



Headteacher's Newsletter

Friday 4th April 2025

Accent Catering

The school has completed a tender process for the school's school meals catering. Accent Catering will continue to work with us for the foreseeable future in order to deliver nutritious and delicious lunches.



School Council have been pro-active this year in meetings on focussing on school meals within school and have communicated effectively their class views on meals. We would like to thank all the parents that attended the taster and Q&A session earlier this week. Accent offered a taster table and an opportunity for parents to ask questions about their child/ren's school meals and to taste some dishes from the new summer menu.

A reminder that all menus are available on the school website as well as additional information from Accent themselves by clicking on the link below:

<https://rhodesavenue.school/parents/school-meals/>

Cars

The school has been contacted by local residents who are experiencing difficulties due to cars blocking their driveways during school drop-off and pick-up times. While parking outside school is not within the school's remit, we are receiving several messages about this issue. Please be mindful of where you park and ensure that driveways and access points remain clear. Being considerate of our neighbours helps maintain a positive relationship with the local community and ensures a safer environment for everyone.



Diary Dates

Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	Summer 1 term starts
Tuesday 29 th April 2025	Parent Gym taster session
Thursday 1 st May 2025	Smartphone Free Childhood presentation
Tuesday 6 th May 2025	Parent Gym Week 1 session
Friday 9 th May 2025	1SP Class assembly
Tuesday 13 th May 2025	Parent Gym Week 2 session
Friday 16 th May 2025	1MS Class assembly
Tuesday 20 th May 2025	Parent Gym Week 3 session
Thursday 22 nd May 2025	Class Photos

Friday 23 rd May 2025	1SG/AK Class assembly
Friday 23 rd May 2025	Eid Celebration
Friday 23 rd May 2025	Summer 1 term ends
Monday 2 nd June 2025	Summer 2 term starts
Tuesday 3 rd June 2025	School Council trip to Houses of Parliament
Tuesday 3 rd June 2025	Parent Gym Week 4
Tuesday 9 th June 2025	Nursery + Reception Sports Day
Tuesday 10 th June 2025	Reception trip to Willows Farm
Wednesday 18 th June 2025	KS1 Sports Day (morning)
Tuesday 24 th June 2025	Parent Gym Week 5
Wednesday 25 th June 2025	KS2 Sports Day (morning)
Tuesday 1 st July 2025	Parent Gym Week 6
Wednesday 2 nd July 2025	1MS trip to Woodberry Wetlands
Friday 4 th July 2025	1SP trip to Woodberry Wetlands
Tuesday 8 th July 2025	1SG trip to Woodberry Wetlands
Friday 11 th July 2025	INSET day – school closed to children
Tuesday 15 th July 2025	Year 4 trip to Celtic Harmony
Tuesday 15 th July 2025	Year 6 Leavers' Show 1
Wednesday 16 th July 2025	Year 6 Leavers' Show 2
Tuesday 22 nd July 2025	Summer 2 ends

We still need to confirm some other dates but will share these with you as soon as they are confirmed.

Educational Visits

As part of our commitment to providing enriching experiences for our pupils, we greatly appreciate parent volunteers who support our educational visits. They wouldn't be able to go ahead without your support. If you sign up to assist, we kindly ask for your full commitment to the Supporting Adult Code of Conduct, which you agree to and sign before the trip. This includes important guidelines in order to support our safeguarding procedures, e.g. not taking and sharing photos on WhatsApp.

Eid Celebration

Building on from Rhodes Avenue's first Eid Celebration last year we will be hosting another school community Eid Celebration. This will be taking place after school on Friday 23rd May 2025 (further details to follow). This celebration is for current Rhodes Avenue families only and children must be accompanied by an adult.

E-Safety

Earlier this term, Cigdem Mourat (our Deputy Headteacher - Designated Safeguarding Lead), shared information relating to an online webinar which we accessed for parents who were unable to attend the in-person session earlier in the spring term. The online world changes constantly and we would encourage all parents to arm themselves with as much knowledge and understanding as possible. Please find the link to this webinar (approximately 25 minutes) below.

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6921379960334044762>

Our school website also has lots of information to support you in keeping your children safe online.

