



## Headteacher's Newsletter

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025

It has been a good start to the academic year, and we are incredibly proud of how well the children have settled back into school routines. A very warm welcome to all of our new starters in Nursery and Reception as well as the new starters who have joined us in other year groups. We are delighted to have you as part of our school community and look forward to the year ahead together.

### Being School Ready

Thank you to all families for making sure children are on time to school so that learning starts promptly at 8.55am. We know that some of you have had to adapt to new routines when moving around the school site and your efforts are greatly appreciated.

It is very important that children arrive at school fully prepared for the day ahead. This includes bringing all of the necessary items they need, e.g. water bottles, PE kits and home learning returned on the set day.

Last academic year the school office experienced a growing number of interruptions during the day with items being dropped off after the school day had begun. While we understand that occasional oversights happen, minimising these disruptions helps us keep the school day running smoothly and allows our office staff to focus on their work and teaching staff to focus on supporting teaching and learning uninterrupted. It also helps strengthen our safeguarding procedures as entry to the premises is reduced.

If your child forgets their water bottle they can have water from the water fountains and if they forget their PE kit they can borrow a PE kit from the school office. Bringing forgotten items into school during the day may seem helpful in the moment, but long-term, it's important for children to take responsibility for their belongings and learn from these experiences.

### Dates for the diary

| <b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025</b>                  | <b>Years 1-6 Open Classroom (3.45-4.30pm)</b>     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025                           | End of autumn 1 <sup>st</sup> half                |
| Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2025 | October half term                                 |
| Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025                           | Autumn 2 <sup>nd</sup> half starts                |
| Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2025                          | Bookings for Parent Consultation Meetings go live |
| Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2025                          | Parent Consultation Meetings                      |
| Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2025                         | Parent Consultation Meetings                      |
| Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2025                       | INSET day                                         |
| Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2025                         | Reception Dance Show                              |
| Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025                          | End of autumn 2 <sup>nd</sup> half                |

### Haringey SEN newsletter

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

[SEND Newsletter: back to school support, youth clubs, parent workshops & more](#)



### INSET days

All schools have 5 INSET days every academic year. An INSET day is a professional development day. All school staff started the academic year with two INSET days full of training. Staff in school completed their annual Safeguarding

training and also had Maths training on Number Sense and Automaticity as well as training on Trauma Informed Practice. The next INSET day is on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

### **Open Classroom for Years 1-6**

On Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025 Year 1-6 parents are invited to attend an Open Classroom session. This session will follow the children's first month in their new class/year group. It is an informal session which provides you with an opportunity to visit your child's classroom, meet your child's class teacher, and to ask any questions you may have about the year ahead following the curriculum letter you will have received. This is an optional session but we do encourage attending as the autumn term Parent Consultation evenings are not until November.

Children will be dismissed as normal at the end of the school day. At 3.45pm the external classroom doors will open for the Open Classroom. Year 5 and 6 parents can access their child's classroom using the Year 5 and 6 stairwells. In order to support our safeguarding procedures, we kindly request that parents do not enter the school building via the classrooms as we will have our extended day and extra-curricular clubs still in operation during this time. The Open Classroom session will end at 4.30pm and children should be with their parents at all times.

### **Outdoor Learning**

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Ivana Grant, our new Outdoor Learning Teacher, who will be working with Year 1-3 children in our Spinney this academic year. Ivana is a passionate advocate of outdoor learning, and she is eager to bring her skills and experience to Rhodes Avenue.



The aim is to deliver well-structured outdoor activities that are both meaningful and engaging—something that is often difficult to achieve indoors. She will cover areas of the National Curriculum while linking them to activities inspired by Outdoor Learning.

Outdoor learning will follow the seasonal changes, and the plan is to be outside *rain or shine*. It is therefore essential that children are dressed appropriately at all times. Please ensure they have waterproof trousers and a jacket, wellies or sturdy shoes, and, during the colder months, warm layers such as fleeces, socks, hats, and gloves on the day Ivana will be taking them. Ivana says there is no such thing as bad weather—only unsuitable clothing.

### **School Priorities 2025/2026**

As well as the school's performance data at the end of last academic year we were also very pleased with the progress and achievements made with the main whole school priorities we worked on last academic year. This academic year our whole school priority areas are as follows:

#### **Priority 1: Rising Numbers**

##### **Priority Target:**

To further strengthen the teaching and learning of Mathematics by developing number pedagogy, deepening fluency and understanding, and fostering a culture where Maths is meaningful, engaging, and enjoyable for all members of the school community.

#### **Priority 2: Safe, Seen, Supported**

##### **Priority Target:**

To strengthen the school's approach to wellbeing, behaviour, and relationships by enhancing staff knowledge, embedding supportive systems, promoting equity and attendance, and deepening partnerships with families and the wider community.

#### **Priority 3: Learning Beyond the Walls**

##### **Priority Target:**

To use the outdoors to help children learn, feel calm, work together, and enjoy nature through Forest School, Outdoor Learning, and fun experiences beyond the classroom.

### Term dates

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/>

### Year 3 trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum

Last week Year 3 children visited the Chiltern Open Air Museum as part of their History topic Stone Age to Iron Age.



### Year 6 trip to October Gallery and British Museum

This week Year 6 visited the October Gallery in order to explore the creative work based on the artist Owsus Akomah. They also visited the British Museum in order to explore the Benin exhibition by taking a close look at the Benin Bronzes as part of their History 'Benin' learning.



Best wishes,  
Maria

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Headteacher