



Rockcliffe Newsletter 6 – Autumn Term

Dear Rockcliffe Families,

This week our Rockcliffe Learning Superpower focus has been Keep Improving. As we near the end of our first half-term, this has been a great way to reflect on the great learning that has already taken place and what we can do next!

Pupil Leadership Team

As we continue to Rock, as part of developing being responsible, our Year 4's have been allocated their Pupil Leadership roles for this year. Pupil participation involves creating a culture where all children and young people have a voice and the chance to actively influence decisions related to their learning and wellbeing, as outlined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). We believe that establishing proper structures is essential so that all pupils can participate in decision-making. As the leaders of the future, all of our Year 4 children are encouraged to embrace a wide range of leadership opportunities, helping them to grow as successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens, who shape and develop the school as a whole.

Our Expert Learning Teams...		
Sports Leaders 	STEM Champions 	Humanities Heroes
Creative Sparks 	Digital Leaders 	Rockcliffe Reporters
Wellbeing Gurus 	Events Organisers 	Reading Ambassadors

Our Pupil Leadership Team is comprised of nine expert learning teams, whose roles and responsibilities are to:

- Act as an ambassador for the school both in and out
- Represent pupil voice
- Work alongside the subject leader to continue to improve teaching and learning in their area
- Assist the subject leader to plan, organise and run events to promote their area
- Help the governors to make decisions on behalf of the pupils
- Meet regularly to provide feedback to the senior leadership team and governors about key decisions.

In addition we have introduced all Year 4 pupils taking a turn at doing lunch duty, helping dinner staff to support younger children in the dinner hall and leading activities in the yard. They have been brilliant so far this year.

Headteacher: Tom Jones

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Our Children's Takeover Day later in the year will provide an opportunity to work alongside adults in school to support daily activities and fulfil vital tasks to audit, evaluate and raise the profile of their subjects or area of school-life.

Y2 Multisports



Our Year 2 children had a fantastic time taking part in the Multiskills Festival at Marden Bridge Middle School. The children took part in a number of activities which challenged their balance, co-ordination, speed and agility. The staff were very impressed with the children's resilience and ability to 'keep improving' with each activity. Through festivals like this, we aim to give every child the opportunity to enjoy a wide variety of physical activities and to build the foundations for an active, healthy future.



Our Year 4 Sports Leaders collected some opinions from the children:

"My heart was beating so fast when I was running!" - Jona

"I loved the cups and saucers cone game!" - Tanwen

"I loved taking part because all of the activities were so fun!" – Rowan

World Mental Health Day

Today is World Mental Health Day and our Year 4 Wellbeing Gurus have been visiting each class to share a story about finding happiness and spreading positivity. They've also been handing out positive affirmations to help remind everyone just how important it is to be kind to yourself.



Nut Free School



Just a reminder that we are a nut free school. For children who bring in packed lunches or snacks, please can you ensure that there is no chocolate spread sandwiches and any cereal or chocolate bars are nut free, as well as pasta dishes not containing pesto. Thank you for your co-operation with this.



Reception Applications – September 2026

This week we held our first tour for prospective parents for September 2026. We are holding more in the coming weeks. Please pass on the link. [Early Years Applications – Rockcliffe First School](#)

Nursery – September 2026

From September 2026 we will be offering 30 hour and 15 hour funded places for our Nursery. Again, if you are interested, or know anyone who is, please complete and expression of interest form: [Rockcliffe First School Expression of Interest Form for Nursery](#)



I hope everyone has a restful weekend – as our Wellness Gurus have been promoting “find something to do to be kind to yourself”,

Tom Jones

Dates for Your Diary

October	
Mon 13 th	School Photograph Day
Tue 14 th	Seahorses - Beach School
Mon 20 th and Wed 21 st	Parents' Evenings (3.30 – 6.00)
Mon 20 th	Priory class – Great North Museum (Please order packed lunches from the kitchen by Wednesday 15 th October if you require one)
Wed 22 nd	Sandcastles Nursery – Beach School
Fri 24 th	Break up for half-term
November	
Tue 4 th	Start of Autumn Term 2
Wed 5 th	Dolce: Fireworks and Bonfire Night themed lunch (please order via School Grid)
Training Days 2025-6	- Monday 3rd November 2025 - Monday 5th January 2026