



# Rettendon Primary School Newsletter

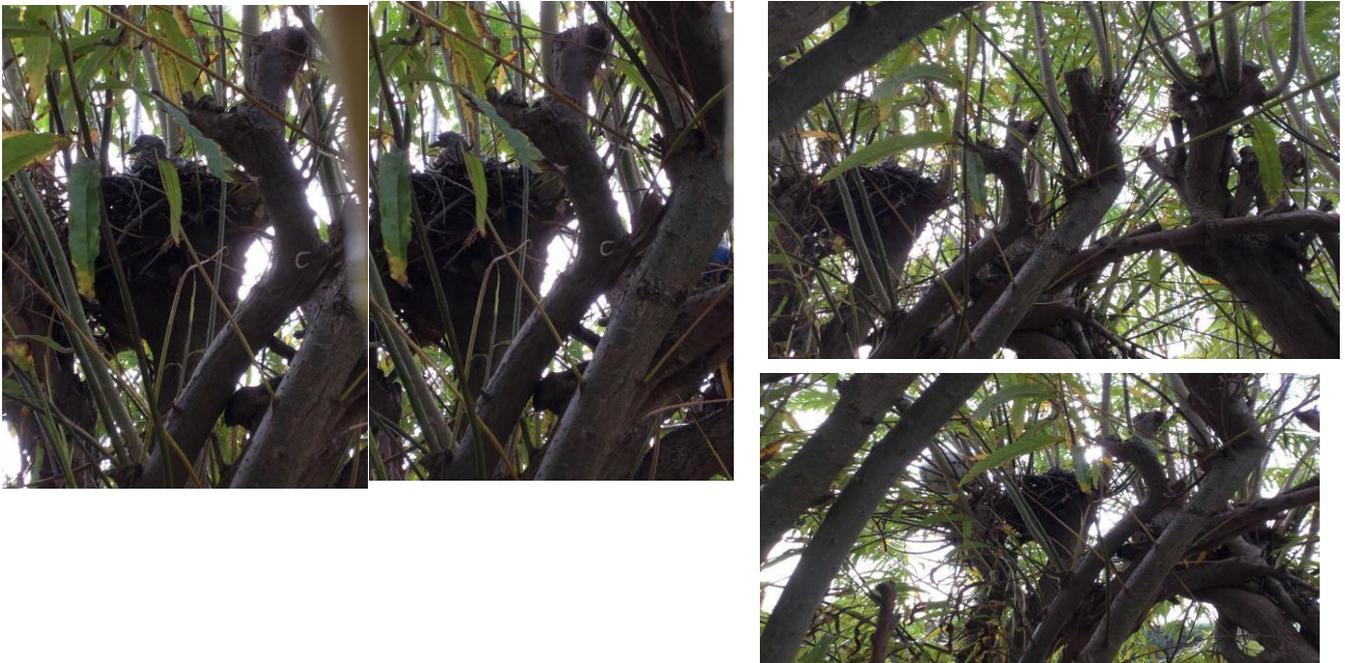
4<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

This week started with a thought-provoking service at the church for our harvest festival. It was heart-warming to see so many children donating items of food throughout the service and this was topped off by beautiful whole school singing and some confident readings from Class 5. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the kind donations that have been sent to Harp. I just can't wait to invite parents along to share with us in the Christingle services later this term.

The children have continued to be excited by new learning throughout the school. Class 5 seem enthralled by the work they are doing to achieve their JASS award – this award covers many areas including, adventure, me and my world, get active, stay active and my interests; they have set themselves a class challenge to train for a 5K run as part of the get active, stay active section – watch this space in the near future we may get even more gold medals in the athletics for England! Smoothies have been delivered to my door by Class 4 (truly delicious). They have been learning the structure of instructions and they really enjoyed the hook of smoothie making. Class 3 have continued their computing curriculum linked to SCRATCH, they have told me all about algorithms and the importance of them in programming. My golden moment of this week has to be a Class 5 child, "I'm really getting this maths now." For me, after a week of Year 6 persevering with maths concepts, it was a real golden moment to overhear!

