

# Rothwell Schools News

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Welcome back to the latest issue of Rothwell Schools News, we hope you are all keeping well. This week we emailed home our video messages from the class teacher to each class. The links are valid until the 30<sup>th</sup> June so please take the chance to share and watch with your child. Please contact the school office if you haven't received the link to watch. We ask that the videos remain for the school community and not be shared on social media.

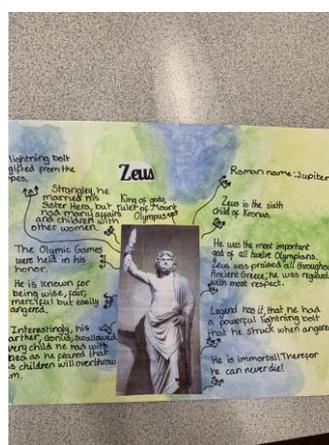
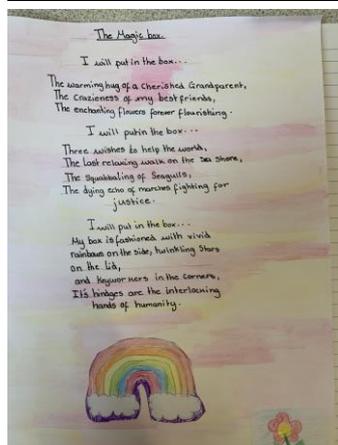
As explained in our letter home yesterday our review of places has taken place and we will be able to welcome back a few children over the next two weeks. Disappointingly due to the continued social distancing measures we are not able to welcome back pupils from other year groups at this time. We want to reassure you that we have begun work on plans for transition and will be writing to parents shortly with more information about staffing arrangements and activities for next year. We are still awaiting Government guidance on how schools will be expected to run in September.

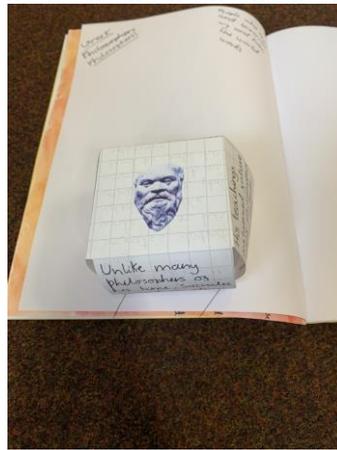
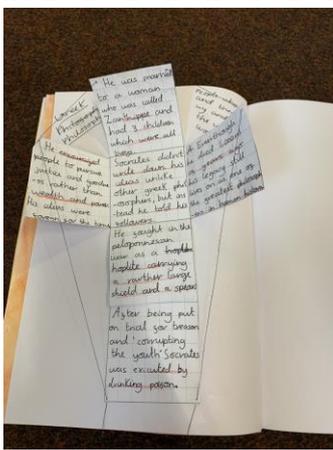
To support this Pathfinder Schools trust is exploring ways that we can further develop our Online Learning offer if you haven't get please could you take the time to complete our survey [Pathfinder Schools Online Access Survey](#) responses closes on 26<sup>th</sup> June at 9am. Thank you if you have taken the time to complete this for each child. We would love to get a whole school picture of the access our families have to the internet and children to devices which could support their learning.

## School Showcase

In the Year 2 and 3 group we have been learning about measuring, using our maths eyes and solving word problems. In English we have looked at the story Flotsam and written some amazing poetry. We also invented our own drink like the BFG's Froboscottle and wrote a recipe which included lots of unusual ingredients! At the beginning of the week we learned to sketch and shade some very detailed bananas. We have also used old boxes to make 3D underwater scenes as well as cardboard turtles with sliding necks and springy legs. In history we learned about how seaside holidays in the past were different and made our own Punch and Judy puppets.

## Photos of Year 6 work





## **FSM Vouchers**

For those families who qualify for free school meals vouchers we are now issuing vouchers on a weekly basis due to the increased numbers of pupils returning to school. Our aim is to upload the batch on a Monday following the previous week. This means that vouchers should arrive with families on the Wednesday each week. We are still awaiting guidance from the DfE on whether this system will be the same process that continues over the summer holidays.

Following feedback the provider Edenred have updated the parent/carer user guide to make it more user friendly. This can be accessed on the following website: [https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE\\_FSM-voucher-scheme\\_Parent-Carer-Userguide.pdf](https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE_FSM-voucher-scheme_Parent-Carer-Userguide.pdf)

## **Does my child qualify for free school meals?**

We're very conscious that the circumstances of many people have changed during the last few months, and that, sadly, job-cuts and unemployment are on the rise. Below are the details explaining how to apply for free school meals which also triggers some additional funding (known as the pupil premium). This additional funding stays with a child throughout their primary education, even if the circumstances which resulted in the entitlement are only short term and the free school meal entitlement ends.

<https://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/schools-and-education/Pages/free-school-meals.aspx>

If you are in receipt of any of the following, your child may be eligible for free school meals.

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, with no element of Working Tax Credit, and a household income below £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs)
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit - income dependant
- [Changes to free school meals eligibility under Universal Credit - information for schools \(PDF 107KB\)](#)

## **Children in care or children with Special Educational Needs (SEN)**

Children in care or children with SEN do not automatically qualify for free schools meals. No discretionary services are offered to these children as free schools meals is a means tested scheme. The family will need to meet the eligibility criteria above.

If a child resides in a local authority care home they will not qualify for free school meals. This is because government funding has already been allocated to fund their meals.

## How do I apply?

Check your eligibility and apply for free school meals using our online form:

## What happens next?

- Your claim will be sent to the free school meals team for authorisation.
- The school will be informed within 3 working days when authorisation has been confirmed. You will then need to find out from your school how to order and access the meals.  
Please note, during September and October there is a longer wait for applications to be processed.

## How much will the school receive for my child's meal?

- The school will receive £2.30 towards the cost of your child's meal.

## What if my circumstances change?

You need to let us know if there is a change in circumstances which may affect your child receiving free school meals. Please contact the free school meal team if:

- you stop receiving an eligible benefit
- you change your address

Email [freeschoolmeals@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals@childrenfirstnorthamptonshire.co.uk)

## Summer Reading Challenge 2020



The poster for the Summer Reading Challenge 2020 Sillies Squad features a blue background with the text 'MEET THE SILLY SQUAD' in large white letters. It includes illustrations of a unicorn, a giraffe, a penguin, a bee, and a panda. The top left corner says 'THE READING AGENCY' and the top right corner says 'LibraryPlus'. The bottom left corner says 'SUMMER READING CHALLENGE' and the bottom right corner says 'Take part in the Summer Reading Challenge 2020. Let's get silly! #SILLYSQUAD2020 www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/src'. Social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube are at the bottom, with handles @NorthamptonshireSRC, @northantslibraries, and Northamptonshire Libraries.

## Updated DfE guidance for parents and carers on educational settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak:

The DfE have updated our guidance for parents and carers on what they need to know about early years providers, schools, and colleges during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak to align with policy announcements already made. They have also changed the layout of the page in response to user feedback to help navigate more easily to the information you may need.

The guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

Stay Safe and thank you for your continued support,



Ashley Izzard-Snape  
Executive Headteacher