



RHODES AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

**November 2020:
Issue 2**

What a great start to the new school year! Although the world around us feels very different it is great to have a sense of 'normality' at school.

We have many exciting things planned for the half term and cannot wait to share these with you, albeit remotely, in the weeks ahead. In December you need to keep your eyes open for our downloadable Christmas performances and DVD's, our virtual Carol Concert (details on SeeSaw) and special RAPSA organized events.

Teachers learn too!

The first half term has seen the whole staff engaging in lots of new and exciting training.

Same Sea, Different Boats

The staff have engaged in training specifically focusing on a whole school COVID re-integration programme. We have explored ways the pandemic has impacted everyone although each individual experience will have been very different. The aim has been to support teachers to help create a narrative of the different experiences within the staff and with the children.

Arise – Mpula Lawton

All staff participated in training that focused on understanding unconscious bias, understanding coded language and micro aggressions and the importance of recognising race and identity within our classrooms.

We have explored racism and our own understanding, discussed privilege and mitigating unconscious bias.

As a staff we have all agreed:

We will be radically honest in our anti-racism journey

We will recognise our mistakes, biases and other preconceived notions;
interrogate them, learn from them then move on.

We will ask for help.

We will be actively anti-racist in all aspects of our life, both inside and outside of school.

We will talk to the children about race and identity.

We will make our classroom and school an anti-racist space.

We will bring tangible action; use our talents and privilege to make a difference.



School priorities for the year ahead

Priority 1:

Lead by Action and Example

Priority Target:

Leadership, at all levels, continues to enable pupils and staff to excel through high expectations and aspirations. Leaders are fully accountable for the progress, attainment and wellbeing of all pupils and staff – allowing everyone the opportunity to succeed and reach their full potential following the impact of COVID.

Priority 2:

Equality; teaching cultural identity, race and racism

Priority Target:

Equality, cultural identity and race is celebrated, promoted and taught throughout all aspects of school life. Rhodes Avenue Primary is actively anti-racist.

Priority 3:

Consistency; a key to accelerated progress

Priority Target:

To embed school priorities that enable pupils to continue to link their knowledge within and across subject areas; teachers demonstrate a deep understanding of subject content and language so pupils make sustained and substantial progress and wellbeing systems and structures enable all school members to flourish.

The school focus is not solely on COVID related issues - we continue to strive to be the best we can be - and will also be focusing on wider areas of school improvement linked to Priority 2 (ensuring equality and inclusion) and of course embedding areas of improvement from the last academic year through Priority 3.

Welcome

I would like to welcome our new school Sports Coach to the Rhodes Avenue community:

Chelsea Golding – Sports Coach



Hi Rhodes Avenue Parents and Children,

My name is Chelsea and I have been appointed as the new Sports Coach at school.

The attributes I will bring to school are positivity, enthusiasm, fun and educational lessons as well as confidence building.

I am very passionate about sports and will always look to get the best out of all children here at Rhodes Avenue.

I am very much looking forward to starting at Rhodes Avenue and being part of this amazing team. I cannot wait to get started!



Snacks and Celebrations

Fresh fruit and vegetables are provided for all children in the Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2. The children will be able to sample apples, pears, bananas, satsumas and raisins (one piece each day next week).

Children in Years 3 to 6 are encouraged to bring fruit, vegetables or a healthy alternative in for a break time snack. Please support the school by sending in sensible break time snacks, fruit or vegetables. This should not be chocolate, crisps or biscuits.

We also look forward to celebrating your child's birthday. Due to the varied dietary needs, medical conditions and COVID can we kindly ask that only treats that are individually wrapped are shared in school. Other small inexpensive treats could also be purchased to share with classes like bouncy balls, yo-yos or other party bag gifts. The children will need to pass any treats to their class teachers, as parents are unable to visit the classrooms at this current time.

Thank you for your continued support.



Chess Champions

Rhodes chess stars shine in National Final

Well done to Yr4 Pratyush and Yr3 Emily who competed amongst the top junior chess players from across the country in the U8 UK Chess Challenge Final earlier in the term.

Both had to come through a qualifying round and the Semi Finals in August to reach the prestigious Final played online in early September.

Mr Karia who runs the chess clubs at Rhodes said, 'Reaching the Final was a phenomenal achievement. Both children should feel really proud.'

'Pratyush did particularly well finishing in the top 10 - a fantastic feat amongst a field including England Juniors.'



