

#### Dear Parents and Carers,

Around the classes this week there has been a lot going on again. Across this week I have ventured into all the classes as per normal to get a flavour of the learning going on. In Year 6 I was happy to get trapped in maths with the children who were completing work on find the missing angles of quadrilaterals. The class teachers were encouraging the children to press on and access the challenge section of the lesson. The word 'challenge' was very appropriate. The children were up for this and had good success. I teach quite regularly in Year 6 and it is terrific to get in lessons and share the discussion with them about their learning. In Geography the children have been studying North America. They have been learning about the man-made and natural features of the continent as well as the different weather cycles that exist. Year 5 continue their learning about the space race. Children have been learning about the first person in space as well as the first female astronaut. I too was able to enjoy a terrific maths session that focused on angles. Again, teachers were encouraging the children to reach the challenge section of the lesson which they did with good success. It was great to be in what was a tremendous hubbub of learning noise in upper Key Stage 2.

Children in Sharks and Frogs have been working on place value of numbers across ones, tens, hundreds and thousands. Several of the children were using this knowledge to apply it to adding where they were exchanging and carrying. On two other tables there were groups who were looking at how manipulating number sentences with subtraction could leave a negative number. This was then applied to temperature in a discussion. Children have also been learning about different materials in Science. They have been experimenting with water-proof and non-water-proof materials, (albeit keeping dry themselves!)

In Nursery children have been reading the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar. The children have also been making their very own caterpillar and learning about the life cycle of one. It looked terrific fun! Meanwhile, children in Reception class have been reading about Jack and the Beanstalk. They have been growing their own 'stalks' and learning about plants and living things. The children were also talking and learning about daily routines. The children were looking at the routines they have when they wake up to get ready for school! Unfortunately I caused a little confusion because I said that I ate my porridge first and then brushed my teeth! The children said I should brush my teeth first! I may need to reverse my own routine!

In Year 1 children have been blitzing their phonics ahead of their impending phonics screening later in the school year. In addition to this, I have seen the children working with their inquiry tray and investigating different types of weather. It was brilliant to be in an English lesson where I saw children writing a recount of their recent church visit. Children were using time adverbials and conjunctions accurately! Great to see! I fortunately arrived in Year 2 this week for maths again! This week Year 2 have been learning about fractions. They have been consolidating their understanding of the parts of a fraction – numerator / fraction bar and denominator. Year 2 have also loved learning about the Victorians. They have focused on the two types of houses that people lived in. Houses for the privileged and houses for most people. The difference was enormous!

In Lower Key Stage 2 children in Year 3 have been reading the story of the Butterfly Lion in whole class reading lessons. This is a wonderful story. Children have been working on the VIPER skills answering questions on the chapter they are reading. In Geography children have been learning about mapping and developing mapping skills. This is something they really enjoyed and will come in useful at PGL when they are in Year 4! Finally, in Year 4 in Maths, children have now shifted to working on decimals, comparing these to equivalent fractions and manipulating them. The children have also been learning about different coastal environments around the world. This is something they have enjoyed doing but have also discovered how much erosion is eating away at different coastal areas.

#### **Ramadan Assembly**







I would like to wish all our Muslim families the best for Ramadan. On Wednesday I raised the children's awareness of this very special and sacred time of year for Muslims around the world. Even though I have led the assembly celebrating this period I would very much like any of our Muslim parents to come in during this period to share their experiences of Ramadan. If you are willing to do this then please email the school. It would be a terrific experience for the children to hear about Ramadan from our Muslim families.

We also had one of our club leaders come in to talk to the children about 'Out of the Box' which runs after school on a Wednesday and is available for Years 1-6. If you are interested in this club please contact <u>queryoutofthebox@gmail.com</u>



Today we helped to promote Red Nose Day. Children came in to today dressed in red, or partially in red to promote this fantastic national cause. I would like to thank all the children, parents and carers for their very kind donations.



# Girls' Football

#### The Thriller in Philomena!

Last night, the girls played their match against St. Philomena. They had the lion's share of the possession in the first half but went behind to an early goal. They showed resilience to equalise at half time. They worked hard to create more opportunities in the game but the opposition had a great goal keeper who made some fantastic saves. Sadly we lost 3-1 but we are already thinking about our next game which is coming up against Worsley Bridge before Easter. Mr O is proud of you! Well done!

#### Cross Country

On Saturday morning, children from Year 3 and 4 attended the Crystal Palace cross country event at Crystal Palace Park. The children arrived in excellent spirit despite the challenging traffic and turned out in their droves

All children managed to finish the event with some absolutely fantastic places being earned. While it was not enough to see us earn any silverware, I am extremely proud of the children for their cheerfulness, effort and pride in representing the school.

My thanks also to Miss Donnelly and Mr De Freitas for donating their time early on Saturday morning to make this event a success. Another successful year at Crystal Palace has been completed and I look forward to taking the children next year.

# Mr Boorman

Year 4 teacher and PE lead





#### Volunteers

Could you spare a bit of time each week to read 1:1 with the Reception children? If you are interested, please could you speak to the EYFS team or email <u>reception@raglan.bromley.sch.uk</u>.

#### **School Photos**

If you are ordering your school photos through school directly, please ensure your order is with us by 21<sup>st</sup> March.

#### Year 1 Trip

Year 1 had a fantastic time on their trip to St Augustine's Church. They made some Easter crafts and learnt more about the Christian Easter story. Year 1 would like to thank all the adults who volunteered to come with us. Miss Lowe and Miss Gould are proud of all the children for being very sensible while using public transport and representing Raglan while walking around our local area. Happy (early!) Easter!





