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Roe Green Infant School

Newsletter

October 2026

Roe Green Infant School is a Rights Respecting GOLD School

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It has been a busy October, but a rewarding one as all our children have taken part in Harvest assembly and poetry recitals

This month's core value is "Honest & Trustworthy." This links to the articles of the rights of the child.

This month's article of the rights of the child is

Article 13 : Sharing thoughts freely



Article Sharing thoughts freely

Children have the right to share freely with others what they learn, think and feel, by talking, drawing, writing or in any other way unless it harms other people.

About Article 13

Article 13 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child states that children have the right to freedom of expression. This includes the right to seek, receive and share information and ideas of all kinds, as long as it's within the law. This right can be exercised through talking, drawing, writing or in any other way the child chooses.

How this connects to "Honest and Trustworthy"

The connection between honesty/trustworthiness and Article 13 is powerful because:

Freedom of expression requires honesty - When children exercise their right to express themselves, being honest and truthful is fundamental

Trust enables open communication - Children need to trust that they can express themselves safely and honestly

Responsibility in sharing information - Being trustworthy means using the right to share information responsibly and truthfully.

Every class has a rights mascot and whoever shows to be demonstrating a positive understanding of their right will take home the mascot and in the notebook that accompanies the mascot, they can write about their adventures with the rights mascot.

UNICEF's articles of the rights of the child that we covered this term, here:



An overview of what the children have been learning this month

Reception:

This Month in Reception

Harvest and Seasonal Learning

This month, the children have been exploring the theme of Harvest and discovering where our food comes from.

They've created beautiful artwork inspired by Harvest and the growing process, using a variety of materials and techniques to represent fruits, vegetables, and autumn colours.

Through these creative activities, the children have developed their fine motor skills and learned to express their understanding of the natural world through art.

Literacy Development - "The Koala Who Could"

We've completed our topic book, "The Koala Who Could" by Rachel Bright. This wonderful story about courage and trying new things has captured the children's imaginations!

Through this book, the children have been:

Finding out facts about koalas and their habitats, developing their research and information-gathering skills

Building super sentences by learning to use capital letters, finger spaces, and full stops

Expanding their vocabulary with new and exciting words from the story

Discussing the story's themes of bravery and perseverance, making connections to their own experiences

Physical Development and Wellbeing

In PE, the children have been working hard on developing their physical skills whilst learning about staying safe and healthy. They've been:

Practising fundamental movement skills such as running, jumping, and balancing

Learning how to move safely in shared spaces

Understanding the importance of warming up and cooling down

Discussing how exercise keeps our bodies healthy and strong

Mathematics - Hands-On Number Work

The children have engaged in lots of fun and practical activities to develop their understanding of numbers. These hands-on experiences have included:

Counting and recognising numbers in different contexts

Using concrete objects to explore mathematical concepts

Playing number games to build confidence and fluency

Solving simple problems through practical activities

The children have shown wonderful enthusiasm and curiosity in all their learning this month. We're so proud of their progress!

Year One:

Year 1 have had a fantastic start to the term, with lots of exciting learning taking place across the curriculum!

Mathematics: Exploring 3D Shapes

In maths, we've been diving into the world of 3D shapes. The children have been handling and exploring shapes like cubes, spheres, cylinders, and pyramids, learning to identify their properties such as faces, edges, and vertices. They've loved using real objects from around the classroom to spot 3D shapes in everyday life – from tissue boxes to balls! The children have been developing their mathematical vocabulary brilliantly, and can now confidently describe the differences between 2D and 3D shapes.

Humanities: Our World Adventure

Our geography learning has taken us on a journey around the world! Year 1 have been learning to name and locate the 7 continents, and we've begun exploring different countries and cultures. This term, we've discovered fascinating facts about France – the children were amazed (and some a little surprised!) to learn that escargots (snails) are considered a delicacy there!

We're following Buddy the Bee on his travels, and the children are eagerly waiting to find out which country he'll visit next. This has sparked wonderful discussions about different cultures, foods, and ways of life around the world.

In English, we've been exploring the power of poetry! The children have learned their very first poem of the year, which was all about energy. They've worked

hard on expression, rhythm, and performance, and have loved reciting it together.

English: Poetry and Performance

It's been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they've memorised and performed the poem – ask them to perform it for you at home!

We're so proud of how engaged and enthusiastic Year 1 have been with their learning. Keep up the brilliant work, Year 1!

