

Rackheath Primary School

Newsletter



Friday 23rd May 2014

I know this half term has been a short one but it seems to have been and gone in an instant. Not surprising when there is so much going on. It was great to hear that children in Reception and Year 4 enjoyed fantastic trips this week.

We rounded off the half term with the opening of the Rackheath Bombers building, which was officially opened by Mrs Hilary Cox Chair of the County Council. Everyone in attendance was full of praise for the work being done in the nursery. As a school it has been great to work so closely together as we prepare for the transition of children from Bombers into the school.

As part of the opening our older school councillors; Rosie Milligan, Marcus Gardner, Nathan Nicholls, Gemma Smith, Charlotte Abramson, Sam Watts, Lydia Moll and Toby Grime did a super job showing our visitors around the school. In addition Sam, Charlotte, Lydia and Toby spoke in front of all our visitors, the nursery children and staff as well as all our children. A big well done to all the school who behaved impeccably during the opening in the unfamiliar surroundings of the school car park!



Staffing Next Year - Next year the teachers in each year group will be:



Reception:	Mrs Pallant and Miss Barnett
Year 1:	Miss Hughes
Year 2:	Mrs Grogutt
Year 3:	Miss Magee and Miss Brannan
Year 4:	Miss Maibaum
Year 5:	Mr Cavender
Year 6:	Mr Edwards

Auf Wiedersehen to our German Teachers - Today we say goodbye to Miss Moritz and Miss Poppe who have been working in the school for the last month. Mainly based in Year 5 they have also worked in all the classes teaching the children about Germany. Both of them integrated really well into the school community, we have all enjoyed having them in the school and wish them well in the future.



Year 3 Rugby at Twickenham – On Saturday 31st May, Year 3 are off to Twickenham to watch Saracens play Northampton in the Premiership Rugby Final. At half time the 22 Year 3 children will have the fantastic opportunity to play on the pitch. I look forward to seeing all those going to Twickenham bright and early at 8:00am on the 31st.

World Cup 2014



Last week in the newsletter I wrote a bit about our plans for the World Cup. In school this week we have begun to put our plans into place. On Wednesday in assembly each class drew a group at random to adopt throughout the tournament, below is a list of the groups and the classes linked to them - judge for yourself which class got the strongest group:



Group A	Brazil, Mexico, Croatia, Cameroon	Year 2
Group B	Spain, Holland, Chile, Australia	Reception
Group C	Columbia, Ivory Coast, Greece, Japan	Year 1
Group D	England, Italy, Uruguay, Costa Rica	Year 3
Group E	France, Switzerland, Ecuador, Honduras	Staff not based in a class
Group F	Argentina, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Iran, Nigeria	Year 4
Group G	Germany, Ghana, USA, Portugal	Year 6
Group H	Belgium, Russia, South Korea, Algeria	Year 5

Also in assembly on Wednesday the children were introduced to our **World Cup Blog** at www.rackheathprimary.blogspot.com. This has been set up to give the children (and parents) the chance to debate some of the key questions of the World Cup such as who is going to win? Who should be in the England Team against Italy? All comments are moderated by me before going live so it is a totally safe site to use. **Please note it is not possible to access the site from a tablet.** Instructions for the blog are as follows:

- In the white box click on **COMMENT**
- Type your comment in the white box that is displayed, then click on **SELECT PROFILE** and choose Name / URL.
- Type in your name and press **CONTINUE** then select **PUBLISH**.
- Type in the numbers that you see and finally select **PUBLISH** again.



Special Events for the World Cup – During the term there will be competitions, an art day linked to the lives of children from countries competing in the world cup, an introduction to Futsal and a Passport Day when the school will be transformed into an airport and the children will fly to a country taking part in the World Cup.

Whole School World Cup Homework - Over the half term we have asked all classes to find out any information linked to the World Cup, for example newspaper or magazine articles, facts about the countries in their adopted group and guides to the World Cup. We would also like the children to find any images linked to one or all of the countries in their group. For example if a class had France as one of their countries they could bring in pictures of French food, famous French buildings, French art work, famous French people and pictures of the French landscape.





Year 5/6 Cricket Tournament - On Tuesday the school competed in the cluster cricket tournament at Barton Turf Cricket club. On a beautiful day all the children really enjoyed playing cricket. Overall we came third winning two games and losing one. Well done to all the children who took part: Lydia Moll, Ebony Culling, Erika Grimmer, Salvu Keeble, Charlie Swatman, Toby Grime, Carter Daniels, Tristan Wilson, Oliver Milligan and captain Sam Watts.

Close Encounters with Spiders and Snakes – Reception and Year One had a treat on Monday afternoon when Mrs Bird brought in her collection of exotic pets including snakes and a tarantula!



Year 4 Trip to Castle Museum

On Tuesday 21st May, Year 4 travelled by coach to the Castle Museum. When we arrived at the castle we looked around the outside and imagined what it would have been like if you wanted to attack the castle in Norman times. Then we went inside the castle and were put into groups. One group went to look at the battlements and another group went with the house keeper.

The battlements were very scary, but fun and we learnt lots of facts about the castle and its surroundings. You could see for at least 11 miles! On a clear spring day you could see steam coming from a sugar factory near Great Yarmouth. We could also see Chapelfield, Castle Mall as well as lots of churches. The lady told us that the Cathedral was built at the same time as Norwich Castle because they needed to let the footings settle before building more. If they didn't let it settle the buildings would sink into the soil and collapse. Ralph Gardner was forced to build the castle by William the Conquer (William was French).

The housekeeper told us that they would hang their clothes at the end of the day in the toilets as the smell of the urine would kill the fleas. Yuck! The toilet could fit four people in at the same time, this is the most private place in the whole castle. If you were invited to the castle you had to bring your own knife and spoon. You didn't use a fork you had to use your fingers! If the king drank everybody else had to stop drinking and eating until he had finished.



It was an epic, brilliant experience and we learnt lots of facts. We would like to go back again.

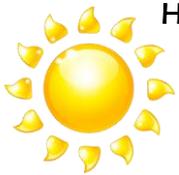
By Kiera, Gemma, Luke, Tom and Tyler

Clubs – football club will start in the first week as will choir. **Cross Country** will start on Monday 9th and will only take place on Monday mornings now. Other club start dates will be confirmed as soon as possible. A full list of new clubs will go out in the first week after half term.



Reception Trip to Gressenhall

Reception Class had an amazing time on their Three Little Pigs day at Gressenhall and they all behaved impeccably.



Hot weather – It is lovely to see some sun and warmer temperatures. In school we keep a close eye on the children at lunch and break and encourage them to rest, take shelter and drink regularly. We would encourage all children to wear a sun hat and for you to apply sun cream before coming to school.

Numeracy Café – Next term is very, very busy so there won't be a numeracy café next half term.

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

	STAR	ANGEL	DIAMOND
Reception	Bethany Dampier	Anise Batchelor	James Clarke
Year 1	Isabelle Mann	Oliver Grimmer	Rory Watts
Year 2	Ruby Donnelly	Montie Mann	Calum Buckingham
Year 3	Marcus Gardner	Samuel Abramson	Aston Culling
Year 4	William Barnes	Tyler McMullen	Ethan Cullum
Year 5	Caitlin Ettridge	Maria Braithwaite	Tristan Wilson
Year 6	Jenny Spurling	Ellie Clarke	Salvu Keeble

Have a fantastic half term. See you all again on Monday 2nd June.

Best wishes

Chris Ashman