<https://rhodesavenue.school/parents/esafety/>



Extra-curricular clubs

At Rhodes Avenue we are pleased to offer a range of extra-curricular clubs where children can enjoy a range of creative, artistic and sporting activities. Some of these clubs are run by our own school staff and others by external providers. While school-led clubs are managed entirely by our staff and follow our school's policies and procedures, clubs run by external providers operate under their own policies, particularly regarding safeguarding, health and safety, and behaviour management. However, as these clubs take place on school premises, we work closely with providers to ensure they align with our school's expectations, and we require them to meet appropriate safeguarding and safety standards. If you have any questions about a specific club, please contact either the school office if they are run by the school (School-led) or the club provider directly if they are run by an external provider (External Provider). The extra-curricular clubs on offer at Rhodes Avenue can be found on our extra-curricular clubs webpage and whether they are School-led or External Provider-led is also signposted to support you in knowing who to contact: <https://rhodesavenue.school/parents/extra-curricular-clubs/>

Game



How well do you know the age ratings for apps and social media? Play this short game to test your knowledge.

<https://youtu.be/yArKkS3Wofg?feature=shared>

How many of these are on a device which your child has access to?

Haringey SEND newsletter



Please find below the link to Haringey's SEND Newsletter (March 2025 edition):

<https://mailchi.mp/haringey/send-news-mar2025-5752703?e=02dfe20ed5>

Holi Festival



The school's annual Holi Festival took place on Friday 7th March 2025. I would like to thank the group of parents who once again this year organised the event. A total of £1717.86 was raised from the event which was shared between Horizons (which is a charity set up by Haringey Education Partnership of which Rhodes Avenue is an active member of) and the school itself. Click the link below to see the fun we had:

<https://vimeo.com/1065555485?share=copy#t=0>

Home-School Communication – emails

I'd like to remind everyone of our school's communication policy which was emailed to all parents at the beginning of the academic year. The majority of parent queries should be sent to the school office email in the first instance. This ensures that messages are properly logged, directed to the right person, and dealt with as efficiently as possible. The directory within the Home-School Communication policy can guide you as to direct email addresses for certain areas of school life.

I myself have begun to receive emails directly from parents in my personal work email address. Please be aware that emailing me directly will not speed up a response and on many occasions, the emails should have been directed to the class teacher via the reception, not me.

We aim to respond to all emails within the time frame we set in our policy. To help us manage communications effectively, I kindly ask that all correspondence is sent as stated in our policy. If there is an urgent matter which needs urgent attention please call the school office.

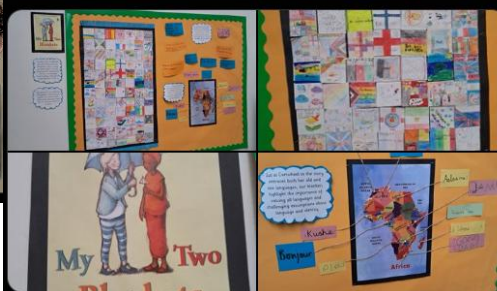
Link Display

When you attended Parent Consultation Meetings this term you may have seen some of our corridor displays. Here are some of the displays you may have missed.

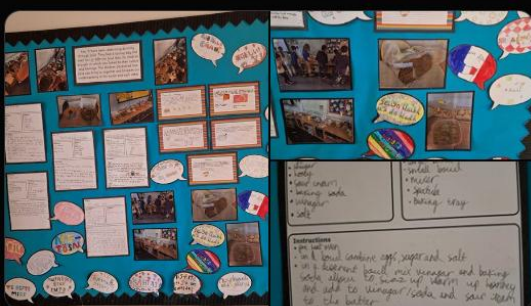
Marvelous Me. Nursery children have been celebrating the children's similarities and differences and discussing what makes each of us unique and special.



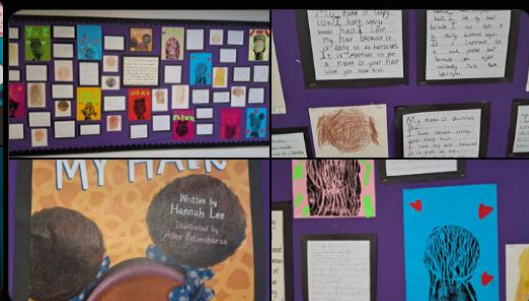
Just like in 'My Two Blankets' by Irena Kobald and Freya Blackwood, where a young child finds comfort in a new language while holding onto her own, Year 4's language diversity display celebrates their unique identities. They created their own blanket of languages.



