



## Newsletter 5 – Spring 2026

Dear Rockcliffe Families,

Despite the stormy weather, we have been *shining brightly together* by applying our Rockcliffe Learning Superpower of Keep Improving through the week. As we are half way through the academic year, it has been a good time to reflect on the progress the children have made and for them to identify what they need to continue to improve for the rest of the year. I really enjoyed sharing the story of *The Most Magnificent Thing* on Monday and I was amazed by the fantastic ideas they had to help the girl and dog in the story.

### NSPCC National Number

Today, we have been taking part in lots of exciting number challenges as part of the NSPCC's National Number Day. Each class has been a hive of activity with number investigations, maths-based challenges and stories and creative outfits! It was great to see how well the children engaged with their problem solving and having fun with numbers. Ask your child what they enjoyed most today.



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### Grafton Gallery Visit

On Thursday, Flora visited Starfish and talked to the children about her art gallery in her garden on Grafton Road. The children then created detailed clay hearts by rolling out clay and choosing their own design using a selection of materials to create beautiful textures. After, the children coloured some dried clay hearts Flora had ready, using a selection of bright pens and paints. She will be back to work with Seahorses soon.



### Keep Improving



As staff we like to practice what we preach and it has been a week full of Professional Development for us to keep improving too. On Tuesday evening, we hosted an Early Years Cluster meeting led by Maddy Kennedy, Lead Early Years Advisor for North Tyneside. Members of staff from 20 schools attended to share good practice and to learn about recent educational updates. Mrs Duggan presented about our Beach School projects and we also held a tour of our Early Years provision.

On Wednesday we welcomed Karl McGrath from Benton Park Primary in Newcastle who worked with us on task design. In non-teacher speak, this is the work we give the children to do independently. It was a great session which made us think deeply to help make the children think more deeply. We're really looking forward to using these ideas in lessons.



Have a great weekend ahead of the last week of this half-term. It is Children's Mental Health Week and we have got activities planned through the week to promote this important topic.

*Tom Jones*



## Dates for Your Diary

February	
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Measurements
Tue 10 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day
<b>Half Term: 14<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	
Tue 24 <sup>th</sup>	Puffins Beach School - PM
Tue 24 <sup>th</sup>	Y4 Residential Information Meeting – 5pm
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	Friends of Rockcliffe: Priory Bake Sale
March	
Thu 5 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>	Sandpipers Beach School - PM
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> – Wed 11 <sup>th</sup>	Y4 Residential
Tue 10 <sup>th</sup>	Lapwings Beach School - PM
Tue 17 <sup>th</sup>	Y3 Dance Festival
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evening
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	Red Nose Day
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Lighthouse Beach School - PM
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Glee Club – Spring Sing
Thu 26 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evening
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	Beacon Beach School - PM
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup>	Rockcliffe First School Whitley Bay Junior ParkRun Takeover
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup>	Starfish Beach School - AM
Tue 31 <sup>st</sup>	Seahorses Beach School – PM Priory Beach School - PM
April	
Thu 2 <sup>nd</sup>	End of Spring Term

