Friday 21st October 2022

Wow, who can believe that we are already at the end of our first half term of the academic year! 7 weeks of learning and laughter, it has been truly joyous to witness and I for one am very proud of all that has been achieved. Autumn 1 has been a fantastic term, the children have settled marvellously and we have seen such progress across the school, this is celebrated in each classes' published outcomes. This week, the staff and children have been busy publishing their writing outcomes and finishing their art pieces, which have been hung with pride around the school. Please do visit our Twitter page @RockliffeManor to view them!



Today, we say au revoir to Miss Nelson, goodbye until we meet again. Miss Nelson is now taking her maternity leave embarking on her new chapter. Her love and commitment to the school community in the time Miss Nelson has been with us has been felt by all and we will miss her greatly. I am sure you will join me in wishing Miss Nelson lots of love and luck as she embarks on a new chapter of her life. We look forward to sharing the news of her bundle of joy with you all in the coming weeks.

Next half term we will be welcoming Ms Bywater to Rockliffe Manor, Ms Bywater will be providing leadership capacity to Rockliffe Manor in Miss Nelson's absence. There may be some of you who remember Ms Bywater as she has supported Rockliffe in the past, this week Ms Bywater reminisced that she remembers teaching the current year 6 children back in Reception! I am sure you will all welcome Ms Bywater to the Rockliffe family.

Next half term is a very exciting one with lots of events planned over the winter period. The days are getting darker but we are hoping to light up the night with our first firework night event, on Friday 4th November, a letter has been sent about this today, we hope to see you all there! We have also planned our Winter Fair, Winter Discos, Nativity and Christmas concert. The dates will be shared with you after half term.

And from the classrooms this week...

This week JLT got to meet their first visitor as a newly formed group. Chartwells, our school dinner provider, came in to discuss the children's attitudes to school dinner and for them to look at the new menu for after half term. The JLT showed off their leadership skills when thinking not just about what they like about school dinners but also what their peers do as well. When asked what their favourite part of school dinners were, Ikechukwu was very excited to say 'I love the vegetables!'. The children also discussed why those who do not have school dinners don't, Mason added his thoughts 'maybe they do not like school dinner because there is not a lot of mash on the menu, I really like mash'. Louise, the Chartwells representative, reassured Mason that there were indeed mashed potatoes on the menu for Autumn 2. The JLT showed great skills in their first visitor meeting and we are looking forward to seeing how they continue their leadership journey over the coming year. After half term, the team will meet to start plotting out their new school development plan for this academic year, information will be shared around this soon!





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Reception this week, the children have been learning about the character skills and how they link with the school's values. They have been discussing what kindness, responsibility and respect looks like through their literacy learning and talk time sessions. Mikail said 'I am captain integrity because he is kind to his friends and Ezri was showing captain relationships because she respects her friends by listening to them when they are speaking. Throughout the week, the children have been working hard to demonstrate the different values. The children could be seen wearing the coloured capes around the school. Jamie was very proud to be captain leadership, showing responsibility and being a role model to others in the classroom.

Year 3 this week went on an exciting journey to the Horniman Museum. Year 3 had an excellent time exploring real stone age artifacts from the different periods of the stone age. They learnt a lot from this experience and have shared lots of their new facts with friends at Rockliffe! Year 3 have also done some fantastic stone age art this week using paint, tea and coffee! This is based on the idea that in the stone age they had to use charcoal, leaves, mud and blood to do drawings on the caves!

'I can make a real life connection to the stone age, as construction sites and farming now have lots of machinery and technology to build things, but in the stone age they had to do everything with their own hands, and instead of cement they would have mud'. - Elaina

'I loved the trip to the Horniman museum because I learnt so much from the artifacts as it made it seem more real!' - Jake

Year 6 have had a great time learning about the origin of 'grits', a traditional American food staple - which was part of their DT fortnight. They particularly enjoyed making the grits over in reception and then showcasing them at the Word Cafe...even if they were a bit on the salty side! Across all curriculum areas, Year 6 have been increasing their digital literacy use with apps such as Google Jamboard and Google forms; this was particularly effective as they used it to vote for their class JLT representatives. Finally, they're publishing is well underway now and they are all very excited to see their work put on display for this term.





'Making the grits was great fun, but they were way too salty for me!' Cienna

'I didn't know that the Native Americans first started cooking with corn before the European settlers arrived.' Lilly

'I worked really hard on my publishing this half term and I'm really

proud of it.' Archie

We hope you all have a wonderful half term break and we very much look forward to seeing everyone back at school on **Monday 31**st **October**.

May you take this time to rest and make memories.

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





Friday 21st October 2022

Diwali

The annual celebration of Diwali falls on Tuesday 25 October 2022.

