



RHODES AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

**November 2018:
Issue 3**

This is a wonderful time of the year with so much nature to see and enjoy. As darkness creeps forward and the winter chills set in the air, can I remind all families to stay safe. The children should be collected by an adult at the end of the day, especially if attending an after school club; lights fitted to bikes and scooters and we hope to see **all** children wrapped up warm in a winter coat.

I would like to congratulate the pupils in Year 5 for their magical class assemblies: Space exhibitions, Viking and Anglo Saxons with Music, French and a wonderful celebration of their learning.

Last week Mathletics was launched as part of our new homelearning approach. If you were unable to attend the parent information session the presentation is available on the website.

<https://rhodesavenue.school/mathletics/>

The children had their Mathletics assembly on Thursday (Years 1-6) and you should now have your child's personal login. If you are having any difficulties please do not hesitate to speak to Mr Taylor or your child's class teacher. We will be seeking parent view on the new home learning approach later this term.

Please visit the school website regularly. Keep up to date with school news, class information and special events.

The Christmas productions have slightly changed this year with Years 1 and 2 performing together and Years 3 to 6 performing as Juniors. The children in Nursery and Reception will continue to celebrate Christmas together.

I would like to remind parents that Parents' Evening is on the 14th and 15th November and Governors will be available on both evening to chat to.

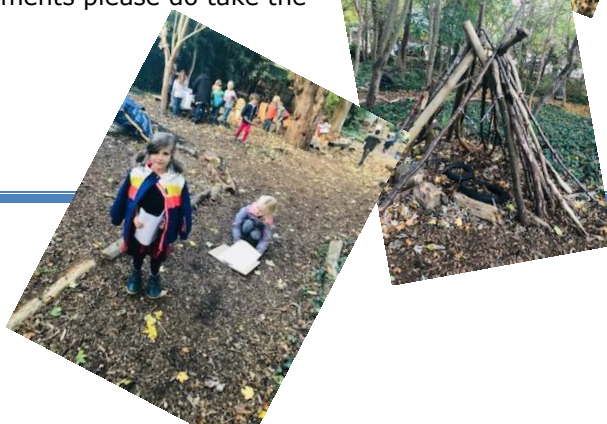
All dates and events can be found on our school calendar.

Specialist Teaching

The Great Outdoors

We have had a great start to the new school year and your children are working so hard and loving all aspects of school life. Our specialist teachers are thoroughly enjoying supporting your children's learning and growth.

Ms Hurst has created the most wonderful outdoor forest classroom. The children have had some wonderful experiences: den building, making fires, creating art in the woods, creating hedgehog houses. If you haven't seen the wonderful forest developments please do take the time to have a look.



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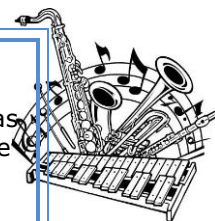
A 'note' about Music

Our whole class music learning lessons have started well; children in Years 3 and 4 have been learning to play the ukulele and Year 5 have started their samba drumming. Dan has thoroughly enjoyed his first half term teaching the children and can't wait to work with the rest of the year group.

Recorder lessons have started in Year 1 and they will soon be starting in Year 2.

We are looking for talented musicians from within our school community to inspire our children. If you play an instrument and can spare half an hour to share your talents with our children please contact me.

Sarah Chambers: Music Leader



The Power of Art

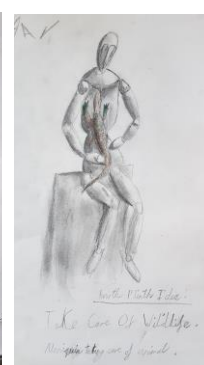
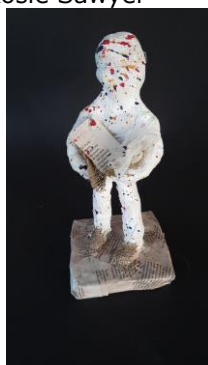
Year 6 have been developing ideas for the Trafalgar Square fourth plinth schools competition. After making a series of figurative drawings they created some fantastic 3D models that have an important message to share!

Please feel free to drop by the art room if you'd like to see any more of the wonderful projects the children are working on! The art room is just next to Woodpeckers nursery/after school club.

Also...I'm looking for any parents who might have an hour or two free midweek to help out with some small jobs in the artroom. Please drop me an email if you are able/interested!

Many thanks,

Rosie Sawyer



Dates for your diary

Please visit our school calendar

<https://rhodesavenue.school/news-events/diary-dates/>

Christmas dates and performances have now been added to the calendar.

Please visit the website for the school term dates. Only exceptional leave will be authorised during term time. Please check the school term dates before booking your holiday. INSET days have now been added for the academic years 2019-20 and 2020-2021

<https://rhodesavenue.school/news-events/term-dates/>

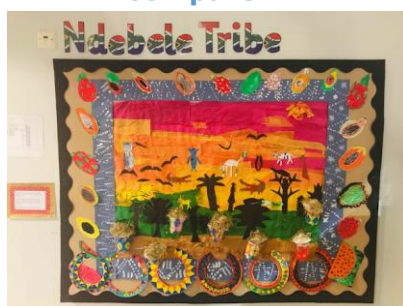


Curriculum Learning

Compare

and

Contrast



Year 4 spent the first half term exploring Africa. We have studied the geographical landscape, politics, food, culture and wildlife. We have written wonderful traditional tales and been inspired by Nelson Mandela.

The staff and children would like to thank the parent volunteers who helped to create a magical creative learning experience; a special thank you to Lucy for your artistic input. We loved our chalk making and drawing day.



Attendance

What does my child's attendance figure tell me?

