

Headteacher's Newsletter

22 July 2025

Dates for the diary

Monday 1 st September 2025	INSET day
Tuesday 2 nd September 2025	INSET day
Wednesday 3 rd September 2025	Autumn 1 st half starts
Friday 24 th October 2025	End of autumn 1 st half
Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st October 2025	October half term
Monday 3 rd November 2025	Autumn 2 nd half starts
Wednesday 26 th November 2025	INSET day
Friday 19 th December 2025	End of autumn 2 nd half

Family activities in Haringey

Family Cycling Sessions: Lordship Recreation Ground Model Traffic Area

SCAN ME

booking@wheelytots.com
www.wheelytots.com
07397902255
UK registered charity no. 1161237

Parent and Toddler Balance Bike Saturdays 10:00 - 10:45

Family Bike Club Learn to ride Saturdays 11:00 - 11:45

Borrow or buy a bike!

Living Well Haringey

Haringey SEN newsletter

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

<https://mailchi.mp/haringey/send-news-july2025-5754388?e=8837f264a8>



Headteacher for the day

Year 6 Evie Murphy was recently Headteacher for the day. It was a busy day for Evie which included: monitoring attendance figures for the day, undertaking a health and safety walk, agreeing Purchase Orders, conducting a learning walk plus more. Evie also made time for a lunch and for a walk with her dog!



Choir Concert and Orchestra Concert

We were delighted to host a truly uplifting choir concert last Friday, showcasing the incredible talent and dedication of our junior children. The concert was a huge success, with children performing a varied programme of songs that they had worked hard to prepare over the last year.

From group numbers to powerful solos, the choir impressed us all with their confidence, musicality, and teamwork. A huge well done to all of our choir children and a heartfelt thank you to Dan Shafran and Veronica Chacon for their energy and commitment in bringing the performance together.



Last Wednesday the school's orchestra held an Open Orchestra session for their parents. A heartfelt thank you goes to Dan Shafran for his dedication, and to our families for their ongoing encouragement of our musicians. Most of all, thank you to the children themselves for their hard work and enthusiasm.

Leaver

We would like to thank teaching assistant Jo Jordan who is leaving Rhodes Avenue at the end of term. Joanne joined Rhodes Avenue in 2017 and has supported many children with special educational needs. This year Jo led outdoor learning sessions in our spinney. We wish Jo luck with the next step in her Forest School journey.



Maths Buddies

Myrtle Caldeira (Reception Class teacher + EYFS Maths Lead) writes:

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our dedicated parent Maths buddies for their invaluable support and weekly commitment to working with our children. Your time, enthusiasm, and willingness to share your knowledge has made a real difference—not only in helping to build confidence and skills in Maths but also in showing our children that learning can be both challenging and fun. Thank you for being such an important part of our school community. We are truly grateful for the positive impact you continue to volunteer each week.



Maths Challenge

Demi Jeffels (Lead Practitioner for Maths) writes:

This week, we had the pleasure of holding a very special assembly to celebrate the fantastic achievements of our pupils who took part in *The First Primary Maths Challenge* back in June. It was an uplifting occasion filled with pride, applause, and—true to the spirit of the competition—a healthy dose of mathematical curiosity!



This was the first time Rhodes Avenue Primary School entered the challenge, and what a wonderful debut it was. Sixty of our brilliant young mathematicians from Years 2, 3, and 4 stepped up to take part in what was a truly demanding and exciting experience. The challenge itself featured 20 tricky questions designed to stretch thinking and encourage creative problem-solving—no easy feat, yet our children embraced it with enthusiasm, determination, and an impressive sense of fun. We were especially proud to see even our Year 2 pupils joining in—a group not originally expected to take part—demonstrating incredible courage and a love of learning well beyond their years. It was a joy to watch the children approach each question with curiosity and creativity—there were certainly a few puzzled expressions along the way, but that only made the ‘aha!’ moments all the more satisfying! Their resilience and positive attitudes shone through from start to finish.

The results were a fantastic reflection of the children’s efforts. A special mention to our two highest scoring participants scoring 90% goes to Julian L and Isaac C in Year 4. Our highest scoring Year 2 child Raphael M achieved 75% as did our highest scoring Year 3 child Auden S. What amazing records to set!

In this week’s special Maths celebration assembly, the hall was buzzing with energy. Children in the audience were visibly inspired as they listened to their classmates and friends discuss some of the mind-stretching questions they’d tackled during the challenge. There were bright smiles, bursts of laughter, and plenty of eager hands in the air as pupils had the chance to try out a few of the questions themselves—proving that Maths really can spark excitement and a sense of adventure! Our message to all pupils in the assembly was clear: we are incredibly proud of every one of you for stepping up to this challenging experience whilst trying your best, showing a positive attitude, and embracing something new! For those who enjoy maths and don’t mind a tough challenge, we hope you’ll consider taking part next year—just remember, it’s not always easy, but it’s a wonderful opportunity to take risks, step out of your comfort zone and stretch your thinking!

If you’re up for a bit of brain-teasing at home, why not have a go at some of the questions together as a family? Just be prepared—you might find them trickier than expected, and don’t be shocked if your child beats you to the right answer!

