

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week and last, the children have been completing termly assessments, which help teachers assess how well they have been doing in their learning. We have been really pleased with how focused the children have been and impressed with their resilience. This is testament to our pupils developing excellent perseverance and not giving up when they find something difficult. Well done everyone for showing a growth mindset!

The weather has taken a chilly turn and it has brought with it seasonal coughs, colds and flu. Please ensure that children are dressed appropriately for the cold weather with a coat, hat, scarf and gloves. We ask that all items of clothes are clearly labelled, please. The lost property is starting to pile up again and most of the items do not have names, so it is difficult to return them to their owners.

The government are setting individual Attendance Baseline Improvement Expectation targets for all schools. We will inform parents of our target as soon as we hear more. We know that our families are working hard to get children into school everyday. We hope that our new Attendance Champions will have lots of useful ideas and suggestions to help us achieve our target.

With December starting next week, please have a look at the packed calendar of festive events coming up and of course we hope to see everybody at the annual PTA Christmas fair on Thursday. Happy weekend!

THIS WEEKS TOP NEWS - Greener Schools Programme

We are delighted to share that our school was selected to take part in the Greener Schools Programme. As part of this initiative, a small number of schools were invited to host a special workshop delivered by SOS-UK (Students Organising for Sustainability).

The two-hour session was aimed at our UKS2 pupils, with around 20 children taking part - including members of our School Council. The workshop explored the wider context of decarbonisation and sustainability in schools, and gave pupils the chance to contribute ideas towards developing our school's Climate Action Plan.

In preparation, pupils had already been learning about the effects of carbon on our planet and discussing how we can all be more proactive in helping to protect the environment. This workshop built on those conversations, inspiring our young people to think creatively about how we can make a difference together.

We are very proud to have been part of this programme and look forward to seeing the positive impact it will continue to have on our school community.



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Whole school: **92%**
National: **95%**

Apple	100%
Palm	97.2%
Rowan	97.1%
Beech	97%
Pine	96%
Olive	96%
Elm	93%
Maple	92%
Ash	91%
Cedar	91%
Mulberry	91%
Willow	90%
Oak	85%
Silver birch	83%



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: Sarah, Candice and Rosa-Lee

Year 5: Alejandro and Ibrahim

Year 4: Hamza and Shaye

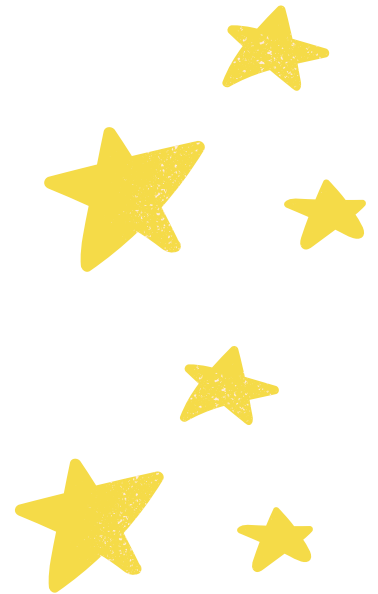
Year 3: Tunay, Ramzan

Year 2: Emily and Amber

Year 1: Bea

Reception: Pheobe

Nursery: Cyd



ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS

KS1: Mikaylia (Maple)

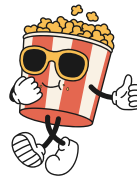


KS2: Alfred (Willow)

POPCORN PARTY

(as chosen by the pupil voice)

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



RESPECT CHAMPIONS

KS1: Ryan.S (Maple)



KS2: Azra (Rowan)



Top class for this week:

ASH

Top Rockstar for this week:

Rumaysa & Trina



Top Numbot for this week:

Mariame.M

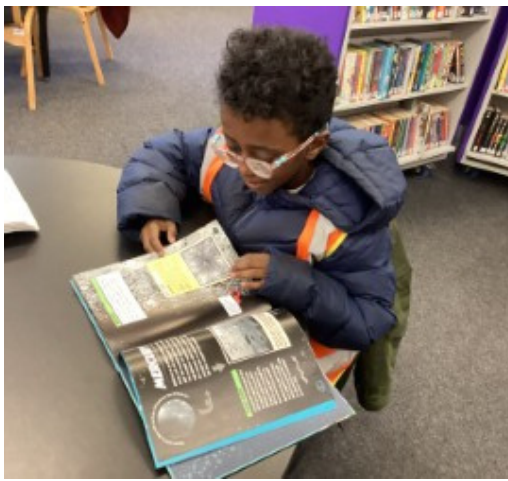
Year 6 - Islington South Library

Last week, Ash Class enjoyed a wonderful trip to Islington South Library. The children had the opportunity to explore a wide range of texts and immerse themselves in genres that sparked their interest.

As a year group, we have been working hard to inspire our pupils and promote a lifelong love of reading. This visit was a fantastic way to build on that commitment, giving the children a chance to discover new authors and stories in an engaging environment.

We are especially proud of how diligently the children have worked in Whole Class Guided Reading this year, striving to improve their reading skills even further. Experiences like this library visit help to strengthen those efforts and encourage our pupils to see reading as both enjoyable and rewarding.