Year Two:

Year 2's Creative Writing Adventure

This month, Year 2 have been exploring traditional tales from fresh perspectives!

The children have been writing imaginative letters from the Wolf's point of view to Little Red Riding Hood, as well as letters to the woodcutter from alternative versions of the story.

This work has helped develop their understanding of character perspectives, empathy, and persuasive writing skills.

It's been wonderful to see how creatively they've approached these familiar stories from a completely different angle!

Remembrance Day Learning

We've begun our important learning about Remembrance Day and why we wear poppies in November. The children are discovering the significance of this annual commemoration and why it matters to our community and country.

Poppies are now on sale – please send in a coin with your child if they would like to purchase one to wear with pride.

Weather Reminder

As we move further into autumn, the weather is becoming noticeably colder. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing a coat each day. We still aim to get outside for fresh air and play whenever possible, so appropriate outdoor clothing is essential to keep everyone comfortable and healthy.

Sustainablity at Roe Green Infant School

At Roe Green Infant School, we are committed to nurturing environmental awareness and sustainability from the earliest years.

Our end of half-term poetry recitals, themed around "Energy," beautifully demonstrate how we're embedding these vital concepts into our curriculum in engaging and age-appropriate ways.

A Celebration of Learning and Enthusiasm

Our Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 children have performed their poetry recitals with remarkable energy and enthusiasm.

It was a genuine treat to hear them recite their poems with such confidence and passion.

The children explored different sources of energy that power our world – from the warmth of the sun to the gentle glow of the moon, and the vital energy we gain from the food we eat.

Connecting Poetry to Sustainability

Through poetry, our youngest learners are developing a deep understanding of the natural world and the different forms of energy that sustain life on Earth. This creative approach helps children to:

Connect emotionally with environmental concepts through the power of language and performance

Understand fundamental science about energy sources in a memorable, meaningful way

Develop awareness of our planet's resources and how we depend on them

Build confidence in expressing important ideas about our world

Embedding Sustainability Across Our Curriculum

This poetry theme exemplifies how we can embed sustainability into learning without requiring sweeping curriculum changes. We've identified opportunities to include topics about environmentalism and sustainable practice alongside what we already teach Sustainability:, making sustainability part of our everyday learning culture.

By choosing energy as our poetry theme, we've created natural links to:

Science learning about the natural world, light, and living things

Literacy development through oracy and performance

PSHE discussions about caring for our environment

Art and creativity in expressing ideas about the world around us

This celebration is just one example of how Roe Green Infant School is building a culture of environmental awareness and sustainability.

We believe that sustainability should be part of everyday practice and an ongoing process, rather than a list of urgent tasks. .

By starting these conversations early and making them joyful and creative, we're helping our children develop into environmentally conscious citizens who understand their role in caring for our planet.

The enthusiasm and understanding our children have shown through their poetry performances demonstrates that even our youngest learners can engage meaningfully with sustainability concepts when they're presented in developmentally appropriate and creative ways.

ATTENDANCE

Class Attendance: How Is Your Child's Class Doing?

Attendance for the Autumn term up to Friday 16th October 2026

Our whole-school attendance target this year is 96.5%. We know this is aiming high, but every day in school matters, and we believe our children deserve nothing less.

We are pleased to share that, as of Thursday 22nd October, our whole-school attendance stands at 96%. This is a good start to the year, and with a little extra effort from everyone we can reach our target.

Below is the attendance of every class up to Friday 16th October. A huge well done to Rabbits (97.8%), Foxes (97.4%) and Red Robins (97.0%), who are already beating our target and are shaded green below. Fantastic attendance – keep it up!

Class Attendance

Nursery – Morning95.0%

Nursery – Afternoon 90.0%

Nursery – Full Time 95.9%

Red Robins 97.0%

Blue Jays 95.4%

Yellow Canaries 96.3%

Green Parrots 95.4%

Eagles 93.8%

Owls 95.5%

Stags 95.7%

Rabbits 97.8%

Badgers 96.0%

Foxes 97.4%

Hedgehogs 95.7%

Squirrels 95.8%

Some of our Nursery and Reception children started school on different dates, so their figures cover a shorter period. We will keep sharing class attendance throughout the year – which class will top the table next time?

Every Day Counts: Why Attendance Matters

Supporting your child to achieve excellent attendance

There are 190 days in the school year, and we want every one of our children to benefit from all of them. Children who attend well settle more quickly, keep up with their learning, build strong friendships and enjoy school more. We would like to thank you for your continued support in making sure your child achieves excellent attendance.

