



Newsletter (Summer No.31)



8th June 2018

Dates for your diary;

11th – 15th June
Phonics screening week

12th June – PTFA meeting after school

15th June – C1 Beach Trip

19th June – New parents meeting

20th June – Expressive & performing arts day

22nd June – Sports Day and Teddy Bears Picnic

26th June – C2 Camp

27th June – C3 Camp

3rd July – Enrichment Day

6th July – Year 6 Crealy Park

7th July – PTFA Summer Fair

10th July – Year 2 family lunch

PUB QUIZ – TONIGHT

We hope as many of you as possible will be joining us at The Stag this evening for what looks to be a great fun, competitive and brilliant fund raising event organised by our PTFA.

Arts Enrichment Day

On Wednesday we had our third materials enrichment day. This had an exploring focus and was led by our Teaching Assistant Team. Activities included exploring clay, wool, colour and paint. The children also looked at the work of Pop artists Warhol and Lichtenstein. Outcomes were bright and beautiful. A great opportunity for children led learning, enquiry and investigation.

Our next enrichment days are

- 20th June – Expressive & Performing Arts
- 3rd July – Den building, environmental art & outdoor learning activities

Forest Schools

Forest school sessions get started this week in preparation for class 2 & 3 camp trips. Sessions will be led by Mark Newcome from Heathcoat Primary.

Please make sure you have returned your child's permission slip.

Church News

There will be no Collective Worship in church until Wednesday 20th June. Messy church will be back, we will inform you of dates as soon as possible.

Congratulations

Very well done to Archie, Josh, Keagan, William & James for being fantastic role models and being really helpful during dance sessions on Wednesday. Today they were each awarded the Remarkable Rackenford Reward !

Congratulations

Big congratulations also go to Arthur and his family this week on the arrival of his very cute new baby brother Wilfred.

Pocket Trumpets

Pocket Trumpet lessons will begin next Wednesday afternoon. Led by our keen trumpeter Mrs Lewry. All children will have the opportunity.

Year 6 Leavers Hoodies

Today I was pleased to receive letters from the year 6 children. The letters outlined their reasoning for wanting to wear their leavers hoodies. I was impressed by their mature attitudes and ability to reason and present an argument. We have therefore decided that we are very happy for the year 6's to wear their hoodies from 25th June onwards, except for when they are visiting another school for taster days.

Plastic Free

We would welcome your thoughts and ideas on how we would work towards being a plastic free (well, as much as possible) school. We have made a start by replacing plastic toys and resources with natural materials such as wood & metal and using wicker containers and baskets rather than plastic.

Year 2 Family Lunch

Invites will be coming home to year 2 families soon. Our next family lunch date is Tuesday 10th July.

Trust Perseverance Respect Forgiveness

Friendship Compassion Truthfulness

Awards

House Points

House – Exe
Class – 1
Champion – Lucy

Learning Leaves

Yr6 – Caitlin
Yr5 – Morgan
Yr4 – Katie Drake
Yr3 – All Class 3
Yr2 – All year 2
Yr1 - Georgie
YrR - Megan

Reading Raffle

C1 – Toby
C2 – Tyla
C3 – Ellie Mai

PTFA Meeting Tuesday 12th June At School starting at 3.45pm

Our next meeting is going to be concentrating on arranging the Summer Fair, which is on Saturday 7th July from 12-3pm on the common. We need lots of help and support for this event as it is a very busy day for all. This year we will be arranging a rota for parents to help on the stalls. If you are able to set up, run a stall or pack away, please can you let either Jo Dolton, Liz Heywood or Vicky Mogford know so that you can have a pick of the jobs!! This has been a fantastic event and enjoyed by all the community. Please help us make it another wonderful Summer Fair.

Also at the meeting we will be discussing the 'wish list' that the school would like us to help fund. These include library furniture, Exeter museum trip, forest schools, IT provision visualiser/camera, sensory room and many more. If you would like your say on what we spend our money on, please come along.

