

The time is flying by-here's an update on what's been happening in school.

All of our year group welcome meetings have now taken place, and the teachers were delighted to meet you all. Curriculum leaflets were emailed to you last week and are also on Google Classroom and the [school's website](#). Our Times Tables Rock Stars launch was a great success. Pupils are now able to log in and practice their times tables, which is such an important skill to develop. Log in details should be stuck into the reading record books. We are still in the process of setting up Google Classroom for Reception so don't worry-it's on its way!



Our year 5 and 6 girls recently attended their first football event and had a wonderful time. We're also thrilled that Essex Cricket has started a project with our years 3 and 4 children, bringing professional coaches into school to deliver cricket lessons. What a fantastic opportunity for our pupils.

We are keeping in touch with Mrs Anderson. She has started her treatment and, as predicted, it has made her very unwell. With this newsletter there is a second attachment which is a letter from a parent who is inviting you all to take part in a collection for Mrs Anderson, I'm sure she will appreciate this very much and many thanks to Mrs Vasquez for organising this.

Coffee Morning and funding questions

Yesterday's coffee morning was really well attended. Parents asked questions about after school clubs, school funding, and our curriculum. Some of these discussions will be picked up in our upcoming parent forum. I said I would share the link to the school's benchmarking site run by the Department for Education-you can find the financial benchmarking information [here](#).

I also found this piece of information from the [Institute for Fiscal Studies](#):

1. We estimate that mainstream school funding per pupil will grow by 2.8% in cash terms in 2025–26. We also estimate that school costs will grow by 3.6% in 2025–26 if the pay review body follows the government's recommendation of a 2.8% pay award for 2025. In this case, schools might struggle to cover their costs without making savings.



Along with us reaching the end of our very good fixed rate deal for utilities we, as many other schools, are actually working with higher costs but no increase in funding to match. The school's Governing Body, as well as myself are raising this with the London Borough of Redbridge, we have some local authority officers coming out to discuss this with us in October. I know some parents are keen on fundraising-this will all be on the agenda for the parent forum.

Our next coffee morning will be on Friday 3rd October at 9am - do come along. We will be welcoming two teams from Redbridge who would like to introduce themselves and talk about their services-The Early Years team and the [SEND Advisory and Training Service](#) (SENDATS).

Today is **European Day of Languages**, and our children have been doing some fantastic work in class. They've been exploring diversity across our school and more widely across Europe. These lessons help promote curiosity about each other, leading to understanding, tolerance, and respect - all really important messages.

Swimming for Years 3 and 4

Many of you will be aware that the swimming pool at Fulwell Cross, where we took children for their lessons, remains closed. We have not been offered an alternative venue. Luckily, we have good relationships with local schools and we have joined John Bramston and Coppice to hire a swimming pool to be erected in the school grounds at Coppice. We will be running lessons for the children who missed out when the pool closed in the summer as well as curriculum swimming lessons for years 3 and 4. Each school has booked a block of lessons with qualified swimming coaches. Parents of the children who will be having the swimming lessons will be receiving a letter with all of the details.



Prayer Passes


Last year, we had children who wanted to pray during lunch break in Ramadan. We're pleased to say that for Years 5 and 6, we will aim provide a quiet space and staff supervision for prayer during the month of Ramadan. We'll be in touch with more details in the Spring.

Help wanted!

Our 'Glow' discos are happening again this year! Mrs Prasad is organising the event and is looking for parent volunteers to help sell glowsticks during the days of the evening discos (6th and 12th November). If you're interested, please let us know by sending an email to admin.manford@redbridge.gov.uk.



Parent Forum

 We are really looking forward to launching the parent forum. Mrs Prasad is holding a 'find out more' session on 5th November so that parents and carers who are interested can come along to find out what the purpose of the forum will be and how it will work. Judging by the interest at coffee morning yesterday, there should be a strong turnout which is great. This also means that we need to make sure we have a space big enough. Therefore, we ask that if you would like to come to the 'find out more session' look out for the Google Form next week so that you can let us know you're coming.

Parents of Year 6 and Pre-schoolers

The admissions site for you to apply for secondary school places is now open. **Applications must be submitted by 31st October 2025.** [Here's the link you need.](#)

For children due to start Reception classes in September 2026 the site is open for applications. The **deadline is 15th January 2026.** [Here's the link you need.](#)

Dates for your diary

Monday 29th to Friday 3rd October- Year 6 Residential

Friday 3rd October- Coffee morning-all welcome

Monday 6th October-Tours for prospective Reception families (please call office to book a space)

Monday 6th October-Harvest Donations begin

Friday 10th October- 'Brilliant Club' launch for some Year 6 pupils

Thursday 16th October- Tours for prospective Reception families (please call office to book a space)

Friday 17th October-Individual Photographs (details to follow)

Tuesday 21st October- Year 4 trip-British Museum

Wednesday 22nd October and Thursday 23rd October- Parents' Evenings

Thursday 23rd October- Year 1 Harvest Assembly

Friday 24th October- **INSET**- School closed to pupils- Staff Training from London Borough of Redbridge

Half Term- Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October

Tuesday 4th November- Flu vaccinations

Wednesday 5th November- Parents Forum-find out more meeting 9am

Thursday 6th November-Glow Disco Years Reception, 1,2,3

Monday 10th to Friday 14th November- 'Right to be safe week' Anti-bullying including online behaviour for years 5 and 6 delivered by Met Police, Road Safety.

Wednesday 12th November- Glow Disco Years 4,5 and 6

Monday 17th November- **INSET**- School closed to pupils- Teaching and Learning training