Islington South Library



Today, Olive class went to Islington South Library for our termly class slot. Children had a chance to browse books and share stories they liked with their friends. Children were able to borrow books using their library card too!

If you have not joined your local library, make sure you do! You can access amazing books and resources and there are fabulous free events that are held there. [Islington Council: South Library | Islington Council](https://www.islington.gov.uk/council/south-library/)



Pine and Needles

We're excited to share that Rotherfield has kindly been donated a beautiful Christmas tree by Pines and Needles. As part of their gift, they are also offering parents 10% off Christmas trees from their London pop-up stores and online shop.

Discount Code: SCHOOL10

Follow @pinesandneedles for festive activities at local stores, and visit www.pinesandneedles.com for full details and all store locations across London.



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!

National Tree Week

To celebrate National Tree Week, Year 2 had a visitor from Islington council come in to speak to them about trees. They looked at how Christmas trees were decorated in the Victorian era, and we smelt frankincense and myrrh which come from trees. They learnt that the bark on trees is there to protect them, a bit like our skin, and if a tree is cut, it produces resin to heal/protect itself. After that, they planted bulbs outside. They made sure the roots were down and the pointy bits were up.



The Enhanced Healthy Living Service

12th of December
10:00 AM - 12:00 noon (online)

Join our free workshop!

Key elements include:

- Strategies to encourage healthy eating at home
- Tips to create helpful boundaries
- Finding ways to promote a positive relationship with food
- Learning about emotional eating

This workshop is for:
Parents of children struggling with excess weight (aged 5-17)
You must be registered with a GP school/ live in Camden or Islington

We look forward to meeting you

Our aim is to support families to find a compassionate and sustainable approach to working with their children towards an enjoyable and healthy lifestyle.

Further support for parents is available after the workshop

Scan the link below to sign up:



or email:
brandoncentre.healthyliving@nhs.net

Brandon Centre

Libraries
Read Learn Connect

Winter Reading Challenge Fun Day!



Pop into the Library on Saturday 6 December, 11am-4pm. Join the Winter Reading Challenge and enjoy a day full of fun activities!

Tiago's Weekly Recipe - Healthy Packed Lunch – One Simple Swap!

At our schools, we want to help children enjoy lunches that keep them energised, focused, and ready to learn. To help parents and carers preparing a packed lunch that is aligned with our schools standards for healthy eating, here are some easy, realistic swaps to make great meals — without adding extra stress to your day.

Everything below can be found in any supermarket and doesn't require special preparation. After all, keeping packed lunches healthy doesn't have to be complicated!!

Sandwich of the Week: Cheese & Cucumber

Crunchy cucumber + mild cheese = a refreshing classic that's easy to prep and easy to love. If your child is more into hot food, some chicken and roast potatoes from the past dinner can be a great idea when stored properly!



Savoury Swap: Breadsticks

Still crunchy, still fun, but with far less salt than crisps. Perfect for little nibblers.

Fruit Pick: A Handful of Grapes

Juicy, bite-sized, and fuss-free. (Cut in halves for younger children. But that can be also an Apple, a pear or a delicious fruit salad!)

Treat of the Week: A fruit muffin

A small, simple treat 2-3 times a week is absolutely fine—leftovers from home baking are perfect!



Small, easy swaps like these help keep children fuelled, focused, and feeling good throughout the school day. Thanks for supporting healthier lunchboxes!

Christmas Concerts

- Friday 12th December: Year 3 - 2:55pm - 3:25pm
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- Monday 15th December: Year 6 - 9:05am - 9:35am
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- Tuesday 16th December: Nursery, Reception, SEN/d & Year 1- 9:05am - 9:35am
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- Wednesday 17th December: Year 5 - 9:05am - 9:35am
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- Wednesday 17th December: Year 4 - 2:55pm - 3:25pm



Get Creative at Rotherfield

We're making a school advent calendar to celebrate themes of Christmas time.

What does Christmas time look like for you?

It might be: spending time with family; coming together as a community; spreading joy; donating to worthy causes; cooking and eating delicious food; giving and receiving presents. Each day of December, classes will look at a chosen design!

How to get involved:

Using our theme 'What does Christmas time look like for you?' get creative!

Write a poem, rap or short story, draw or paint a picture, create a sculpture, compose a piece of music, make up a dance or bake something. You can showcase any talent!

Send a photo or short video of your entry to admin@rotherfieldprimary.co.uk.

Send entries in as soon as possible!

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
Year 1 - Islington Library Show	Wednesday 10 th December @11am
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

Educational Experiences in 2025-26

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Freightliner's City Farm London Bus Tour Florence Nightingale Museum V&A Childhood Museum King Henry's Walk Garden	Tate Modern The Monument Horniman Museum London Zoo Hampstead Heath Museum of Docklands	British Museum Science Museum Pantomime Westminster Walk London Aquarium Kew Gardens Mosque Visit	Science Museum Chocolate Museum Church Visit Kagged School Museum River Lea Highgate Wood
Year 5 Olympic Park Science Museum British Museum Synagogue Visit London Zoo Southbank		Year 6 HMS Bellini 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!

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