

Rockcliffe Manor News

Friday 9th September 2022

The first week of term in September is one of our favourite times of the year! It has been wonderful seeing all of the children settle straight into their new classes and there has been a buzz around school as the children see their friends. It feels like we have never been away! This September has seen us welcome some new families to our Rockcliffe Manor community too, whether in Nursery, Reception or further up the school, we hope our new children and families feel the warmth of the Rockcliffe Manor family.



As a school community we have spent the last week exploring our school values and re-visiting what they mean to us and how we model them in all aspects of our lives. At the beginning of the week, we held our first assembly of the year, within this we explored that our experience of having new shoes can help us to understand how we feel at times of change. On the positive side, shiny new shoes can make us feel proud. The downside is that at first new shoes can feel strange and uncomfortable. Before long the new shoes become as comfortable as the old ones! We likened this to the children's feelings at the start of a new term. They may feel uncomfortable, worried or nervous, but that feeling will pass.

With that said, the children have settled back into their new year groups extremely well and jumped straight into their learning with enthusiasm. All of the staff are very proud of them. This week Nursery have enjoyed meeting their new teachers and peers. To support the transition, they have been playing a variety of ice breakers and turn taking games to learn each other's names. The children have really enjoyed their week and have continued to grow in confidence as the week has developed. The children have also taken on a variety of responsibilities around the classroom demonstrating our character skill Integrity as they have taken ownership for their learning environment, showing how we can care for and look after our class. This is what some of our nursery children had to say ...

'I love my school, it is so much fun'. – Saxon

'I know all my friends' names'. - Emily

'I'm happy to have my teachers back'. - Violet




Let's take a look at what year 3 have been up to this week. The children have also been building relationships with each other and their teachers by a range of different activities and team building games such as 'How are we connected?' where a piece of string showed how they were all connected to each other in some way.



ROCKLIFFE MANOR
PRIMARY SCHOOL

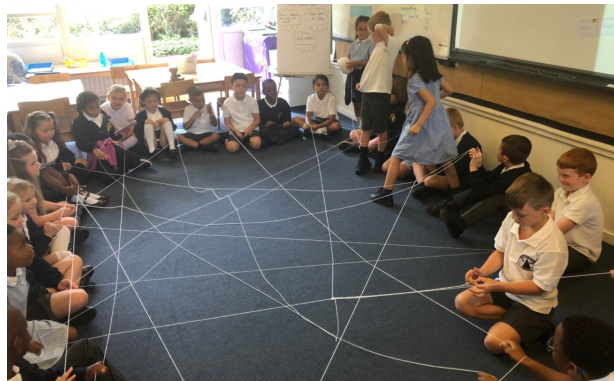
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Rockliffe Manor News

They have also had their first ever French lesson, where they discovered all the different languages they already had in the class, as well as exploring French culture, customs and Geography. The children in year 3 also had their first ever Ukelele lesson, where they showed patience, a growth mindset and effort! Year 3 have also impressed their teacher with their maths skills, where they have been exploring the number 100 and counting all the way to 1000. Year 3 children shared ..



'I'm excited to help Miss Basi teach French as I already know some! Je m'appelle Albie B!'. - Albie B

'I love maths because I love counting in tens' - Tochi

'It was fun to do the games because there was no winners or losers, we just had fun getting to know our teacher!' – David

It's been a fantastic start to year 6 so far too! The children have settled in well and are already showing great effort in all of their learning. They have been working on their computing skills, taking part in team building games in and out of the classroom, learned about mountain gorillas in the Congolese jungle and met all their new adults that will be helping them this year.



'It's been a great first week back!' - Ethan

'I like using the iPads to help us with our learning.' - River

'Did you know there are less than 350 mountain gorillas left in the wild?!' - Olivia

'I programmed my Flappy Bird to make different sounds when you push it.' - Ruby

At Rockliffe Manor we love to share the exciting learning which is happening within our classrooms, we regularly use Twitter to share learning with our community and as a platform to interact with our children and families. Please follow us if you don't already. You can find us using the twitter handle [@RockliffeManor](https://twitter.com/RockliffeManor).

As we move into the autumn term, we are thinking about our school development plan priorities for this year and we plan on holding a parent's meeting, to share these priorities with you, more details to follow. We look forward to holding more whole school events and bringing our community together. We are excited for what this year will hold!



Rockliffe Manor News

Queen Elizabeth II 1926-2022



It is only right that we acknowledge the sad news which moves our country. Today, we wake with a country mourning the loss of a great monarch. Her Majesty the Queen dedicated her life to dutifully serving her country and through her reign we can learn so much. As a nation it is our time not only to mourn her loss but to keep her memory alive and to continue to learn from her life. The Queen once said, on staying strong, *"When life seems hard, the courageous do not lie down and accept defeat; instead they are all the more determined to struggle for a better future."* And on love *"Grief is the price we pay for love."*

May we all take time today, tomorrow and the next day to reflect on just how precious life is. Within this newsletter we have included some guidance on how to speak to children about this historic moment, which we hope you find useful.

We very much look forward to seeing everyone back to school next week and hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

With very best wishes, Mrs Cook and the Rockliffe Manor team

Speaking to children about the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Queen Elizabeth II has died aged 96 after 70 years of service. We can be sad and mourn that she has died but also celebrate her life and know that she will be free from pain and suffering.