The children have not only been excited about in class work, but a group of children have been keeping a very close eye on a birds nest in the willow trees. Over the past four weeks, they have seen the mummy pigeon guarding the nest, fleeing the nest and returning with food. The awe and wonder on the children's faces at lunch time is just amazing, I even got asked could we keep the birds as pets! Here are a few close up pictures taken by the children for you to enjoy.



The core value of the month is honesty. We launched the value of honesty in assembly today with the story, "The Boy Who Always Won," it talks about the impact of cheating within sporting situations and the moral of the story is it is better to be honest and sometimes loose as you learn from



defeats in life. The Headteacher commendations will be linked to honesty for this month. We continue to focus on improving our attendance as a school, this week saw Class 1 win and the class winner of the month that will be enjoying breakfast with me next week is Class 5.

You will notice that I have highlighted in red below additional dates that have been added to the school calendar. We have included a parent workshop on the phonics scheme we are using in school, Read, Write, Inc for Reception, Year 1 and some Year 2 children. This evening will cover the structure of the scheme; it will give you an understanding of the scheme and also outline how to support your child at home. As the year journeys on, more dates will be added for parent workshops so please do keep an eye on the newsletter, the next date that will be added will be an online safety evening for all parents. Our first evening workshop was a roaring success and we had some great feedback from parents – the resources from the RWI spelling workshop are now on our school website for all parents to access. Thank you to those parents that attended and thank you to Mr Andrews and Mrs Adams for giving up their evenings to deliver this evening workshop.

In the next two weeks, we will see Rettendon's Netball Squad go off to their first netball tournament against other local schools. To say I'm excited is a slight understatement! The year 5/6 squad worked hard in training since January learning all of the rules of the game and developing their ball handling, passing, shooting and defence skills. As we move through the year, we will see more competitions going out – exciting times for the children!

#### **We still need your help**

Thank you to the parents who have sent in links to possible grant avenues already. We are still trying to source a grant, bid or a company that will donate money towards developing our ICT resources. If you know of any sources of income, please could you speak to myself or Mr Andrews.

You will notice in the entrance there are now books appearing in our adult book swap, this is for any adult to use so please do feel free to browse the contents and borrow a book. If you have read any great books and want to share your love of reading, please donate the books to the front office. We would now like to extend this into a child's book swap too, so if you have any great children's books at home and would like to donate them to our book swap please drop them off in the office.

I will be releasing a newsletter every other Friday, so please do check for key dates and updates on your child's learning.



Kind Regards,  
Mrs S Sloper  
Headteacher



## Key Dates for the Academic Year

14.10.2019	Flu Immunisation
14.10.2019	Phonics Parent Workshop 6pm – 7pm
17.10.2019	Year 5/6 Netball Tournament
21.10.2019	Book Look 8.30AM
25.10.2019	Class 1 Parent Open Afternoon 1:30pm
Week of 28.10.2019	October Half Term
04.11.2019	Non Pupil Day
06.12.2019	Year 3 and 4 Sleepover onsite
10.12.2019	Book Look PM 3.30PM
12.12.2019	Class 1 and 2 Nativity
16.12.2019	FRS Christmas Parties
18.12.2019	Church Services
19.12.2019	Final day of Autumn Term
20.12.2019	Start of Christmas Holidays
06.01.2020	Return to school
06.02.2020	Class 4 Show
12.02.2020	Book Look 8.30AM
14.02.2020	Year 1 and 2 Sleepover onsite
Week of 17.02.2020	February Half Term
26.03.2020	Class 3 Show
02.04.2020	Easter Service
02.04.2020	Book Look 3.20PM
Weeks of the 06.04.2020 and 13.04.2020	Easter Holidays
08.05.2020	May Bank Holiday
Week of 11.05.2020	Key Stage Two SATS
Week of 18.05.2020	Key Stage One SATS
22.05.2020	Book Look 8.30AM
Week of 25.05.2020	June Half Term
01.06.2020	Non Pupil Day
02.06.2020	Non Pupil Day
03.06.2020	Non Pupil Day
Week of 08.06.2020	Phonics Screening
24.06.2020- 26.06.2020	Year 5 and 6 Residential Bradwell Outdoors
03.07.2020	Sports Day
06.07.2019	Book Look 3.20PM
14.07.2020	Class 5 Show
15.07.2020	Class 5 Show
16.07.2020	Leavers' Trip
17.07.2020	FRS Parties
20.07.2020	Leavers' Disco
21.07.2020	Governors' Assembly
22.07.2020	Leavers' Assembly
22.07.2020	Break up for the summer holidays



