

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week's newsletter is brimming with exciting trip news. We are very proud at our school of our 'out and about' programme, which focuses on ensuring our children get a rich and diverse learning experience inside and out of the classroom. We believe learning comes alive when you get to see it in context, so we do everything we can to get children out of the building and into the real world.

On Wednesday, **we welcomed the governing body to the school** to watch our maths lessons. As you know, we have been working on embedding a maths mastery curriculum across the school. In the lessons, we really saw the hugely positive impact of this work. Children used concrete resources such as counters, to ensure that the maths is really visible and understood by children. Precise mathematical vocabulary was used in all lessons and children are getting much better at using their talk partner to discuss their understanding. Our Reception class were very impressive in sharing how they are partitioning numbers into composite parts.

Governors also commented on the fact that **behaviour for learning was exemplary in every class** and how calm and productive the lessons were.

Wishing you all a very happy weekend!

THIS WEEKS' TOP NEWS - Florence Nightingale Museum

Oak Class visited the Florence Nightingale museum on Thursday and had a great time. The children have been learning about how hospitals have changed since the Victorian Era, and so much of that was led by the brilliant Florence Nightingale. They met the lady herself (and asked her lots of questions!) and had a chance to look at different artefacts and sources in the museum. A memorable and fascinating day out!



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE



STARS OF THE WEEK

Whole school: 93.1%
National: 95%

Ash	97.4%
Rowan	97.1%
Palm	96.3%
Willow	96.1%
Elm	94%
Mulberry	94%
Cedar	94%
Oak	94%
Beech	93%
Pine	92%
Silver birch	89%
Holly	89%
Apple	84%
Maple	82%

Well done to all our wonderful children on their hard work this week. The following deserve a special mention for receiving **Star of the week!**

Year 6: Henry and Leo

Year 5: Albert and Diego

Year 4: Archie and Aziah

Year 3: Reegan and Khadija

Year 2: Mateo and Lily

Year 1: Paula and Ka'lia

Reception: Milo

Nursery: Hunter



TOP DOODLERS

Top class - PINE

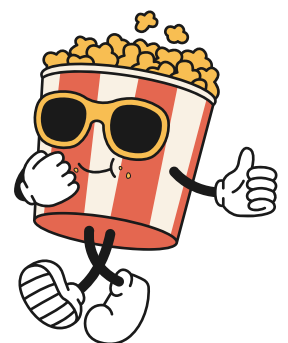


Using Doodle Maths for 10 minutes per day can have a huge impact on your child's progress and attainment. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you need your login details or any support with the app.

POPCORN PARTY

(as chosen by the pupil voice)

Well done to **Ash** class for having the highest attendance this week!



Martial Arts Assembly



This week Renshi (a Five Dan Black Belt master) from Southern Martial Arts came in to assembly for KS2 to talk to them about karate and demonstrate some key elements of the martial art. The children loved it and it was amazing to see these skills on display and learn about the rich history and techniques of karate. Southern Martial arts run a karate club every Tuesday at Rotherfield – letters have been sent out so please sign up if your child is interested in taking part.



Year 6 - National Portrait Gallery

The children completed a workshop based on Tudor portraits and learnt how to use features of paintings to discover more about the individual. We had a fantastic time and the children really benefited from the visit.



Year 5 - Now Press Play

Year 5 had fun using Now Press play to act out a Viking invasion. Next week we will be writing a descriptive recount about what it may have been like to live in Viking times.



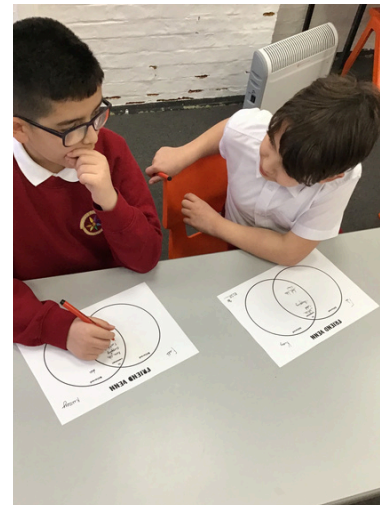
Year 4 - Library Visit

Today Willow class had their half termly trip to Islington South Library. We had a great time browsing and reading in the library – graphic novels; books about football; and some great non-fiction about animals were particular favourites. Children have set up their own library cards so were also able to take books home to read that they loved the look of.



