



Headteacher's Newsletter

Friday 1st May 2026

Dates for the diary

Friday 8 th May 2026	2CN Class Assembly
Monday 11 th May 2026	Year 5 trip to Pendarren
Monday 11 th May 2026	Year 6 SATs week starts
Friday 15 th May 2026	Year 6 Picnic
Monday 18 th May 2026	Year 2 trip to Palmers Green Mosque
Wednesday 20 th May 2026	Isabel Squirrel workshop for parents
Thursday 21 st May 2026	Class Photos
Friday 22 nd May 2026	Year 6 trip to Plexal
Friday 22 nd May 2026	End of Summer 1 st half term – normal school finish times
Monday 1 st June 2026	Summer 2 nd half term starts
Monday 1 st June 2026	Year 6 trip to PGL
Monday 8 th June 2026	6MD trip to Bruce Castle
Monday 8 th June 2026	Nursery + Reception Sports Day
Tuesday 9 th June 2026	6CD trip to Bruce Castle
Tuesday 9 th June 2026	1MG trip to October Gallery
Friday 11 th June 2026	6EL trip to Bruce Castle
Friday 11 th June 2026	6CD trip to Linnean Society
Friday 12 th June 2026	1LC Class Assembly
Thursday 18 th June 2026	6MD+6EL trip to Linnean Society
Friday 19 th June 2026	1SP Class Assembly
Friday 19 th June 2026	Orchestra Concert
Monday 22 nd June 2026	1LC trip to October Gallery
Tuesday 23 rd June 2026	1SP trip to October Gallery
Friday 26 th June 2026	1MG Class Assembly
Tuesday 30 th June 2026	6CD trip to Royal Society
Tuesday 7 th July 2026	Nursery trip to farm
Wednesday 8 th July 2026	Year 6 Show – Show 1
Thursday 9 th July 2026	Year 6 Show – Show 2
Thursday 9 th July 2026	Reception trip to Willows Farm
Tuesday 14 th July 2026	Open Classroom
Friday 17 th July 2026	End of Summer 2nd half term – normal school finish times
Monday 20 th July 2026	INSET day – school closed to children

Breakfast Club Staffing Update

Following 14 years, Wendy Armah has decided to step down from her role as Breakfast Club Lead. We would like to thank Wendy for everything she has done for our Breakfast Club which began with only a very small group of children based in the current Woodpecker building to a very popular morning service which has grown year on year.

We are pleased to announce that Maria Ktorou has been appointed as Breakfast Club Lead. She writes:



I have worked at Rhodes Avenue since 2015 and am currently a Nursery Nurse in Hedgehog Nursery and have 32 years' experience in childcare in nursery and primary school settings. I have an NVQ Level 3 qualification in Children's Care Learning and Development and a CACHE Level 5 qualification in Leadership for Health and Social Care and Children and Young People's Services. As a Breakfast Club Leader, I will continue to support working parents, ensuring that your child is well looked after and starts the day ready to learn, with a safe, warm and fun environment. I look forward to working with the Rhodes Avenue families in my new capacity.

Community Garden

Catriona Donnellan (Subject Leader for Science) writes:

I am delighted to share the exciting progress of our new school and community garden. Thanks to a small grant and generous donations from RAPSA, we have been able to bring this project to life. A fantastic team of parent volunteers generously gave their time and energy to clear out the old beds and prepare the space for planting. Now, the children have taken the lead—sowing seeds and nurturing young seedlings with great enthusiasm. The garden is already becoming a vibrant space for learning, teamwork, and connection, and we look forward to watching it grow in the months ahead.



Fourth Plinth

Rosie Sawyer (Specialist Art Teacher) writes:

Have you heard of the fourth plinth? It's one of four plinths each standing at the corner of Trafalgar Square. Three of the plinths display historical figures but sadly the budget for the project ran out and the fourth plinth stood empty for over 150 years! In 1999 the project was complete when the fourth plinth became a showcase for contemporary art. The artwork changes every two years and often explores current issues using unusual materials.

This year, Year 6 students have been entered for The Fourth Plinth Schools Award having designed 3D artworks for the plinth! The children worked really hard on these and had some fantastic ideas 😊 Please have a look for your child's artwork on the link below:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/arts-and-culture/current-culture-projects/fourth-plinth-traffic-square/fourth-plinth-schools-awards-2026>

Stay arty Rhodes Avenue!



