



Headteacher's Newsletter

Friday 2nd May 2025

Diary Dates

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

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

Early Reading

Kirsty Spittle (Early Reading/Phonics Lead) writes:

We have created an Early Reading webpage on our school website which provides a range of valuable information, resources, and practical guidance designed to support parents in understanding how we teach early reading and how you can support your child's early literacy development at home. We strongly encourage parents to visit the webpage to gain further insight into how we teach these foundational skills in school, and to explore ways in which you can effectively support your child's learning at home.

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

Footwear

As part of our School Uniform policy (link below), we would like to remind everyone about the importance of appropriate footwear. While our school does not have a uniform, our policy does state that shoes should be sensible, closed at the front, and not open-toe or flip-flop style.



This is to ensure the safety and comfort of all pupils during the school day, including playtimes and physical activities. Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a safe and practical learning environment for all.

<https://rhodesavenue.school/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/School-Uniform-summer-2022.pdf>

Haringey Poetry Competition

Over the last two years we have held several internal poetry competitions and we were very excited to get involved in a Haringey poetry competition last term which was judged by a local poet, Cheryl Moskowitz. The theme for the competition was 'Future' and three pupils from each year group were selected for the final. Cheryl then chose a winner and a runner-up for each year group. There were eight different primary schools involved and the standard of the poetry was incredibly high so we were very impressed by how well the Rhodes Avenue pupils did. Congratulations to all the poets who entered but a special mention to the Rhodes Avenue winners and runners-up.

Year 1 runner-up: Elliot

Year 2 runner-up: Alice

Year 4 winner: Annie

Year 6 runner-up: Sofia

Year 6 winner: Ethan



Year 1 Elliot's poem

The Future

At the age of thirteen
I will not be mean
And I will keep my room nice and clean.

And one day I will have a son
I will have candy floss with him
And maybe even a bun.

I will bury a box in the garden
And put in it my favourite toy
For the next people to enjoy.

Year 2 Alice's poem

The Sea

Waves splash to the shore,
Hitting rocks as they go back in.

Here come people about to have a swim,
Now and then, the shore remains as it always will.

Haringey SEND newsletter

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

<https://mailchi.mp/haringey/send-news-apr2025-5753181?e=8837f264a8>



Parent Gym

There are still some spaces left on this term's ParentGym 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. Through our relationship with Parent Gym the programme is FREE for parents.

When - Tuesdays, 9-11am

Dates

- 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 [this online survey](#).

Physical Activity Survey

Nina Watson (KS2 Physical Education Subject Leader) writes:

We are asking parents/carers to complete a short survey to help us understand the physical activities their children take part in – both in school and outside of school. This information is important as it will help us ensure we are providing a broad and engaging range of physical activities in school. It will also help us to identify any gaps in the opportunities available for children to be active, and help us to support the well-being and health of all pupils. Furthermore, this information will help us identify other types of extra-curricular clubs which could be offered.

The survey is simple and should only take a few minutes to complete. We kindly ask that one survey is completed per child to give us the most accurate picture.

You can access the [survey here](#).

Thank you for your time and support—your feedback will help us continue to promote an active and healthy lifestyle for all our pupils.

Scooters

Lots of children are arriving at school with very similar—or even identical—scooters. It's becoming increasingly difficult to distinguish which scooter belongs to which child. To help us keep things organised and avoid mix-ups at the end of the day, we kindly ask all parents and carers to clearly label their child's scooter with their name.



Smartphone Free Childhood (SFC)

Last night the school hosted a 'Parenting in the Digital Age' led by Smartphone Free Childhood. You could sense the Collective Power all evening. We support children's childhoods being smartphone free.



Childhood is too short to be spent on a smartphone.

www.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk



Suncream and Sunny Weather

As we begin to enjoy warmer and sunnier days, we would like to remind you of the importance of protecting your child from the sun while they are at school.

Please ensure that your child arrives at school with suncream already applied. Staff are not able to apply suncream to children during the school day, so it is essential that this is done at home before school. We also recommend sending your child in with a named sun hat and a water bottle to help them stay safe and comfortable in the heat.

We kindly ask that you check the ingredients of any sun cream sent in with your child. Rhodes Avenue is a nut-free school. Please ensure that the product does not contain almond oil or any nut-based ingredients, as we have children and staff in school with severe nut allergies. Your support in helping us maintain a safe environment for all is greatly appreciated.

