

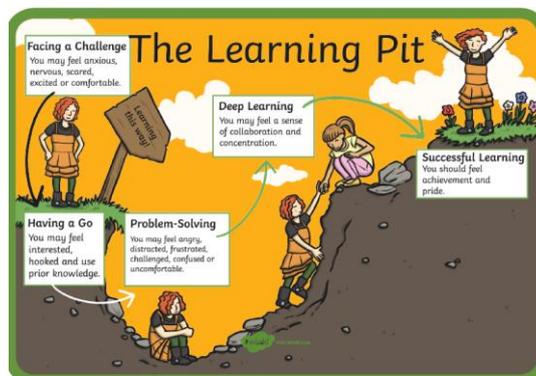


2021 Autumn One Newsletter

Welcome back to the start of an exciting school year and welcome to our new Rickley Parkers! The children (existing and new) have settled well into school life over the past couple of weeks and continue to amaze me with their positive attitudes to learning – the classrooms are full of energy! In our first newsletter of the year, we have added different sections in to describe the many things happening across school from changes in classroom learning, exciting events that can now take place and how we are developing links with our local community. If you have any questions about the content, please do not hesitate to speak to one of the school staff.

Mrs Nicole Bramwell
Head of School

New!



This term the children have been introduced to the Learning Pit. This is to help the children when they are faced with a challenge or a problem. We have started to talk to the children about these situations as being similar to being stuck in a pit. We want the children at Rickley Park to embrace this struggle and know that it is ok to not being able to do things. We have introduced the Learning Pit alongside our school values, as our school values compliment the idea of the Learning Pit. What can your child tell you about the Learning Pit? See if your child has been in the today!

FORP News



FORP focussed on raising funds for the Rickley Park Forest School last year and after fundraising, the Forest School is now fully equipped with Mrs Rand and Miss Hasie about to start delivering Forest School lessons across the school!

Our focus for 2021-2022 is to develop the further outside learning areas so to start this year of fundraising, we have two events coming up!

MacMillan Coffee Morning (parents)

Thursday 30th September 9:00-10:30am

Halloween Disco (pupils) more info to follow!

Years R, 1 & 2: Thursday 21st October 5:00-6:30pm

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6: Friday 22nd October 5:00-6:30pm

School Parent Liaison



If you haven't met her already, this is the lovely Mrs Katie Parry who supports families across the school. Due to covid, Mrs Parry hasn't been able to hold parent workshops or any coffee mornings but look out for a letter inviting you to her first one!

New!



Dental Buddy & Healthy Eating

We will be delivering the Dental Buddy programme across the school to teach the children about good oral hygiene. Our lessons will involve talking about the science involved and tips on how to keep our mouths healthy. There is more information on our school website but below is a top tip for smart brushing!

SMART BRUSHING

BRUSHING REMOVES PLAQUE AND FOOD PARTICLES FROM ALL THE SURFACES OF YOUR TEETH

Place the head of your toothbrush against your teeth, then tilt the bristle tips to a 45 degree angle against the gumline. Move the brush in small circular movements, several times, on all the surfaces of every tooth.



Brush the outer surfaces of each tooth, upper and lower, keeping the bristles angled against the gumline.

Use the same method on the inside surfaces of all your teeth.

Brush the biting surfaces of the teeth.



To clean the inside surfaces of the front teeth tilt the brush vertically and make several small circular strokes with the front part of the brush.

Brushing your tongue will help freshen your breath and will clean your mouth by removing bacteria.



If you are looking for inspiration on what to add to your child's lunchbox, <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes#lunchbox-recipes> has some alternative healthy choice ideas.



Sports Section by the PE Team

This half term we are running badminton and football clubs for year 3, 4, 5 and 6. We have lots of fixtures coming up going to different schools and we are also hosting. We have football, basketball, dodgeball, cross country, sports day events, netball, and a girl's football event. Regarding the sports Ambassador program, Mr Higgs is currently setting this up where the year 6 children will have an opportunity to join the team and become an ambassador in sports, they will help with lunch time clubs and help with equipment and playing fun games. They will be given a badge and have sessions with him to learn new games to then play with the children at lunch. This will run over the year and they will be involved in a variety of different sports coming up and contribute any ideas they may have to put in place.



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Our School Curriculum

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Year Group Pages

Coming very soon!

In our Newsletter, we pick out the highlights of learning that will take place for your child over the half term. However, head to our revamped website:

www.rickleypark.co.uk

To look at your child's Year Group Page and find out more information about what is going on! We will post photos on here too for parents!

Community Links



The school has developed a link with Gold Care home, Bletchley House. So far, the children and residents have been writing letters to each other and the children have drawn pictures. We hope to be able to meet them in person over the coming year!

What is happening this half term?

Nursery

Our focus for this term is mainly getting the children settled and happily engaged in our environment. We will do a mini topic of All About Me where we will use mirrors to look at ourselves, compare our heights, discuss healthy foods and drinks and get to know each other better.

As the weather turns later on in the term we will be starting to turn our focus to autumn. This involves observing the changing colour of the leaves, exploring and experiencing chopping vegetables, looking at different types of seeds and nuts, making stick people and clay animals.

Our phonic focus will be to develop the awareness of environmental sounds from Phase 1 Phonics Aspect 1. We will be listening and remembering sounds and talking about sounds.

