

Keep Learning Autumn 1 2026 Green Room



Take a look at the planned learning opportunities and adult guided activities this term

Our focus value this term is: Relationships



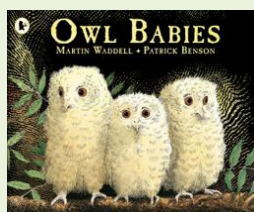
- Trusted, respectful relationships are developed with all our children and their families through high quality interactions, communication and support.
- Partnerships with colleagues ensures support is given when needed to ensure a healthy start and equity for all children.
- Nurturing adults feel joy and are honoured by sharing the learning journey of children.

At the start of the academic year we will be following our Starting School Framework for the first few weeks as the children settle in – please click on the link below and select your child's age band.

[Rowland Hill - Starting School Framework](#)

Focus text - We will be reading

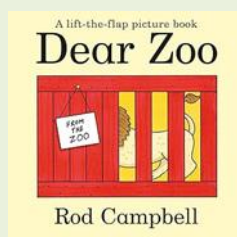
Week 4 - Owl babies



[16x9 OXF AISEPS PMAX Animation 30 Sec_2025-12-01_10-29-33.mp4](#)



Week 5 - Dear Zoo



[Dear Zoo - Rod Campbell \(Read by Alicja\)](#)

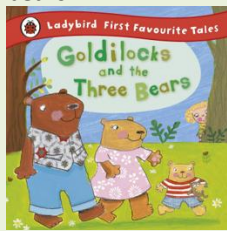
Week 6 – I've got the rhythm



[I Got The Rhythm by Connie Schofield Morrison Read by Lara](#)



Week 7 - Goldilocks and the three bears



[Goldilocks by Nick Sharratt and Stephan Tucker. Read by Sarah](#)

Week 8 - Baby goes to market



[Baby Goes to Market by Atinuke read by Nisha](#)



Rhyme of the Week - We will be singing

Week 2 - 5 fat sausages



[Bing Videos](#)

Week 3 - If you're happy & you know it



[You're Happy and You Know it - with Sian](#)



Week 4 - days of the week

[Seven days of the week - with Sian](#)



Week 5 - twinkle twinkle little star



[5 Fat Sausages](#)

Week 6 - Sleeping bunnies



[Bing Videos](#)



Week 7 - Head, shoulders, knees and toes/Diwali song



[Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes - with Amevi](#)



Week 8 - Open, shut them



[Open Shut Them](#)



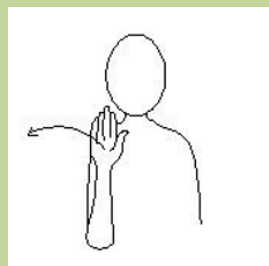
Sign of the week - We will be learning these Makaton signs



We will be launching our Makaton 'Sign of the Week' on Monday 21st September 2026

Check out our [Makaton playlist](#) on the Rowland Hill YouTube channel.

Week 4



Good bye



Good bye

Week 5

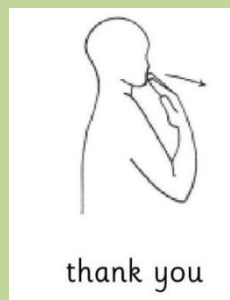


Help

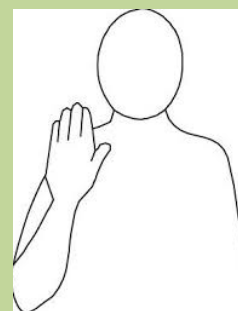


Please

Week 6 –

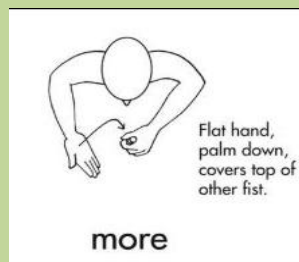


thank you



Stop

Week 7 –

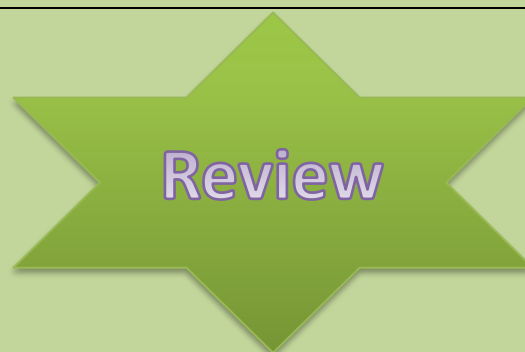


more



Finished

Week 8 –



We will be learning about these early phonics concepts in our play

Weeks 3 & 4 - Our phonological awareness focus will be: To develop awareness of sounds and rhythms.

