

Summer Term Newsletter 2023



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, here we are at the end of the 2022-23 academic year and what an absolutely fantastic year we have experienced here at Rushey Mead Primary School!



Over the last term, we have been able to provide so many activities and opportunities which, I know, the children have enjoyed and made their learning memorable. I would like to thank parents and carers for all the support you have given your child(ren) and the school over the last year so that they are able to maximise their potential. I will always encourage parental and community engagement in school as this supports and increases the chances of success for every learner. I would also like to thank all our incredible staff, who have worked tirelessly this year, ensuring that all the children in school have the best experience possible. It is due to the positive attitude that all our staff have that we can create an atmosphere where the focus is on academic achievement, maintaining high standards and expectations with staff working together in creating a safe, fun learning environment to support and improve learning.

It is also a time where we say goodbye to members of staff who will be leaving us at the end of this term. We will be saying goodbye to Mr Morrish, who after 33 years in teaching will be retiring this year and

who through his cheerful nature has given staff and children a number of memorable moments in school over the years – not forgetting his love of everything weather related! We will also be saying goodbye to Mr. Lawal who will be leaving us to pursue new opportunities and challenges outside of the education sector. I would also like to say a big thank you to Mrs Mistry for her tremendous hard work in Year 1 and supporting the school this year. We wish them all the very best in the future.

Of course we all wish our Year 6 children a very special goodbye and good luck to them all as they move on to their secondary school's next academic year and hope they continue on their educational journey to future success as well as becoming wonderful role models that we can all be proud of. We also look forward to the Year 6 Leavers' Assembly this Friday where the Year 6 children will be performing in front of staff, governors and parent / carers!

Finally, I would like to wish you all a safe, fun and lovely summer holiday and look forward to seeing you all again when the school re-opens on Tuesday 29th August 2023.

Best Wishes,

Mr N. Odedra

(Headteacher)

Attendance Matters!



Rushey Mead Primary school aims for at least 96% attendance for every child in school, which would bring us in line with the National average across the country.

Our attendance this year to date is 94.42%.

We are not quite there yet, but with your help and support, I am sure we can do it!

Well done to all the pupils who have achieved 96% attendance and above. We have 304 children with 96% and above, out of which 69 children have 100% attendance - Well done to those children!

Congratulations to the classes below with the highest average attendance this year:

