



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week at school has been a wonderful celebration of science, with children engaging in exciting hands-on learning across our curriculum and truly stepping into the role of scientists. They have been developing key scientific skills such as observing closely, asking thoughtful questions, making predictions, carrying out investigations, and recording and interpreting results. These are the foundations of scientific thinking, and it has been inspiring to see pupils apply them with curiosity and confidence. As we look ahead, we are committed to deepening our work around climate action throughout the year, helping our pupils understand how they can make a difference.

December promises to be full of festive cheer, with Christmas concerts, the PTA Winter Fair, an Advent competition, and even a Santa Dash as part of our Daily Mile to keep us active and moving. We also want to remind families of the importance of excellent attendance.

We are seeing some small increases in attendance this week, which is positive. The government has set clear targets for schools, and we are working hard to ensure every child benefits fully from their learning by being in school every day. We will inform parents of this official target as soon as we hear more.

THIS WEEKS TOP NEWS - Science for Life STEM Event

A small group of Rotherfield students took part in an exciting Science for Life STEM event at Gillespie Primary School on Wednesday 19th November. During the afternoon, the children led and participated in hands-on STEM activities linked to climate change. Our students talked to other schools about how wind farms generate clean energy and supported younger children in making their own mini wind turbines and wind pinwheels. They also met STEM ambassadors, listened to short presentations about their careers, and had the opportunity to ask questions. The event helped pupils build confidence, improve their communication skills, and work collaboratively, while giving them a fantastic experience of behaving like real scientists.



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Whole school: **95%**
National: **95%**

Apple	100%
Olive	99%
Beech	98%
Rowan	98%
Palm	93%
Cedar	93%
Elm	93%
Pine	93%
Maple	93%
Oak	92%
Ash	92%
Willow	91%
Silver birch	91%
Mulberry	89%



STARS OF THE WEEK

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: Felix, Lara and Amelia

Year 5: Amira and Archie

Year 4: Rami and Tatum

Year 3: Amelia and Zakareeyaa

Year 2: Ryan and Henrique

Year 1: Mehmet

Reception: Asad

Nursery: Zakariyya



Top class for this week:

ASH

Top Rockstar for this week:

SIBEL.U

RESPECT CHAMPIONS

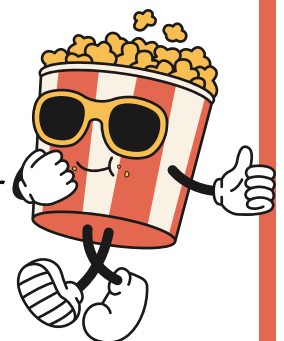
KS1: Arthur L (Palm)

KS2: Ayuub
(Mulberry)

POPCORN PARTY

(as chosen by the pupil voice)

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



Space Talk with Miriam and Antonio

Year 5 enjoyed an inspiring session with Miriam Grigg (Department for Science, Innovation and Technology) and Antonio Duduianu (Satellite Applications Catapult). They spoke about space and satellites, answered lots of questions, and shared fascinating facts - like the first animal sent into space was a fruit fly!

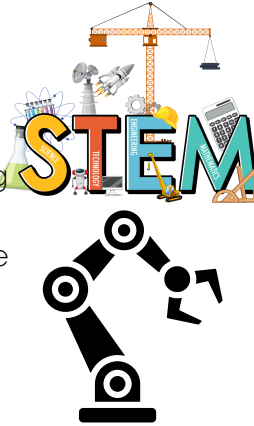
A huge thank you to Miriam and Antonio for making science come alive for our pupils.



Computing Lead at Central Islington Training Event

Last week, Michael represented our school at the Central Islington Training Event, which brought together staff from 26 schools for a day of collaboration and professional development. He delivered an excellent session showcasing high-quality curriculum projects from The Growth Learning Collective, and his expertise and collaborative approach were greatly appreciated by everyone.

Michael also shared some of our STEM successes by running a hands-on robotics workshop. Teachers explored the activities we've been doing in STEM Club, received practical guides, and learned how to bring these ideas into their classrooms. It was a fantastic opportunity to network, exchange ideas, and pick up valuable tips from colleagues across the borough.