Friendship Intervention

Nora led a friendship intervention with a Year 5 class, helping students connect with new people using Venn diagrams. By identifying shared interests and experiences, students visually discovered common ground with their classmates. This activity taught the value of building friendships through understanding and open-mindedness. Thank you Nora!



Tiago's Top Tips - Part 2

Hello Parents and Carers!

Today we brought some Smart Tips for Storing Food Longer and Maximise Freshness!

Now I have some really specific tips – some of them really surprising – on how to keep some fruits and veg fresh for longer!

1. Bananas: Separate and Wrap

- Keep them separated: Storing bananas in a bunch can speed up ripening due to the release of ethylene gas. Instead, break them apart. This can help slow the process and prolong freshness.
- Wrap the stems: To slow down ripening, wrap the stems with plastic wrap. This traps the ethylene gas at the top of the bunch, preventing it from affecting the rest of the bananas.

2. Avocados: To Fridge or Not to Fridge?

- Unripe avocados: Store them at room temperature until ripe. Once they soften, move them to the fridge to prevent over-ripening.
- Ripe avocados: If you've already cut into one, sprinkle lemon or lime juice on the exposed flesh, cover tightly with plastic wrap, and store it in the fridge to prevent browning.
- Freeze for later: If you have overripe avocados, mash them and store in an airtight container or ice cube trays in the freezer for smoothies or recipes later.

3. Tomatoes: No Fridge, Please!

- Room temperature: Tomatoes do best when stored at room temperature, away from direct sunlight. Cold storage can alter their flavour and texture, making them mealy.
- Upside down: To preserve freshness, store tomatoes with their stems facing down. This prevents air from entering through the stem scar, extending their shelf life.

4. Berries: Keep Them Dry and Ventilated

- Dry before storage: Berries are incredibly sensitive to moisture. Store them in a container lined with paper towels to absorb any excess moisture that could lead to mould.
- Use a ventilated container: If the original packaging isn't vented, transfer berries to a container with ventilation holes, or use a berry basket to allow air circulation.

5. Lettuce & Greens: Keep Them Crisp

- Use paper towels: Moisture is the enemy of leafy greens. After washing, dry the leaves thoroughly and wrap them in a paper towel before storing them in an airtight container or resealable bag.
- Crisper drawer: Store greens in the fridge's crisper drawer, but not too tightly packed. This helps maintain airflow and moisture balance.

6. Cucumbers: Avoid the Cold

- Room temperature: Cucumbers are best stored at room temperature. The fridge can cause them to become mushy and waterlogged due to their high water content.
- Wrap in paper towels: If you must store them in the fridge, wrap cucumbers in paper towels to absorb excess moisture and prevent softening.

7. Potatoes: Keep Them in the Dark

- Cool, dark place: Store potatoes in a paper bag or a breathable container, away from light. Light causes them to turn green, which can make them bitter and potentially toxic.
- Avoid the fridge: Storing potatoes in the fridge can cause starches to turn into sugars, affecting taste and texture. Stick to a cool, dry pantry for best results.

8. Onions: No Fridge, No Plastic Bags

- Air circulation: Onions need airflow to last longer. Store them in mesh bags or baskets in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight.
- Keep them separate: Never store onions with potatoes. The gases released by onions can cause potatoes to sprout faster, and vice versa.

9. Apples: Keep Them Cold and Separate

- Store in a cool place: Apples last longer in the fridge, but if you store them at room temperature, do so away from other fruits. Apples emit ethylene gas, which speeds up ripening in other produce.
- Use a produce drawer: If storing in the fridge, keep them in the crisper drawer where they're less likely to absorb moisture.

10. Carrots: Keep the Tops Off

- Trim the greens: If you buy carrots with the tops still attached, cut them off before storing. The greens draw moisture from the root, causing the carrots to dry out faster.
- Moisture balance: Store carrots in a container with a damp paper towel or submerge them in water in the fridge to keep them crisp.

11. Citrus Fruits: Keep Them Ventilated

- Store loosely: Citrus fruits like oranges, lemons, and limes last longer in the fridge, but make sure they're in a ventilated bag or container, not a sealed plastic one, to prevent moisture buildup and mold.
- Room temperature: If you plan to use them within a week, you can store them at room temperature, but for longer storage, the fridge is your best bet.