1st Place

Redwood Class

96.8%

2nd Place

Maple Class

96.5%

3rd Place

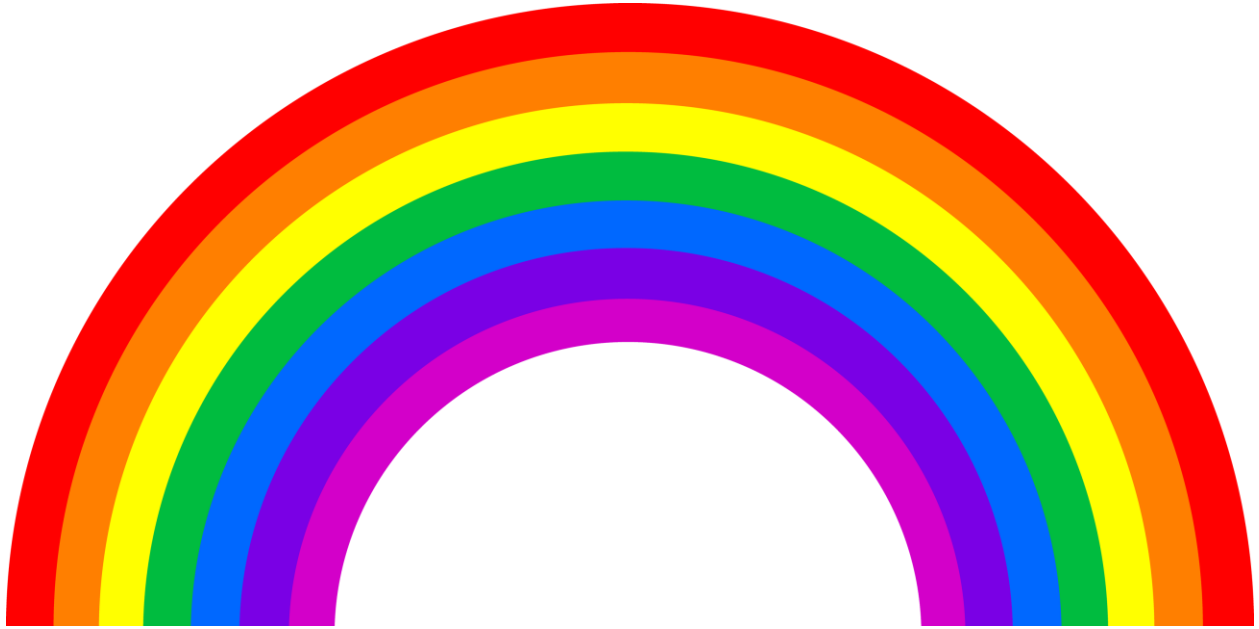
Willow Class

96.5%

THANK YOU SO MUCH to all the families who have been working hard to ensure their children's attendance and punctuality is high. Establishing early good habits early on really will make a positive difference to their lives. Your child will achieve better if they are in school every day!



Rainbow's Nurture Group



Rainbows Nurture children have had a wonderful year learning how to co-operate with each other, taking turns, being responsible and also learning how to be kind, generous and curious. Well done. We finished the year with a lovely party with our friends, Mr Odedra and Mrs Watts!



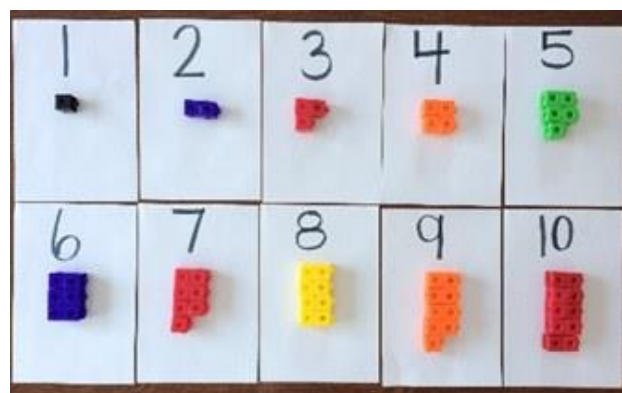
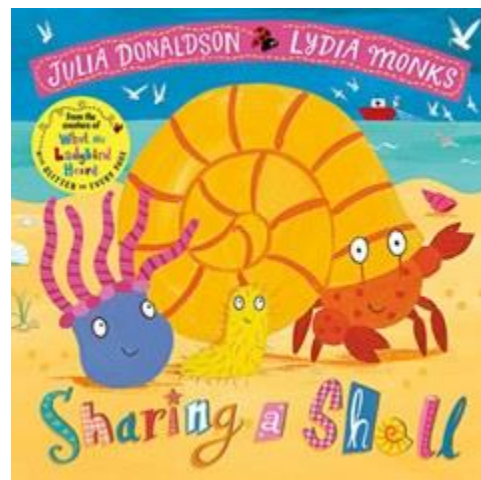
Reception



We've had a thrilling summer term in Reception! Our young learners have been engrossed in the enchanting tale of 'Sharing a Shell' by Julia Donaldson and have explored the fascinating world of sea creatures.

They've also drawn connections to their previous lessons on diverse habitats and animals. In mathematics, the children have actively delved into the concepts of odd and even numbers, as well as the idea of sharing equally.

They have been striving to communicate effectively by expressing themselves in complete sentences which links to the school's character trait of being 'articulate'. The science activities have consistently sparked their curiosity. One highlight was when they skillfully constructed rockets and used scientific vocabulary like "push," "air," and "squeeze." What a joy it has been to see how your children have grown, developed, and achieved success, making them ready for Year 1. Thank you for your hard work and the support you have provided both at home and for the school. Have a lovely summer holiday!





Year 1

Welcome to Year One

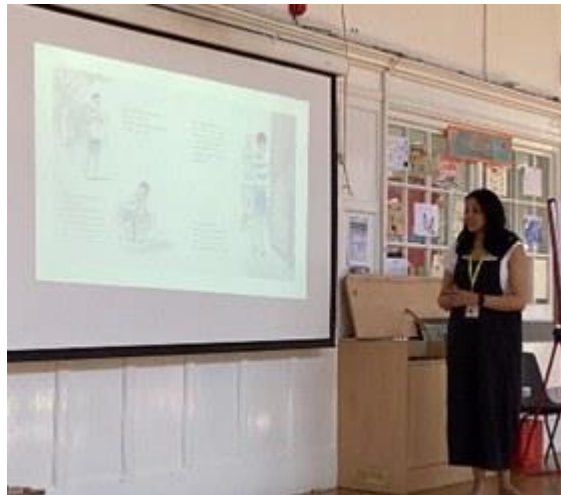
Year 1 have had a very busy and fantastic summer term. The children have worked really hard with their phonics this year and were amazing with the phonics screening check. In English, we read 'Dadaji's Paintbrush' and had a visit from the author Rashmi Sirdeshpande. We also read 'On the way home' and learnt about the monsters/villains in different stories.