Performing action songs and creating actions for familiar songs

[Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes - with Amevi](#)

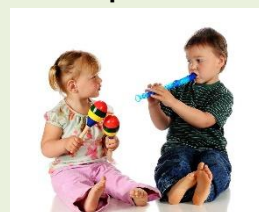
[Open Shut Them](#)

[If You're Happy and You Know it - with Sian](#)



Weeks 5 & 6 - Our phonological awareness focus will be: To experience and develop awareness of sounds made with instruments and noise makers.

- New words to familiar songs / rhymes and introducing percussion instruments



Weeks 7 & 8 - Our phonological awareness focus will be: Embedding learning



"If you're happy and you know it play your drum"



We will be learning about these Maths concepts in our play

Weeks 3 & 4 - Our Maths focus will be: Shape & Space

We will be exploring spatial words for shape and space:

- Inside/outside
- Under/over
- Beside/next to
- In front/behind

Navigating and moving enables children to move, navigate, and explore their world effectively.

Spatial development is supported with activities like:

- Climbing
- Crawling through spaces
- Fitting into different areas

Spatial reasoning helps children recognise body parts, objects, and people around them. It allows them to understand how things move in a 3-dimensional world. For instance, babies use these skills to explore their environment and learn about their surroundings.

Spatial understanding is a foundation for mathematical thinking. Children who grasp spatial concepts can visualize shapes mentally and think about how they can be manipulated. This skill is essential for problem-solving and later math skills.



Weeks 5 & 6 - Our Maths focus will be: Cardinality & Counting

Counting is one way of establishing how many things are in a group, because the last number you say tells you how many there are.

[5 Fat Sausages](#)



Week 7 & 8 - Our Maths focus will be: Measures

Measurement is one of the basic math concepts that children will use throughout their lives. Understanding measurement helps children develop other math skills, through fun and interactive measurement activities children can engage in meaningful experiences. Measurement is a fundamental concept that helps children understand the world around them, measurement is not only important for mathematical development, but it also enhances their problem-solving skills, spatial awareness, and ability to compare objects.



Adult Guided activities in play

Week 4 - cutting fruits

Cutting fruits for young children offers numerous benefits, including:

- **Fine Motor Skills:** Children develop their fine motor skills as they manipulate child-safe cutting tools to cut fruits.
- **Hand-Eye Coordination:** The activity enhances hand-eye coordination, allowing children to focus on cutting fruits accurately.
- **Sensory Stimulation:** Children experience different textures and scents of fruits, providing rich sensory stimulation.
- **Independence and Confidence:** Successfully cutting fruits boosts a child's confidence and fosters a sense of independence and accomplishment.
- **Develop child's interest:** in trying various fruits and understanding their importance in a balanced diet.
- **Social Skills:** cutting fruits with peers, children learn the value of sharing, taking turns, and working together.



Weeks 5 & 6 – how to make our own Play dough

Play dough ingredients

One cup of warm water

½ a cup of oil

½ a cup of salt

2 cups of flour

Place all the ingredients in a bowl and mix them together



Over the next 2 weeks the children will be learning how to make their own play dough, we will use a visual recipe to support children's understanding of what we need to add and how much in order to make play dough, this process will involve a lot of experimenting with different textures being created until they become more familiar with the process, have a go at home and share your experiences with us on Tapestry.

[Alberta makes cooked play dough - to create a festive gift or decoration](#)



Weeks 7 – Porridge

Over the next 2 weeks we will be exploring the different foods mentioned in our core textbooks, exploring new flavours and textures, likes and dislikes.



- Exploring new foods and textures in early years is crucial for several reasons, engaging with diverse foods helps children develop cognitive skills by encouraging them to describe flavours and textures, enhancing their vocabulary and language abilities.
- Sensory experiences with food fosters emotional development by allowing children to express their likes and dislikes, which is essential for building social skills.
- Introducing children to a variety of foods encourages a positive relationship with food, leading to healthier eating habits as they grow older.
- Exploring different textures and flavours through play helps children build sensory skills, making them more comfortable with new food experiences.
- Allowing children to handle and play with food can help desensitize them to new textures, making it easier for them to accept and enjoy a variety of foods.

