



Message from the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

As you know, we have been trialling running a Breakfast Club this year to see if we are able to provide this opportunity for those who need it, but without it being at significant cost to the school. Mrs John and Mrs Scriven have worked tirelessly to make sure that Breakfast Club provides a healthy, calm and positive start to the day for all of those who attend, and I know that not only have the parents who use it been positive about the impact it has had on their ability to manage work and school, but the children who attend have loved it!

It is with a heavy heart then, that I have to inform you that we will not be able to continue to offer Breakfast Club in September.

We are a small school, and most of what that means for us is overwhelmingly wonderful and positive – but when it comes to things like this, it puts us at a significant disadvantage. Our budget is smaller than most, and pupil numbers in clubs are difficult to get to the level required to break even where there is a cost to the school involved.

This year's trial has cost the school approximately £7,000, and it would cost the school a projected £6,000 next year (based on both current numbers and indications from parent surveys). This is a cost that the school just cannot afford.

I am acutely aware – hence the trial in the first place – that the facility to drop off your child earlier than school start time is really important to some of our parents. I am also acutely aware that – for many of the same reasons that Breakfast Club has to come to an end – we are simply unable to offer enough extra-curricular clubs to ensure that there is one on offer every morning for every year group (or every afternoon for every year group).

We are looking at whether we can address this to enable all parents to have the option to drop their children at 8am, and to be able to pick them up at 4.15pm. This would involve an additional club being added every morning and afternoon, which would essentially be an 'extended day' club. There would be no breakfast on offer. But, if there is no other extra-curricular club available for your child that day, there will always be the option of bringing your child into school at 8am, and/ or picking them up at 4.15pm. These clubs would be at the same cost of £2 as for the other clubs.

In order for this to be financially viable, we would need approximately 10 children to attend each day (both for the morning and afternoon 'extended day' club). Booking would be the same as it has been for Breakfast Club. To ensure that this club does not then diminish numbers for extra-curricular clubs - which are a vital part of our wider extra-curricular offer – children would generally be expected to attend an extra-curricular club if one was available for them. For example, if your child is in Year 3 and you need them to be in school until 4.15 pm every day and there happens to be an art club for years 3 to 6, your child would attend that club.

If you think that you would use this 'extended day' club regularly, it is vital that you fill in the survey linked on the following page – because if there is not enough interest, we will not be able to move forward with plans to implement it in September.

To those parents for whom this news about Breakfast Club will be disappointing, I really am sorry. And to Mrs John and Mrs Scriven, for all of their hard work and passion that they have put into making Breakfast as lovely as it has been, I am extremely grateful.

Yours,

Mrs Price

Extended Day Club – survey of interest

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdafvBlufOmxmntZSxMiuQVT8m_cy_zCyVJIELX9FL06-SI3Uw/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0

Please fill in this form if you believe you would make use of an Extended Day Club as described.

Thank you.

Book Recommendation

This month's recommendation from Mrs Egan

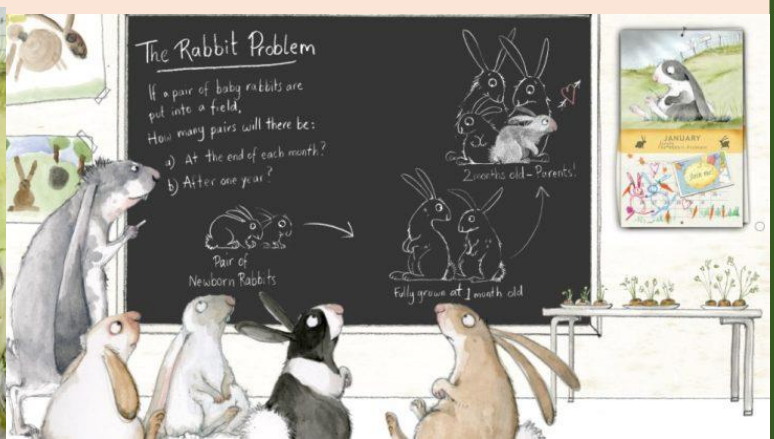
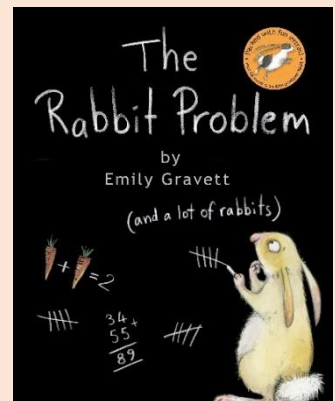
The Rabbit Problem by Emily Gravett

You may have heard of Fibonacci's rabbits. Fibonacci considers the growth of an idealised (biologically unrealistic) rabbit population, assuming that:

1. a single newly born pair of rabbits (one male, one female) are put in a field;
2. rabbits are able to mate at the age of one month so that at the end of its second month a female can produce another pair of rabbits;
3. rabbits never die and a mating pair always produces one new pair (one male, one female) every month from the second month on.