In Science, we enjoyed learning about plants, their different parts and how they grow. We observed and recorded changes over time. We also visited the Botanical Gardens and planted cress seeds and created natural art and observational drawings of Desert plants.

In History, we enjoyed learning about the Victorian Era, exploring artefacts and finding out about the history of our school. We also learnt about plastic pollution and created an Eco-sculpture of a giraffe. Thank you for joining our Sports Day, we all had an amazing time!



1 - Famous author - Rashmi Sirdeshpande signs her book for the children in Year 1



2 - Rashmi Sirdeshpande shares her experiences of writing Dadaji's Paintbrush



3 - Year 1 children have worked really hard this year to pass the Phonics Screening Check!





Eco-Sculpture Project



Rushey Mead Primary School have taken part in a collaborative Eco-sculpture project with local schools. Rushey Mead decided to collectively create a range of animals out of recyclable materials. We wanted to raise awareness of plastic pollution and look at how we can prevent this. Children learnt about how

plastic can impact the planet and wildlife and the children explored ways in which they can help to reduce plastic pollution.

At Rushey Mead, we chose to make jungle animals and linked these to our Rushey Mead character traits; The curious giraffe, the ambitious rhino, the resilient lion, the respectful panda and the kind dolphin. The children loved being creative and having to problem solve to work out how to build and stick their animals together.



Year 2

Welcome to Year 2



In Science during the Summer term, Fir and Chestnut classes have been busy learning all about different habitats. To support their learning the children went on a visit to Twycross Zoo where they took part in a 'Habitats Workshop'. The children saw lots of different animals including rhino's, giraffe's and monkeys. Everyone had a great day out. In addition to the trip, the children have created some fantastic box models and drawings of a variety of habitats.

In Maths the children have been learning about shape, volume and fractions. They continue to work with numbers to 100 and consolidate calculation strategies. In English year 2 have been reading 'Sleeping Beauty' and lately, 'Paddington Goes to the Palace'. They have been writing postcards, letters and diaries.

All children in year 2 worked very hard and successfully completed their national SATs tests in English and Maths. Well done everyone!

Recently the whole school has celebrated French week. Year 2 tasted French food, tried dancing traditional dances and listened to Cinderella in French. It was great fun and the children are left enthused and eager to learn more about France and and learn French in year 3.

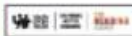






Leicester's Play day

Wednesday, 2 August 2023
11am - 3pm, Town Hall
Square, Leicester



SUMMER
READING
CHALLENGE



Family
Hub



Year 3



**WELCOME
TO
YEAR 3!**

We have had a busy, fun-filled half term in Year 3. We've really enjoyed our history topic this term on Romans and especially our trip to Bosworth Battle Field to learn more about Boudicca and the Roman Army. It was great fun dressing up as Roman soldiers and Celts.

Our English work has been focussed on learning about Pompeii which all the children really enjoyed and they have written some excellent fact files and dramatic moments recounting events. They also enjoyed making Roman Mosaics in art and took a lot of care to do this.

We also enjoyed our learning about plants, especially planting sun flowers and the variety of investigations we did to learn about roots, leaves and the stem. The children have worked really hard this term and we are very proud of what they achieved.

Thank you for all your support this year, we wish you well for the Summer and good luck for your children in Year 4.





Year 4



Year 4 have had an amazing term! They have continued to impress the entire staff team with their passion and resilience to their learning, particularly with their times tables. We had 83% of children achieve 20 or more in their multiplication check, with many achieving 25/25. They have not only done us proud but themselves too. A huge well done to you all. We'd like to also thank you for supporting your child during this process and we are already seeing the difference this has made on their maths - they are much more confident solving problems now that they know their times tables by heart!