**Congratulations to Mrs Bridge who** gave birth to baby Lyla last week.

# Do you speak English as a Second Language?

Czy mówisz po angielsku w drugim jezyku? Você fala inglês como segunda língua? Вы говорите на английском как на втором языке? Vorbiti engleza ca a doua limbă? நீங்கள் இரண்டாவது மொழியாக ஆங்கிலம் பேசுகிறீர்களா?



The ESOL Family Learning English course is being offered for **free** to parents at Raglan Primary

School after the Easter holidays.

This is an eight week English course for parents who have English as a second language.

An ESOL tutor will run an English course for **2 hours weekly** covering topics that will be relevant to their children's learning at school. You will not only have the opportunity to improve your English but also have a better understanding of what your child is learning and how to support them.

Miss Goulds has already spoken to a number of parents who have shown an interest. If you are also interested in joining this free English course, please speak to your child's class teacher or Miss Goulds on the playground before or after school. Alternatively, email year1@raglan.bromley.sch.uk.

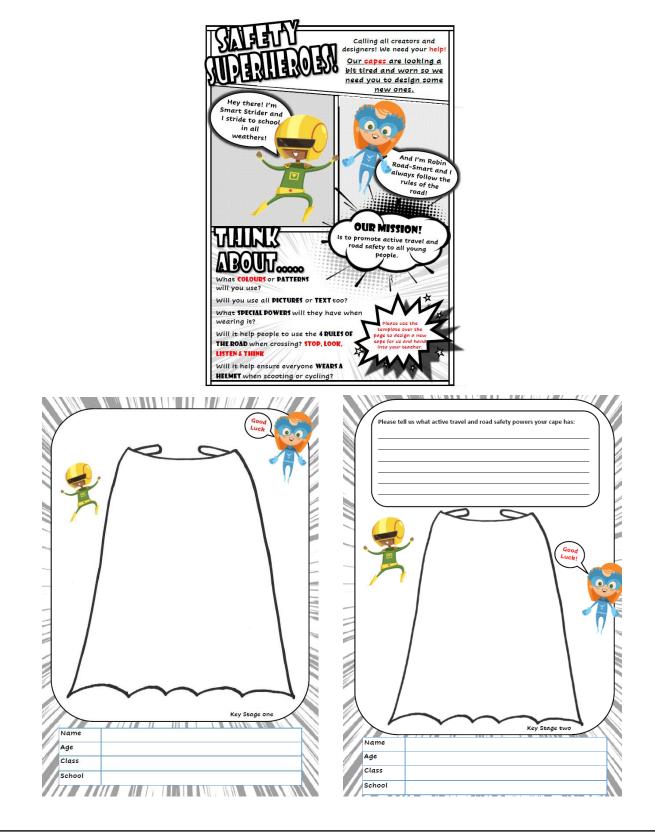
Please note that the course can only run at our school if there are enough parents signed up. Also, we do require the commitment of attending every week for the duration of the course.

# JTA Safety Superheroes - Spring Competition

This week, the JTAs launched their brand new Spring competition and introduced the school to the Safety Superheroes. This is a borough-wide competition to design a new superhero cape. Entries should show off the superheroes special powers in spreading road safety awareness. For example, using the 'Green Cross Code' to cross roads safely, wearing a seatbelt when travelling in a car or promoting how healthy and fun it can be to walk, scoot or cycle.

**Copies of the entry forms can be collected from class teachers.** All entries should be returned to school by Wednesday 27th March.

The overall winner of the KS1 and KS2 competition will be submitted to represent Raglan in the borough wide competition. Good luck!



#### Nursery

This week in Nursery the children have continued their learning about 'what comes from an egg?' by exploring frog spawn and caterpillars. Nursery have their own caterpillars and we are looking forward to exploring this life cycle over the coming weeks. The book of the week is 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle and children have enjoyed many activities such as making their own caterpillars models, butterfly printing, drawing closed shapes to represent caterpillars, cocoons and butterflies and using unifix bricks to copy repeating patterns.

In our weekly outdoor learning sessions, children have used mud to paint pictures as well as exploring the area looking for worms, snails and mini beasts.





WE NEE!

YOURHELP



Help needed from builders/carpenters/handy people/artists

We desperately need help with building something that will create shade in our KS2 playground and provision playground. If there is anyone in our parent body that could help us, please get in touch by emailing <u>eprescott@raglan.bromley.sch.uk</u>

We would also love somebody to be able to create some art work on the playground. If you can be of any help, or know of anyone who could please could you get in touch.

#### Eco-Council

Last week our Eco Council planted some new hedgerow plants to replace some that sadly got damaged. They did this just in time for all the rain we have had this week! The Eco Council, site team and children that use the outdoor learning area will continue to water and look after them so hopefully we will have a wonderful hedgerow to help support the birds and wildlife in our garden. The Eco Council will be organising a community litter pick very soon so watch this space.....



# And Finally...

Incredibly we are only two weeks away from the end of the Spring Term. I feel as though I have only just digested Christmas Dinner! This is a critical two weeks of home learning because we have a two week break. Please do ensure that you maintain your drive with times tables so that your children can rapidly recall these, and the divisions of them. I have so many children that are Year 4 and younger that are mastering them and now manipulating these. We need you to keep practising at home as much as possible. When a child can memorise and rapidly recall their times tables, they unlock the doors to maths and their confidence soars!

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr De Freitas