

# ROTHERFIELD

## NEWSLETTER

## 30/01/2026



### MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you've had a great week! At Rotherfield, our continued focus on attendance is still making a difference, although we have seen a slight dip over the past few days. Our **whole-school attendance currently stands at 92.8%, and we are working towards the government target of 94% by the end of the year.** Every day in school truly matters, so your support in helping us reach this goal is greatly appreciated.

This term, we are also taking a close look at how we support all of our SEND learners and how we articulate each child's journey through the school. We are proud to have recently set up a nurture provision for children with social and emotional mental health needs, as well as a provision for pupils with social communication difficulties. These developments strengthen our commitment to ensuring every child at Rotherfield receives the support they need to thrive.

Alongside this, we are placing a strong emphasis on foundational skills across the school. We want every child to have the essential building blocks for success, including:

- clear, confident handwriting and good presentation
- secure foundations in maths
- strong reading fluency

Teachers will be talking to children about these priorities and assessing where additional support may help them make even better progress.

Thank you for your continued partnership and for everything you do to support us.

### THIS WEEKS TOP NEWS - Greener Schools Pilot Programme

We're proud to share that the sustainability work led by our Head Chef and Food Educator, Tiago, has been featured in a new resource by Retrofit Action For Tomorrow (RAFT), created as part of the Greener Schools Pilot Programme supported by the Mayor of London.

The resource highlights practical ways schools can reduce their carbon footprint, particularly through food, cleaning products, equipment and community engagement. It showcases initiatives at Rotherfield and Newington Green Primary Schools, including energy-efficient kitchen equipment, reduced food waste, plant-forward menus, cooking and gardening clubs, and hands-on food education for pupils and families.

The project aims to support schools across London — and potentially beyond — to take realistic, meaningful steps towards sustainability, showing that change can happen gradually and within existing school settings.

This recognition celebrates work rooted in everyday practice and the wider school community that supports it

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Whole school: **93.4%**  
National: **95%**

Apple	100%
Olive	97%
Maple	96%
Rowan	95%
Palm	93%
Pine	92%
Ash	92%
Willow	91%
Cedar	91%
Oak	90%
Silver birch	88%
Beech	88%
Mulberry	87%
Elm	86%



## 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: Samantha, Samy B and Grace

Year 5: Aras A and Zumra

Year 4: The whole class for a great trip

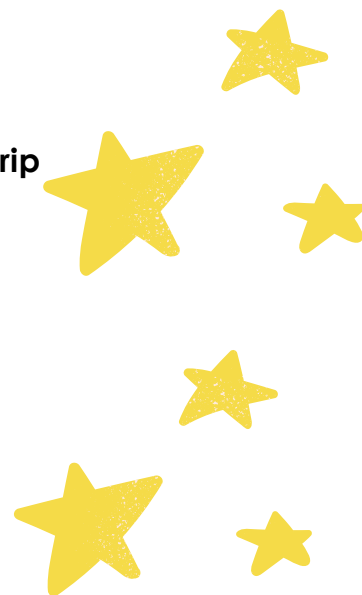
Year 3: Taylor and Momoka

Year 2: Bonnie and Hamirah

Year 1: Emin

Reception: Naira

Nursery: Sadie



### ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS

KS1: Hannah (Pine)



KS2: Ilyas (Elm)

### POPCORN PARTY

(as chosen by the pupil voice)

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



### RESPECT CHAMPIONS

KS1: Axel (Palm)

KS2: Akram (Mulberry)



Top Rockstar for this week:

Areesha (Willow) - most minutes played



Top Numbot for this week:

Amber M (Pine) - Most minutes played

# STEM Club

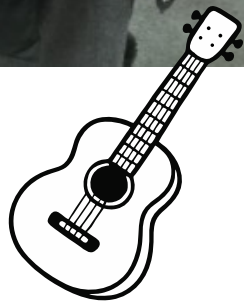
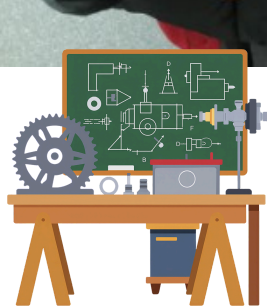
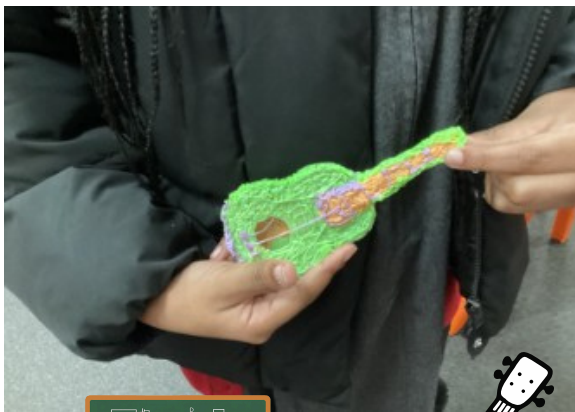


We are having great fun in STEM club on Friday after school. Khairi and Israel from 3 Silver Birch are having fun making robots using motors and servos. STEM stands for Science, Technology Engineering and Maths and we hope that Rotherfield children will think about jobs in STEM when they are older. This club is for children in year 3, 4, 5 and 6. If you are interested in joining us, please sign up on Arbor, our last club will be on the 13th of Feb and it will return in the summer term.