In other news, the children have thoroughly enjoyed their PE lessons as we have had specialist coaches in to help with our cricket and athletics learning. They have also been fascinated about our Ancient Civilisations topic where we had great fun mummifying a tomato and using our Computing skills to research and learn about Egyptian Inventions. Science was another great memory of this term as we got stuck in with taking part a plug to consolidate our electricity learning. French Week and Sports Day were other exciting memories created where we were able to express ourselves and use our learning in a cross-curricular way. The children have continuously impressed us with their positive attitude to learning!

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support this year. We have thoroughly enjoyed being part of your child's journey and know that they will continue to strive next year. Well done, Year 4!

Best Wishes,

Miss Pattni, Miss Crook & Mr Lloyd





Get up & go!

At Leicester's children, young people and family centres this summer!

For children, young people and their families and carers

Monday 17th July – Friday 25th August 2023

FREE

Monday July 17, 24, 31 August 7, 14, 21	Tuesday July 18, 25 August 1, 8, 15, 22	Wednesday July 19, 26 August 2, 9, 16, 23	Thursday July 20, 27 August 3, 10, 17, 24	Friday July 21, 28 August 4, 11, 18, 25
GET UP AND GO EVENT St Matthews CYPFC 10am - 12pm	GET UP AND GO EVENT Bewcastle CYPFC 10am - 12pm	MINI PLAYDAYS at Town Hall Square (19th & 26th Jul, 9th & 16th Aug) 11am - 2pm	GET UP AND GO EVENT Netherhall CYPFC 10am - 12pm	GET UP AND GO EVENT The Grove, Braunstone, 10am - 12pm
GET UP AND GO EVENT Thurnby Lodge CYPFC 1 - 3pm	GET UP AND GO EVENT Saffron CYPFC 10am - 12pm	NATIONAL PLAY DAY at Town Hall Square - 2nd Aug 11am - 3pm	GET UP AND GO EVENT New Parks CYPFC 1 - 3pm	GET UP AND GO EVENT Eynes Monsell CYPFC 10am - 12pm
GET UP AND GO EVENT Woodbridge CYPFC 1 - 3pm	GET UP AND GO EVENT Beaumont Leys CYPFC 1 - 3pm	END OF SUMMER EXTRAVAGANZA Victoria Park 11am-3pm	GET UP AND GO EVENT Belgrave CYPFC 1 - 3pm	GET UP AND GO EVENT Highfields CYPFC 1pm-3pm

families.leicester.gov.uk/childrens-centres
/leicesterchildrenscentres

Family Hub ACTIVE LEICESTER Leicester City Council

Illustrations by Julian Benford and © The Reading Agency 2023

Bookmark - Change a child's story

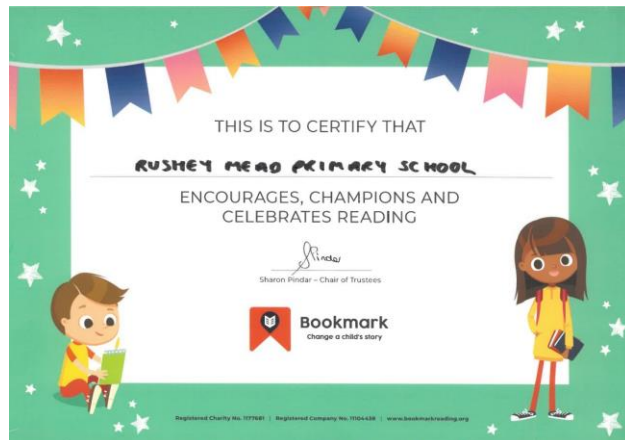
IN AN AVERAGE CLASS, 8 CHILDREN LEAVE PRIMARY SCHOOL UNABLE TO READ WELL.

These children often struggle in school, and beyond. Reading isn't just about books. It's about reading a road sign, a safety manual, a birthday card. It's understanding a job application or an important letter from your bank.

Bookmark has given the school free books to give children in our school the reading skills and confidence they need for a fair chance in life through their volunteer-led programme.

For the children who need Bookmark, they're changing their story.

Well done to all the teacher's at Rushey Mead Primary School who have encouraged reading champions across the school and celebrated reading!



Year 5

Year 5

Year 5 have had another busy, successful term. We have studied the Greeks and Properties of Materials. In English, we read Street Child where we learned about the lives of children in Victorian workhouses and how Dr Barnardo became involved in rescuing orphaned children.

Swimming has been one of the highlights of the year, all the children have thoroughly enjoyed the lessons but most importantly they have all improved and are jumping into the pool with enthusiasm.