Outside My Tent



Inclusive World



Isabel Squirrel Workshop – rescheduled date

Parent seminar Isabel Squirrel (UKCP Child Psychotherapist) will be returning to Rhodes Avenue on Wednesday 20th May 2026 (11am start) to lead a parent seminar on anxiety. As parents you are the first to notice when your child is feeling anxious and it is often hard to know what to do and when to act. Isabel has particular experience in working with children with anxiety. In this seminar she will explore with parents:

- What is normal anxiety
- When to seek professional help
- How to support your child with anxiety effectively
- Top tips to strengthen child mental health
- Time to go deeper together with Q&A



There is a charge of £10 per adult attending. Please email the school office if you would like to attend and the charge will be added to your payment account. Unfortunately, you will still be charged should you not attend the session.

Sports Days

Save the date!

Nursery – Monday 8th June 2026 – morning

Reception – Monday 8th June 2026 – afternoon

Chelsea Orridge-Golding (Sports Coach) will be sharing further details (including timings) shortly about the Nursery and Reception Sports Days. We are awaiting confirmation from Haringey Parks before we share the dates of the Infant and Junior Sports Days.

Learning across the school

Children have been very busy and focussed with their learning this half term. Here is a snapshot of some of the learning across the school.

Andrea Clover (Woodpecker teacher) writes:

Woodpecker children have been making fruit caterpillars.



Kirsty Spittle (Reception Year Group Leader) writes:

The Reception children have been busy getting creative! Recently they really enjoyed attending the special World Art Day. It was a great opportunity for them to join KS1 and learn about different forms of art, skills that are needed and how important it is to express ourselves. The children also learnt that art work can convey important messages. Once they were back in their classrooms they experimented with lots of different mediums to create their own art work. They took inspiration from the artists Georgia O'Keeffe and Henri Matisse. We transformed our space into an art gallery for them. We have been so impressed by their imaginative work, confidence and independence. The Reception children have also been excited about watering their bed of sweet peas and strawberries. They want to say a big thank you to the community gardening team. Jasper said "I felt really good when I watered them. The watering can was heavy at first. I felt calm and I want to see them grow!"



Sophie Papworth (Year 1 Year Group Leader) writes:

Year 1 are settling well into their Summer term learning. We are enjoying our new Geography topic 'All Around the World' and our Science 'Plants' topic. We have been on a Spring walk to look for signs of Spring, we have learnt how to type and edit text on a computer and we have learnt all about the Equator, North and South poles and the countries of the United Kingdom. In English we are enjoying a new book 'Pattan's Pumpkin' set in India. We are learning how to multiply and divide in our Maths learning. In Music we are learning how to play the glockenspiel.



Aileen Cronin (Year 2 Year Group Leader) writes:

Year 2 kicked off the Summer Term with a fantastic International Day. We held an event to celebrate and learn about the different cultures of families within our year group. We were really lucky to have lots of volunteers who came in and shared so many exciting and interesting things about their culture and heritage. We were learning traditional dances, learning to write and speak in different languages and learning so many new interesting facts to name a few! The children absolutely loved it and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful volunteers who gave up their time take part in this day with us.



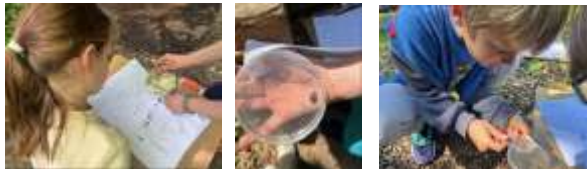
Joseph Nutch (Year 3 Year Group Leader) writes:

We enjoyed a visit to Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara, where the children learned about Sikh beliefs and practices, showing respect by covering their heads and exploring the importance of equality and community. In English, we have been working on Varjak Paw in both reading and writing. We used a hot seating activity to discuss Varjak's emotions when deciding if he should stay with Elder Paw or leave to seek help. In Art, the children have been developing their observational drawing skills through detailed plant and botanical sketches, both in the classroom and outdoors.



Elaine Gambin (Year 4 Year Group Leader) writes:

In Science Year 4 have been identifying minibeasts in the Spinney through the use of classification keys.