How you can help

✓ Aim for your child to have 100% attendance.

✓ Leave of absence during term time is only granted in exceptional circumstances. Any request must be made in writing, in advance, and the decision of the school is final.

✓ Make sure your child arrives on time every day. Late arrivals disrupt your child's learning and the learning of others.

✓ We do not expect children to come to school when they are genuinely unwell. However, where a child has frequent periods of illness, we may ask you to provide medical information before we are able to authorise further absences.

✓ Please make medical and dental appointments outside of school hours wherever possible.

✓ If your child is finding it difficult to come to school, please speak to your child's class teacher or our attendance team. We would much rather help early.

How quickly absences add up

An attendance figure of 90% may sound good, but it means your child has missed 19 days of school – almost four full weeks of learning in a single year. The table below shows just how quickly the days add up.

Attendance	Days in school	Days missed	Weeks of learning missed	What this means
100%	190	0	0	Excellent
99%	188	2	0.5	Excellent
98%	186	4	1	Good
97%	184.5	5.5	1	Good
96.5%	183.5	6.5	1.5	Our target
96%	182.5	7.5	1.5	Below target
95%	180.5	9.5	2	Below target
94%	178.5	11.5	2.5	Cause for concern
93%	176.5	13.5	2.5	Cause for concern
92%	175	15	3	Cause for concern
91%	173	17	3.5	Cause for concern
90%	171	19	4	Cause for concern
89%	169	21	4	Persistent absence
87%	165.5	24.5	5	Persistent absence
85%	161.5	28.5	5.5	Persistent absence

When we will contact you

Below 95%: The government has asked schools to pay particular attention to children whose attendance is between 90% and 95%, so that it can be improved before it becomes a serious problem. For this reason,
we

will write to you if your child's attendance drops below 95%. This is an early warning, so that we can work together to stop it falling any further.

Below 90%: Your child will be classed as a persistent absentee, and we have a statutory duty to inform you of this. Action will then need to be taken to improve your child's attendance, and we will invite you into school to agree a plan of support.

Please remember: absence is absence. We understand that children do become unwell, and many of you have told us, "but my child was ill." However, every day your child is not in school lowers their attendance rate, whatever the reason. Whether an absence is for sickness or is unauthorised, it still counts. So, irrespective of the reason, once your child's attendance drops below 90% we must inform you that they have become a persistent absentee.

Where attendance does not improve, we will follow our school attendance policy and the government's national guidance. This may include writing to you, inviting you to a meeting and, where necessary, involving Brent's Education Welfare Service. Our full attendance policy is available from the school office and on our website, www.rgreeninf.brent.sch.uk.

Thank you for your support in helping every child to be in school, on time, every day.

Harvest Assembly:

Thank you for your generous contributions to the harvest appeal by Brent Food Bank.

The Food Bank cannot thank you enough I have copied the letter here for you to read.

Brent Foodbank
Together with Trussell

Brent Foodbank
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T 020 3745 5972
E info@brent.foodbank.org.uk

Thank You for Your Harvest Donation

Dear Roe Green Infant School,

On behalf of everyone at Brent Foodbank, I wanted to say a huge thank you for your generous Harvest donation.

We know that organising a collection takes time, thought and effort, and we're so grateful that you chose to support us. It's always lovely to see our local community coming together, and your generosity really does make a difference.

We're currently supporting more people across Brent than ever before, at a time when food donations are becoming increasingly stretched. Your contribution will help us continue providing emergency food parcels and essential items to individuals and families who are going through difficult times. Every tin, packet and contribution helps us make sure that someone in our community has access to the food and essentials they need. More than that, it reminds people that their community is behind them.

Thank you again to everyone who contributed, helped organise the collection or spread the word. We really appreciate your support and are so pleased to have you as part of the Brent Foodbank community.

With warmest thanks,
Brent Foodbank.



Reverend Sophie came to talk to the children about "Harvest."



Important reminders:

The clocks go back tomorrow night!

British Summer Time will soon come to an end as the clocks go back an hour to Greenwich Mean Time.

We return to school on Monday 2nd November 2026

Half-Term Break

Finally, we hope you all enjoy a well-deserved mid-term break after what has been a very busy and productive half term at school.

The children have worked incredibly hard, and we're so proud of everything they've achieved.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for the second half of the autumn term.



Marina Aziz

Assistant Head teacher - DSL - Inclusion

Rights Respecting Schools Coordinator

Sustainability Lead