Attendance during school year	Equates to days absent	Which is approximately
94%	10 Days	2 Weeks
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks

You will receive your child's attendance, so far for this school year, on the Autumn Term Report. If you would like to discuss any attendance concerns or difficulties please contact Joanne Tillson in the school office.

OUR WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE FOR AUTUMN
TERM 1 WAS:

97.7%

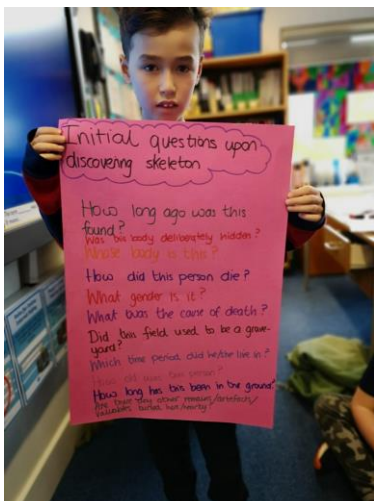


Historical Enquiry

Year 5 discovered a skeleton. As part of their enquiry they found evidence to piece together a hypothesis. They had to skilfully question, gather information and make predictions based on the evidence provided.

The investigation led them to believe that the Viking King, Harald Hardrada's, army were defeated at the battle of Stamford Bridge and were fleeing back to their boats at Ricall when they were killed.

What amazing historians we have in Year 5.



We have a Bog Baby in our woods.

In Year 1 during Autumn 1 we read our first whole class reader. We read The Bog Baby by Jeanne Willis. First we made predictions on what the story would be about, we looked at the cover and the blurb. We used the book to think about adjectives and emotions. We built the bridge in our outdoor area and thought about how the girls would be feeling as they crossed into BlueBell woods. The children enjoyed making their own Bog Baby puppet and a home for the Bog Baby too. We were very impressed with the wonderful work the children produced in their first term in Year 1.

Well done Year 1!



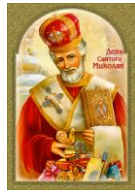
Jo McGahon



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Which inspirational people will the children be learning about this half term?

Nursery



Saint Nicolas

Reception



Friends in the community

Year 1



Ada Lovelace

Year 2



Roald Dahl

Year 3



Mother Teresa

Year 4



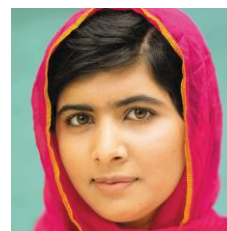
Evelyn Glennie

Year 5



Ernest Shackleton

Year 6



Malala Yousafzai



Learning Look

Ahead of the Parents' Evenings Years 1, 2 and 3 will be holding a 'Learning Look' session for parents and carers on Friday 9th November. The classroom doors will be open for the first 30 minutes of the day for you to drop in, look at your child's learning so far and celebrate their achievements.

We hope you are free to attend 8.55am-9.25am on Friday 9th November.



Community in Action



Well done to Emma Burrridge (Rhodes Avenue parent), Robbie Sukhdeo of the Friends of Albert Road Recreation Ground (FARGG) and all the amazing volunteers from Rhodes Avenue, who sacrificed a lazy weekend morning in order to collect litter in Albert Recreation Ground. Within one hour they had collected 47 bags of rubbish! Thank you for keeping our local environment safe and clean, what a wonderful community spirit, we commend your hard work.

Extended Offer

October Half Term Club

Children attending the Holiday Club during the October Half Term were very busy indeed.

Those who attended took part in various activities: Weird and Wonderful Science, Forest School led by Dexter, Archery with Premier Sport, Autumnal Baking and a Drama & Dance workshop with Solestar.

We would like to thank leaders Wayne and Cristina for organising a wealth of activities and show great appreciation to the whole team for a successful week.

We would also like to thank all of the children (both Rhodes Avenue and non-Rhodes Avenue pupils) for their enthusiasm during this week.

The Holiday Club team are currently planning a jam-packed programme for February half term. Bookings will go live in the New Year.



Joanne Tillson
Extended Day Co-ordinator



School Governance

Dear Parents and Carers

The Governing Body is pleased to be now contributing every term to the Headteacher's newsletter. We will update you on our involvement within the school community and you can find out a little more about what we do. We are behind the scenes for the most part but work closely with the headteacher and staff to provide strategic direction and vision, to act as a 'critical friend', to challenge and to provide support.

At our governing body meeting in November, we always have a presentation from the Subject Leaders of Literacy and Maths and the Inclusion Leader to show us in detail the results for KS1 and KS2 from the past year, and plans for the coming year. This is an opportunity for governors to ask searching questions and to establish what feedback they require.

As ever, governors will be present at parents' evenings later this term and will be speaking to parents and carers to ask for feedback about you and your children. We welcome all comments, both positive and those of concern. The staff receive your feedback and it is always lovely for them to hear so many constructive comments from you and your children. If there is a concern or query that you would like to address about your child, this should be done using the usual channels ie speak to your class teacher and/or to the headteacher. If you have queries/comments of a more general nature, please do inform a governor at parents' evening giving your name if you wish so we can communicate with you further.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Governing Body has four committees that oversee finance/staff, curriculum, premises/health & safety and communications. In addition, we have lead governors who oversee the following areas:
Inclusion, STEM, ICT, Link, Safeguarding, GDPR, Health and Well-being, Governor Training.

You can find out more about your Governors on the Governors section of the school website: <https://rhodesavenue.school/our-school/governors/>
If you'd like to get in touch with us then please email rhodes.governors@gmail.com.

I'll be in touch again soon.

Best regards –

Alison Vaughan
Chair of Governors

Best wishes,

Adrian Hall
Headteacher

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