Rockland St Mary Primary School & Nursery

NEWSLETTER

Friday 25th September

We welcomed Ofsted to our school this week! A huge THANK YOU to all of our wonderful parents and carers who contributed to the parent survey and spoke to the inspectors – we are so grateful for your support for our lovely school. You really made a difference. Like everything in a village school – it was a team effort! The inspectors hugely enjoyed their visit. The children were brilliant as always; the staff were amazing and the whole two days went really well. I'm looking forward to sharing the outcome with you when it is published. We are very happy with it 😊

Meet Our New Head Gardener!



A huge thank you and well done to Ralph, who has embraced his new role as Head Gardener with tremendous commitment and enthusiasm.



Ralph has been working closely with Mr Gildersleeve on our wildlife area, which is being redesigned this year to make it even better for nature and for our children to enjoy. His hard work, dedication and positive attitude have already made a fantastic start to this exciting project.



Thank you, Ralph, for your excellent leadership. We can't wait to see how the wildlife area develops over the coming months!

ATTENDANCE

Our school target for attendance this year is **97%.**
This week our attendance was **95.5%**

Rockland St Mary Primary School | Facebook

A Message from Reverend Nick

Reverend Nick has asked us to remind families to park considerately when dropping off and collecting children. Concerns have recently been raised about vehicles being left in Rectory Lane, blocking access for residents and the church car park. There have also been instances of cars parking near the junction with School Lane, making it difficult for drivers to see oncoming traffic and creating a potential safety risk.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to park responsibly, avoid blocking driveways or access routes, and, where possible, park a little further away from school and walk the remaining distance. Thank you for helping to keep our community safe and considerate for everyone.

Rosh Hashanah in Butterflies Class



Last week, Butterflies Class learned about the Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah. The children were delighted when Aliyah's mum visited to share some of the traditions associated with this special celebration, including tasting apples dipped in honey and pomegranate seeds, which symbolise hopes for a sweet and happy year ahead.

The class enjoyed reflecting on things they are grateful for, reading stories about Rosh Hashanah, and creating colourful New Year cards using apple prints. They also learned about the shofar, a ram's horn traditionally blown during the celebrations, and discussed how its sound encourages reflection and positive choices.

A big thank you to Aliyah's family for helping the children learn more about this important festival and sharing their wonderful traditions.





Dates for the Diary

We have identified events in **GREEN** that parents/carers are invited to
Events in **RED** have been recently added

Autumn Term 2026

October

- **Tuesday 13 October –** Harvest Festival (11am)
- **Friday 16 October –** FORMS Cake Sale
- **Monday 19th October – 30th October –** Half Term (Please be aware that the October half term 2026 will be two weeks long)

November

- **Monday 2nd November** – children return to school
- **Thursday 5 November –** Tempest Individual photos @ 1.15pm

December

- **Thursday 3 December –** Year 6 NCMP and Reception Vision & Hearing Screening
- **w/c 7 December –** Parents' Evenings
- **Thursday 10 December –** Maths Cafe
- **Friday 11 December –** Hippodrome Trip
- **Monday 14 December –** Nativity (afternoon)
- **Tuesday 15 December –** Evening Nativity
- **Wednesday 16 December –** Christmas Jumper Day
- **Wednesday 16 December –** Santa Dash
- **Wednesday 16 December –** Christmas Lunch
- **Thursday 17 December –** Carol Service (10 am)
- **Friday 18 December –** FORMS Cake Sale
- **Monday 21 December – 4th January -** Christmas Holiday

Spring Term 2027

January

- **Tuesday 5th January** – children return to school
- **w/c 18 January –** SEN Parent Meetings
- **Monday 18 January –** Crucial Crew Trip (Year 6)

February

- **Week of 1 February –** Children's Mental Health Week
- **Friday 12 February –** FORMS Cake Sale
- **Monday 15 - Friday 19 February** – Half Term
- **Monday 22nd February** – children return to school after half term

March

- **Thursday 4 March –** Reading Cafe for World Book Day
- **w/c 15 March –** Parents' Evenings
- **Friday 19 March –** Parent Forum
- **22– 24 March** – Y5 and 6 Residential
- **Friday 26 March – Friday 9th April 2027** – Easter Holiday

Summer Term 2027

April

- Monday 12th April – children return to school
- **w/c 26 April –** SEN Parent Meetings

July

- **Friday 2 July –** Parent Forum
- **Week of 12 July –** Reports sent home
- **Monday 19 July –** Year 6 Pleasurewood Hills Trip
- **Tuesday 20 July –** End of Year Party
- **Wednesday 21 July –** Leaving Service (11am)
- **Thursday 22nd July –** Final day of the Summer Term