Rolph C of E Primary School and Nursery

Family Newsletter

Friday 22nd May 2026

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 25th—Friday 29th May
Half Term
Monday 8th—Friday 12th June
Mersea Residential—Oak Class
Tuesday 9th June
Colchester Zoo—Hazel Class
Thursday 11th June
Ancient Egyptian Day—Birch Class
Monday 15th June
Fun Day of Sporting Activities
Tuesday 16th June
Curve Water Park—Elm & Oak Classes
Scooter Day—Willow to Ash Class
Wednesday 17th June
Sports Day for whole school
Thursday 18th June
Sports for Champions UK
Friday 19th June
Colour Run for Willow to Oak Class
Tuesday 23rd June
Essex Food & Farming Day—Ash Class
Wednesday 24th June
Class and Team Photographs
Thursday 25th June
Transition Day
Friday 26th June
Harwich Beach Trip—Willow Class
Friday 3rd July
Tower of London Trip—Oak Class
Tuesday 7th July
Oak Class & KS2 Performance—1.45pm & 6pm
Wednesday 8th July
Walton Pier & Beach—Sycamore Class
Teddy Bears' Picnic—Chestnut Class
Thursday 9th July
Oak Class & KS2 Performance—9.15am
Thursday 16th July
Oak Class Leavers Assembly— 9.15am

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another fantastic and busy start to the summer term, with lots of memorable experiences for the children.

Birch Class had a brilliant trip to Walton-on-the-Naze, where they explored the Tower and enjoyed time on the beach—definitely a highlight of the term! Sycamore Class also had a wonderful visit to Hasty's Farm, full of fun activities, hands-on learning and excitement.

Our recent Eucharist services, led by Hazel and Birch Classes, were thoughtful and reflective occasions. It was lovely to see the children taking part with such confidence.

A very special mention goes to pupils in Oak Class, who have completed their SATs with such resilience and positivity. We are incredibly proud of them and the effort they have shown—well done to you all!

We would also like to say a big thank you to the RSA for organising two great discos for the children. These events are such an important part of school life—providing lots of fun for the children while also helping to raise valuable funds to further enrich their experiences.

I hope you have a wonderful half term,

Mrs Asbridge

RSA (Rolph School Association) Update

Upcoming RSA Events

- Colour Run - Friday 19th June
- Inflatable Afternoon - Thursday 9th July
- End of term treats – Friday 17th July
- Fireworks Night - Friday 6th November

Fundraising Highlights

- School Disco - £523 profit
- Easter Raffle - £400 profit
- Hasty's Family Day - £500 profit

Thank you to Hasty's & all businesses & families who donated prizes and bought tickets!

We Need Your Help!

Teddy donations needed please - if you have any, please take to the Office

Volunteers needed for all upcoming events – even if you have only a little time - please speak to your RSA reps

Next Meeting Friday 22nd May, 9am at The Rose & Crown

In 2026 Funds Have Been Spent on...

£2,400 (£300 per class) - Subsidising school trips for parents
£595 – Creating a Sand Pit for Playtimes
£138 – Building a new Mud Kitchen
£96 - PE kit storage boxes under pegs

'Live LIFE and flourish together'

