



Newsletter

Message from Miss Edwards, Deputy Principal

What a great term! It was fantastic having all of the children back for that fleeting moment – I can't wait for things to be back to normal when bubble closures are a thing of the past. Once again, thank you for all of your support when we have to take these difficult measures.

For those children in school this week, we are having an amazing Eggstravaganza, where the children will be working in teams to design and build buggies and contraptions to transport and protect their precious cargo. I cannot wait to eggperience their eggperimental ideas on Friday - there may be some eggciting prizes up for grabs too! (Sorry, I'll stop now 😊)

Thinking forward to the Summer term (I can't believe we are here already), the teachers are working away on our 'Reconnection Curriculum' which will have a focus on outdoor learning, reconnecting with each other and re-engaging with positive learning behaviours. We are all really looking forward to some nicer weather and making the most of that Vitamin D! Our Reconnection Curriculum Statement is available on the website and will be joined shortly by an overview from each year group.

From the whole team at RPA, have an eggcellent Easter break! Don't forget it's a Training Day on Monday 12th April so we look forward to seeing you on **Tuesday 13th April**.

We have made changes to some of the gates and times to prevent bubbles crossing on the playground – please check your year group for **updates - changes in yellow**

Year Group	Access Gate	Drop off	Pick up	Collection/waiting area
R	2	8:50	2:50	Outside school office
1	1	8:40	3:00	Rear of car park
2	2	8:40	3:00	Outside school office
3	3 & 4	8:45	3:05	Pavement outside gate 3 & 4
4	1	8:45	3:05	Rear of car park
5	3	8:40	3:00	Pavement outside gate 3
6	4	8:40	3:00	Pavement outside gate 4

Messages from the Office

School Meals - meals must be booked by midnight Wednesday the week before, otherwise the meal will not be provided. You can book all the way up to the end of the Academic Year. If you do not have a meal booked, then please ensure your child brings their packed lunch from home each day.

Access to the School Office - you can access the school office between 8.30am and 4pm. Please note that only 1 person should be in the main foyer at any one time so please maintain social distancing and queue outside. Please adhere to a strict one in one out system. The school phone line is only manned between these hours so please make use of the answerphone system out of hours. If you need to sign your child in/out, then please can we ask that you use the alcohol gel in the foyer beforehand.

Free School Meals (Pupil Premium) - if you are eligible for FSM (please note this is not Universal Free School Meals – UFSM) then food vouchers will have been sent out for the Easter holiday period. Any issues, please contact admin@rushdenprimaryacademy.org.

Attendance – If your child is absent from the Academy, we ask you to let us know. If your child is absent due to sickness, please telephone the school and leave a message on the Absence Line with child's name, class and reason for absence.

Parent Forms – just a reminder that you can find our key parental forms on our website under Parental Zone then Forms. These can be completed and submitted electronically. You can find the following: Medical Form, Administration of Long-Term Medication, Pupil Leave of Absence Request and Breakfast and Afterschool Club Registration.

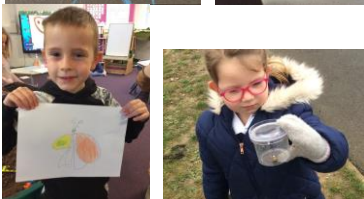
School Uniform - just a reminder that it's our expectation that children will be back in full uniform from Tuesday 13th April. Please continue to send children in their PE kit on PE days.

Upcoming Dates

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|
| 12 th April | - | Training Day |
| 13 th April | - | First Day of Summer Term 5 |
| 21 st April | - | Queen's Birthday |
| 23 rd April | - | St George's Day |
| 26 th May | - | Reception Fairy Tale Dress Up Day |
| 27 th May | - | Y2 & 3 Falconry Experience – further details to follow later. |
| 13 th April | - | Y4 Alice in Wonderland WOW Day |

Walk to school week 20th May.





Reception - Main News Story

It has been lovely having all the children back in the classroom this term. We were all so impressed with how well the children have returned to school. We have also been playing lots of team games to help us build on our friendships and social skills.

Our topic this term was 'minibeasts' and we have been super busy taking part in lots of fun activities. We learnt all about bumblebees and made honey sandwiches. We also looked at the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and discussed healthy and unhealthy foods. We also made our own yummy fruit kebabs to have at snack time. We had a special delivery of caterpillars and have been watching them grow.... we hope they turn into butterflies before we break up for

Easter. 

We have been doing lots of outdoor activities and went on a minibeast hunt around school- we found lots of worms as it was raining. We also used chalk to draw pictures of minibeasts outside.