Maths Challenge Question 1:

A 3x3 grid with numbers and symbols. The grid is as follows:

1	4	
	5	

Arrows indicate operations: a vertical arrow pointing down with a '+' sign, and a horizontal arrow pointing right with a 'x' sign.

Numbers to the right of the grid: =24, =54, =280.

Numbers below the grid: =12, =11, =22.

A single digit will be in each box.
Working across you must multiply the digits.
Working from top to bottom you must add the digits.
Which digit will be in the shaded box to make the grid correct?

Gee O'Metry has used straight lines to draw this star.
How many triangles are there in total?



A 4 B 5 C 6 D 7 E 10

There are 42 children in Mr. Singer's class.
28 children play violin, 10 play piano, and 7 play both violin and piano.
How many children do not play violin or piano?

A 7 B 11 C 13 D 21 E 31

The ages of three children add up to 23 years.
The youngest is half the age of the middle child.
The middle child is 3 years younger than the oldest.
What age is the youngest child?



A 4 years B 5 years C 6 years D 7 years E 8 years

Pencil Cases

Next academic year we would like to continue to support children's independence by continuing with the introduction of pencil cases introduced this academic year for Year 2 – 6 children in order for all children to be responsible for their stationery items. We would like to request support from parents in supplying a simple pencil case to hold their stationery in. The pencil case used this academic year can be re-used. If families are able to we would also be grateful for some name-labeled stationery items for your child. Many children already bring in their own pencil cases and stationery items and the school will continue to supply stationery as normal for all children if families are unable to purchase items on the wish lists.

Year 2 Wish list	Year 3 Wish list	Year 4 Wish list	Year 5 Wish list	Year 6 Wish list
2 x writing pencils 1 x rubber 1 x glue stick 1 blue pen 1 sharpener	2 x writing pencils 1 x rubber 1 glue stick 1 sharpener 1 small ruler 1 yellow highlighter 1 pair of scissors 1 black pen* 1 blue pen* Coloured pencils * Erasable pens are desirable on the wish list but not vital.	3/4 x writing pencils 1 x rubber 1 x glue stick 1 x container sharpener 1 x small ruler 1 x yellow highlighter 1 x blue biro pen 1 x black pen* Coloured pencils * Erasable pen is desirable on the wish list but not vital.	2 x writing pencils 1 rubber 1 glue stick 1 sharpener 1 small ruler 1 yellow highlighter 1 pair of scissors 1 black pen 1 blue pen	2 x writing pencils 1 rubber 1 glue stick 1 sharpener 1 small ruler 1 yellow highlighter 1 pair of scissors 1 black pen 1 blue pen

Reading for pleasure

Sophie Papworth (Reading for Pleasure Lead) writes:

If you would like to keep your child reading over the Summer here are some ideas to support you. Local libraries have also set up a Summer Reading Challenge that you can sign up for. There are lots of book ideas, all with a nature theme. There are tips for supporting your child to read independently and to support them learning to read.

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk>

You might also like to use these ideas to make reading fun.



Reception

Kirsty Spittle (Reception Year Group Leader) writes:

We were incredibly proud of the Reception children when they performed in their end of term show. Maria told the children they demonstrated our school values by working cooperatively, showing consideration towards each other and by demonstrating creativity. They certainly did! They danced, sang and made us all cry happy tears!

We would like to say a huge thank you to Jessica (JK) for all her hard work, passion and dedication this year in the children's weekly Dance sessions. Her energy is infectious and the children have loved dancing with her each week.

We would also like to thank Margaret Stow (retired Nursery Nurse) who comes to volunteer in the early years. She has been very busy making salt dough sunflowers with the children this half term. We really appreciate the time she spends with each child, her artistic flare and child-centred approach.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Reception parents for your continued support this year. It has been wonderful having parents come into class to talk about their culture, share celebrations, talk about their jobs, music, dances and do fun activities with the children.



Year 6 Leavers Show

Last week, we had the immense pleasure of watching our talented Year 6 children take to the stage for their Leavers' Show – a vibrant and heartfelt production of Matilda. It was a truly outstanding performance that captured not only the energy and imagination of the story, but also the very best of our school values.

Throughout the rehearsal process and on the night itself, the children showed incredible cooperation, supporting one another both on stage and behind the scenes. Whether it was helping with costumes, learning lines together, or offering encouragement before curtain-up, their teamwork was inspiring to see.



The performance also celebrated the power of creativity. From expressive acting and powerful singing to imaginative set design and choreography, every element of the show reflected the children's unique talents and ideas.

Our sense of community was strong throughout the experience, as staff, families, and children came together to make the show a success. The laughter, applause and pride in the room reminded us all of how special it is when we celebrate our achievements together.

Finally, the children demonstrated great consideration—for one another, for the characters they portrayed, and for the audience. We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 children. As they prepare to move on to new adventures, they leave behind a shining example of what it means to live our school values.

Mobile Phone policy

We will be introducing a new Mobile Phone Policy from 1st September 2025. From this date forward, children will not be allowed to bring any mobile phones into school.

Term dates

A reminder that Alexandra Park Secondary School has changed 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/>

I would like to wish all our families a lovely holiday. I look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday 3rd September 2025.

Best wishes,
Maria

Maria Panayiotou-Argyrou
Headteacher