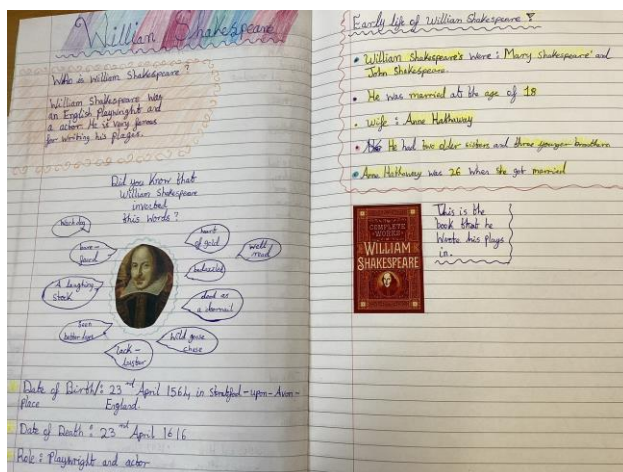
We had an amazing visit from Steve Skidmore, a local successful author who conducted an assembly for the whole year group and ran a Masterclass for some of our children. We looked at some of William Shakespeare's plays and learned that he created hundreds of new words and phrases including Knock, Knock Jokes. We can all now say that Shakespeare is not boring!

We had a fun trip to Grace Road Cricket Ground, where we watched Leicestershire v Durham, it was really exciting as we watched Leicestershire scrape a draw. We almost played cricket – in the DARK!

We can't believe the year is nearly over and it's time for our Year 5 children to move to Year 6.

This year we have cycled, swam, Beat the Street, visited space, ventured back in time and thoroughly enjoyed our Year 5 journey.

The Year 5 staff would like to thank all their children for contributing to this fun and successful year, we wish them all the very best in Year 6.





Excited New Project in Reception Next Year!



Rushey Mead Primary is really excited and so pleased that one of the leading plastic bottle manufacturers in the UK, Measom Freer will be able to help next year's Reception class with their school bottle-greenhouse project.

The children in Early Years will really benefit from this new development of their outdoor area. Measom Freer will be donating 1 Litre size bottles so that walls for the greenhouse can be built in rows with bottles placed side-by-side along a row of canes.

Teachers in Reception next year, intend to share updates on the build throughout the project including taking delivery, progress reports and the final opening!



French Curriculum







Bonjour!

We've had another great year learning French - so a very big well done to all the children who have worked so hard. They have been so eager to learn and have really increased their confidence in the subject.

We ran another successful French week with our special themed menu and both the pupils and lunchtime staff did brilliantly having conversations in French. Throughout the week they had fun learning about all the different places in the world where French is spoken. Did you know it is the official language of 29 different countries and is spoken on 5 continents?

The children have been taught traditional French dances, they have played the French game - Pétanque, sang a variety of French songs, , read some French fairy tales, researched some inspirational people who come from Francophone countries, made and tasted a range of delicious French food and produced some stunning pieces of artwork in the style of famous French artists.

It would be wonderful if the children can continue to practice their French over the summer break so that they can remember what they have been taught, using Duo Lingo, YouTube videos, Oak National Academy website, French activity books etc.... Many of the Key Stage 2 children have loved using these tools at home to support their learning so we would recommend them to others who haven't yet given them a try. Here are the results of a survey we did to find out how many of our pupils are accessing the tools to practice:

Learning Tool	Yr 3	Yr 4	Y5	Y6
YouTube French Videos	67%	56%	53%	50%
Quizlet	23%	28%	30%	16%
Duolingo	50%	54%	61%	61%

Key topics to focus on:

Greetings, Colours, Pencil case equipment, Classroom Action Verbs, Numbers, Seasons, Clothing, Days of the Week and Months of the Year.

Looking forward to more fun French sessions next year!

All the best to the Year 6 children moving on to secondary school - go and impress your new language teachers with your fabulous French skills!

Bonnes Vacances!

Madame March

Rushey Mead Primary School Summer Festival 2023



Thank you to all our parents and carers who supported our Summer Festival this year!

We have had fantastic feedback from all of you to say that both parents, carers and children had a wonderful time at the festival with lots of activities, competitions and food and drink to enjoy!

Hope to see you all again next year!



4 - Mr Jariwala and team were was rushed off their feet trying to keep up with the demand!