The London Society's 2025 Love Letters to London writing competition



Natasha Morgan (English Subject Leader) writes:

As well as following our writing curriculum and teaching children different writing techniques and skills, we are always looking for ways to encourage writing for pleasure! Writing poetry can be a particularly good way to encourage a love of writing as poems allow pupils to be creative and imaginative and don't have to be really long.

All pupils are given the opportunity to do some 'free' writing in school time and we also run some creative writing groups at lunchtime. In the Year 5 and 6 Creative Writing Club, we enter external poetry and short story competitions.

We are extremely proud to announce that three of our members have been recognised for their poetry in the last couple of months. Well done Ray, Maya and Maelis!

Ray's wonderful poem, London Dreaming, won the The London Society's 2025 Love Letters to London writing competition.

Maya and Maelis' beautiful and thoughtful poem, A Blank Canvas, was awarded second place in an international poetry competition run by Never Such Innocence about 'conversations of conflict'.

Ray Butt
London Dreaming

Traffic on the North circular...
But it is what it is.
It is where I see the everyday hustler,
The builder, the bus driver, the carpenter.
Red lights,
Shuffling traffic,
car fumes,
No flower blooms
On the roadside, I see a man
selling balloons, if he can.
I see a woman holding a sign,
begging for anything, anything is fine,
Everyone trying to get somewhere
The misery burdening my eyes
My head filled with all the lies
People say time flies -
Not on the North Circular
But then again, it is what is...

But just imagine if it wasn't
Imagine if it was something other...
If delivery drivers went on strike
And everyone chose to go by bike
More trees and less concrete
People playing music in the street,
Buildings; canvases for graffiti
A place to write the city's peace treaty
DJ'S at every bus stop

The pavement a dance floor,
where you can pop
where you can never stop, nor flop!
24H football pitches at every corner,
The best city to be a baller,
Stars are our nightlights
Our future looks bright.
There still might be some down days
but we'll have reasons to look up
And keep dreaming...

Blank Canvas

A blank canvas, an opportunity for life.
It looks peaceful, but it is not.
It is empty. A few strokes of paint.
Trees start to form, soon animals too.
Even us, humans. And so we live
alongside each other. Until deep red hit the page.
Jealousy and lies, power became an obsession.
Everyone wanted it, but didn't get it
But the people that did, didn't deserve
People started taking sides,
and shapes soon became lines
A tangle of mixed feelings, the colours turning brown.
Hate turns to violence, and violence turns to death.
Black engulfs the page, and once more it is empty.
But in a far corner, there is a single speck of white paint.
Hope.
We are in this world as one.
We are brush strokes upon a blank canvas.
If we work together, we can work it out.
Just don't add the wrong colours.



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 [REDACTED]

School values:

We will act with cooperation because we are a community.
We will use [REDACTED] to learn and grow.
We will show consideration as everyone is of equal [REDACTED] and importance.

Year 4 Maths Competition

Demi Jeffels (Lead Practitioner for Maths) writes:

This week several Year 4 children participated in a National Maths Competition. This was a team competition whereby children had to work together collaboratively in order to solve very challenging questions in multiple rounds. They were competing in teams against other Rhodes Avenue pupils as well as school teams from across the country. The children were very excited to see whereabouts children in other teams had joined in from. During the competition, there was a time limit for each question, so each team member had to work speedily and collaboratively with their peers, to answer each question before the time ran out. Children thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to apply their mathematical knowledge and teamwork skills to solve problems, putting their reasoning and communication skills to the test.

'I found that it good that we worked in teams because we could each take a part and you had to agree on the answer which sometimes was a challenge'.

'I thought it was really nice that we had to cooperate and explain our thinking to each other, especially when one person disagreed with the others and we got to think mathematically to explain our reasoning'.

100km in May for Horizons Charity

I (along with one member of staff from all schools within Haringey Education Partnership - HEP) have agreed to walk 100km in the month of May in order to raise money for Horizons – HEP's charity, to support children and young people across Haringey and Enfield to access life-changing extra-curricular activities. I have dusted the treadmill I was bought for Christmas in 2023 (and have not used like I intended to) and aim to complete my 100km on my treadmill with a daily target of 3km. Rhodes Avenue benefits directly from this charity and I am proud to do my bit in return as part of Team Horizons.

I will shortly be sharing a Justgiving page with you should you wish to contribute to this cause. I will be held accountable for this challenge by

Rhodes Avenue children and I look forward to updating them on the challenge I have set myself, the difficulties I may find, the resilience I will need to demonstrate and the progress that I will make due to having a positive mindset (of all of which are things we have been working on this year as part of our whole school work on Resilience). Day 1 (yesterday) – complete! Day 2 (today) – complete!



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.