Big Weekend - Saturday 23rd June

Last summer we were so grateful for the hard work and time given by parents, governors and staff to give the school a big clean and tidy. This was very successful. Thank you for all your help and support. It does make a difference. It is that time again. I know that this may be tricky as we all have busy lives so please do not feel obliged. If you are able to pop along that would be fab if not on Saturday then another time. If you cannot make it we totally understand.

Behaviour 4 Learning and anti-bullying contract

A letter will be coming out to put these two items into context. My apologies that they came out too soon!

Welcome to Rackenford Miss James



Hello. My name is Rachel James and I will be joining Rackenford as a teacher in September. I qualified as a Primary School teacher in August 2005 and since then I have been teaching in London, Egypt and Kuwait. However, despite my numerous travels I am a local girl as I grew up and went to school in Witheridge and so I know the area very well. I have returned to Witheridge where I am now living. I will be coming into school a few times between now and September and I am looking forward to meeting you all and becoming part of the Rackenford School Community.

School Library Competition

Our school needs you! Help us win £5,000 of National Book Tokens for the school library - and get £100 for yourself! Just enter the competition online, it only takes a minute: <http://po.st/schools18>

Reports and Parents evening

Your child's school report will be coming to you very soon and this will be followed by a parent's evening. If, however you would like to talk to either Mrs Maude or your child's teacher about any aspect of school life please do not feel you have to wait. All staff are very happy to meet with families for discussions regarding their children's wellbeing and education and appointments can be made in person or via Hilary in the office.

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Improvements around the school

You may have noticed that we now have a new waiting area for families and other visitors to the school. Please feel free to use this at any time. We also have a coffee/tea machine. We also have a notice board outside school and in the reception area we have a holder for newsletters, letters, etc.

Mrs Lewry is Leaving School

We will be very sad to lose Mrs Lewry at the end of the year. She has been at Rackenford for 17 years in various roles, very much part of the fabric of RPS. She is delighted to be beginning her role as a licenced Lay Minister within the Sandford Parish Team Mission Community.

Sports Day Water race

As this is Mrs Lewry's last term with us she has agreed that she is happy to be part of the traditional year 6 water race at sports day. Staff have yet to plan the whole sports day event but you will be getting information shortly

Year 6 evens on the horizon

As our year 6s begin to prepare for their transition to secondary school they have many opportunities in front of them for the rest of their time with RPS. Sports Day, Class 3 Camp Out, Crealy Parks day out, Forest School and team building sessions ... the list goes on !



Next coffee morning is 28th June 2018

End of year production

Some time ago, a decision was made that RPS would take part in the Tiverton Cooperative learning Partnership Summer Production along with all the other primary schools in the area. Unfortunately due circumstances beyond our control this has not been able to happen this year. It will happen next academic year. Year 6s will be hosting their leaver's assembly where they will be centre stage.

Play equipment

We value play and believe that this is central to children's learning. At playtimes children have access to a wide range of games, activity based, sports and play equipment. It has been so lovely over the past few weeks to see the children playing together during these unstructured times. If you have any donations of quality play equipment we would be pleased to receive them.

Morning Routine

In January we set out our new morning routine. This is still working well and in a recent Safeguarding Audit, we have been praised by Devon Local Authority for our morning drop off and pick up routine and procedures. To clarify - 'We are more than happy for parents to gather with their children in the playground before and after school. This is a lovely opportunity for children to play and for parents to chat together. Also at the end of the day the teachers and myself are usually available for a chat so this is a good time to catch us. Further more, if you would like to accompany your child into school this is also possible, you just need to sign in at reception and sign out again when you leave.

Early Years 4 Mental Health

The message this week is



“Actively care for others”



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W/B Mon 11th June 2018

Mon	Miss Horrell teaching Class 1 Class 1 Swimming Football Club
Tues	Phonics Screening Miss Horrell teaching Class 1 Drumming lessons PTFA Meeting
Weds	Piano / Guitar Lessons No Collective Worship
Thurs	Forest Schools Class 2 & 3 Multi Skills Club
Fri	Class 1 Trip to Beach

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