

Rothwell Schools News

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Welcome back to the latest issue of Rothwell Schools News, it has certainly been a warm week and we hope you all have been able to make the best of the sunshine despite the heat. We continue to work in the background making preparations for September. We hope to be in a position next week to share our class structure for the new academic year. We are putting the final touches to our school reports which will also contain information about your child's class, a social transition story for their new class and a card for your child from their teacher. We aim to post this out to families during the week of 6th July so please let us know if your contact details have changed.

Alongside we are working on our curriculum offer for all children when we return to school in September. It will be important during the first term that our curriculum supports the recovery of children from this period of time away from school through our PHSE wellbeing lessons and pastoral support as well as ensuring our academic curriculum is responsive to the needs of the children; building on any gaps within their learning. Next week sees the publishing of DfE guidance released to support us with making plans for all pupils to return in September. We understand the importance of you having this information as soon as we are able.

Online Access Survey

Please could you take the time to complete our survey [Pathfinder Schools Online Access Survey](#) responses have been extended to Monday 29th June at 9am. It is essential that we receive your reply, **if responses are not received, we will contact you by phone to complete the survey.** 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.



Northamptonshire Virtual School Games 2020



Thanks for your engagement in Week 7 Basketball Challenges last week; across the County we had over 7500 challenges logged!

Week 8 is Tennis - The three challenges are all from the Young Leaders competition. The following were chosen by a Northamptonshire Sport panel;

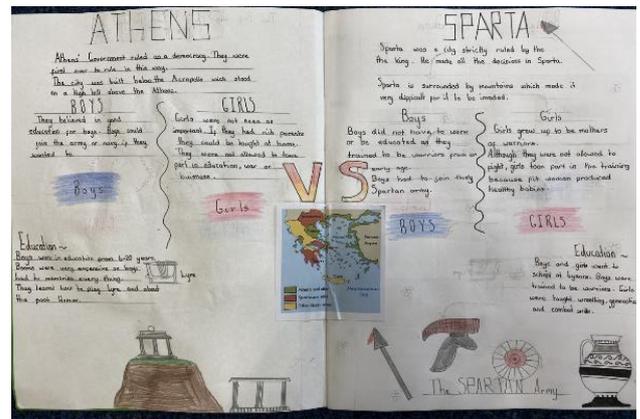
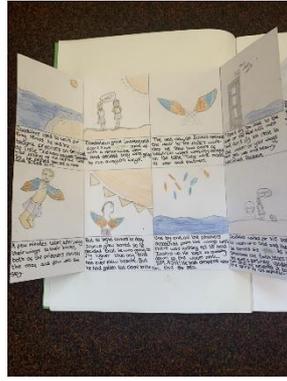
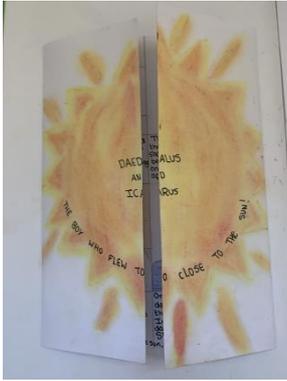
1. 'Perfect Prep' – a serving toss challenge from a Year 7 girl @ Bishop Stopford School
2. 'Fabulous Footwork' – a footwork challenge from a Year 6 girl @ Great Doddington Primary
3. 'Toilet Roll Catch' – a racket control & coordination challenge from a Year 8 girl @ Prince William School

All the information/videos you need for the challenges, resources to get involved and information on where to record scores, are now available on the Northamptonshire Sport website (link below)

www.northamptonshiresport.org/school-games

It will also be accessible via twitter/facebook.

School Showcase: Year 6



Summer FSM Vouchers

The guidance around the FSM vouchers has been released by the DfE this week and the weekly vouchers will end when school closes at the end of summer term. These will be replaced by a single £90 voucher (per eligible child to cover 6 weeks of £15) as part of the COVID Summer Food Fund which will be issued in the final week of term. It is great news that this support will continue for the first time over the summer holidays.

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

Stay Safe and thank you for your continued support,



Ashley Izzard-Snape
Executive Headteacher

