



Headteacher's Newsletter

Friday 13th June 2025

Our whole school newsletter will now be published more frequently, rather than just at the end of each half term. This change will help us keep you better informed about school events, celebrations, and important updates as they happen. It also gives us the opportunity to share more regular glimpses into the fantastic learning and achievements taking place across the school. We hope this helps strengthen our connection with you and supports even more timely communication.

App Competition winners

Alison Davies (Lead Practitioner for Computing) writes:

I am thrilled to announce the resounding success of this year's 'Make it Happen' App Competition, once again inspired by JP Morgan! This exciting event saw an incredible outpouring of creativity and ingenuity from our children, with over 300 entries submitted across Years 2 to 6. A big thank you to JP Morgan's Sophia Stock for all her amazing work organizing, judging, and celebrating our winners and runner-ups this year! Her dedication really helped make everything run smoothly and kept everyone inspired. The imagination and problem-solving skills demonstrated by all participants were truly great, making this competition a wonderful celebration of innovation within our school community. A huge well done to everyone who took part and dared to dream big! Why not play Zaccy's app! Here is the link: https://thinkable.site/w/LcH_8sKl6mtGsTUP2rS7Z



WINNER: Zaccy Draper – Year 2 My Healthy Week



Runner up - 1 Ralph Rhodes
Super Story writer



App name: Super Story writer
App icon: Super Story writer

Runner up - 2 Denis K,
Ultimate Tag



App name: Ultimate Tag
App icon: Ultimate Tag

Art and Wellbeing

Rosie Sawyer (Art Subject Lead) writes:

We were delighted to work with Dr Cressida Amiel. She asked if she could have some art for brightening up her GP surgery space and to support making her patients feel better. 2MG were set the task of doing this and three fantastic artworks were made by Ruben, Dylan and Henry to be framed. Runners up were also chosen to be framed and they were Maxa, Alexander and Thea and Robyn who made a joint piece. It was really nice to see the children thinking about and making art that they felt would benefit people who are unwell.



Chess teams in the National Primary School Chess Semi Final

It was a tough chess day for the children in the school U9 and U11 chess teams competing in the National Primary Schools Chess Championship Semi Final held last weekend at King's College School, Wimbledon.



U9 Section

U9 A team - Ethan, Ezra, Alexander, Lenny, Amaya and Daniel - scored a respectable 11.5 points. They played teams from Sheen Mount, King's College, Latymer, Bancroft and Eltham College.

U9 B team - Charlie, Vera, Keir, Evie, Sonnet and Alyssa - faced teams from St James, Bancroft, Hereward House, and Hampton Hill.



U11 section

U11 A team - Leo, Luke, Ethan, Alex, Jonathan and George - scored 13 points. They played teams from Pointer's School, Bishop Gilpin, Hampton Hill, Sheen Mount and Vineyard.

U11 B team - Ray, Makar, Miks, Aidan, Tobias and Lucas - had a tougher chess day. They faced teams from Vineyard, Weston Park, St James, Wimbledon Chase and Belmont Primary scoring 9 points.

U11 C team - Ethan, Hooud, Dimitris, Sebastian, Philippos and Kostandinos – finished on 12 points. They faced teams from Sheen Mount, Hampton Hill, Belmont Primary, Vineyard and Wimbledon Chase.

All the children in the U9 and U11 teams should be really proud of competing at this level and against some of the top chess schools from London and the South East. The experience of playing chess at this level will add to their bank of chess knowledge.