Year 1 - Freightliners Farm

Year 1 had a great time at Freightliners Farm! They learnt about all the different animals and even planted their own daffodil bulbs. It was so fun to bring out science lessons to life and meet the animals we've been learning about!



Bikeability Success for Year 5

This week, some of our Year 5 pupils proudly completed their Bikeability Level 2 training, developing the skills and confidence to cycle safely on local roads. Over the course of the sessions, they learned how to start and stop with control, negotiate junctions, and communicate clearly with other road users. The instructors praised the children for their focus, resilience, and positive attitude throughout. We are delighted to see so many pupils achieving this important milestone in their cycling journey, and we hope they continue to enjoy safe and independent travel.



Multi-Sports Festival

Ten children from Year 2 attended an exciting multi-sports festival at Beacon High School. They took part in a variety of games that were fun and encouraged teamwork. All of the children represented the school so well and had a super fun afternoon. Well done all!



Christmas/Greetings card project

Order your child's Christmas/Greetings card artwork as a pack of cards, a tote bag or a festive mug. Use your child's artwork code (on the reverse of the art sent home) to order via the website apfsorders.co.uk or use the QR code.

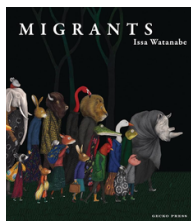
The order deadline is Tuesday 25th November. Orders after this date cannot be processed.

Every item purchased through this project raises money for our school.



Staff Book Group

This week we held our regular staff book group, where staff read a range of new children's books to deepen our own knowledge so we can make the best recommendations to the children. This week we read: The Final Year, Pablo and Splash, Migrants and The Last Bear.



All important events can be found on the public calendar on the school website

EVENTS	DATES
Ash - British Library Visit	Monday 1 st December
Year 5 Assembly	Wednesday 2 nd December @9:10
Christmas Fair	Thursday 4 th December from 3:30
Cedar - British Library Visit	Friday 5 th December
RF Christmas lunch and Festive Jumper day	Friday 12 th December
Early Years Nativity	Tuesday 16 th December @9:15
Bedtime Books	Tuesday 16 th December @3:30
Year 2 Assembly	Wednesday 11 th February @9:10
Year 3 Assembly	Thursday 26 th March @9:10
Year 1 Assembly	Tuesday 5 th May @9:10
Year 6 Assembly	Date TBC

Jamaican Hurricane Relief

We're holding a Bake Sale on **Thursday, 27th November**, after school to raise funds for the Jamaican hurricane relief.

Donations Needed

We'd love your help! If you can, please donate homemade or shop-bought cakes and baked treats for the sale. Every contribution makes a big difference!

Christmas Fair

Join us for our Christmas Fair on **Thursday 4th December from 3:30 PM!** There will be lots of festive fun and stalls for everyone to enjoy.

Donations Needed

We'd love your help! If you have any unwanted Christmas decorations or items for our tombola stalls (bric-a-brac, teddies, or bottles of alcohol), please drop them off with Lesley in the office. Thank you for your support—we can't wait to see you there!

Free School Meal Vouchers during school holidays

Do you qualify for free school meals (FSM) status. Anyone who hasn't applied or whose circumstances may have changed please apply on Islington's Citizen portal to see if you are eligible.
[Free school meals | Islington Council](#)

Late Collection Policy

The school applies a late collection charge for children who are not collected from school on time. The Late Collection Policy and charges can be accessed using the following link.
[Rotherfield Primary School - School Policies](#)

Support with Childcare

If you are a working parent and require help with Childcare please use the links to see what help is available.
[Eligibility checker | Best Start in Life](#)
[Tax-Free Childcare - GOV.UK](#)
[Free Childcare for Working Parents: Overview - GOV.UK](#)

Lettings / Hall Hire

Rotherfield has partnered with Sharesy to make booking our hall simple. Click below view our spaces, prices and availability: <https://www.sharesy.com/v/rotherfield-primary-school>
 Parents/Carers of pupils attending Rotherfield can email the school for information on available discounted rates.

Islington Healthy School Advisor

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

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