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Roughwood Primary School Newsletter

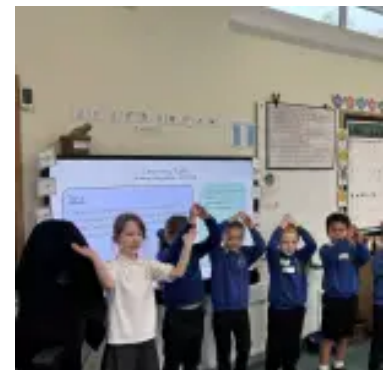
8th October 2026

It feels like we only just opened our doors for the new school year, yet here we are stepping into October! The crisp autumn mornings are here, and our school is filled with the energy and enthusiasm of a fantastic term underway.

Year 1 create actions to memorise fun facts from an atlas!

This week in Literacy, we explored children's atlas books to uncover fascinating facts about the world. To deepen our understanding, we created our own actions to match key terms - a fun, interactive way to help us remember the information before writing our facts in our books in the next lesson.

We enjoyed working in teams and sharing all of our brilliant ideas!



Y5 Enjoyed Horrible Histories

As a hook into our new topic, children loved a trip to the Lyceum to see a live action performance of 'The Terrible Tudors'.



Exploring our new classroom

Little Acorns have been having lots of fun exploring their new classroom! The children have been busy exploring new spaces and choosing where they would like to play.

As they settle into their new classroom, they are also beginning to learn how to look after their space. They are practicing 'choose, use and put away' - choosing something to play with and then putting away when we have finished.

It has been lovely to see the children becoming more confident in their new surroundings. They are beginning to make choices, develop their independence and learn that we all have a part to play in caring for our classroom.



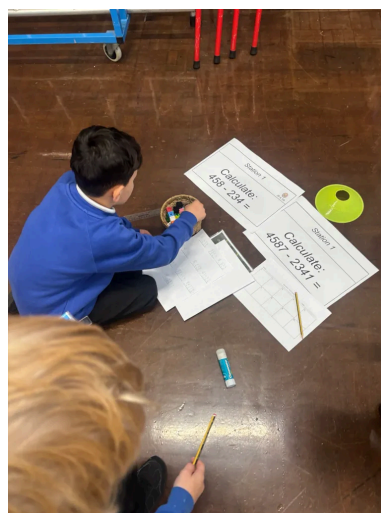
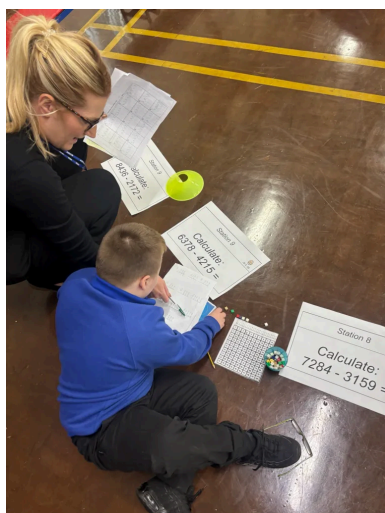
Active Body, Active Mind: Class 5 Master 4-Digit Subtraction!

Class 5 brought maths to life this week with a high-energy Teach Active circuit session, proving that physical activity and column subtraction make a powerful team!

Our focus was mastering the subtraction of two 4-digit numbers involving one exchange. To keep our minds sharp and our bodies moving, the hall was transformed into a 15-station circuit. At each station, the children tackled new calculations, using concrete maths resources to help them exchange and build a deep understanding of place value.

Every single member of Class 5 demonstrated outstanding effort, enthusiasm and resilience as they rotated through the stations. It was inspiring to see everyone working so hard, with several pupils pushing themselves even further to conquer the deeper thinking challenge questions that required extra reasoning and problem - solving.

Huge congratulations to Class 5 for their brilliant attitude, fantastic teamwork and super mathematical thinking!



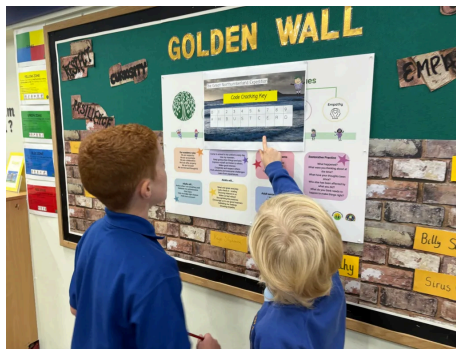
Year 6 Maths: The Great Northumberland Expedition!

We have stepped up as official expedition managers today, taking on an addition project in Maths.