12. Herbs: Water Them Like a Plant

- Treat herbs like fresh flowers: For herbs like cilantro, parsley, and basil, trim the stems and place them in a glass of water, like a bouquet. Cover the leaves with a plastic bag and refrigerate. Basil is an exception—store it on the counter in a vase, as it doesn't like cold temperatures.
- Alternative: You can also freeze herbs in ice cube trays with olive oil for easy use in cooking.

By following these surprising food storage hacks, you can keep your produce fresh for longer and reduce food waste in your kitchen. Start experimenting with these tips today and enjoy fresher fruits and vegetables for weeks!

REMINDERS - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

EVENTS	DATES
Year 2 (Pine) - British Library Workshop	Monday 27th January
Library Visit (Elm, Rowan, Oak & Holly)	Wednesday 29th January
Library Visit (Mulberry, Pine & Maple)	Wednesday 5th February
EEYS and KS1 Parent Reading Morning	Thursday 6th February (9 - 9:20)
KS2 Parent Reading Morning	Friday 7th February (9 - 9:20)
Library Visit (Cedar and Palm)	Wednesday 12th February
Last day of term	Friday 14th February
February Half-Term	Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February
INSET day	Monday 24th February
Children return to school	Tuesday 25th February
Year 2 Trip - London Zoo	Monday 3rd March
World Book Day	Thursday 6th March
Year 5 Trip - Jo'Burg Anniversary Event	Thursday 20th March

Current Vacancies:

School Sous Chef – Rotherfield Primary School:
<https://jobs.islington.gov.uk/vacancies/1320/school-sous-chef.html>

Premises Assistant – Newington Green Primary School
 Premises Assistant in Islington, London - Islington Council

Rotherfield Primary School - After School Clubs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast Club 7:45 - 8:55	Breakfast Club 7:45 - 8:55	Breakfast Club 7:45 - 8:55	Breakfast Club 7:45 - 8:55	Breakfast Club 7:45 - 8:55
Cooking with Tiago Y4-6 3:30 - 4:30	Karate 3:30 - 4:30 contact provider on 07594928598 £6 per session	Gymnastics R-Y2 3:30 - 4:30	Spanish Club Y3 & Y4 3:30 - 4:30	
After School Club 3:30 - 4:30 4:30 - 6:30 3:30 - 6:30	After School Club 3:30 - 4:30 4:30 - 6:30 3:30 - 6:30	After School Club 3:30 - 4:30 4:30 - 6:30 3:30 - 6:30	After School Club 3:30 - 4:30 4:30 - 6:30 3:30 - 6:30	After School Club 3:30-4:30 4:30-6:30 3:30- 6:30

Islington Healthy School Advisor

Please click here to see community food services available within Islington
[Community Food Services - Islington Food Partnership](#)

Educational Experiences in 2024-25

Year 1
 Freightliner's City Farm
 London Bus Tour
 Florence Nightingale Museum
 V&A Childhood Museum
 King Henry's Walk Garden

Year 2
 Tale Modern
 The Monument
 Horniman Museum
 London Zoo
 Hampsstead Heath
 Museum of Docklands

Year 3
 British Museum
 Science Museum
 Pantomime
 Westminster Walk
 London Aquarium
 Kew Gardens
 Mosque Visit

Year 4
 Science Museum
 Chocolate Museum
 Museum Church Visit
 Ragged School Museum
 River Lea
 Highgate Wood

Year 5
 Olympic Park
 Science Museum
 British Museum
 Synagogue Visit
 London Zoo
 Southbank

Year 6
 HMS Belfast
 Jewish Museum
 Ben Kinsella Workshop
 Theatre Trips
 National Portrait Gallery

A voluntary donation of £24 via Arbor helps fund all the educational visits we offer over the year

Your generous donations help makes trips like these possible, and mean we can offer a range of fantastic learning opportunities!

For more details, or if you have any questions, please speak to us in the office!

Important Notice

Please click [here](#) to view the late collection policy

Clubs contact info

Should you need to reach a staff member after 4PM regarding your child at after-school club (such as late collection from after school club), please call this number for immediate assistance: 07955184099