## School Council

This week the School Council had their first official meeting, we started by celebrating the £200 pounds that was raised from the McMillan coffee morning. The School Council enjoyed serving the cakes to all that attended, "We loved that there were so many parents there supporting us" They also want to thank the FRS for organising the fantastic event for such a good cause.

## A glance through Rettendon's window

### Class 1

In Class One we have been counting and recognising numbers to 20. We have enjoyed playing number games on the interactive whiteboard, and can't wait to show you how high we can count.

On Monday we went to the Harvest festival at the church. We walked sensibly and were very careful crossing the road. In the church we sat beautifully and enjoyed listening to the story of Ruth and hearing how our food donations will help others.

In PE we have been exploring ways of travelling and are looking forward to using equipment next week. We have also been practicing our ball skills with a coach and are getting really good at rolling and pushing balls.

We have all completed our first piece of writing in our writing books. We worked really hard at sounding out the word 'am' and writing our name. We are very proud of ourselves!

Keep checking Tapestry for more updates. We look forward to seeing parents at the RWI workshop at 6pm on Monday 14th October.



## A glance through Rettendon's window

### Class 2

This week, Year 2 have been learning to add in tens and ones, using the column method. In PE, we have loved our football lessons with the coach and practising catching skills. In Art, we've been painting beautiful starry skies, in the style of Vincent Van Gogh and in Geography, we've enjoyed using compasses to find North, South, East and West. Class 2 are still running everyday but due to time restraints we do not have time to change into running shoes, so the children have been able to take them home.



### Class 3

Lots of things happened over these two weeks; but I am going to mention something that I will remember the most. It wasn't the grammar, it wasn't the amount of simple addition and less simple ones they have done, not even the rocks or fossils around the class from your children...it was during snack time. We went outside with the carrots, apples, raisins, bananas and much more and I watched them playing, laughing and especially being so nice to each other- that for me that was the highlight of the month. Next week, we will carry on with our fairy tales. The focus for this month has been to be able to use our imagination. What about if the three little pigs are not that little? What about if Pinocchio...? So far they have managed to describe the character and have started putting it into a setting. Can't wait to read the stories, where I will be checking the use of past tense, adjectives and even subordinated conjunctions! Hopefully, they will remember the handwriting as



well!

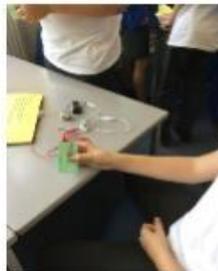


# A glance through Rettendon's window

## Class 4

Class 4 have had a creative week this week with activities ranging from making cartouches, electrical circuit to creating posters about the River Nile in Egyptian times. We are continuing on with our music and progressing onto three notes on the recorder. In tag rugby will have been practising the skill of running forward and passing the ball backwards, which is not an easy concept to learn.

In literacy we have been tasting, designing and making our own smoothies in readiness to write explicit instructions.



# A glance through Rettendon's window

## Class 5

It certainly feels like we have been back a lot longer than 4 weeks and the members of class 5 have picked up to full speed pretty quickly. In the last couple of weeks, they have amazed us already with some of their brilliant writing, using a wide range of vocabulary and punctuation; last week's poetry was awesome. In maths, both Year 5 and Year 6 have made speedy progress to multiplication and we have seen many children really pushing their boundaries when challenged with new ideas.

There has been some lovely time to work scientifically, look at the properties of light – whether making light move with reflection or refraction – tell them to show you how to make a picture disappear from under a glass and explain to you why! With their JASS project they are still working together to plan an adventurous activity (which promises to be really fun) and they have worn themselves into the ground practising for their 5k run.