Our mathematical focus will be introducing subitising: to learn to subitise starting with 3 and building up to 4 and 5. Subitising is looking at how many items there are and saying the number name without counting.

Reception

In our Reception classes (Hedgehogs and Rabbits) this half term our topic is 'Do you want to be Friends?' We are settling into our new environment, making new friends and getting to know all the adults who help us in school. The children are already bringing picture books home to share which we will swap each week, so please make sure they are in book bags. Soon they will start to bring a scheme wordless book - please encourage full sentences and lots of detail when storytelling. We will be learning a new phonic sound daily and many children will soon be blending and segmenting simple words to read and write! They will have a little Phonics sound book for you to practise the relevant sounds at home, we will advise you on the Google Classroom of which sounds we have learnt each week. We are encouraging lots of mark-making and will be learning to write our names (please make sure they use a capital letter just at the start of their name and correctly orientated letters when practising at home, we have sent a laminated name strip home for regular practise). In Maths we are counting, ordering and recognising numbers to 5 through lots of exciting, interactive play and noticing time and seasonal changes. We are delighted with how well the new children have settled in already and are enjoying getting to know them!

Year One

Year One will build on their phonics knowledge to help them write independently. We will be working to secure letter formation and will be rehearsing sentences orally before writing them. The children will be reminded to start each sentence with a capital letter and end a sentence with a full stop.

In science, we will be naming the four seasons and noticing what we notice in Autumn. We will also be learning about different animals, their body parts, their environment and if they are carnivores, herbivores and/or omnivores. In history, we will be learning about people who have helped us from the past i.e Florence Nightingale. To understand who the Queen is and identifying old and new objects. In our RSHE lessons we will be, understanding our rights and responsibilities to ourselves and others within our classroom and our whole school, making the right choices and identifying similarities between myself and other.

Year Two

This half term we are focusing on place value. We need to be able to count objects to 100 in words and represent these numbers in numerals. We will also represent numbers to 100 using a range of concrete materials such as straws, counters and Base 10.

In English, we will be focusing on key grammar skills needed for Year 2 such as adjectives, adverbs, contractions, commas. We will then use our new grammar skills in our next writing unit based on George and the dragon.

As a spectacular start to our new topic, the children received a visit from the Teach Rex team. They met Sol the dragon and created their own films using a green screen.

In science we are learning all about animals and humans. We will find out what we need to survive and the different stages of life cycles. We will also discuss why it is important to have regular exercise, a balanced diet and to take care of our hygiene.

The Hub

In English we are researching London and writing about the different landmarks. The children have impressed me with their amazing adjectives and remembering their capital letters for proper nouns! In Maths we are looking at place value. The children have been experimenting with base 10 to problem solve. I have been very proud of each and every one of The Hub children as they have shown perseverance in all of the areas of their learning.

What is happening this half term?

Year Three

In English Year 3 will be using the story "The Wolves in the Walls" as a model to write an imaginative story of our own. We will introduce the concept of prefixes in our SpaG lessons. We will also be continuing with phonics activities and spellings in small groups. In Maths we are learning about place value and moving into numbers up to 1000. As always we will be continuing to learn our times tables using TT Rockstars and Rolling Numbers. After Place Value, our next maths units focus on addition and subtraction, using lots of mathematical resources as well as formal recording of calculations. Our Science topic is all about Forces and Magnets, using the Topic name of Scrapheap Challenge. Linking to this we will be drawing robots in art in the style of Eric Joyner an American artist.

Year Four

The Year 4 team would like to say a big warm welcome to all pupils and their families! The Year 4 team have been busy planning an engaging and exciting topic for Autumn Term. The topic, titled AMASIA, will kick off with a 'virtual world trip' in the school's immersion room. We will then continue to explore the idea of 'Amasia' by developing thematic maps to identify the physical features of Earth. In Science we will continue to create a better understanding of the world and its living things by exploring animal habitats. This lesson will be supported by an exciting visit from Ark Farm- who will bring some animals to school! In Maths the children will start their Year 4 learning by building up the foundations of all their future lessons with place value. These lessons are designed to teach the children how to really understand the value of each number and how they change when they are used in different calculations.

Year Five

For this half term in maths we are looking at place value, rounding and addition and subtraction using a formal column method. In English we are using a film, based on a child who loves space, to write a narrative. We will then be writing a newspaper report about an adventure into space. Our current topic is "To Infinity and Beyond". In music we are using our body as instruments to perform the Star Wars orchestral opening theme song. In art we are creating scratch art space-scapes. In science we have looked at space including gravity, geocentric and heliocentric orbits, our solar system and the phases of the moon. In RSHE we are focussing on who we are as people and how we all belong.

Year Six

In English, we are ensuring all our basic skills are up to scratch with an opening unit based on the short film Oktapodi. In Reading, we will cover a range of mystery texts and various non-fiction extracts using different question types. In Maths we will begin with recapping and practising our place value skills before moving onto addition and subtraction. In addition, we will be practising mental arithmetic skills daily to ensure speed and accuracy. Our Foundation work this term will be based around the Ancient Greeks. We will be covering some history and map reading skills, plus sketching and painting techniques. Our computing unit is Coding which will teach the children how to create algorithms and debug their commands. Also, in Science we will be identifying states of matter with a focus on reversible and irreversible changes. Alongside this, Mrs Pve will continue to teach French each week.