

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to share with parents a letter received from the secretary of state for education which celebrates our school's impact. We are highlighted as being **'amongst the very best nationally'** for the progress of disadvantaged pupils (those on free school meals). Often children in receipt of free school meals do not perform as well academically, but this is not the case at Rotherfield!

I am so proud of the incredible team of staff, our hardworking pupils and our wonderful parents/carers who work together to make this happen.

A message from Bridget Phillipson



Dear Nia,

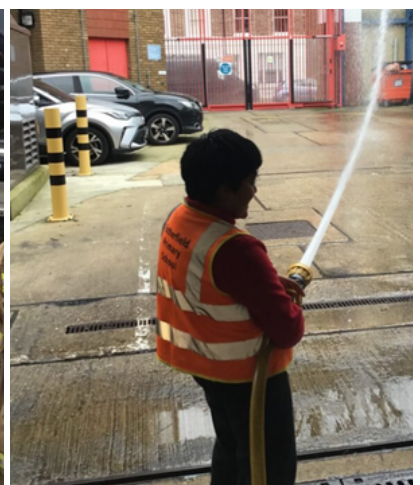
Congratulations to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at Rotherfield Primary School achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.

This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.

Your school's achievements demonstrate what is possible, and I hope you will continue to share your experience and best practice with others. Even the strongest schools can go further. We encourage you to lead the way as a system leader - sharing effective practice, championing networks, supporting collaboration, and helping raise standards across the sector.

THIS WEEKS TOP NEWS - Islington Fire Station

Mulberry Class enjoyed an exciting and educational trip to Islington Fire Station, where they learnt firsthand about the important work firefighters do. The children tried on real uniforms, handled the hose, and sat inside the fire engine, gaining a deeper understanding of the equipment used in emergencies. Firefighters also explained how call-outs work, helping the class learn about teamwork, safety, and quick response. It was a memorable experience that brought their learning to life.



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Whole school: 93.4%
National: 95%

Apple	100%
Rowan	97%
Olive	97%
Palm	96%
Silver birch	96%
Maple	96%
Beech	95%
Pine	94%
Cedar	94%
Ash	91%
Elm	91%
Oak	91%
Willow	90%
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: Samuel, Lily and Oliver

Year 5: Akram and Skylar

Year 4: Reegan and Jack

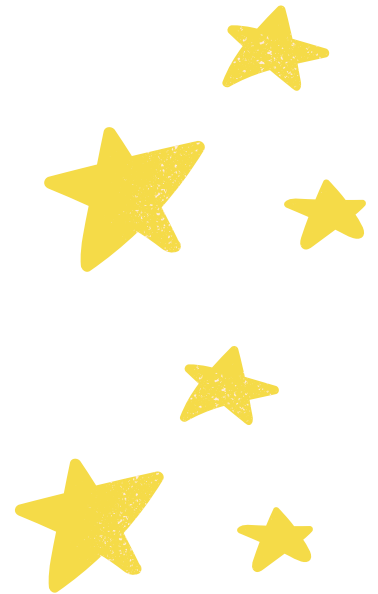
Year 3: Johnnie and Willow

Year 2: Mariame and Leyla

Year 1: Sen

Reception: Hunter and Duru

Nursery: Lochlan



ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS

KS1: Kendall (Maple)



KS2: Tatum (Willow)

POPCORN PARTY

(as chosen by the pupil voice)

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



RESPECT CHAMPIONS

KS1: Huxley (Pine)

KS2: Madina (Mulberry)



Top Rockstar for this week:

Palm - For highest accuracy
Penny (Ash) - most minutes played



Top Numbot for this week:

Max C (Maple) & Manasse (Silver Birch) - For most coins earned

Healthy Packed Lunches and Fussy eaters Workshops



Last Friday Tiago ran a parent/carer workshop full of practical tips and sensory eating content. The chef delivered a healthy packed lunch session, focusing on how to provide nutritious lunches while staying within a budget. It was combined with a Sensory Eating presentation: exploring common situations and practical strategies to help picky eaters exploring new foods. These workshops are part of the school's efforts to help families and children having healthy options in their mealtimes, as long as providing a space where parents can share their feelings and struggles around the feeding time. It is a safe and non-judgmental atmosphere, and it was great to hear families share their lived experiences and recommendations.