Child Safety Week

Last week was Child Safety Week. The Child Accident Prevention Trust has free parent packs that can be downloaded, e.g. keeping safe from burns, toy safety, button battery safety. Please keep on the link below to access your pack: https://capt.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/250325_Parents-Pack-1.pdf

Dylan at the EIH Draft Showcase

At Rhodes Avenue we love to celebrate our children's achievements inside and outside of school. Well done to Year 3's Dylan for attending the England Ice Hockey Draft Showcase in Sheffield last month. Dylan trained with top coaches and made friends with other ice hockey players of his age from across the country. <https://englandicehockey.com/>



Eid Celebration

Thank you to everyone who joined us for yesterday's whole-school Eid Celebration. It was a truly joyful occasion and showcased a shared spirit of togetherness. We are so grateful to our incredible team of volunteers – our army of helpers – whose hard work and dedication made the event such a success. We will share the total amount raised for the school and for UNICEF very soon – thank you for your generosity and support. Events like these are a reminder of the strength and warmth of our school community. Celebrating together reflects the values we hold at Rhodes Avenue – community, cooperation, creativity and consideration. Thank you for helping us bring these values to life.



Empathy Day

Aileen Cronin (Interim Ourselves and Others Lead) writes:

Rhodes Avenue celebrated Empathy Day this week. The children watched an assembly by Frank Cottrell-Boyce and took part in activities that supported them and inspired them to understand and put empathy into practice.



EYFS Sports Day

We were delighted to celebrate a wonderful EYFS Sports Day earlier this week, where our Nursery and Reception children took part with great enthusiasm and joy. It was heartwarming to see their energy, determination, and teamwork shining through in every race and activity. A big thank you to Chelsea (our Sports Coach) for organising such a fun-filled morning, the Year 6 children who supported the event and to all the families who came along to cheer.



Haringey SEND newsletter

Haringey SEND newsletter Please find below the link to Haringey's SEND Newsletter (June 2025 edition):
<https://mailchi.mp/haringey/send-news-june2025-5753976?e=8837f264a8>



Headlice



We have had some persistent cases of headlice in a few classes recently, and we kindly ask all parents to check their children's hair regularly. Headlice are very common in school-aged children, and while they are nothing to be alarmed about, treating them promptly helps prevent them from spreading. There are a range of treatment options available, including natural remedies such as regular wet combing with conditioner, as well as over-the-counter treatments from pharmacies. Thank you for your cooperation and support in helping us manage this issue effectively. For more guidance on identifying and treating

headlice, please visit the NHS website: www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits

Online Safety

Following a recent incident reported to us that occurred outside of school, we are urging all parents to immediately review the parental controls and filtering systems on all devices accessible to your children. The websites/resources linked below offer clear guidance on setting up parental controls, managing screen time, and ensuring age-appropriate content.

NSPCC

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>



Ensuring these safety measures are in place is essential to help protect children from inappropriate content and online risks.

Reception trip to Willows Farm

Our Reception children had a fantastic time on this week's trip to Willows Farm. It was a day full of excitement, learning, and laughter whilst meeting friendly (and not so friendly!) animals. The children were wonderful ambassadors for our school – curious, polite, and full of enthusiasm throughout the visit. Trips like these are such a valuable part of early learning, helping children connect with the world around them and build memories that last. A big thank you to all of the volunteers who made the day such a success.



Road Safety

We have recently received reports of several near misses involving children and cars outside of school in different locations at drop-off and pick-up times. This is understandably a serious concern, and we are urging all families to speak with their children about the importance of road safety — including using crossings, staying

alert near traffic, and not stepping into the road unexpectedly. Please take a few moments to have this important conversation at home. We also ask all drivers to remain extremely cautious and considerate when near the school, especially during busy times.

School Council trip to Houses of Parliament

Our School Council recently had the exciting opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament in London. During their visit, they toured both the House of Commons and the House of Lords, learned about how laws are made, and discovered the important role debate and discussion play in decision-making at a national level.

The visit was a fantastic way to deepen their understanding of democracy and representation — values that are central to how our own School Council operates. Just like MPs, our councillors are elected by their peers and work to represent the views and ideas of their classmates. This experience has inspired them to think even more deeply about their roles and how they can make a positive difference in our school community.