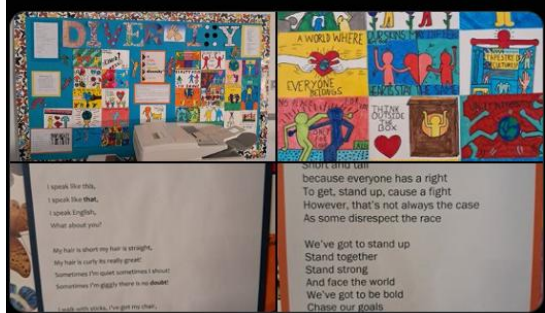
Year 5 have been celebrating diversity through food. Children brought in food which was linked to their culture and heritage. Children discovered how food can bring us together and broaden our understanding of the world and each other.



Year 2 have been exploring hair using Hannah Lee's 'My Hair'. There is a diverse range of hair and hairstyles and we should respect other people's hair and hairstyles. We must ask for consent before touching anyone's hair.



Year 6 looked at Charniele Gordon's book 'a kids book about diversity' and discovered that being different is what makes our world special. They also explored Keith Haring's art, with its simple lines and powerful messages of unity, to show how everyone is unique and amazing.



We are all unique. Reception have focused on the book 'Hair Love' by Matthew A Cherry. They have looked closely at their own hair and learnt about different hair types. Children have learnt about the need for consent, boundaries and showing each other respect.



Year 3 have been reading 'The Name Jar' by Yangsook Choi. They have been thinking about the importance and meaning of their names, their heritage and family history and the importance of respecting and being accepting of all our different cultures.



We love our names. Year 1 celebrated their names after being inspired by Anousha Syed's book 'That's not my name!'. They found out what their name means and why they were called what they are called.



Maths

Demi Jeffels (Subject Leader and Lead Practitioner for Maths) writes:

Following on from parental feedback in our initial parent Maths survey, we have been working hard behind the scenes to try to support you as parents to know what your children are learning in Maths and how you can support their learning at home.

This week Myrtle Caldeira (Early Years Maths Lead) led a workshop on Reception Maths. We were very pleased with the number of parents who were able to commit to the face-to-face session. Myrtle's session focussed on practical ideas, games and methods to help support Reception children's learning in Maths.

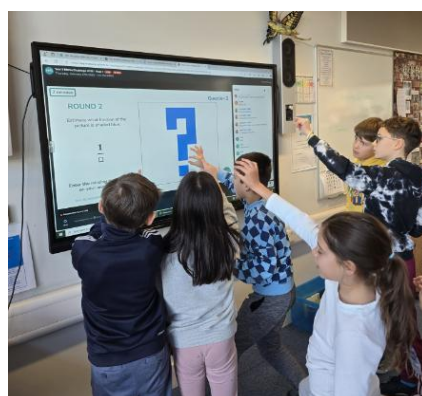
We have now launched the Maths area on our school website whereby all of the curriculum information can be found from EYFS to Year 6.

Teachers in each year group have created a range of short videos for parents/carers to use to support children with using the different written methods at home. Children may also find it useful to use these videos as a short revision session for each method. Each video outlines at what stage children will be taught the method and gives step-by-step guidance to use the written method. The aim is for them to support you in understanding how Maths is taught at Rhodes following on from your feedback on the Maths survey. They provide a snippet into the awesome learning your children do on a daily basis. Please do familiarise yourselves with this area of the website.

<https://rhodesavenue.school/our-learning/maths/>



Continuing on with our aim of raising the profile of Maths, we've continued to seek out competitions for children to take part in. Our Year 5 and 6 children have been very busy this term. We've been ever so pleased with their enthusiasm and efforts to work collaboratively and share their understanding of Maths in different contexts. We had almost 70 children across Year 5 and Year 6 enter the Primary Maths Challenge (created by the Mathematical Association) and from those results, five of our Rhodes Avenue pupils scored highly enough to be invited to enter the Bonus Round where they performed impressively well, reaching Silver and Bronze awards. We're very proud of you. Well done Ethan for achieving Silver and Freddie, Katia, Leonardo and Tonny for achieving Bronze! A huge accomplishment for all of you!



