



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear parents and carers,

Many of you will have seen the sad news that I shared separately yesterday about Ilknur, a longstanding member of our support staff, who has sadly passed away following a prolonged illness. Our thoughts are with her family at this difficult time. As I mentioned in my letter, we are planning a memorial for her at school, which will take place after Ramadan. We will be sharing the sad news sensitively with the children after half term through visits to classes by Nora, our pastoral lead. We will also share with children how they can talk about this as it may be their first experience of grief and loss.

I always like to take a moment to pause at this time in the year, as it is our half way point. I am feeling very pleased about what we are achieving! The Year 5 team had some lovely feedback this week from Caroline, one of our SEND outreach team, who praised the team for all the adaptations and support in place for SEN learners. The drive to improve reading for pleasure is filtering through and it was a delight this morning to hear from a parent in Year 4 whose child has just been bitten by the reading bug! We have also started looking in much more depth at our writing curriculum and really focusing on how to build more stamina for writing and allowing more opportunities for independent and incidental writes. Seeing these developments for the benefit of our children makes me really happy.

Enjoy a well deserved break with family and friends and we shall see you on Tuesday 25th of February!

THIS WEEKS' TOP NEWS - Football Tournament

The girls' football team competed in the Arsenal Football Tournament last week, battling against 22 schools. They topped their group and advanced to the top 8 knockout stage, where they were unfortunately knocked out by the eventual winners. Despite the loss, they absolutely smashed it and have earned Rotherfield the title of one of the borough's top footballing schools, showing incredible skill and determination throughout the competition. Despite the Year 5 & 6 boys not making it through to the knockout stages of the main competition, they showed incredible determination and went on to win the runners-up tournament. They battled their way to victory, securing the title and ensuring Rotherfield's name will be proudly engraved on the prestigious Arsenal Plate. A fantastic achievement for both football teams! Well done all!



A shoutout to Samy B in Elm who showed great sportsmanship at the football game! Lending his boots to another child!

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE



STARS OF THE WEEK

Whole school: 90.2%
National: 95%

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!**

Rowan 96.3%

Year 6: Caroline and Amy



Oak 96%

Year 5: Penny and Amelia



Holly 95%

Year 4: Bobby and Abigail

Palm 95%

Year 3: Renae and Eline

Cedar 95%

Year 2: Tsari and Arthur L

Elm 95%

Year 1: Kadeem and Jeremiah

Willow 92%

Reception: Aribella

Pine 91%

Nursery: Cyd

Apple 91%

TOP DOODLERS

Top class - Ash & Willow



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.

Maple 87%

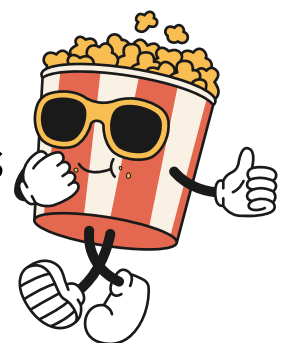
Mulberry 86%

POPCORN PARTY

(as chosen by the pupil voice)

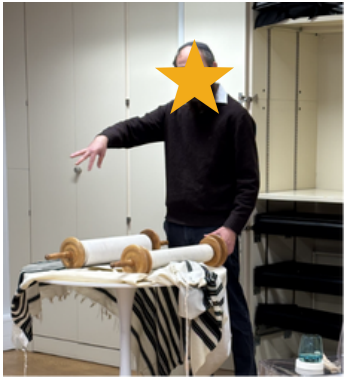
Silver birch 85%

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



Beech 85%

Year 5 - Synagogue visit



This week Year 5 visited Chabad Islington, the boroughs only synagogue, where we were warmly welcomed by their Rabbi. His humour and deep knowledge made learning about the Torah and biblical connections both fun and engaging. The children enjoyed asking questions and gaining a deeper understanding of Jewish traditions. This visit was a fantastic experience all round!



Golden Readers & Golden Writers

Golden Reader

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Apple - Sadie | Palm - Jake |
| Beech - Sana | Willow - Ivie R |
| Holly - Amber | Rowan - Yusuf |
| Oak - Yousef | Elm - Albert |
| Pine - Pandora | Mulberry - Diego |
| Maple - Violet | Ash - Ben |
| Silver Birch - Shaye | Cedar - Amy |

Golden Writer

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Apple - Freya | Palm - Mila |
| Beech - Milo | Willow - Attau |
| Holly - Ehsaan | Rowan - Aziah |
| Oak - Mikaylia | Elm - Tillie |
| Pine - Mustapha | Mulberry - Adar |
| Maple - Ayoub | Ash - Helen |
| Silver Birch - Khadija | Cedar - Freya |

Parent/Carer Reader Drop-in

This week we held parent reader drop ins across the whole school from EYFS to year 6. We had lots of parents (our busiest event yet) coming in on the two drop-in mornings, to share stories with their children's class. There were a great range of stories, books and magazines being read. It was wonderful to see, and the children loved the opportunity to read with their families and with their friends. We hold these drop ins every half term – the next for EYFS and KS1 is on the 18TH March at 9-9.20am, and KS2 at the same time on the 19th of March so come along!