5 - Parents and Carers were looking for a bargain at Miss Newell's Bring & Buy Sale



6 - Mrs Preston and Mr Morrish's Corn on the Cobs were sold out within the hour!



7 - Mr Whippy also came to sell his famous ice-creams at the summer festival!



8 - Lots of children tried to win a prize at Mr Fojdar's basketball shootout!



9 - There were numerous prizes won by parents and carers at the raffle including this Tefal 9 Piece Pots & Non-Stick Pans Set With Utensils!

Year 6

Goodbye & Good Luck

Year 6

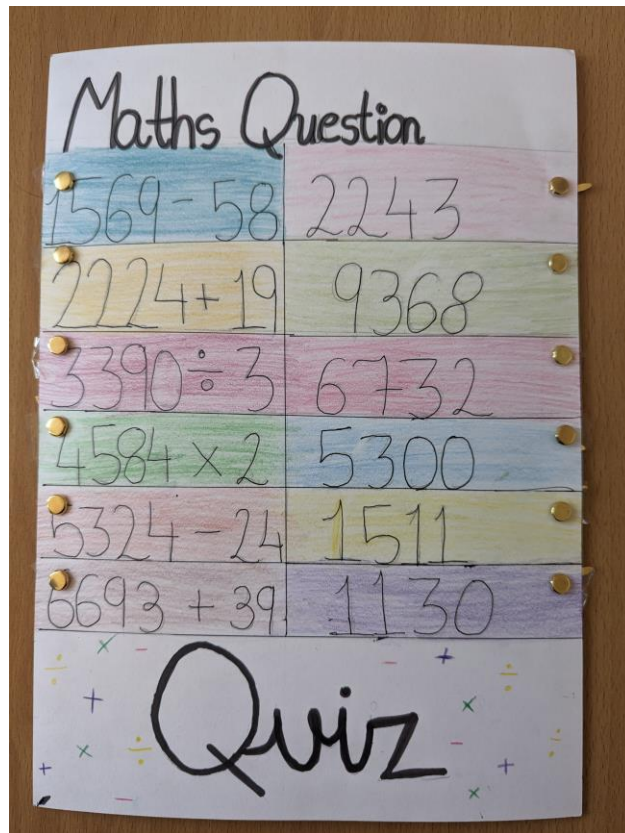


Pupils in Year 6 have been studying electricity as part of their science curriculum and enjoyed exploring circuits and components. They tested circuits in different ways and, at the end of the unit, they designed and made a fantastic circuit game.

They have also been learning about World War 1 & World War 2 as part of the History unit and found it particularly interesting to learn about the events that led to the start of the wars and the countries that were involved.

Pupils also enjoyed working collaboratively to create a large class display. Finally, we would like to wish our Year 6 pupils all the very best as they will be leaving soon to continue their learning at secondary school.





Rushey Mead Primary School Diary Dates 2023-24



Diary Dates for 2023-24



Autumn 1	Event	Time
29.08.23	Children back to school	
31.08.23	Nursery children in school	
04.09.23	Reception Baseline Assessment	
05.09.23	Curriculum Evening for EYFS and Year 3/4	3:30 – 4:00
07.09.23	Curriculum Evening for Years 1/2 and Years 5/6	3:30 – 4:00
13.09.23 – 15.09.23	Year 6 - Residential Trip – Blackwell Adventure	
15.09.23	Reception Parent Reading Workshops	2:30 - 3:00
21.09.23	Year 1 Parent Reading Workshop	2:30 - 3:00
22.09.23	Year 2 Parent Reading Workshop	2:30 - 3:00
29.09.23	MacMillan Coffee Morning	9:30
02.10.23	Nursery Parent Reading Workshop	11:30 – 12:00
Autumn Half Term Holiday: Monday 16 th October 2023 to Friday 20 th October 2023		
Autumn 2		
10.11.23	Remembrance Day Assembly	2:30
13.11.23	School Closed for Teacher Inset Day	
14.11.23	Diwali Celebrations	Home-time
17.11.23	Children in Need – Fundraising	
13.11.23 – 17.11.23	Anti-Bullying Week	
15.11.23 & 16.11.23	Parents' Evening	3:30 – 6:00
15.12.23	Reception and Nursery: Christmas Production	TBA
19.12.23	KS1 Christmas Production / Concert	TBA
20.12.23	Christmas Lunch & Outdoor Carol Concert	
22.12.23	Staff Pantomime	9:30
18.12.23 – 22.12.23	Christmas Party Days	
Christmas & New Year Holiday: Monday 25 th December 2023 to Friday 5 th January 2024		
Spring 1		
08.01.24	Children back to school	
16.01.24	Curriculum Evening for EYFS and Year 3/4	3:30 – 4:00
18.01.24	Curriculum Evening for Years 1/2 and Years 5/6	3:30 – 4:00
22.01.24	Year 6 SATs Parent Maths Workshop	3:30 - 4:00
29.01.24	Year 6 SATs Parent Reading Workshop	3:30 – 4:00
30.01.24	Year 1 Phonics Screening Parent Workshop	3:30 - 4:00
05.02.24	Year 2 SATs Parent Maths Workshop	3:30 – 4:00
05.02.24 – 11.02.24	Children's Mental Health Week & Tech Week	
06.02.24	Online Safety Meeting for Parents with Digital Leaders	3:30 – 4:00
09.02.24	Reception Parent Reading Workshop	2:30 - 3:00
12.02.24	Nursery Parent Reading Workshop	11:30 - 12:00
Spring Half Term Holiday: Monday 19 th February 2024 to Friday 23 rd February 2024		
Spring 2		
04.03.24	Year 2 SATs Parent Reading Workshop	3:30 - 4:00
08.03.24	World Book Day	