Exploring the seasons

Year 2 have been loving their Forest school over the last term especially as the leaves have changed colours moving into a new season. Here is a sneak peak at some of the creative things they have been doing in the Spinney.



Life Skill Bingo

Following the Success of Mrs Papworth's (Sophie's) *Life Skills Lessons*, we wanted to promote further skills that could be developed at home

<p>Learning to cook a meal. It could be a starter, a main meal or a desert.</p> 	<p>Learn how to do the washing -sorting clothes -reading labels</p> 	<p>Learn to sew a button, fix a hole in a pair of socks.</p> 	<p>Care for a plant, grow vegetables or herbs.</p> 
<p>Learn basic first aid - first aid kits -calling 999 (only in emergencies)</p> 	<p>Learn how to tell the time -read analogue and digital clocks -read timetables</p> 	<p>Learn how to manage money (set up a shop), earn pocket money for jobs around the house.</p> 	<p>Learn how to clean and take care of house hold jobs -Hoovering - polishing</p> 
<p>Learn about protecting the environment - recycling -reusing - pollution</p> 	<p>Learn how to make knots -tie shoes laces - use and tie different knots</p> 	<p>Set up a restaurant at home -children to order the food, set the table use knife and fork.</p> 	<p>Learn how to use a map -use google maps to find new places - Use street view</p> 
<p>Learn some basic DIY -how to fix something</p> 	<p>Learn how to take care of a pet -what food does it need -what caring does it require</p> 	<p>Learn how to touch type on a computer using word</p> 	<p>Learn how to code using online games and resources</p> 

Can you support your child to gain a full house?

<https://rhodesavenue.school/mrs-papworths-life-lessons/>



Surprise Raffle for our staff

As you will be aware, we have been working hard on supporting the wellbeing of children at our school. Our staff INSET day on Monday 2nd November focussed on the wellbeing of our staff. School staff were surprised with a Wellbeing Raffle which was drawn by our Emotional Wellbeing Lead Governor Alison Vaughan. We reached out to local businesses one week before the event took place and would like to thank the following businesses for donating prizes to our raffle:

Cachao Toys
COOK gift voucher
David Astburys Estate Agents (Crouch End) - Banners restaurant voucher + Greens of Highgate florist gift card
Donna James, Holistic Therapist, The Garden Room - trigger point back, neck, shoulder and head massage with reflexology + reiku.
Governors - M&S gift voucher (3 vouchers)
Hampstead Butchers - hamper
Kay and Kompany - complimentary wash, cut + blowdry.
Lotus Clouds - Zoom bedtime yoga for 3-12 year olds + their parents.
Meadway Garages - free MOT
Muswell Hill Golf Club - 4 ball play any weekday
Oxygen Fit Personal Training - 1 month free membership for 2 + Oxygen Fit bag
Planet Organic - gift voucher.
Redwood Pharmacy
Slipstitch - knitting bundle.
Sunshine Garden Centre -gift voucher
Sugared & Dusted - pick n mix box
The Laboratory Spa + Health Club - 1 month's membership for two (2 prizes)
The Salon Group - Feeling Chipper gift set + Paul Mitchell bundle
Toffs Fish Bar - takeaway cod + chips
Venture Studios (Palmers Green) - Silver Photography Experience with a complimentary photo
Victoria Stakes - meal voucher.
Zebra Ceramics - gift voucher.

We would like to say a huge thank you for making our staff feel very special.



October Half Term Club

We had a wonderful half term activity club full of fun and excitement.

The children who attended took part in a variety of activities such as making paper plate Frankenstein's, crazy pumpkin faces and sea life art. We made birds of yarn, we tried our hand at blow art and created spectacular firework paintings.

We would like to thank Wayne and his team for a wonderful week. We would also like to thank all of the children (both Rhodes Avenue and non-Rhodes Avenue pupils) for their enthusiasm, excitement and kindness during the holiday club.

The Holiday Club team are currently planning a jam-packed programme for February half term and Easter. Children are grouped in bubbles, with their own designated group leader. Bookings will go live shortly on the school Money Website



Year 3 Updates

The children have loved reading their text - **Mouse Bird Snake Wolf** by David Almond. In the story, the children play God and create different creatures that spring to life and learn the repercussions of making something in haste as it may well try to eat them. Children in school and children isolating at home have been busy describing their created character in English as well as making links to Christianity and other religions.



Year 3 have had 2 digital workshops this term. The first was travelling back in time to the Stone Age. The second was a puppeteer who taught the children about one of their inspirational black role models, for Black History Month, Mae Jemison.