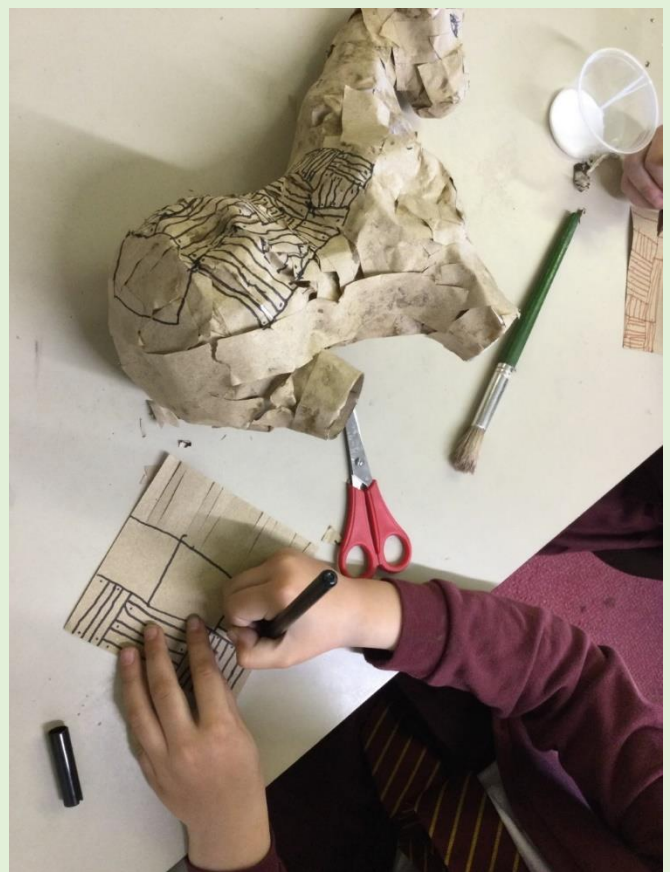
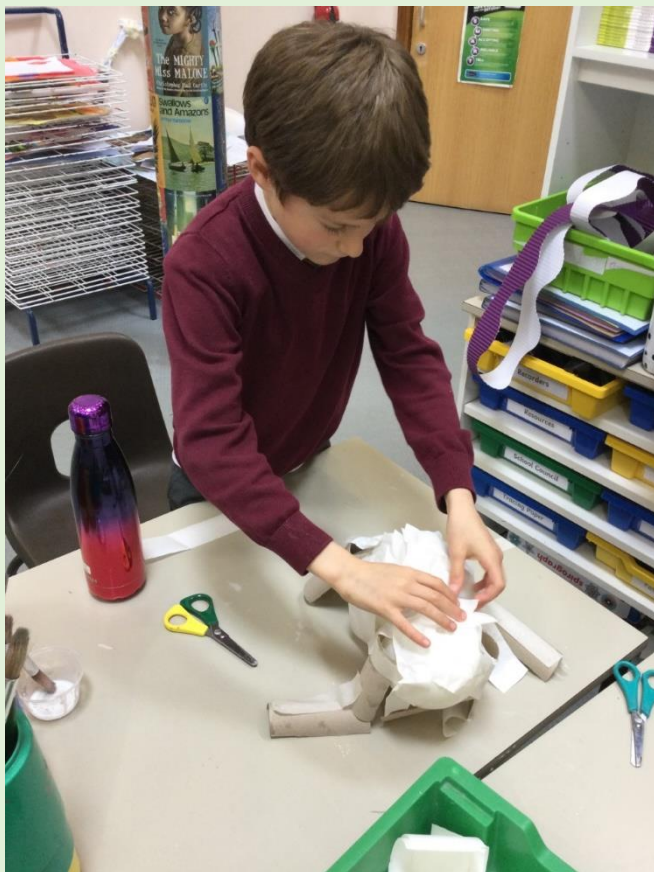
The puzzle that Fibonacci posed was: how many pairs will there be in one year?

Sounds complicated? Do not despair! Emily Gravett's book is an amusing and enjoyable picture book that deals with the ever increasing rabbit population and the arising problems in the field based on Fibonacci's sequence. Not only are the drawings more than delightful, each page has little interactive elements to keep both children and adults entertained.



Class 3

Since last term, Class 3 have been artists, busy creating Trojan horse models. Their patience, eye for detail and problem solving skills have been phenomenal. By embracing the art process, Class 3 have grown in resilience by not giving up and successfully producing impressive masterpieces.



Class 5

LO: To work in a group to plan and carry out an investigation.

LO: To investigate what might affect the dissolving rates of sugar in water.

Class 5 started the lesson observing how some solids can dissolve in water and create a solution. Working in small groups, they then chose a variable to explore and decided on a question to answer through a practical investigation. Each group planned their investigation from start to finish deciding on their method, the equipment they would need and how they could record their results. Independently, each child then wrote their own conclusion to describe what they had found out. Mrs Jackson took a step back, helping when really needed but otherwise tried her best not to get involved! She found it difficult as she loves science – the children will tell you. The investigations were entirely the work of the children!

How does the temperature affect how sugar dissolves?

How does the stirring speed affect how sugar dissolves?

How does the time sugar is stirred for affect how it dissolves?

How does the type of sugar affect how quickly it dissolves?



News from the PTFA



Dear Parents and Carers,



It is only with all of your wonderful help that our PTFA events are such a success! We do realise your time is precious, but if you are able to help in any way it would be very much appreciated! It will also boost the funds for school trips for our children.

There are so many ways you can help; we have some important dates for your diary...can you?

- Bake some cakes / help at the afternoon tea on **Fri 5th May**
- Help sell after school Friday treats – only takes 30 minutes
- Help serve refreshments at sports day **4th July**
- Help on the day of the summer fair **14th July**
- Donate on non-uniform days – **15th June** and **29th June**
(This money will go towards running the summer fair).



We hope you will be able to support another upcoming event! Our school tea towel project - this is a beautiful keepsake, which includes a self-portrait of all the children displayed on a lovely tea towel. The children will be completing their self-portrait at school, and we would like to place orders ASAP so they will be back in time for Father's Day – in case you wanted to gift one to a special man in your child's life. It is only with your help by supporting the events, by turning up and generously donating, that they can go ahead – so for that we are very grateful.

If you can help at any of our events, please email: ramsgateholytrinityptfa@gmail.com or message in your class WhatsApp group.



Email: ramsgateholytrinityptfa@gmail.com

Ramsgate Holy Trinity PTFA