Diary Dates for 2023-24



13.03.24 & 14.03.24	Parents' Evening	3:30 - 6:30
20.03.24	Spring Disco KS1	4:00 - 5:00
20.03.24	Spring Disco KS2	5:30 - 6:30
22.03.24	Easter Bonnet Parade	
Easter Holidays: Monday 25 th March 2024 to Friday 5 th April 2024		
Summer 1		
12.04.24	Eid-UI-Fitr Celebrations	Home-time
15.04.24	Vaisakhi Celebrations	Home-time
16.04.24	Curriculum Evening for EYFS and Year 3/4	3:30 - 4:00
18.04.24	Curriculum Evening for Years 1/2 and Years 5/6	3:30 - 4:00
13.05.24 - 17.05.24	KS2 SATs Week	
20.05.24 - 24.05.24	KS1 SATs Week	
Summer Half Term Holiday: Monday 27 th May 2024 to Friday 31 st May 2024		
Summer 2		
03.06.24 - 07.06.24	French Week	
10.06.24 - 14.06.24	Year 1 & 2 Phonics Screening Check	
10.06.24 - 14.06.24	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check	
June	Year 6 - London Trip	
18.06.24	EYFS & KS1 Sports' Day / Picnic	10:30
June	The Great British Bark Off Week	
25.06.24	KS2 Sports' Day / Picnic	10:30
26.06.24	Summer Festival	3:30 - 6:30
03.07.24	Whole School Transition Day	
10.07.24	End of Year Reports to Parents	
12.07.24	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly	9.30
Summer Holidays begin: Monday 15 th July 2024		

Leicester City Council: Local Authority School Holidays 2023/2024



Leicester City Council
Local authority school holidays 2023/2024



Term No 1: 34 days (6 weeks 4 days)	
Schools Open	Tuesday 29 August 2023
Schools Close	Friday 13 October 2023
Autumn Half Term Holiday	Monday 16 October 2023 to Friday 20 October 2023

Term No 2: 45 days (9 weeks)	
Schools Open	Monday 23 October 2023
Schools Close	Friday 22 December 2023
Christmas & New Year Holiday	Monday 25 December 2023 to Friday 5 January 2024

Term No 3: 30 days (6 weeks)	
Schools Open	Monday 8 January 2024
Schools Close	Friday 16 February 2024
Spring Half Term Holiday	Monday 19 February 2024 to Friday 23 February 2024

Term No 4: 20 days (4 weeks)	
Schools Open	Monday 26 February 2024
Schools Close	Friday 22 March 2024
Easter Holidays	Monday 25 March 2024 to Friday 5 April 2024

Term No 5: 34 days (6 weeks 4 days)	
Schools Open	Monday 8 April 2024
May Bank Holiday (schools closed)	Monday 6 May 2024
Schools Close	Friday 24 May 2024
Summer Half Term Holiday	Monday 27 May 2024 to Friday 31 May 2024

Term No 6: 30 days (6 weeks)	
Schools Open	Monday 3 June 2024
Schools Close	Friday 12 July 2024
Summer Holiday begins	Monday 15 July 2024