




Ralph Butterfield Primary School

School Newsletter



Friday 1st October 2021

2021/22 Newsletter No: 3

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Headteacher's Update

Hello

It was really lovely to return to school on Wednesday this week and I would like to thank everyone for the kind messages of support given to both myself and Mr Daniel throughout our isolation. The impact for children and staff testing positive for Covid-19 has varied considerably, and we are very mindful of this whilst children are returning to school at different points. Please rest assured that all staff will work with, and support your child, whilst they continue to recover and return to their usual activities post-isolation.

I am pleased to share that the number of positive cases of Covid-19 being reported has significantly reduced across the course of this week, along with the number of symptomatic children waiting for the results of PCR tests. We are going to continue with the outbreak management plan measures in place into next week, just to be completely satisfied that the outbreak is indeed going to continue to slow.

Remember, we are all really approachable here at school and we are passionate about being supportive for our children and their families; please don't ever think twice about contacting us.



Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Mrs Helen Stephenson



Deputy Headteacher



Upcoming Events

06/10/2021	PTA Coffee Morning—School Hall (9-10am) Postponed in line with outbreak management plan. We hope to set another date soon.
07/10/21	Year 6 Robinwood - Parent/Carer Information Evening (5:30pm)
08/10/2021	Break The Rules Day
11/10/21	Parent Teacher Association (PTA) AGM (9am)
w/c 11/10/21	Parents' Evening Week - online appointments
w/c 18/10/21	Parents' Evening Week - face to face appointments

This week we learnt about the **Octopus** and we've been amazed at all the clever things this sea creature can do. In contrast to last week's brainless jellyfish, the octopus actually has quite an enormous brain! Smartie pants! The amount of hearts, the camouflage capabilities and the complete lack of bones an octopus has had the children in awe! We enjoyed discussing these fascinating facts whilst making our paper plate octopus crafts.



S s



The snake is in the grass.
The snake is in the grass.
The snake is in the grass.
The snake is in the grass.

We began learning letter sounds in our **phonics** lessons this week. So far we know S, A and T. We have had lots of fun singing songs and learning actions that will help us remember the sounds these letters make. Ask your child to see if they can remember the songs and actions to perform for you at home.

So far this term we have had several opportunities to use the new scooters and bikes on the playground. These sessions provide a valuable insight into so many skills from physical ability and coordination to cooperation and resilience.

We hope you have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing the children on Monday for another busy week!



Many thanks,

Miss Knowles & the EYFS team



Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

Wow, another great week in Key Stage One and we couldn't have done it without all the amazing children who continue to show their resilience and perseverance in each lesson, well done!!



We have continued our polar theme this week in English, but we have been focusing on our non-fiction writing. We have watched short videos to learn more about polar bears and penguins and then wrote up a fact file for each animal. Everyone did a great job at collecting facts from the videos to be able to use in their own writing. Then on Friday, we had some very special post... a postcard all the way from the Arctic... it was Polar Bear writing to a Penguin to learn more about where a penguin lives. So, we did our best to write back pretending to be a penguin and using all the facts we had learnt about penguins and the Antarctic to help Polar Bear learn more!

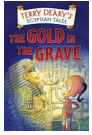
We have had lots of fun in DT this week designing our very own animal puppet! We could choose any animal we'd like, so we thought carefully about our favourite animal and why we'd like to do that one. Then, we designed our puppet and started to practise a running stitch. We can't wait to start making them next week!



Have a lovely restful weekend everyone and we look forward to more adventures with you all next week.

Mrs Robinson, Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Reeves and Miss Keith.

Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)



Year 3 and Year 4 have had a super week and enjoyed learning more about King Tutankhamun. They have explored pictures of artefacts discovered in his tomb and have used their enquiry skills to work out what the objects were and what they may have been used for.

In English, we have read the story 'The Gold in the Grave' based on King Tutankhamun and created a story board of the main events. We are looking forward to continuing our work on this next week when we will be creating detailed descriptions of the Egyptian characters.



In PSHE this week, we have been focusing on how to maintain positive friendships on and offline and how to remain safe online. The children enjoyed discussing different scenarios and shared a fantastic understanding of where to get support if they feel worried or are unsure of how to respond to unwanted communication online. Well done!

Science was another highlight this week. As a part of our animals including humans topic, we have been grouping animals according to the type of skeleton they have. Some very tricky scientific words were used such as endoskeleton, exoskeleton and hydrostatic skeleton. It was fascinating to use the new light boxes and look at the x-rays of a variety of insects and mammals.



Well done Year 3 and Year 4, you have had another fantastic week!

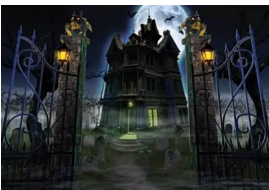
Please do come and speak to us if you have any questions or queries.

We hope you have a fabulous weekend.



Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

Both at home and in school, the Year 5 and 6 pupils have continued to work hard this last week. We hope that all those who have been feeling unwell begin to feel better soon and we wish you a speedy recovery.



The children started the week by looking carefully at pictures of abandoned houses. They then worked together to come up with a bank of useful phrases and words for use in their writing later in the week. Using what they had learnt about sentence structures earlier this term, pupils then used their word bank effectively to write an imaginative description of their own abandoned house setting.

In maths this week, the children have continued to develop their understanding of formal column addition by adding several numbers together. This has also required them to carry more than one ten, hundred, thousand etc. Once secure on this, they have then had the opportunity to solve a variety of addition word problems thinking carefully about the number of steps involved in order to solve them successfully.



Please contact us or speak to us directly if you have any questions or concerns, especially regarding children returning to school after their isolation period.

If you have any questions, queries or concerns please come and speak to us.

Mr Daniel, Mrs Stephenson & Mr Tod.





Unfortunately, we have decided to cancel the **Coffee Morning** planned to welcome our new parents / guardians and carers with children in Reception.

We do hope to be able to rearrange this event soon.



We hope to be able to hold our **PTA AGM** which is planned on **Monday 11th October** at **9am** in the **School Hall**. We hope you will be able to join us. It will only take around 30 mins. We need people to join the PTA to ensure events can take place which raise money for school. Please join us either as a team member or officer position – you can all make a big difference to the school and meet lots of lovely people.

We are looking forward to the '**Break The Rules Day**', back by popular demand, on **Friday 8th October**. Get the nail polish out, hair chalks prepped and orange squash ready....



For every rule broken, you need to pay 50p. Please see the letter sent out this week for further details. We hope the rule breakers have fun!!



Last December, Lindsey, our wonderful PTA Vice Chair applied to the Tesco Community Grant Scheme to be part of their in-store Bags of Help Scheme to help us '**Rejuvenate Outdoor playtime**' at Ralph Butterfield. We requested their support to win up to £1,500 to purchase outdoor equipment and games for RB's, promoting how outdoor activities can support our children's mental and physical health when they need it the most.

We need your help! All of the York Tesco stores (Clifton Moor, Tadcaster Road, Strensall, Huntington Road plus others) will have a voting box with our cause on and the more Blue Coins we have the more likely we are to get the maximum amount of £1,500.



Please tell your family and friends to use the Blue Coins for us. Our cause will be in store from 1st October – 31st December

Joanne – PTA Chair