



**REFFLEY ACADEMY
NEWSLETTER
JULY, 2024**

Message from Miss Fendley . . We are so sorry, but we had to concede to the unseasonal weather that had been forecast and postpone our Summer Fair. We now plan for this event to take place when we return to school after our summer break, so please keep your fingers crossed for some lovely dry, warm sunny, weather for September! As we reach the end of another very busy academic year, our best wishes are sent to all pupils leaving us to move on to new schools, especially Yr. 6 pupils going to their respective High Schools. Likewise, we look forward to meeting new pupils joining us, particularly the little ones coming into our Nursery and Reception Classes in September. So far the taster sessions for existing and new pupils seem to be running very smoothly. We've now received the official SATs data for our departing Yr. 6 children and, having had chance to look at the results, they've obviously worked incredibly hard during their time at Reffley. We are very proud of the children and the results they achieve. Please join me in acknowledging our pride and thanking the teaching staff and all support staff for making this possible - *very well done to all concerned.*

Monster excitement at exotic animal visitors

Pupils from Yr. 1 through to Yr. 6 had the opportunity of getting 'up close and personal' with some very unusual animal visitors recently. Animal visitors included a Bearded Dragon, Tenrec, Parrot, Snake and, at one point, we had some very friendly Meerkats running around too. We can confirm that all animals and pupils were impeccably behaved. Lots of the children were brave enough to handle the animals and they also asked some very inquisitive questions of the animal handlers/experts. We are fairly certain that this experience will be repeated again in the future.

Library Visits

The majority of KS 2 pupils had the opportunity of visiting our local Library at Gaywood. Some children had the additional challenge of walking in wet conditions and others had their visit postponed, due to excessive surface water causing flooding and the threat of thunderstorms (oh, the challenges of the great British summer!). The whole experience was regarded as being a very worthwhile experience and we would like to say a very big thank you to the Library staff for inviting us and opening up the Library when it is usually closed to the general public. This gave our pupils the privacy to leisurely study the book shelves.

Reffley Academy sports day success

We felt our whole school sports day, held on Friday, 21st June, was a resounding success and we were very pleased to see so many adults able to join us for the shared lunch during the middle part of the day. Obviously, the arrival of some much-needed summer-sunshine also helped proceedings go well and ensure everyone enjoyed themselves.

Lunchtime Updates

Please note, children transferring from Yr. 2 to Yr. 3, in most cases, will be required to start paying for school provided lunches. If you feel that you would be able to qualify for free school meals for your child/children, please make an application direct to Norfolk County Council, as soon as possible. On Wednesday, 4th September, when children return to school, we will have a new catering company, Aspens, providing our school meals. Details regarding this catering change were recently sent out in a newsletter from Ad Meliora Academy Trust office and new menu sheet. We have been notified by Aspens that there will be a price increase for children's school meals to £2.65 per day.

Visiting Author, 9th - 12th September

Steve Clifford, the author of the 'Walking with . . .' series of books, will be in school to do some workshops with our pupils on the above dates; he will also be providing a book sale/signing session at the end of each day too, for anyone wishing to purchase a copy of his book/s.

Thank you so much for all the amazing support

We have received very many donations from local businesses, including Asda, Tescos and Morrisons in response to our appeal for raffle prizes and individual stall prizes, which we are truly grateful for. Our thanks also goes to our very kind parents and carers for a wonderful array of donated prizes sent in to the office too - thank you all very much indeed for your thoughtfulness and kindness. We are pleased to advise we have a **REVISED DATE FOR THE SUMMER FAIR - SATURDAY, 14TH SEPTEMBER, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** - all details remain as previous (we are just hoping for fine weather!)

SCHOOL CLOSES FOR THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS 19TH JULY

AND CHILDREN RETURN ON WEDNESDAY, 4TH SEPTEMBER

Play and stay safe - we hope you all have a lovely summer break