Safe Internet Day

This week we celebrated Safer Internet Day 2025, the focus this year is avoiding online scams. We had 3Discovery in to do exciting workshops before Christmas which children loved. We are very lucky that they will be back to do more workshops at Rotherfield on Thursday 27th Feb to help us celebrate Safer Internet Day. 3Discovery will focus on the Safer Internet content during the assembly and workshops so our children will know how to stay safe and avoid scams.

Here are some useful tips on how to keep your family safe online and free from scammers: [Tips for Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

After Half term Michael will be running STEM club where children learn Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths skills to make traditional toys. We will learn some electronics using servos and motors and all children will be able to bring home their invention at the end of the club. The club will run on a Friday to make it available to more children. Please sign up on Arbor.

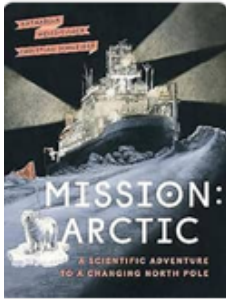
Science Leaders

Rotherfield now has a team of Science leaders from Year 5 and 6. They will be leading various projects this year, helping organise events and promoting science in school. I would like to thank all the children for their enthusiasm and excellent communication skills in our meetings so far. This half term, we were on the national judging panel for the 'Young People's book prize' run by the Royal Society.

Here are the team reading together and discussing their opinions on the books.



We really enjoyed several of the books and the children spoke very passionately about their opinions on the different texts. We narrowed it down to several choices but eventually voted our winning book as 'Mission Arctic'.



If you are interested in scientific discoveries and would like to read any of the books that we judged, please see one of the leadership team for a recommendation. The team are: Ben, Henry and Harley (Ash), Cienna, Lyla and Rosie (Cedar), Adar, Elliott, Hendrix, Trina and Samantha (Mulberry) and Oakley, Berkay, Mason and Sibel (Elm).

Tiago's Weekly Recipe - One Pot Chicken Rice & Veggie Rice

This week I have a fun and easy one pot recipe to help all the parents saving time and respect the budget without giving up on the flavour and nutrients of a good hot meal!!!

Ingredients:

500g chicken breast, diced
200g rice (long grain or basmati)
1 onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 bell pepper, chopped
100g carrots, diced
100g frozen peas
500ml water
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 teaspoon paprika
Salt & pepper to taste
Fresh parsley (optional for garnish)



Method:

- 1.Prepare the chicken: Heat the olive oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add the diced chicken breast and cook until browned and cooked through (about 7-8 minutes). Remove the chicken and set it aside.
- 2.Cook the veggies: In the same pot, add the chopped onion, garlic, bell pepper, and carrots. Cook for about 5 minutes until the vegetables soften.
- 3.Add rice and seasonings: Stir in the rice, paprika, oregano, salt, and pepper. Let the rice toast for 1-2 minutes.
- 4.Simmer everything together: Pour in the chicken broth (or water) and bring to a boil. Once boiling, lower the heat, cover, and simmer for 15 minutes.
- 5.Finish cooking: After 15 minutes, stir in the peas and return the chicken to the pot. Cover and cook for another 5 minutes until the rice is fully cooked, the vegetables are tender, and the chicken is heated through.
- 6.Garnish and serve: Fluff the rice with a fork, garnish with fresh parsley if desired, and serve hot!

This one-pot meal is perfect for busy days, and a great way to get everyone excited about eating healthy and tasty food!

Hope you enjoy it!

REMINDERS - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| EVENTS | DATES |
|--|---|
| 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 2 assembly | Tuesday 11th March @9:10 |
| Year 6 Only - Parents/Carers Evening | Tuesday 18th & Wednesday 19th March (Bookings up until 5pm on 19th) |
| Year 5 Trip - Jo'Burg Anniversary Event | Thursday 20th March |
| Meet the Governors Coffee Morning | Friday 21st March @9-9:30 |
| Parents/Carers Evening (All other year groups) | Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th March (Bookings up until 5pm on 26th) |
| Year 1- London Landmarks Trip | Thursday 3rd April |

Clubs Timetable

Bookings will be open from 6pm today!

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 |
| Gardening Y1-3 3:30 - 4:30 | Turkish Y1-6 3:30 - 4:30 | Gymnastics R-Y6 3:30 - 4:30 | | S.T.E.M Club Y3-Y6 3:30 - 4:30 |
| | | Singing Club Y1-3 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 |

Current Vacancies:

School Sous Chef – Rotherfield Primary School

Class Teacher – Newington Green Primary School

Islington Healthy School Advisor

Please click here to see community food services available within Islington
Community Food Services - Islington Food Partnership

Staff Book Group

This week saw our first Rotherfield Staff Book group meet up. We have set up the group to develop our knowledge of the best current children's books and to have an opportunity to share our love of reading and discuss our thoughts about the books we have read. It was a lovely event with great discussion and lots of laughter. The books that we read for this group were: Ghost Boys; One Tiny Treefrog; The Hare-shaped hole; and Mr Penguin and the Lost Treasure.

If you would like to read any of the books that we read, come and see Rosa to borrow a copy!



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