Unpacking Emotions

We can feel many different emotions when somebody dies. There is no right or wrong way to feel. **Invite children to share how they are feeling, do not be afraid to share your own feelings as well.** Sometimes it is easier to describe how an emotion makes our body feel than find the right word for it. A child may not show the same emotional response as an adult, and it is alright if your child does not respond in the way you expect, there may also be a delayed response as children pick up on and mirror the emotions shared by adults around them.

You might want to explain that the country and world will spend time mourning together, this is because many people will feel sad and want to show respect for who the Queen was. We can be emphatic; thinking about how the family and close friends of the Queen must be feeling at this sad time.



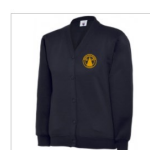
Rockliffe Manor News

We are pleased to advise that all Rockliffe Manor branded school uniform is now exclusively available to purchase at JK Clothing.

You can visit them in store at 14 Wellington Parade, Sidcup, DA15 9NB

Or by visiting our dedicated page on their website:

<https://www.jkclothing.net/product-category/schools/blackfen-store/rockliffe/>



Autumn Term 2022	
Term 1 Begins	Term 1 Ends
Children return on Monday 5 th September 2022	Children's last day of school Friday 21 st October 2022
Half Term Monday 24 th October – Friday 28 th October 2022	
Term 2 Begins	Term 2 Ends
Children return on Monday 31 st October 2022	Children's last day of school Friday 16 th December 2022
School Closures	
INSET Days: Thursday 1 st and Friday 2 nd September 2022	
Spring Term 2023	
Term 3 Begins	Term 3 Ends
Children return on Tuesday 3 rd January 2023	Children's last day of school Friday 10 th February 2023
Half Term Monday 13 th February – Friday 17 th February 2023	
Term 4 Begins	Term 4 Ends
Children return on Monday 20 th February 2023	Children's last day of school Friday 31 st March 2023
School Closures	
Summer Term 2023	
Term 5 Begins	Term 5 Ends
Children return to school Monday 17 th April 2023	Children's last day of school Friday 26 th May 2023
Half Term Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June 2023	
Term 6 Begins	Term 6 Ends
Children return on Monday 5 th June 2023	Children's last day of school Friday 21 st July 2023
School Closures	
Bank Holiday: Monday 1 st May 2023	
INSET Days: Friday 23 rd June 2023	

Rockliffe Manor News

We are pleased to inform you that the negotiation of a new contract with our current school meal suppliers, Chartwells, has meant that we are able to reduce the cost of a school dinner to **£2.10** per day (£10.50 a week) from September 2022.

Rockliffe Manor School has its own kitchen and meals are prepared daily by our wonderful chef Gail. There is a choice of meat or vegetarian main dish, salad and dessert with water available throughout meal times. You will find the current menu until October 2022 attached.

Free School Meals

Children in years Reception to Year 2 are all entitled to free school meals as part of the universal meal scheme funded by the Government.

Free school meals are available to children from Years 3-6 whose parents are in receipt of eligible benefits including:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400.
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by HMRC.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

If you think you are entitled to Free School Meals, please go to <https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals> if the application is successful, please do let the school know as soon as possible so we may make the necessary arrangements. If you have any problems accessing the online application, please contact the school office.

Finally, please may we remind you, for administrative purposes, that we ask you to make the choice for school dinner or packed lunch on a termly basis and keep the school office informed of any changes.



Special Educational Needs (SEN) Provision in Greenwich

Dear Families,

The SEN team are currently looking at plans to develop new provision locally and need to get input from families. They have created a question for you to share your views.

The questionnaire will be open until 30/09/22. Please click on the link below to share your voice: <https://www.menti.com/4ao3xqtd4o>

It's really important they get as many different views as possible to support the decision making. This is a great opportunity to give feedback on the provision in our community across Greenwich.



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Happy Birthday to:

*until Friday 23rd September 2022

Alissa	Year 6
Celine	Reception
Kairo	Reception
Gabriel	Year 5

Dates for your diary

- Monday 12th September—9AM Parent Network Group
- Wednesday 14th September 2022—Year 5 Swimming lessons
- Monday 19th September—After School clubs begin
- Monday 24th October 2022 —Friday 28th 2022 October Half term
- Friday 11th November 2022—Staff Inset Day

Attn all Year 6 parents

Don't forget to look at the Royal Borough of Greenwich website for the [Secondary School Admissions](#) Booklet and more details how to make your applications. We will hold parent workshops in the coming weeks.

Royal Greenwich is promoting the updated '**Benefits for children at school**' leaflet which summarises the main sources of help available for low-income families.

We hope that this will help ensure that parents don't miss out. We encourage borough residents to contact the Welfare Rights Service to check that they are not missing out on extra help and support.

[Benefits for children at school" factsheet](#)

A GREAT FUTURE STARTS HERE.

Greenwich secondary students achieve great things.

Your child can **BE GREAT IN GREENWICH.**

Apply for a Greenwich secondary school now.
royalgreenwich.gov.uk/admissions

ROYAL borough of GREENWICH