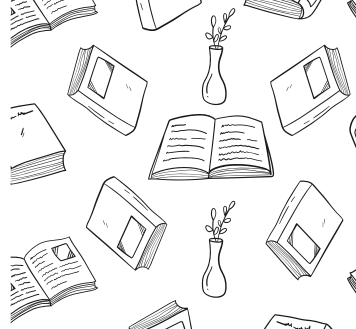
## 3D Printing Pen

Liyana Royal in 5 Elm is a great artist and engineer. She uses a 3D printing pen to create marvellous art work like this 3D guitar. For those who have used these 3D pens, you will know how tricky it is to do detailed work. Well done Liyana.



## Islington Library

On 28th of January, Year 3 visited Islington Library as part of a learning visit. The children enjoyed listening to a story read by library staff before exploring the library and reading a range of books independently.



## The Three Little Pigs

Nursery have been reading The Three Little Pigs this week. They've loved engaging in the story in different areas of learning - like building houses from straw, wood and 'bricks' in the construction area. Thank you Mandy and Hayley for making the classroom such a wonderful place to be!



Dear parents and carers,

We are thrilled to announce the Rotherfield Primary photography exhibition: Our Lives, Our Culture, Our London. We would like children from nursery to year 6 to send in photos that they have taken. These can be of anything they like, reflecting their daily life, where they live or what they love. Please send photos to [admin@rotherfieldprimary.co.uk](mailto:admin@rotherfieldprimary.co.uk) In the summer term we will be having an exhibition of the most wonderful photos that are submitted. Thanks, Rosa



On Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> of Year 3 visited SEA LIFE London as part of our enrichment learning and to support our current Geography topic on Oceans and Seas and our science learning on animals, including humans. During the visit, the children explored a range of underwater habitats and discovered many different sea creatures from around the world. This trip helped Year 3 deepen their understanding of how different animals are grouped and how their body structures help them survive in their environments.



## Tiago's Weekly Recipe - Simple Chicken & Vegetable Soup

### Cooking Together to Build Curiosity

This week's recipe is designed to engage children in the cooking process, helping them feel curious and relaxed around food. When children are involved in planning and preparation, they slowly build interest and confidence — tasting often comes naturally later, without pressure.

A comforting, affordable meal that's perfect for busy families.

#### Why it works for children:

- They can help wash vegetables, count ingredients, stir, or choose shapes
- You can talk about colours, smells, and textures while cooking
- No pressure to eat — just involvement and familiarity

#### Why it works for parents/carers:

- Uses simple, low-cost ingredients
  - One pot, minimal prep
- Freezes beautifully for another day
- Great for batch cooking and busy weeks

Estimated cost: around £8 for a family of four. Prices may vary, but this is a flexible recipe that can be adapted with whatever vegetables you already have at home.

This is a calm, practical way to support children's relationship with food — without stress, expense, or extra pressure in an already busy week.

### Ingredients (serves 4)

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 2 carrots, peeled and diced
  - 1 celery stick, diced
- 1 potato, peeled and diced
- 2 chicken thighs or breasts, skinless
  - 1 litre chicken stock
- A small handful of pasta or rice (optional)
- Salt and pepper (to taste, added at the end)

### Method

1. Heat the olive oil in a large pan and gently cook the onion until soft.
2. Add the carrots, celery, and potato and cook for a few minutes, stirring.
3. Add the chicken and pour over the stock.
4. Simmer for 20–25 minutes until the chicken is cooked through and vegetables are soft.
5. Remove the chicken, shred it with two forks, and return it to the soup.
6. Add pasta or rice if using, and cook for a further 8–10 minutes.
7. Season lightly and serve warm.



# Reminder - Dates for your Diary

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

EVENTS	DATES
Parent/Carer reader drop-in - EYFS & KS1	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February (9 - 9:20am)
Parent/Carer reader drop-in - KS2	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> February (9 - 9:20am)
Year 2 Assembly	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February @9:10
Year 4 - Maths game Parent/Carer drop in	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February @2:45
Eid Class Assembly	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March @9:15
Easter Class Assembly	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March @9:10
Year 1 Assembly	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> 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