



Rattlesden Cof E Primary Academy
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Dear Parents,

This letter finds the school in better spirits this week. We have had some nice uplifting things happen during the week, which came just at the right time to give us all a boost.

It was great see so many of you at the whole school assembly this morning. I think it takes a few minutes while we all join and the systems cope, but became settled after a few minutes. I would like to have a weekly whole school meeting on a Friday at 10.00 am from now onwards and even venture into a bit of unmuting and audience participation!

Following on from the meeting this morning, I would like to briefly tell you about a project that I have wanted to do for the children for some time, and now thanks to a very kind donation, we are able to. In an unused space in the playground we are going to create a 'Science garden', that can also be used as an outdoor classroom, and a reflection area. We would like there to be a 'sensory' element to the space, with the opportunity to improve our outdoor learning provision. I think when the children return, it will be a lovely area for them to enjoy and use, encouraging them to get outdoors, get in touch with nature but also have a place where they can sit during their breaks in a calm and beautiful setting. If your children have any ideas for the space, please pass them on to the school.

Our school has now completed and submitted the work to complete the Primary Science Quality Mark, and we are awaiting the award. Thank you to Mrs. Oldfield our science lead for all of her hard work. Our position as lead school in the formation of a new Primary Science Teaching Trust hub has started to take shape. I will keep you updated. This also brings very welcome funding.

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week. We all know the importance of good mental health at this time, and the difficulties faced by our children during lockdown and the pandemic generally. In addition to work sent out by class teachers, you can also find some great resources here: www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk There are some nice creative themes linked to the week which I'm sure you would enjoy, so it is worth a look.

It looks like there may be more snow on the way tomorrow. I will try not to get in another argument with Suffolk Highways on Twitter as to whether the roads were treated last weekend or not (but they weren't 😊!) I hope your children have a chance to get out and have some fun.

Have a great weekend all - onwards and upwards as they say!

Kind regards,

Helen Ballam.