Love **Integrity** **Fellowship** **Endurance**

Classroom Learning

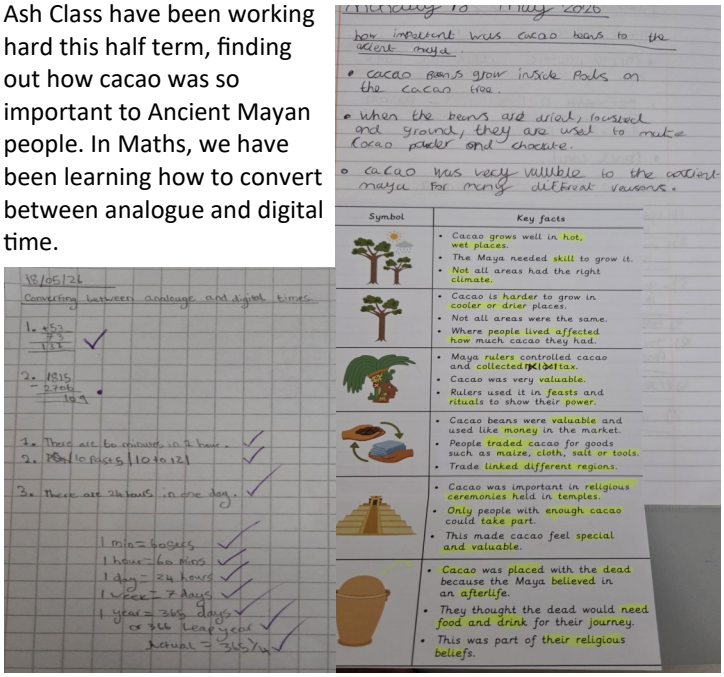
Willow Class paid a visit to our local Tesco store.
We looked at how we can withdraw cash from the cash point and use it to buy items on our shopping list to make sandwiches.

On Wednesday 6th May, Sycamore Class visited Hasty's Adventure Farm to learn about what life is like on a farm. We had a wonderful time feeding a range of animals and we learnt about the different machinery used to plant and cultivate crops. Despite a little bit of rain, the children all had a fantastic day. Thank you so much to our parent helpers who accompanied us on the trip. The children were polite and respectful and demonstrated our school values throughout the day.

Hazel Class have thoroughly enjoyed their Forest School sessions this half term. The children have shown wonderful teamwork skills and used their imaginations throughout. It has been fantastic to see them explore, collaborate and enjoy the outdoors together.

Birch Class had lots of fun during their DT lessons this half term, making greenhouses using dried spaghetti pasta, marshmallows and cling film. Whilst building, we came across several challenges, and these were great opportunities to learn new skills. We shared ideas such as using shorter pieces of spaghetti pasta, creating triangular shapes as well as square shapes and making the base stronger by adding further layers of pasta.

Ash Class have been working hard this half term, finding out how cacao was so important to Ancient Mayan people. In Maths, we have been learning how to convert between analogue and digital time.



Elm Class have thoroughly enjoyed learning to play the flute for the last few weeks. We have been shown how to play a range of notes as well as composing simple pieces of music. It has been lovely to see them grasping a new musical instrument. Well done!

Over the last few weeks, Oak Class have shown incredible dedication and determination as they prepared for their SATs. They have worked exceptionally hard, demonstrating resilience, focus and a positive attitude towards learning. The progress they have made is truly commendable and they have supported one another along the way. We are immensely proud of each and every one of them and the effort they have put into achieving their very best. Well done, Oak Class!

Sport News

On Sunday 19th April, four students from Rolph took part in the Eastern Region Schools Ski Race at Norfolk Snowsports Club. They did really well and as a team came fifth out of eight schools. Within their age groups Harry B came 13th, Harry W 21st. Harriet was the star of the day winning fastest girl overall.

Well done to Harriet, Bowen, Harry B and Harry W. The children would like to thank Mrs Parker for arranging for them to go and take part. Also, thank you to Harriet for supporting and coaching the younger members of the team at their first event.

by Harriet and Mrs Williamson

Bikeability

During the week starting Tuesday 5th May, 18 children from Elm Class to part in Bikeability. It was lots of fun!

We completed an obstacle course on the playground in the morning as well as learning to safely ride on the road. During the afternoon, we cycled on the roads around Thorpe, to practice the skills we had learnt to give us experience and confidence whilst cycling.

Thank you to Mrs Johnson for arranging an amazing experience and a big well done to everyone!

by Snow and Abigail

Celebration Certificates

Congratulations to the following children who received certificates this month for demonstrating excellence in the curriculum or our school values.

