Poringland Primary School and Nursery Newsletter

Be Ready Be Respectful Be Safe

Friday 16th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

One week to go before half term and the children have a well-earned break! Autumn is well and truly here. We have had such a brilliant half term and have begun an exciting journey.

The Write Stuff

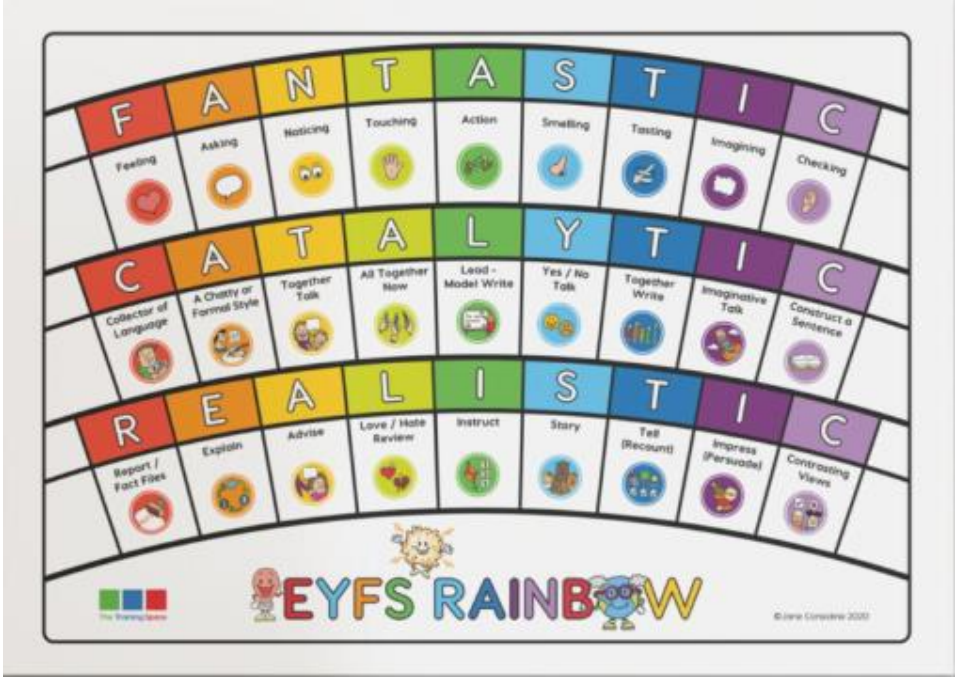
Each newsletter, we will be sharing a little more about how we teach a different subject across the school, helping parents understand the approaches we use to support children's learning and progress. This week we will focus on how we teach Writing at Poringland.

We are using **The Write Stuff** approach to help children become confident, creative and successful writers. Lessons are carefully structured so that children explore high-quality language, see how effective writing is constructed and then apply these ideas in their own work.

- **High-quality texts:** Our writing is inspired by engaging, carefully chosen books and texts. These expose children to rich vocabulary, interesting ideas and strong models of what effective writing looks like.
- **The Writing Rainbow:** The Writing Rainbow provides children with a visual toolkit for writing. It helps them think about the different ingredients they can draw upon, including vocabulary choices, sentence construction, description and techniques that engage the reader.



Reception Class has a slightly simplified version of the Writing Rainbow which will be introduced to them later in the term.



- **Using different lenses:** During lessons, children are encouraged to look at their writing through particular **lenses** from the Writing Rainbow. A lens focuses their attention on a specific aspect of writing, helping them consider the choices they could make as a writer rather than simply being told what to include.
- **Chotting:** This combines **chatting and jotting**. Children discuss ideas, vocabulary and phrases with others before quickly jotting down their best ideas. This creates a bank of possibilities they can use when constructing their sentences.
- **Sentence Stacking:** Children build their writing step by step, or sentence by sentence. Together, the class explores ideas and vocabulary through the lenses, examines how an effective sentence can be constructed and then children create their own sentences using what they have learnt.
- **Building independence:** Over time, children draw upon the Writing Rainbow, vocabulary and techniques they have explored to make increasingly independent choices in their own writing.

The overall aim is to give children a **shared language for talking about writing and a rich toolkit of strategies**, while developing the confidence to make purposeful choices and find their own voice as writers.

Kindness:

This half term, we are placing a special focus on **kindness** across our school community. We are encouraging all children to think about the positive impact that kind words, thoughtful actions and respectful behaviour can have on others. Through assemblies, classroom activities and everyday interactions, we will be exploring what kindness looks like in practice and how even the smallest acts can make a big difference. By working together and showing care, understanding and respect for one another, we can continue to make our school a happy, welcoming and supportive place for everyone. Remember, kindness costs nothing but means everything.

Winter bugs:

As the weather becomes colder, it is natural to see an increase in seasonal coughs, colds and minor illnesses. While we appreciate that children occasionally need time at home to recover, it is important to remember that, in most cases, children can continue to attend school with mild cold

symptoms. Every day in school counts, and good attendance plays a vital role in children's learning, confidence, friendships and overall wellbeing. We are grateful for your support in helping children attend regularly and arrive on time so that they can make the most of every learning opportunity. Working together, we can ensure that every child has the best possible chance to thrive and succeed.