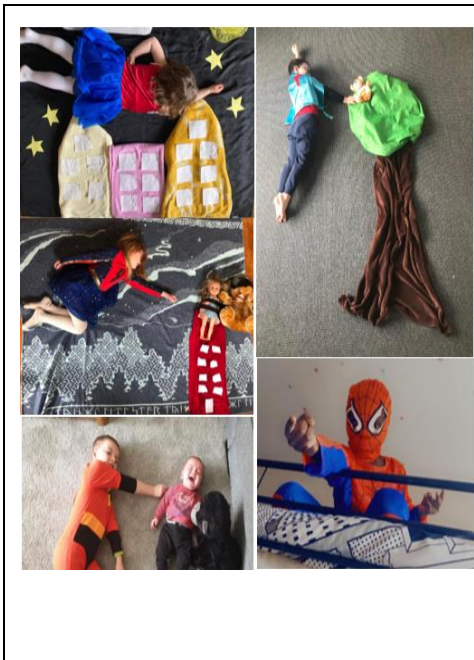
We are looking forward to next term already and our topic will be Fairy tales and we will hopefully be able to go out on lots of local walks.



Year 1 - Main News Story

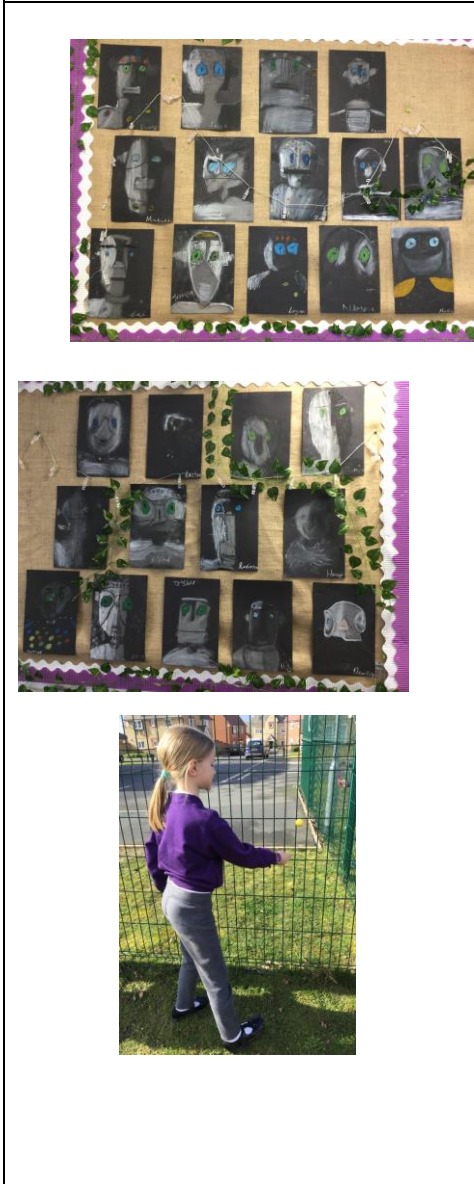
Miss Gill and I have been so impressed with the way the year one children have returned to school after their period of remote learning. The enthusiasm and excitement as a whole has been incredible, and we have packed a lot in to the three weeks that everyone has been back. As well as working on our phonics, maths and writing we have been making marmalade sandwiches in Paddington Bear's honour, dressing up as superhero's for Red Nose Day, making cards for the important people in our lives and creating vehicles for the safe transporting of eggs.

We are now looking forward to next term and our new topic which is called 'Toy Story' and getting outside for lots of outdoor learning. Sadly, we are saying goodbye to Miss Bywater who has been with us since just after February half term and we hope you will join us in wishing her well for her future teaching career.



Year 2 – Main News Story

We've had an eventful term in Year 2 with only being back a short while before having to return to home learning. We have been so impressed at how well you have all adapted to these changes, you are all amazing! Since being at home we have continued to work hard with our 'Intrepid Explorers' theme and have especially enjoyed learning about Neil Armstrong and his journey to the moon. Mrs Bell and I loved seeing you still taking part in our dress up day for Red Nose Day and thoroughly enjoyed seeing your superhero posed pictures. Keep up the marvellous work Year 2, we look forward to having you all back next term.



Year 3 - Main News Story

Wow! What an amazing half term. Year 3 have been super busy rekindling their friendships and catching up with their friends, it is evident the children have missed each other and watching them socialise again has been wonderful to see. As a year group, we focused on re-establishing our class routines and rules. The children have made all us adults very proud by getting stuck right in with the topic activities we had ready for them.

Our class novel The Iron Man, has provided us with endless discussion topics and art projects. From this, children have produced fantastic persuasive letters within our English lessons and our Iron Man portraits showed skill and patience! Aren't they incredible? In Science we explored magnetism and we even managed to take our learning outdoors! In Maths children have been investigating multiplication and taking part in active learning.

Next half term we will discover the world of Predators! We are hoping to invite some furry or feathery visitors into school. As a year group, we are also planning on starting our own little allotment, so any kind donations will be more than welcome. We will need pots, seeds, and compost.

We wish all of Year 3 and their families a lovely and restful Easter break, you all deserve it. Thank you for all your continued support. We can't wait for next half term and for the weather to get a little bit warmer, which will enable us to use the outdoors more regularly.

