Maths, we have recapped fractions. We practised finding the whole, identifying unit and non-unit fractions and finding fractions of an amount. The children have worked extremely hard this week. Fractions isn't an easy topic yet all of the children demonstrated success throughout the week. Next week, we will recap the column method for addition and subtraction.

In Science, we been learning about the digestive system. The children have learnt that our organs have specific roles in processing different food. The children watched a fun (yet slightly gross) demonstration of how the food breaks down in the stomach prior to passing through small and large intestines, releasing nutrients and water along the way. Before releasing the waste product known as faeces (or poo)!



As part of Community Week, we have read The Proudest Blue and My Shadow is Pink. We reflected on the message behind both of the stories and discussed differences between our personalities, characteristics and beliefs. As a result, we recognised the value of being our unique selves!

Year 4

This week in Year 4 we have completed our eggs-periment to find out the effects that different drinks have on our teeth; I imagine the children will all be keen to keep their teeth super-clean after what we discovered! We also used mirrors to look at, and draw, our own teeth to find out how many we have and what each tooth is called.

In English we have each created our own mythical creatures – there have been some incredible ideas and descriptions used already. We will be starting writing our non-chronological reports about our creatures next week.

In Maths this week we have been looking at angles as turns, names of angles, triangles and quadrilaterals. Feel free to ask your children the names of the different triangles or quadrilaterals.

Thank you to all the children who have produced Powerpoints recently; I am thoroughly enjoying looking at them in class with everyone else. Great Work!

Passport day is coming up next Tuesday which we are all thoroughly looking forward to.

Year 5

Another busy week in year 5!

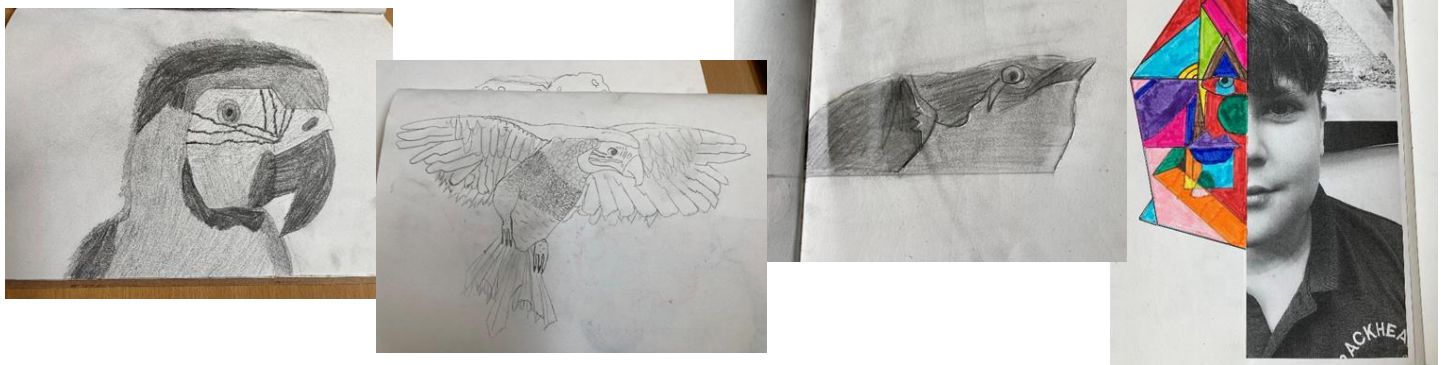
In math, we have continued our work on averages by hold a Year 5 Mini Maths Olympics! Events so far have been:

- Finger triple jump
- Cotton Wool shot put
- Cotton Wool Hammer Throw
- Tiddlywinks archery
- Times Tables Bowls.

In English, we have been reading There's a boy in the Girl's Bathroom and studying how the character has changed. We have used letter writing, diary writing and speech work to do this.

In our topic work, we conducted a science experiment to see how heart rate is impacted by exercise! We found that the more we do, the faster our heart beats as it is trying to get blood filled with oxygen around the body.

In art, we have looked at abstract art using our faces, and then studied South American animals and used sketches to draw them.



Year 6

What a brilliant week it has been! Usually, I would write about the days in order, but I have to start with Wednesday – the day of our Rio Carnival. The children were absolutely amazing throughout and we started by learning what 'carnival' and 'samba' mean. We then went into the hall to practise three Samba moves and then (in groups) they got to improvise to complete a full routine. Due to the stage being up, lots of children wanted to perform their routines in what quickly became a 'Rackheath's Got Moves' dance off – accompanied by a variety of Samba background music.



Next, they learnt about common instruments used in Samba music and put together their own pieces of music, which were performed to the class. After eating their 'locro' - a chorizo, butternut squash and vegetable stew, the children got to design and make their own Carnival masks as well as a rainforest piece of artwork. They all deserve a massive well done for making the day so enjoyable! In Maths, we completed a series of algebra challenges, with the most recent one being a 'Crack the Code' task. In English, the children were introduced to our new class



book 'The Final Year' by Matt Goodfellow, planned a balanced argument relating to deforestation in the Amazon Rainforest and started their 'All About Me' task. **Please note that the 'All About Me' task**



is only for the children who are attending Broadland High next year and it will need to be taken with them to their transition days next week. After having another RSHE lesson and a swimming lesson at Broadland, the children completed a 'Diversity' task linked to Communities Week and a 'Paris Pursuit' challenge as part of Friday's P.E lesson.

Read at Home for a Star

Reading Bear will spend time with:

Year 2 who had **17 out of 26** and
Year 6 who had **28 out of 32**

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

Year 6 had

96%

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

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	Austin, Amelia, Isla C
Year 1	William, Spencer, Ella
Year 2	Archie, Florence, Finley
Year 3	Oscar, Mila, Alfie
Year 4	Emily, Amelie, Sophie
Year 5	Honey, Sebastian, Emily O
Year 6	Skylar, Darla, Oscar

Have a good weekend!

Chris Ashman