



In this issue:

- What is Enrichment ?
What might it look like at Raddlebarn?
- Those 'little extras' which we have managed.

Hello and welcome to our **Enrichment** Curriculum Newsletter. I'm delighted to be able to share some information with you about how we have been able to enrich your child's learning experiences, both within and beyond the classroom walls.

Thank you for taking the time to read it. If you have any questions, do feel free to get in touch.

Mr Weatherup

Enriching Experiences at Raddlebarn

At Raddlebarn, we passionately believe that learning outside the classroom is as essential to a student's development as their learning within it. Consequently, as a staff team, we aspire to provide every child with the chance to access enriching experiences through a variety of means. In addition to a vibrant and stimulating curriculum, we seek to provide other opportunities to enhance students' learning wherever possible: special events; visitors; off-curriculum days; educational visits; residential experiences and family events all contribute to our aim to enrich their lives. Through developing links within our local, national and global communities, we seek to challenge our students to aspire to be people who leave a positive mark on the world.

At Raddlebarn we are convinced that enrichment experiences enhance interest, enthusiasm and achievement for all children; these are planned to be closely linked to our topic-themed curriculum. Additionally, the school promotes and actively encourages participation in a variety of extra-curricular activities in sports, music and the arts, to support our pupils in developing new interests and to foster their skills and confidence in existing ones.

Enrichment Events

Examples of our enrichment activities are:

- Bikeability training (Year 6)
- charity fundraising days
- Commando Joe's (character education / teambuilding)
- drama workshops through links with local theatres (Birmingham Rep. and Birmingham Hippodrome)
- 'living history' days
- Orchestra concerts
- participation in activities of the local School Games network
- peripatetic music tuition
- School Games Day
- themed lunches
- visiting professional sports coaches & involvement with local sports clubs
- visits from/to local secondary schools
- Y5 residential trip
- Swimming (Years 4 & 6)

Opportunities such as these help us to present our children with positive role models from the local community and wider locality, and the benefits these experiences bring.

Enrichment opportunities...despite Covid 19!

Thinking back to your own school days, I expect some of your fondest memories are of trips, visitors or those experiences which were 'something special' and not part of the standard weekly learning menu. Enrichment encompasses these special events, crossing curriculum subject boundaries, designed to enhance learning and bring it to life, helping us to make links to the wider world and, ultimately, to make us better citizens of our shared world.

Once again, the past year has seen periods of restriction due to the on-going global pandemic, with visits and visitors cancelled and sports fixtures suspended. Wherever possible, the staff have tried to enhance your child's learning within these constraints as we explore the 'new normal'; we are also conscious that we have the privilege of working with a generation who have, through no fault of their own, 'missed out' on much of the fun of school life and have some 'catching up' to do.

Here are a few highlights...

Whole School: Platinum Jubilee party; TT Rock Star Day; Raddlebarn in bloom; Raddlebarn Bake Off; Theatre visits; Commonwealth Games; Orchestra concerts; Severn Trent environmental workshops; inter-school sports fixtures & swimming gala; author and artist visits;...

I wonder which is your child's favourite memory?



Nursery As part of a rich diet of drama and storytelling activities, Nursery visited the theatre to see a production of 'One Snowy Night'. (And they still talk about it!)



Reception have had a fantastic time with Stan's Cafe this year. They have used different drama techniques to support their understanding of story, celebrations and topics of interest.



Year 1 had a Dear Santa Workshop prior to our theatre visit to the Hippodrome in November. Santa had muddled up all the Christmas gifts so we helped him to sort out his parcel dilemma.



Year 2 took part in the Flatpack Film Festival, where they learnt about animation and tried out some new techniques.



Year 3 joined a memory game / dementia workshop run by the Irish Assn. They wrote poems (one of which has been chosen for inclusion in future presentations!)

Year 4 worked with Digbeth Dining Club on a one-off piece of artwork based on foods from our cultures; it will be shown at the Commonwealth Games!



Year 5

The recent residential trip was based around outdoor adventurous activities - a opportunity to develop confidence and resilience!



Year 6 enjoyed cricket coaching from Warwickshire CCC.



But maybe the best is yet to come, as they leave us for pastures new in style...