Year 3 Team



Year 4 – The Empire Strikes Back

The Meerkats and Jaguars have been immersed in the Romans since they returned to school. We've been researching what a day in the life of a Roman soldier would have been like and then we created lots of drama sequences to reflect the recount. We've analysed diary entries and 'magpied' ideas from them to use in our own. We all can't wait to write them next week.

In Maths, children have been learning about equivalent fractions and how to add and subtract them too. Adding and subtracting was easy but when the improper fractions came to visit – we got slightly stuck! Luckily, we've learned lots of useful tips to help us!

Furthermore, we have learnt about the job of a Gladiator and researched some well-known individuals and what their lives were like. We've virtually created street map tours to follow around Rome, making sure we've identified the most important landmarks and as well as all of that we've read a brilliant text that followed a Roman slave through her duties.

Finally, we celebrated Science Week with some magical experiments. We investigated how it was possible to grow a rainbow using felt tip pens and kitchen towel, which involved cohesion, adhesion and surface tension taking place. Also, we created fireworks in a cup due to the reaction between water and oil.

Year 5 - Main News Story

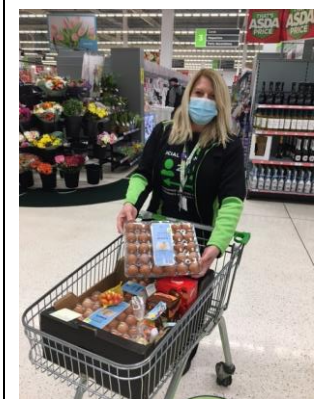
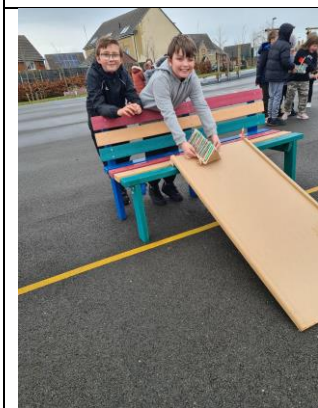
It has been amazing having the children of year 5 back in school for the final part of this term. We have been looking at the rainforest and the devastation that certain species face due to deforestation. We have loved drawing different animals to add to our classroom display!

Next term we plan on looking at our solar system, we will be building rockets and designing our own planets. The children will have the opportunity to view the earth from space, they will also use satellite images to look at the Earth and how different weather formations look from space!

We hope the children and their families have an amazing Easter break and manage to get some well-deserved rest! They have worked incredibly hard this term and we are so proud of all they have achieved.

Miss Hales and Mr James.





Year 6 - Main News Story

Year 6 have come back to school as though they had never left! Their determination and resilience in their learning has been exemplary. The classroom certainly feels a lot smaller now they have grown so much!

It has been a great term. Our class read *Sky Song* has taken us through a magical journey: we wish we could read it all day! In English, we have been learning about the importance of facing our fears; this has helped us to produce some fantastic creative writing and become more confident in making our writing more adventurous. In Maths, we have had the opportunity to work in teams to revise some key learning and have also been exploring some new concepts too.

In Science, year 6 have been learning about electrical circuits. We have looked at how each component works in a circuit; created a human circuit with our own bodies and have had fun testing what we would need to do to make the different components brighter, louder or move faster.

Next half term, we will be working towards some suspense writing. Our new class read will offer an array of comprehension opportunities and writing skills we can 'magpie' for our own writing.

In topic, we will be exploring Crime and Punishment. We will compare the justice system from the Victorian era to today - some of the punishments are particularly gruesome!

Thank you so much for your ongoing support in these difficult times. I hope you have restful and lovely Easter break. I am looking forward to starting the next term and planning some events for the years 6's last term here at RPA - more information to follow.

DT Week - Eggstravaganza

This term for Design and Technology we had a whole school project where the children had the opportunity to participate in an egg-citing project! They were tasked with designing and building a racing cart designed to transport an egg. Our children raced against their peers with chocolatey prizes given to the winners! The children needed to race to see whose cart would move the furthest distance, who reached the finish line the fastest and finally, which egg could survive the fall of doom! Children have been racing this afternoon and the winners will be announced shortly.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Asda for their kind donations towards our DT "Eggstavaganza" Week. Tracy is the Community Champion for the Rushden branch and has been supporting our school during the pandemic with lots of kind donations.



Our favourite "Red Nose Day" jokes.....

What is a snake's favourite lesson? Hisstory

What wobbles in the sky?
A jellicopter.

What did the Mummy Volcano say to the Baby Volcano? I lava-you

What do you call a pig with three eyes? Piiig!

What do you call a famous celery? A celery-brity

What did the eye say to the other eye? Something smells between us

Why did the cookie go to the doctor? Because he was feeling crumby

What do you call a pig who does karate? A pork chop!

What do cows do for fun?
Go to the moo-vies

Why was the football player so rich? Because he was good at saving!

Where do fish keep their money? In the river bank!

Which is your favourite?.....