We can't wait to share our knowledge with children in Reception who are learning about Mae Jemison this half term.



What's happening in Owl class?

This week in Owl class we have been celebrating Diwali. We were really lucky because Amaya and her Mummy prepared a video for us to watch to share with the class how they celebrate Diwali at home. They also gave us some Diwali crafts so that each child could make their own Diva lamp to take home. The Owls also had a go at making their own Rangoli patterns using sand and stones. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about the story of Diwali.





The whole school celebrated Black History Month and learnt about black role models and influential black figures from today and from the past.

Each year group focused on 4 black figures and shared their learning with the whole school. Each day children walk past our inspirational bunting and are able to learn about a wide range of influential black role models. Some classes attended remote workshops while others explored their role models through art, storytelling or history learning.

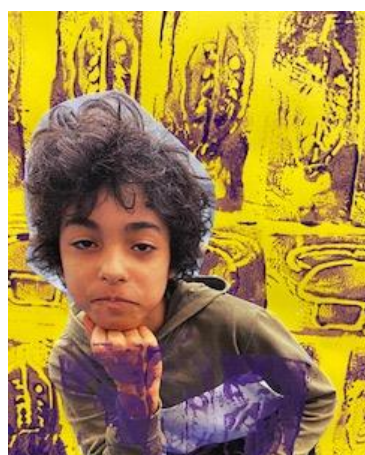


Each assembly throughout the month of October focused on teaching the children about celebrating difference, learning from other cultures and tackling racism within society. We shared stories with the younger years linking to these topics and in Key Stage 2 we explored cultural identity, unconscious bias, inspiring local heroes, acknowledging race as well as discrimination and being actively anti-racist through watching videos, reading stories and sharing peoples' experiences.



Lots of wonderful learning happened in all classrooms. Year 5 found out more about Kehinde Wiley, an American artist, who paints naturalistic portraits of everyday black people. The children not only explore Kehinde's work but also found out about the subjects he paints; before trying their hand at their own portrait.

As part of our school development we will continue to integrate black history throughout the whole curriculum as well as celebrate Black history Month each October.



Launching into Learning

For the launch of our exciting new topic 'Pole to Pole', the Year 5's were involved in an orienteering activity in the spinney. They were placed into groups, where they faced a variety of challenges placed at hidden depots in the forest. In order for them to be successful, they needed to work as a team and discuss their ideas efficiently. The children had a lovely time and learnt about working as a team and thinking logically.



Clarence Ng

Rubik Cube Challenge

James and Austin in 6AC have been working very hard on a new skill over the past few months. They have been trying to improve the time it takes them to complete a Rubik cube. Both boys started practising in lockdown and due to their determination they have both improved their times greatly.

James' starting time was 2 minutes and he has managed to get his time down to 37 seconds.

Austin's starting time was 2 minutes and he has managed to get his time down to 17 seconds.

Keep it up boys, the world record of 3.47seconds is in sight for you both!



Thank you for supporting Child in Need, the children in Early Years had great fun dressing up and completing lots of great Pudsey Bear activities.





Diwali

We would like to wish those who were celebrating Diwali this weekend happiness and prosperity. May every Diya light shine and be the bearer of hope, health and happiness.

To ensure you are as up to date as possible with our COVID procedures all documents and updated documents are available centrally on our News Feed.

<https://rhodesavenue.school/covid-19-documentation/>

Positive COVID cases can be reported at the weekend and during school holidays via the website:

<https://rhodesavenue.school/our-school/report-a-positive-covid-19-test/>

The school is always here to offer support in any way we can. We recognise that lockdown impacts families in many different ways. Following the pod closures of one infant and one junior class of this week and the increasing number of families having to isolate due to symptoms or contact, remote learning is being used within most classes daily. We will ask random parents to complete a school survey to help us to improve and adapt the school's offer. Please support the school by providing your feedback if asked.

If you or your family are impacted by COVID, please remember that although you or your child may be isolating we are never further than a phone call away.

We have food hampers available to those in need, our counselling team can offer remote consultations and we can always offer a listening ear.

Best wishes,

Adrian Hall
Headteacher



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

Nursery

and

Reception



St Nicolas



Mae Jemison

Year 1

Year 2



Dr Temple Grandin



William Shakespeare

Year 3

Year 4



Mother Teresa



Simone Biles

Year 5

Year 6



Matthew Henson



Noor Inayat Khan



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