Last month, we had 20 Year 5 children enter our first ever inter-school Maths competition forming 5 teams. They competed against each other and against teams from other schools around the country. In total, 202 teams entered the competition. Although we didn't reach the finals, our children certainly did us proud and scored brilliantly. Here's a snippet of their comments straight after the competition. Listening to what the children had to say, made all of the hard work and effort to organise it, absolutely worth it!

'That was great fun. I liked it that we were working in teams to find the answers'

'It was really fun and challenging. I'm glad my parents entered me into this competition'

'It was really nice to do Maths in a group with my friends. I found it really enjoyable to share my thoughts and ideas'

'I would like to do this type of competition again. I really liked it because it wasn't one type of Maths, there were multiple types of questions to help me get better at different types of maths I haven't practised before'

'I liked the competition because I like challenging myself at Maths and those questions stretched my brain!'

Due to the children enjoying the inter-school competition so much, some of our Year 4 children are going to have a go at the Year 4 competition on the 30th April. Wish them luck!

Keep your eyes peeled for more Maths competitions coming your way. Year 3 and Year 4 will have the opportunity to enter the First Maths Challenge created by the Mathematical Association in June. There will also be the opportunity to enter a Maths poster competition and this will be open to all students from EYFS to Year 6. Further details will follow in the summer term about new initiatives.

Mikaeel plays at the Royal Albert Hall!

Congratulations to Mikaeel in Year 4 who took part in Haringey Schools Music Festival at the Royal Albert Hall. Mikaeel plays the French horn and plays in our school orchestra. This festival features young musicians, including choirs, from Haringey. We hope to be able to participate as a school more widely in this festival next academic year.



Oliver Tambo Recreation Ground

Last week School Council children supported Haringey Parks with the planting of new plants in the new Oliver Tambo Recreation Playground. Haringey Parks led assemblies for infant and junior children on water safety. Please do remind your children about water safety around the pond when visiting the playground.



Parent Gym



After several requests from parents we are pleased to be hosting another Parent Gym evidence-based parenting programme. Parent Gym is a well-established six-week programme that shares and explores practical tips and strategies to make family life easier and help your child/ren thrive.

All parents are welcome to apply and places will be filled on a first come first served basis. Through our relationship with Parent Gym the programme is FREE for parents.

When - Tuesdays, 9-11am

Dates

- 29th April 2025 - (45 min) Taster session - shorter session for you to meet the coach and find out more about the sessions.
- 6th May 2025 - Week 1: Chat - Help your family talk and listen to each other.
- 13th May 2025 - Week 2: Love – Build self-esteem and independence through secure attachments.
- 20th May 2025 - Week 3: Behave – Bring calm and order to your home.
- 3rd June 2025 - Week 4: Care – Looking after ourselves and our families.
- 24th June 2025 - Week 5: Discover – Support your children to learn and explore.
- 1st July 2025 - Week 6: Together – Look to the future and recapping key techniques

To confirm your place, please fill in the online survey below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ParentgymProgramme>

Rhodes Avenue PSA



Rhodes Avenue PSA is a registered charity which raises funds for our school. If you would like to find out more about their aims and how they work with us as a school please use the link below to see their webpage. You will also find information relating to their Annual General Meetings and guidance for the PSA Whatsapp Groups and PSA Class Rep roles. On behalf of the children I would like to thank Rhodes Avenue PSA for all of the hard work that they do to raise funds for the school for 'wishlist' items we are

currently unable to fund from within our own deficit school budget.

<https://rhodesavenue.school/parents/rapsa/>

SEN Support Meetings

Jette Rayner (SEND CO) writes: We will soon be sharing the dates for the summer term SEN Support Meetings for those children who are on the school's SEN register. Due to staffing arrangements in school, these dates are fixed and unfortunately cannot be changed. We hope that the electronic booking system difficulties experienced this term will be resolved in time so that parents have the opportunity to select a time within the set date. If your child is due an Annual Review in the summer term their SEN targets will be reviewed within this meeting.