Annie Ray (5AR class teacher) writes:



Gold Gold Gold! This term, Year 5 travelled into the heart of the City of London to visit The Bank of England Museum to learn more about the economy and finances. Olive in 5AR described the museum as a "very fascinating place" and the children discovered how to spot real or counterfeit money using UV torches and magnifying glasses (the money was real and totalled over £3000!). We sat on benches made out of old money, held a real gold bar and stood above the £400 billion worth of gold that is kept below the building in the vast vault. We also discovered that the value of gold changes each day - on Wednesday 22nd April, it was worth £1.4 million pounds (more than the week before). Next week it will be 5AJ's turn to visit so they will be able to tell us if the price is still going up!

"The gold was really heavy" Dana, 5AR

"The cold felt so cold" Yazan, 5AR

"Only really important people are allowed in the vault" Etta 5AR

Outdoor Learning

Meghan Grove (Outdoor Learning Lead) writes:

Over the last few months, teachers and children at Rhodes Avenue have been finding ways to take their learning outdoors. I joined Year 4 for a great Maths lesson in the Spinney where they used natural resources to make shapes and then measured the perimeters. Year 5 also enjoyed some outdoor Science for their learning on Forces. Key Stage 2 teachers have all attended training with our Outdoor Learning Specialist teacher Ivana where they tried out ideas for outdoor learning based on the year group's curriculum.

With the weather finally starting to warm up and spring on the way, it's a great time for you get outside with the family and enjoy some fresh air together. Spending time in nature is not only fun, but it can also do wonders for children's mental health and wellbeing. Being outdoors gives children space to run, explore and use their imagination, while helping them relax, reset and take a break from screens and busy routines. Even a simple trip to a local green space can turn into a little adventure—whether it's spotting wildlife, climbing trees, playing games, or sharing a picnic. We are lucky to have a range of free spaces in North London that you can visit.

Have you been to all of these places?

Parkland Walk <https://www.parkland-walk.org.uk/>

Camley Street Natural Park <https://www.wildlondon.org.uk/nature-reserves/camley-street-natural-park>

Woodberry Wetlands <https://www.wildlondon.org.uk/nature-reserves/woodberry-wetlands>

Freightliners Farm <https://www.freightlinersfarm.org.uk/>

Kentish Town City Farm <https://kcityfarm.org.uk/>

Tottenham Marshes <https://www.visitleevalley.org.uk/tottenham-marshes>

Walthamstow Wetlands <https://www.wildlondon.org.uk/nature-reserves/walthamstow-wetlands>



Parking

The school has received a complaint from a resident living on Rhodes Avenue regarding ongoing issues with parents parking across private driveways, particularly at pick-up time. The resident explained that vehicles are frequently left blocking access to their home, sometimes unattended, causing significant disruption. This has affected both their personal life and their work, including preventing clients from accessing or leaving their property and causing distress, particularly for elderly visitors.



This is not a new issue which we have had to write to parents about. We ask all parents and carers to be considerate when parking and to ensure that they do not block or obstruct residents' driveways at any time. Even a short stop can cause real difficulties for others. Your cooperation is essential in helping the school maintain respectful relationships with our neighbours.

Primary Maths Challenge Bonus Round

Demi Jeffels (Lead Practitioner for Maths) writes:

We are delighted to announce that the results of the 2026 Primary Maths Challenge Bonus Round. Nationally more than 61,000 children took part in the challenge, demonstrating impressive mathematical thinking and problem-solving skills. 3,100 pupils who scored 21 marks or higher were invited to participate in the Bonus Round, held in February 2026. Rhodes Avenue had 5 children from Year 6 who entered and scored the following:

Ethan -SILVER

Freddie - BRONZE

Katia - BRONZE

Tonny - BRONZE

Leonardo - BRONZE

Congratulations to all Rhodes Avenue children who took part in this year's Challenge.

Smartphone Free Childhood



Last week children in Years 4 + 5 took part in Safer Screen Workshops. Children explored how the internet and screen use influence their everyday lives. Children explored how they spend their time online and are supported to make informed choices that promote their wellbeing. The workshops also examined how persuasive technology shapes behaviour, helping children develop healthier digital habits. Here are some top tips to support you with healthier digital habits as a family.