Willow Class
River-Blue, Amelia, Ruben, Oscar, Hallie, Evan, Sidney, Jack and Leo

Sycamore Class
Darcy, Sophia, Arlo, Ezra, Layla, Claire, Molly, Roman, Darcy and Emma

Hazel Class
Jessica, Joanna, Logan, Stanley, Parker, Alanna, Ameera, Beau, Molly and Willow

Birch Class
Poppy By., Lyla, Arthur N., Willow, Harry B., Max, Sean, Maia, Martha and Jenson

Ash Class
Luenna, Charlie, Lucas, Thomas, Sabrina, Daniel, Scarlett, Emily C., Dylan and Oakley

Elm Class
George, Charlie Ca., Luna, Alannah, Rowan, Abigail H., Maddie, Sophie, Robbie and Florrie

Oak Class
Mason, Archie, Harry, Millie, Evelyn, Dolly, Frederick, Curtis, Daisy and all of Oak Class

Well done everyone for your hard work this month!

House Points

Hufflepuff — 1000
Gryffindor — 1047
Ravenclaw — 830
Slytherin — 919

Well done to Gryffindor for being the winning house this month.

'Live LIFE and flourish together'

Love **Integrity** **Fellowship** **Endurance**

Attendance

Whole School Attendance

92.62%

The Department for Education tracks attendance carefully and we aim to have an attendance figure in excess of the national average of 96.7%.

A huge well done and thank you to Ash and Elm who have the highest attendance this month.

Regular attendance is very important for children to achieve the best they can. If children are absent from school, it not only affects their education but they will miss out on the social side of school which affects their ability to make and keep friends and can dent their self confidence.

Class	Attendance
Chestnut Class - Nursery	91.74%
Willow Class - EYFS	92.31%
Sycamore Class - Year 1	92.05%
Hazel Class- Year 2	92.42%
Birch Class - Year 3	93.55%
Ash Class - Year 4	95.47%
Elm Class - Year 5	95.47%
Oak Class - Year 6	86.23%

Attendance

We would like to take this opportunity to say **THANK YOU** to all of our families who consistently ensure their children's attendance and punctuality is good. Getting these important habits established early on in your child's life will make a difference to their futures. There is a proven link between attendance and achievement.

If your child is going to be absent from school, contact must be made first thing that morning and each day thereafter. Contact can be made by either phoning the school on 01255 861317 and leaving a voicemail or using the Arbor app. Please provide us with as much information as possible about why your child cannot attend school. We may still contact you if we require more information regarding their illness. We may also require medical evidence. Please always give an honest reason why your child is not in school. Guidance from the NHS on illnesses and whether your child should be kept off of school can be found at Is my child too ill for school? - NHS (www.nhs.uk)

Leave of absence

Any time off during term time will only be authorised when we consider the period of absence to be for an ***exceptional circumstance.*** Exceptional circumstances are one off events which are unavoidable. A form must be completed prior to the period of absence which can be obtained from the school office. Please give as much notice as possible. We will then make a decision whether to authorise the absence or not. We have a duty of care, shared with the Local Authority, to challenge poor attendance. **Unauthorised absences** are those which the school does not consider reasonable and for which no 'leave' has been granted. This type of absence can lead to the school referring to the Local Authority for penalty notices and/or legal proceedings.

Punctuality

We appreciate the efforts that our parents and carers make in order to get their children into school on time. Poor punctuality can affect learning and behaviour. The start of the day is when the teacher informs the class of what the day ahead will look like. Learning begins from the moment they enter the classroom. It is not only the pupil who is late that is affected, it has an impact on all other learners. If a child walks in late, the teacher is then required to recap on missing learning for that child which reduces learning time for the rest of the class. It is important that your child comes into school on time. A reminder that the school gates are open from 8.35am and close at 8.50am, this allows parents/children a staggered start to the morning. At 8.50am the gates are locked and the school day starts, if your child arrives after this time they will be marked as late. Thank you for your support in this area.