Racial Equity Pledge

Rhodes Avenue is committed to our work Racial Equity and we have signed up Haringey's latest Racial Equity pledge for 2025-2027.



EVERY CHILD AND YOUNG PERSON IN HARINGEY MATTERS.

"Every child and young person deserves the best life chances, especially when they face additional barriers due to ethnicity and disadvantage, particularly our Black Caribbean young people. It is everyone's responsibility to make this a reality and build a culture of belonging."

is committing to:



Headteacher

Chair of Governors

1

Focused leadership and governance:

- Designated SLT and governor leads
- A specific action plan
- Regular reporting and holding to account with governors
- Recruiting and retaining for diversity among leaders and governors
- Staff training and peer review

2

Eliminating gaps for students:

- Targeting attainment and progress gaps
- Accurate and rapid SEND support
- Reviewing behaviour and suspensions
- Representation in the curriculum

3

Supporting parents and carers:

- Proactive engagement and outreach
- Resources to help their child's learning

WE CANNOT SAY WE HAVE SUCCEEDED UNTIL SUCCESS IS SHARED BY ALL

Smartphone Free Childhood (SFC)

At Rhodes Avenue, we are committed to promoting online safety. I have previously highlighted our school's support for the Smartphone Free Childhood (SFC) campaign, in collaboration with other schools in our Network Learning Community. This campaign aims to raise awareness of the impact of smartphone use on young children and encourage families to consider delaying smartphone ownership.

Rhodes Avenue's SFC Parent Leads are Miranda Yau, Jeyda Star and Rachel Ormsby. On Thursday 1st May 2025 Rhodes Avenue has agreed to host a presentation from a representative from SFC. Further details will be shared with parents but please do add this evening date to your diaries.

We want to clarify that Smartphone Free Childhood is an independent organisation, separate from the school and communications you receive are from the organisation or its representatives and not the school unless shared using the school's official communication channel - Groupcall.

The school, however, encourages all parents to learn more about their work and the research behind their recommendations. We appreciate that every family will make their own choices, but we invite you to

explore the campaign's message and consider its benefits for your child's well-being.



www.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk

Term Dates

We are aware that Alexandra Park Secondary School will be changing their autumn term dates and will now have a two-week October half-term break going forward. Rhodes Avenue's term dates remain unchanged, and our half-term break will continue to be one week as set by Haringey Local Authority. All children are expected to attend school according to the published term dates. Term-time absences can impact learning, so we appreciate your support in ensuring full attendance.

The term dates for this academic year, 2025-26 and 2026-27 are always available on the school website.

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

Vacancies

We currently have vacancies. We are currently recruiting for a class teacher who will also lead Music within school and an EYFS/Year 1 SENDCO to add to our teaching and leadership teams. We are also recruiting for a Child Specific Teaching Assistant and Admin Assistant to add to our support staff teams. All school vacancies are advertised on our school website as well as externally and we welcome candidates from all backgrounds. <https://rhodesavenue.school/our-school/vacancies/>

Vision

Do you know the missing 3 words from our school vision? Answers at the end of the newsletter.

At Rhodes Avenue, we want our children to:

Know who they are

Respect others for who they are

Never stop learning

School values:

We will act with cooperation because we are a team.

We will use creativity to learn and grow.

We will show consideration as everyone is of equal value and importance.

World Book Day

Rhodes Avenue champions the fun of reading EVERY day, not just on World Book Day. Can you spot the book characters' staff dressed up as?



Libraries play a fundamental role in learning. Alexandra Park library is FREE to use. The two-week holiday is a good opportunity to pop in and sign up as a member if you are not already a member.

<https://libraryon.org/libraries/haringey/alexandra-park-library>

I would like to wish all our families a lovely holiday. I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 22nd April 2025.

Best wishes,
Maria

Maria Panayiotou-Argyrou
Headteacher

Vision answers

The missing words in our vision are below:

At Rhodes Avenue, we want our children to:

Know who they are

Respect **others** for who they are

Never stop learning

School values:

We will act with cooperation because we are a **community**.

We will use creativity to learn and grow.

We will show consideration as everyone is of equal value and importance.