Please find below the link to the 'The Boy Who Played Outside' video:
[#ScoretheWorld 2022 Competition entry - Reece Vigelskas - The Boy Who Played Outside](#)

Screen Time for Under 5s

The UK government has issued national guidance on screen time for children under five years old. Evidence shows that too much solo screen use can affect language, sleep, social skills and healthy weight — but not all screen use is equal. Small changes make a big difference.



Haringey SEN newsletter

Please find below the link to Haringey's SEND Newsletter (April 2026 edition):

<https://mailchi.mp/haringey/send-news-april2026-5758210?e=02dfe20ed5>



SEND

Free consultation with a Haringey Educational Psychologist

For parents/carers concerned about their child's development, learning, emotional well-being or behaviour

Educational psychologists support schools, early years settings, families and children around issues including development, learning, literacy, emotional well-being, behaviour and mental health

Book a free 45-minute session to:

- Discuss your concerns
- Get expert guidance
- Create a plan of support

Register at <https://shorturl.at/0EWN> or scan the QR code below:



ADHD WORKSHOPS

Does your child have ADHD, are they on the waiting list for assessment or do they present with needs in this area?

- Come along and hear about helpful information and strategies
- Open to all parents/carers
- Meet other parents and professionals

Upcoming Workshop Dates and Topics

27th April - Building relationships and connecting with your child
12th May - ADHD and the workday: strategies at home
18th June - ADHD and autism: managing co-occurrence
19th July - Taking to your child about ADHD

The workshops will take place at:
Chestrute Community Centre, N15 5EN

10- 11:30am - Presentation
11:30 - 12pm - Discussion (optional)

Sign up here:
<https://sendpowerharingey.eventbrite.com>



Webinars for parents and carers

delivered by
Haringey Educational Psychology Service

Emotional regulation and Emotion Coaching

- For parents/carers of children of all ages
- Wednesday 6 May 2026 from 10pm to 1pm

This webinar will focus on supporting parents to learning strategies and ideas to help their children manage their emotions. It will introduce Emotion Coaching, an approach to help children understand and regulate their emotions.

Building connections with your child and managing behaviour challenges at home

- For parents/carers of children of all ages
- Wednesday 24 June 2026 from 12pm to 1pm

This webinar will focus on supporting parents to build and maintain positive relationships with their children and to put strategies in place to manage any behavioural challenges.

Future webinars

Please send any ideas for topics for future webinars to educationalpsychology@haringey.gov.uk

Sign up



Scan this code to register or visit
<https://sendforharingey.com/webinar/11202602026>



Early Intervention for Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA) needs

Online Parent/Carer Conference
19 May 2026

- Date: Tuesday 19 May 2026
- 9.30am to 12.30pm
- Format: Online
- Cost: Free

This online conference is for parents and carers who would like to learn more about early intervention for EBSA and how we can affect school attendance.

Presentations from:

- Educational Psychology Service (EPS)
- Language and Autism Support Team (LAST)
- SEND Power Parent Carer Forum
- Education Welfare Service (EWS)
- Guided Emotional and Mental Health Support (GEMHS)
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)
- Home Education Team
- And more

Register for the session:
<https://shorturl.at/0EWN>



Choosing a Secondary School Family Workshop

Providing guidance and support for parents/carers of children with SEND in year 5 or below transitioning to secondary school

- Thursday, 7 May 2026
- 10am to 11.30am
- Online via Microsoft Teams

Join us to learn about:

- How secondary schools support children with SEND
- How to choose the best school for your child's needs
- The transition process and what to expect
- Hear from a range of speakers about their experiences

A recording of the session will be sent out afterwards. Please register if you wish to receive it.

Register:
forms.office.com/e/bvT3kd0w



Updates on the Schools White Paper and SEND Consultation

The Department for Education has published new proposals for future changes to education and SEND support.

Families, young people and professionals can read the plans and respond to the national consultation, which is open until **18 May 2026**.

Parents, carers and all professionals are encouraged to talk to children and young people about the consultation and support them to share their views.

[Updates on the Department for Education's Schools White Paper and SEND Consultation | Haringey Council](#)

Best wishes,
Maria

Maria Panayiotou-Argyrou
Headteacher