Weeks 8 – introduction to clay

Introducing young children to clay can have numerous benefits, including:



- Enhancing fine motor skills: Children can pinch, roll, and shape the clay, which strengthens their hand and finger muscles and improves hand-eye coordination and dexterity.
- Promoting creativity and imaginative play: Clay allows children to experiment with forms and structures, boosting their self-expression and supporting cognitive development.
- Supporting emotional development: The calming and therapeutic nature of working with clay can help boost focus and reduce stress, contributing positively to emotional development.
- Facilitating problem-solving: Children can use clay to solve problems and realize their ideas in three-dimensional form, which is essential for cognitive growth.
- Building art vocabulary: Kids learn action words like pinch, roll, or squeeze, as well as art elements like shape, form, and texture.



Seasonal Calendar activities and events

Please see the activity posters below



Rosh Hashanah, also known as the Jewish New Year. This Jewish holiday celebrates the completion of another year, and the beginnings of a new year. It is also the time for rejoicing and reflecting.

Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown on Friday 11th and ends on nightfall on Sunday 13th, marking the start of the Hebrew year 5787.

Many will eat sweet foods including round challah, apples dipped in honey, and pomegranates to symbolise a good and sweet new year.

We will be learning about this festival in our Talking Times sharing experiences and reading books together to learn more.



***International Day
of Sign Languages***
September 23

We will be launching our Makaton 'Sign of the Week' on Monday 21st September 2026

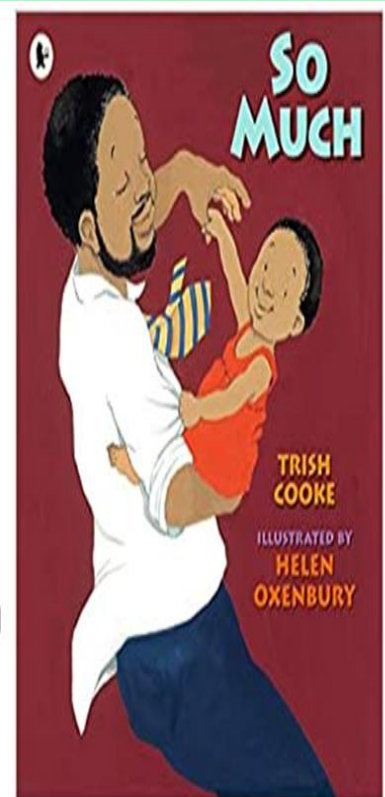
Check out our [Makaton playlist](#) on the Rowland Hill YouTube channel.

The weekly Makaton signs will also be highlighted in our termly curriculum overviews available on our website

CELEBRATING

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Throughout October we will be celebrating Black History Month by sharing a selection of books written by black authors, singing songs from around the world and trying some tasty dishes. If you have any talents and would like to come in to share these with the children to celebrate other cultures, please speak with your key worker.





Many of our families are already doing a great job walking to school every day.

Choose an active start to your day by walking to school and reducing pollution caused by driving.

If you are getting your daily exercise by travelling to school on a bike or a scooter, you can park it in our bike shed in the Community garden.