Science



Catriona Donnellan (Science Lead) writes:

We are pleased to share that our Science curriculum webpage has been newly updated to give parents a clear and detailed overview of how we teach Science at Rhodes Avenue. We encourage all parents to take a look and see how our young scientists are exploring the world around them. You can view the page by visiting our school website and clicking on the link below:

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

Smartphone Free Childhood (SFC)

Giving a child a Smartphone is your decision as parents. As a school we will educate the children and provide you with the information to support you to support your children like we provide information for subjects. This is a conversation worth having, and I encourage you to explore the resources available through Smartphone Free Childhood if you're thinking about this for your own family.

Some further takeaways from the recent parent event's presentation:

1. Children are changing - teachers have observed significant changes in children's language, noting a sharp rise in racist, sexist, and misogynistic remarks.
2. Children are changing - there is a record number of children wearing glasses because of short-sightedness.
3. Children are changing - 40% of 2 year olds now have their own I pads.

<https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/>



In collaboration with schools in our Network Learning Community, Rhodes Avenue will shortly be sharing with all parents our Mobile Phone policy which will come into operation in September 2025.

Spinney

On behalf of the children, I wanted to thank Rhodes Avenue PSA for funding the recent addition to our school Spinney. The staff and children have enjoyed using the new structure which has been created. Rhodes Avenue PSA has previously fund raised for an outdoor classroom within our Spinney. Next year, increasing learning opportunities outside of the classroom for all will be a priority area for the school and we are very lucky to have our own spinney for outdoor learning on our school site.



Summer Fair poster winners

A reminder that Rhodes Avenue PSA's Summer Fair is on Sunday 22nd June 2025. There were many poster entries for the poster competition and the winning poster entries (judged by Maria and Cigdem) are from Mia (2MG), Arina (5AG) and another which unfortunately did not have the winner's name on. Please let the school office know if your child's poster is below and we haven't announced their name so we can congratulate them.



Supporting educational visits

We are very grateful to parents who volunteer to support educational visits. In order to support our Safeguarding procedures, we always request parents: agree, sign and abide by our 'Supporting Adult Code of Conduct Code of Conduct'. A reminder of the following request on the Code of Conduct - 'I will not take and share any photographs/videos of children whilst on the trip or after the trip, e.g. on social media, chat groups etc'. Not all parents give consent for photographs of their child/ren to be shared and this is a reminder for any supporting adult to respect parental wishes. The Code of Conduct will shortly be updated to also include not taking and sharing any photographs/videos of staff whilst on the trip or after the trip. Parents found to have not abided by the Code of Conduct will not be permitted to support educational visits going forward.

Tesco Stronger Starts

Catriona Donnellan (Science Lead) writes:

As part of Priority 3 of our School Development Plan 'One World – Doing our part' we would like to develop further our Sustainable Garden in order for children to sow, tend, harvest, cook and eat crops from our school garden and to develop an understanding of sustainability and a healthy lifestyle. The school has recently been notified that it has been successful in gaining the most votes from the Tesco Stronger Starts votes in stores and has been awarded £1000 to spend towards this project.



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 [redacted] with cooperation because we are a community.

We will [redacted] creativity to learn and grow.

We will [redacted] consideration as everyone is of equal value and importance.

Year 6 at Bruce Castle

As part of their History learning on the Windrush, Year 6 visited Bruce Castle Museum. Children viewed the Windrush 75 'The Grip' Exhibition and immersed themselves in the rich culture and history of the Windrush generation in order to support their learning. Tickets for this community-led exhibition are free for families interested in visiting.

<https://www.brucecastle.org/events/exhibition-launch-windrush-75-grip>



100km in May for Horizons Charity

I (along with one member of staff from all schools within Haringey Education Partnership - HEP) agreed and have completed walking 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 walked 100km on my treadmill and in my local parks. Rhodes Avenue benefits directly from this charity and I am proud to have done my bit in return as part of Team Horizons. Should you wish to contribute to this cause please click on the link below.



https://www.justgiving.com/page/maria-panayiotou-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL&utm_campaign=015

Best wishes,
Maria

Maria Panayiotou-Argyrou
Headteacher

Vision answers

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.