Year 6 - Junior Citizens Workshop

On Thursday 15th January 2026, our Year 6 pupils visited the Sobell Leisure Centre to take part in the TfL Junior Citizens Workshops. These workshops are designed to help children prepare for their transition to secondary school and to understand how to make safe and sensible choices in everyday situations.

The children rotated through six interactive workshops, each focusing on an important aspect of staying safe:

1. Drugs Awareness

Pupils learned about the difference between legal and illegal substances and were reminded of the importance of speaking to a trusted adult if they ever have concerns.

2. County Lines

Children were taught about the dangers of gangs and county lines, including the fact that in England, the age of criminal responsibility is 10 years old.

3. Staying Safe on TfL (Buses & Trains)

This workshop covered how to line up safely, being polite to bus drivers and train staff—who are considered “safe strangers”—and applying for an 11+ Zip Oyster card.

4. London Fire Brigade

Pupils explored fire safety at home, how quickly fires can spread, and why smoke alarms are essential. They also learned that smoke alarms should be tested monthly.

5. London Ambulance Service

This session helped children understand how to look after themselves and others who may be unwell. They learned the basics of Airway, Breathing, Call 999, and how the recovery position can help someone who is unconscious.

6. Citizenship

In this workshop, pupils discussed stereotypes, misogyny, and what makes a healthy friendship.

Year 6 represented our school brilliantly and came away with valuable knowledge to help them stay safe and confident as they grow more independent.



Apple Class - Porridge Making

Last week Apple class made porridge with Tiago. This activity linked to our topic on traditional tales, as we have been learning the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. The children enjoyed taking part in the cooking activity and talking about the characters and key events in the story.

It wasn't too hot, it wasn't too cold, it was just right! Thank you Tiago for always supporting the children's learning!



Healthy Eating Role Models in Our School

We are incredibly proud to celebrate children who show how balanced food choices support learning, energy, and confidence.

Rowan (Year 1) is a fantastic example of healthy eating in action. His packed lunch is consistently well balanced, with the right mix of fruit, vegetables, carbohydrates, dairy, and protein - exactly what a growing body and busy mind need to stay focused and energised throughout the day. Rowan is very proud of his lunch, and rightly so. He is also a valued member of the Food Council, where he helps shape conversations around healthy lifestyles and positive food choices in school. His enthusiasm shows that healthy eating can be something children feel proud of, not pressured by.



Brooklyn Quinn (Year 4) is another inspiring example. Brooklyn used to bring a packed lunch, but around two years ago he began transitioning to school meals — and now he is an everyday school lunch eater. He actively asks for vegetables and often chooses the second vegetable option available each day (on request). Brooklyn is full of energy, incredibly active, jumps impressively high, and regularly comes back for seconds. He is a brilliant example of what children can become when they are gradually exposed to new and different foods in a positive environment. He is certainly one of the strongest eaters at Rotherfield Primary School, and proof that confidence with food grows over time.



A big shout out to their parents who we know make an effort to give them the best food and encouragement!

Reminder - Dates for your Diary

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

EVENTS	DATES
Year 2 - The Horniman Museum Trip	Tuesday 27 th January
Year 6 SATS Parents/Carers Meeting	Friday 30 th January @3:40pm
Parent/Carer reader drop-in - EYFS & KS1	Wednesday 4 th February (9 - 9:20am)
Parent/Carer reader drop-in - KS2	Thursday 5 th February (9 - 9:20am)
Year 2 Assembly	Wednesday 11 th February @9:10
Year 4 - Maths game Parent/Carer drop in	Wednesday 12 th February @2:45
Eid Class Assembly	Wednesday 25 th March @9:15
Easter Class 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
 Freightliner's City Farm
 London Bus Tour
 Florence Nightingale Museum
 V&A Childhood Museum
 King Henry's Walk Garden

Year 2
 Tate Modern
 The Monument
 Horniman Museum
 London Zoo
 Hampstead 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
 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!

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