Here are some top tips to follow to stay safe while celebrating in style:

- Make sure candles and oil lamps are placed a distance away from soft furnishings
- Children need to be supervised at all times around naked flames



Make sure your home has a smoke detector and check the batteries regularly. Smoke detectors save lives. If you would like to book a free home fire safety visit from the London Fire Brigade for advice on how to keep your homes safe, please call free on 0800 028 4428

Fireworks

If you're celebrating by lighting up the skies, here's a few tips you should follow:

- You can buy fireworks three days before Diwali from licensed shops.
- For the majority of the year, it is illegal to set off fireworks (including sparklers) between 11pm and 7am. However, for Diwali the cut off is 1am.

When buying fireworks, always look for a CE mark to make sure they're safe to use



Bonfire Night—5th November 2022

This year Bonfire Night falls on **Saturday 5 November**, however, you may start to hear fireworks a few weeks prior to the day. Blackheath Fireworks will not be going ahead this year.....However Rockliffe Manor will be hosting our own event this year—please see the letter for more information.

Free meals for kids during school holidays

The council is ensuring that regular meals are available for all children and young people within the borough during school holidays. Food is served at multiple locations across the borough, and there's no age limit for children, meaning that nutritious meals are readily available and families continue to receive support outside of school term time.

Meals are available throughout October half-term. just turn up and tuck in!

<u>Please click here for the full list of</u> venues







Attendance



Happy Birthday to:





Reception	87.98%
Year 1	87.3%
Year 2	88.51%
Year 3	94.07%
Year 4	84.92%
Year 5	81.48%
Year 6	95.83%
Total	87.07%

Reception David Year 1 David Year 2 Arthur Year 3 Elia Year 4 Veer Year 5 Charlie B Year 6 Cienna

Merits

Zaiden	Year 1
Abrielle	Year 2
Joseph	Year 2
Osaiah	Year 4
Julian	Year 6
Ana	Year 2
Hannah	Year 3
Eslem	Year 5
Malachi	Receptio

Diary Dates

Dates for your diary

- Monday 24th October 2022 —Friday 28th 2022 October Half term
- Monday 31st October 2022—DEADLINE for secondary school applications
- Wednesday 2nd November—Vancols Individual and Siblings School Photographs
- Thursday 3rd November—8.50—9.15am Parent Reading Morning
- Thursday 3rd November—Rocket Themed Lunch
- Thursday 24th November—8.50—9.15am Parent Reading Morning
- Friday 25th November 2022—Staff Inset Day
- Thursday 15th December—8.50—9.15am Parent Reading Morning
- Friday 16th December—Last day of term



The Young Greenwich Health school nursing service are offering a parent drop in session on Tuesday 15th November 2022 at Woolwich common Youth Hub from 10am to 11am.

This is open to all families of school-aged children across Greenwich.







New Autumn/Winter Menu Start Date Monday 31st of October 2022













Secondary Schools in Royal Greenwich 2023/2024

<u>Year 6 Transition to Secondary School</u>
Click the link to take you to our School Website
for all information on making the secondary
school applications for your Year 6 child

DEADLINE 31st October 2022

All children aged 1-9 in London are being offered a polio vaccine. For some children this will be an extra dose, for others it will bring them up to date with their routine vaccinations.

There are signs the virus may be spreading in London and the number of children vaccinated in Greenwich is lower than it should be. Boosting immunity in children should help protect them and reduce the risk of the virus continuing to spread.

Primary Schools in Royal Greenwich 2023/2024

New Reception places September 2023

Click the link to take you to our School Website for all information on making your Reception application for September 2023

DEADLINE 15th January 2023



If your child is aged 1 to 4 local NHS services will be in contact to book your vaccine

If your child is aged 5 to 9 you can book your appointment now at <u>selondonics.nhs.uk/poliovaccinationAll</u> children aged 1-9 in London are being offered a polio vaccine. For some children this will be an extra dose, for others it will bring them up to date with their routine vaccinations. There are signs the virus may be spreading in London and the number of children vaccinated in Greenwich is lower than it should be. Boosting immunity in children should help protect them and reduce the risk of the virus continuing to spread.

If your child is aged 1 to 4 local NHS services will be in contact to book your vaccine

If your child is aged 5 to 9 you can book your appointment now at selondonics.nhs.uk/polio-vaccination.

Parents and Carers, please be mindful when parking your cars. Do not park on the double yellow lines—or the Zig Zags.



Have you logged into the Arbor App or Parent Portal yet?



As you will have noticed, we have a new parent / school communication tool that is a fantastic way for us to keep in contact with you and allows you access to lots of information about your children, including their attendance, available school trips and clubs, as well as paying for school meals and afterschool clubs.

Next term, we will also be arranging all Parents Evening appointment, so make sure you have signed up to Arbor today. Please see the office if you need assistance with your account.









Lost Property Do you label items?

With over 200 children attending Rockliffe Manor Primary School you wouldn't believe the amount of items we find scattered about the playground, the hall and the corridors!



Our staff regularly sweep all the areas and return all items that are named with either a fabric pen or a label. However, the rest of the items that are not peronalised with a name end up in the Lost Property bin located just inside the school hall—something we urge you to check often.

Please can we ask all parents to ensure **all items** of clothing, bags, water bottles, lunch bags, coats and PE kits are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Thank you so much

Charlie Goddard