To crack the secret coastal code, teams put their formal column addition to the test by tackling real-world data like Durham Cathedral visitor totals and Lindisfarne seal counts!

From aligning huge multi-digit numbers to tracking by calculations in the millions, the children's focus and place value precision were top tier!

Take a look at our maths commanders in action below and a huge well done to the winning team who cracked the code!



Science Tip

Autumn nights are getting darker earlier, making it the perfect season for beginner stargazing! Look up around 8pm to spot the Moon or bright planets like Jupiter. *Top tip for young astronomers: Turn off outdoor lights and give your eyes 10 to 15 minutes to adjust to the dark - you'll suddenly see twice as many stars!*

The Mindful Minute

Pick up one fallen leaf on your walk to or from school (or anywhere else!). Spend 60 seconds looking closely at its details - the tiny veins running through it, the mixed colours, and its unique shape. Taking just one quiet minute to focus on a single object helps calm busy minds and sharpen focus for the school day.

Quick activity to share with your children!

The 5-Minute Autumn 'Sound Hunt'

On the way home or during a trip to the park, set a timer for

Two minutes and try to walk in complete silence together.

See who can spot and count the most distinct seasonal sounds - crunching leaves, whistling wind, squawking crows or puddles splashing. Compare your list at the end!



Keep up to date with what's happening in school on the website: www.roughwoodprimary.org



Twitter is also a great way to get notifications to your phone. Follow us [@roughwoodschool](https://twitter.com/roughwoodschool)

To access links in the Newsletter please view in your browser by visiting the school website at <https://roughwoodprimary.org/category/newsletters/>

NOTICES/UPDATES:

Tuesday 13th October - KS2 Harvest Festival 9:15am - 10:15am

Wednesday 14th October - Chestnuts & Harvest Festival 9:15am - 10:15am

w/c 26th October - Half Term

Monday 2nd November - Return back to school 08:45am

Wednesday 11th November - We will be observing the 2 minute silence for Remembrance Day

Friday 13th November - Children in Need - Full uniform to be worn with yellow, spotty or pudsey accessories

Final Thoughts

Autumn naturally brings a shift in pace - the days shorten, the weather cools, and life can easily begin to feel a little more full and fast - paced. Amidst the daily rush of school runs, reading records and extra- curriculars, we encourage every family to take moments to slow down, step outside into the crisp autumn air, and enjoy the small, quiet details of the season together.

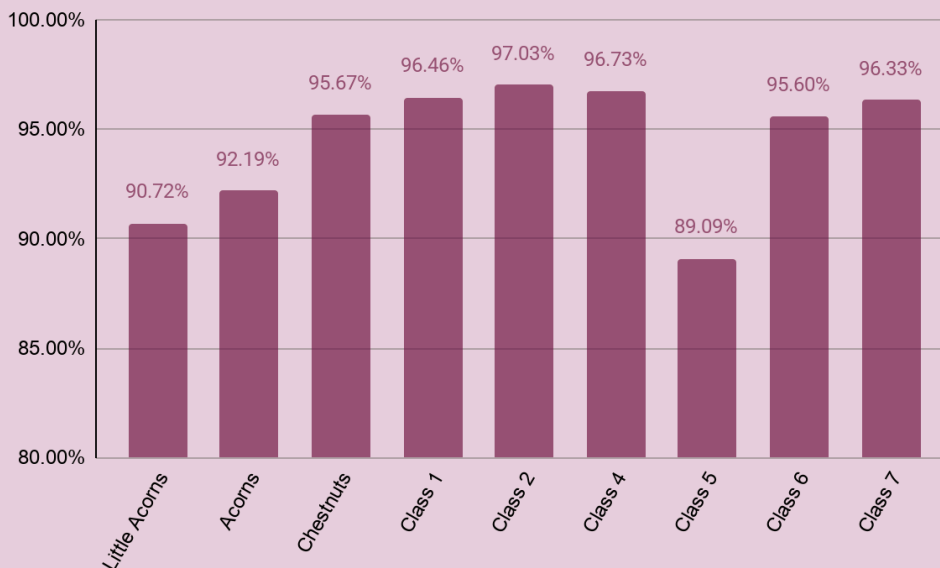
Whether it's a quick walk in the park, collecting fallen leaves, or simply sharing a story on a chilly evening, these small moments create lasting memories for our children and give everyone a chance to recharge.

Enjoy the autumn air, take time to recharge, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday!

"While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about"

Angela Schwindt

Your Class Attendance



Our Target is **96%**.
Remember everyday matters at school.

We always call if we have no reason why children are not in school. Please inform the office if your child is not able to attend.

Please be aware that we cannot release children early from school without seeing an appointment letter or card.