RECYCLE WEEK 2026

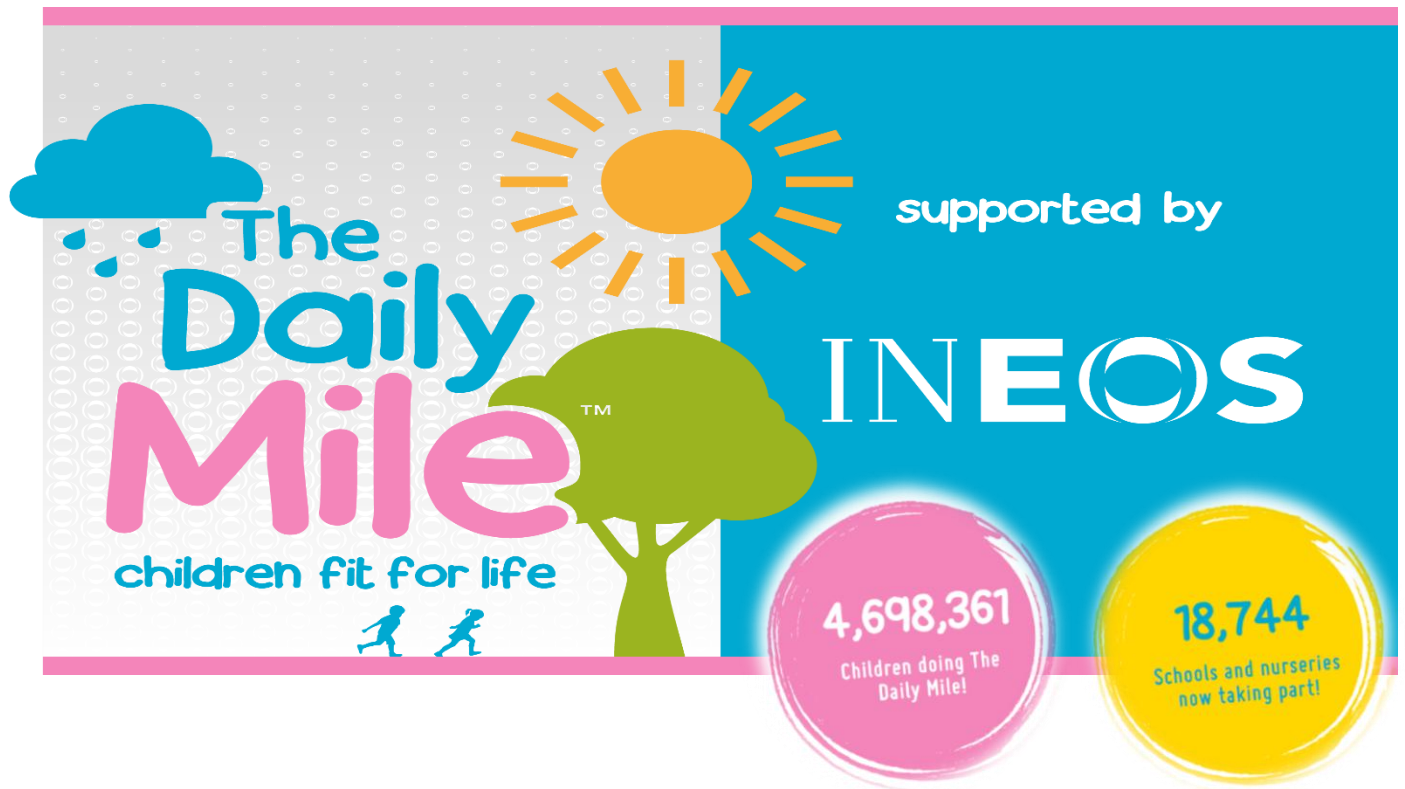
14-20 SEPTEMBER



2026 has been a big year for recycling, already! New policy, upcoming changes, and packaging developments, all helping improve recycling rates. But nothing changes without people choosing to recycle. This year, we're focused on maximising the impact of these changes through our biggest campaign moment. Helping change behaviour, so that the right things go in the right bins. [Recycle Week 2026 | WRAP - The Waste and Resources Action Programme](#)

As part of our Starting School Framework, we will be learning about recycling the materials we use at the nursery, talking about the materials that packaging and resources are made from.

The children actively take part in recycling when tidying up and will also be reusing materials through junk modelling and to support our creativity with loose parts in the garden.



RESEARCH ON THE DAILY MILE

We all know 'exercise is good for you', and The Daily Mile is no exception. There are a wide variety of health and wellbeing benefits associated with daily physical activity and an emerging body of evidence supports the positive impact The Daily Mile can have on children's health.



At Rowland Hill we will restart our daily mile sessions from 14th September 2026



National Poetry Day

Thursday 1st October 2026

At Rowland Hill we will have a celebration of Poetry through our Talking Times and will share some of our favourite authors in our curriculum overview, which is available on our website.

Share your child's favourite poems with us on Tapestry.



**Be part of our day of action. Wear Red Day -
Friday the 16th of October 2026.**

**The UK's leading
anti-racism educational charity**

Wear Red Day - Show Racism the Red Card

Key information about the charity from the website – link above

2026 is the 12th Anniversary of Wear Red Day. A landmark that we are incredibly proud of. Our first celebration in 2014 saw 7,000 people registering to take part. In 2024, that figure had exploded to become 710,000 participants celebrating with us.

We couldn't be more grateful to our supporters.

For 2026, we've set ourselves a target and with your help, we think that we can achieve it.

Will you celebrate with us and be one of the 1 million?

As a supporter, you are showing your true, brave colours. As part of the team, you make us stronger.

Every heart and every mind that we change changes at least one life but has the capacity to change hundreds, if not thousands of others.

Be a proud anti-racist. Be the difference. Join us.

Wear Red



Diwali 2026, the Festival of Lights will be celebrated across the UK with vibrant events, fireworks, and cultural festivities.

Starting on Sunday 8th November marking the main day of Lakshmi Puja. The entire five-day festival spans from Friday 6th November till Tuesday 10th November 2026.

