



Rockcliffe Newsletter 7 – Autumn Term

Dear Rockcliffe Families,

Over this week and next week our Rockcliffe Learning Superpower focus has been Collaborate and Co-operate. This is such an important message and skill when we look at the wider-world at the moment. It has been fantastic to see the children working so hard in this area. This week's newsletter also seems to embody this too!

Black History Month – Big Foot

On the theme of our Superpower, today we have celebrated Black History Month with some very special visitors. Big Foot Arts Productions came to school to deliver their Hidden Figures workshops with Year 1 to 4. The entertaining storyteller shared fascinating stories of brilliant black British people who have shaped our country. Thank you to the Friends of Rockcliffe for funding this great experience for the children. This is what our Rockcliffe Reporters thought after the workshop:



I think that is going to improve how people in the school think about things and make people be more respectful. Noah

I really liked that it was funny but I thought about how we should treat people. Lizzie

I enjoyed it and liked when he thought the bananas were orange. Sam

I was inspired how black people will still change the world in the future. Ursula

Reception have also been learning about Black History Month, with a focus on celebrating the work of black artists. The children enjoyed listening to music by a range of black musicians and exploring the vibrant, abstract artwork of renowned artist Alma Thomas. Inspired by her distinctive style, they created their own colourful masterpieces



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Autumn Adventures



Nursery took part in an autumn treasure hunt yesterday as we visited our neighbours' gardens on Collingwood Terrace. We collected an array of seasonal treasures including a basket full of apples that we can't wait to make apple crumble with! I'm looking forward to trying that on Monday!



On Tuesday, Seahorses had their Beach School session at Cullercoats Bay. They explored what was on the beach at this time of year.

Linking Leaders

On Monday, Mrs Duggan and I attended our first session of a year-long project of Linking Leaders co-ordinated by the North East Combined Authority and the Newcastle Education Research School. We are one of 14 schools in the North East involved and we will be running a project to help develop an area of Early Years education with another school in the region. This is a great opportunity to further improve the opportunities for our children and develop as a teaching team.

Parents' Evenings

We are looking forward to inviting you into school next week for our first Parents' Evening of the year to discuss how your child/children have settled into their new class. Their books will be available beforehand for you to have a look through so please arrive a few minutes early. The meeting is just for you and the teacher so if your child is coming with you, please bring something to keep them occupied quietly outside the classroom while the meeting takes place. Please enter and leave via the Main School Office and wait in the Upstairs Hall. Reception and Nursery Teachers will be in our intervention rooms upstairs for your appointments. Year 1 to 4 appointments will be in your child's classroom. At the end of the appointment, we will be giving you the contact details we hold on record – please can you update any changes and return to the school Office on your way out.





Parent Governor Elections

Can we say a big thank you to the 11 candidates who have put themselves forward to be a Parent Governor and support our school. Please can you return your ballot papers by 5pm on Thursday. The ballot box is in the main entrance so Parents' Evenings will be a good opportunity to return them.

I look forward to seeing you all next week,

Tom Jones

Dates for Your Diary

October	
Mon 20 th and Wed 21 st	Parents' Evenings (3.30 – 6.00)
Mon 20 th	Priory class – Great North Museum
Tue 21 st	Sandpipers Beach School
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)
Fri 7 th	Beacon Beach School
Mon 10 th	Priory Beach School
Fri 14 th	Children in Need (Details to follow soon)
Fri 21 st	Lighthouse Beach School
Training Days 2025-6	- Monday 3rd November 2025 - Monday 5th January 2026