Mobile Phones:

To help us maintain a safe and secure environment for all children, we kindly ask parents and visitors to put mobile phones away while on school premises. This is an important safeguarding measure that helps protect the privacy and wellbeing of all pupils. We appreciate that mobile phones are a part of everyday life, but ask that photographs, videos and phone use are avoided on the playground and around the school site. Thank you for your support in helping us create a safe, respectful and child-focused environment for everyone.

Choir:

We are delighted to announce that our school choir will be restarting this term! Choir will be run by Lauren Telford and will take place during lunchtime on Fridays starting on 6th November. It is open to KS2 children who enjoy singing and performing. The cost will be £1 per child per session, and we look forward to welcoming both new and returning members for lots of musical fun throughout the year. If your child is interested in joining please email the school office. There will be xx spaces so be quick as places may go fast! ♪ 🎤

Yr 4 trip to Norwich Castle

On Wednesday, Year 4 visited Norwich Castle to learn more about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. They were transported back in time, where they helped Thegn the Great and his servant Tostig uncover the truth about their visitor Egil the Norseman! The children learned about Norse beliefs, explored artefacts, searched for treasure and heard stories of Beowulf. A fantastic day was had by all!



Isabelle - My favourite part of our trip to Norwich Castle was pretending to be a dragon's head and learning about the story of Beowolf.

Remy - I liked going to the top of the castle and looking at the unique view. I could see Norwich football stadium!

Felix P - I liked looking at the weapons and holding an axe!

Scarlett - It was cool looking at the treasures room!

Martha - My favourite part was at the end when Thegn Hrothgar said, "Now off with you!" to Egil the Norseman and Egil walked off the stage. I suddenly breathed a sigh of relief because I was glad she was gone!

Poppy Appeal

We will be supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal again this year. Children will be able to purchase poppies and a range of other Poppy Appeal items in school from Monday 2nd November to Friday 6th November after half term. All money raised supports the Armed Forces community, including:

- Serving members of the Armed Forces

- Veterans
- Their families and dependants
- Support can include help with physical and mental health, financial difficulties, housing, employment and loneliness.

Donations of any amount are welcome for poppies. For all other items, we kindly suggest a minimum donation of £1 per item. Thank you for supporting the Poppy Appeal.

Can you help us bring some Christmas cheer to Poringland Primary? 🎄

We are hoping to have two large Christmas trees at school this December to help make the festive period extra special for our children. We wondered whether any of our families or members of the local community have contacts with a local Christmas tree supplier who might be willing to kindly donate two trees to the school. If you think you may be able to help, we would love to hear from you. Thank you for supporting our school community!

Calling all plumbers! 🔧

We're wondering whether we have an amazing parent, carer or family member in our school community who is a plumber and might be willing to kindly donate their time to help us plumb in a dishwasher for our Breakfast Club.

If you think you could help, please get in touch with the school office. We would be incredibly grateful for your support. Thank you in advance!

Highest Class Attendance

Position in the school	Week commencing: 5/10/26	Week commencing: 12/10/26
1st	Rockland 99.31%	Rockland 98.22%
2nd	Ranworth 98.97%	Ranworth 97.67%
3rd	Malthouse 98.85%	Nursery 96.30%

Key dates

October:

Monday 19th October: All homework due in

Tuesday 20th October @ 8:25am: Year 1 Homework celebration

Tuesday 20th October @ 2:45am: Year 2 Homework celebration

Wednesday 21st October @ 8:25am: Year 3 Homework celebration

Wednesday 21st October @ 2:45am: Year 4 Homework celebration

Thursday 22nd October @ 8:25am: Year 5 Homework celebration

Thursday 22nd October @ 2:45am: Year 6 Homework celebration

Thursday 22nd October: Last day of half term

Friday 23rd October – Friday 30th October: Half term

November:

Week 2nd November – 6th November: Poppy Appeal – poppies for sale

Monday 2nd November @ 10am: Open Day

Thursday 4th November @ 10am: Open Day

Monday 9th November 3:30-6:30: Parent's Evening

Thursday 12th November 3:30-6:30: Parent's Evening

Friday 20th November: Odd Socks Day (Anti-Bullying)

December:

Thursday 3rd December: Christmas Tree Dressing

Friday 4th December @ 9am: UKS2 Christmas Performance

Monday 7th December @1:30pm: UKS2 Christmas Performance

Wednesday 9th December @ 2:00pm: Nursery Christmas Stay and Play

Thursday 10th December @ 10am Reception Nativity (Only 1 performance)

Monday 14th December @ 2:15pm: LKS2 Christmas Performance

Thursday 15th December @ 9:00am: LKS2 Christmas Performance

Wednesday 16th December @ 1:30: KS1 Christmas Performance

Thursday 17th December @ 9:00am: KS1 Christmas Performance

Thank you for your continued support of our school community. We hope you all have a wonderful week ahead and, when it arrives, a fantastic half term.

Kind Regards



Mrs L Hazard - Headteacher