



Roseacres Round Up



[Roseacres Primary School](#)

24th October 2025

[Our menu](#)

Next week, we are week 3.

I want to thank all our parents and carers for your ongoing support and for being such an important part of our school community. I'm really proud of the positive culture we're building together at Roseacres. I'd also like to thank our fantastic staff team for their dedication and care every day. I feel very grateful and proud to be part of such a committed and supportive team. Together, we're building a community where every child can thrive.

Thank you also to everyone who completed the recent Welbee survey. Your feedback has helped me better understand your views and feelings, and will support us in working together in the best interests of all our children.

Wishing you all a lovely half term break and we will

School Values

Thank you so much to everyone who has voted for our new school values, the values that we share mean that we:

are **respectful**,

take **ownership**,

are **supportive** of ourselves and each other,

are **inclusive** of everyone

and strive for **excellence**.



Flu Vaccinations

The first set of flu vaccinations took place this Thursday and for those that did not receive theirs this week they will take place on Monday 10th November.

Attendance

At Roseacres, we follow National Guidance to improve school attendance. National Guidance is that good attendance is 96% or better, currently our whole school attendance is **95.9%**. As children start to develop some signs of being unwell, please check the NHS link for guidance if

your child is too unwell for school: [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#). If your child is absent, please do notify the school office.

Social Media

We'd love to share more of the wonderful learning, achievements and special moments happening at Roseacres with our wider school community, as well as increasing the number of pupils on role so that our school becomes full.

To help us do this, we're exploring setting up an official school social media page to share updates, news and photos safely, please vote for your preference [here](#). Voting will close on 3rd November at 12pm.

With this in mind, we are also looking for a device to be donated, such as an iPhone, that can be used purely for school staff to take photos and uploaded directly to social media. If you feel you would be able to support us with this, please speak to me on the gate.

Spooky Spoons

A huge thank you to all our families who have supported our Spooky Spoon event! Your generosity is helping to raise important funds for the school. The Friends have kindly donated £250 to purchase a range of sensory tools to support children within their classrooms. The money raised from this event will contribute towards this and make a real difference.

Judging of the Spooky Spoons will take place on Tuesday 4th November. Please ensure your child brings their Spooky Spoon on this day. Winners from Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 will each receive a family ticket to the Braintree Rugby Club Fireworks Event!

Picture News

This term, I have introduced Picture News assemblies. These provide a great opportunity for children to explore and discuss current news from around the world. Already, their discussion and debating skills have developed — they are confidently sharing their own views and respectfully challenging the ideas of others.

As part of Picture News, we also explore British Values, Protected Characteristics, and the UN Rights of the Child. [You can see the coverage for Autumn 1 here.](#)

Join the Journey

Join the Journey is a new initiative we are introducing to invite parents and carers into school to be part of their child's learning journey and to further support their progress. Each class will have the opportunity to Join the Journey.

We are starting with Year 1 on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th November, with a focus on reading and phonics. The sessions will run from 9:00am to 9:30am, and parents should sign in via the main school office on the day. Places can be booked through ParentMail on a first-come, first-served basis, with 15 spaces available each day. Please note, sessions are organised in 5-minute slots, so the overall time shown as 9:00–10:15am simply reflects the range of available spaces. You will be able to book from 4pm today.

We are really looking forward to welcoming you into school to 'Join the Journey' and share in your child's learning experience.

Poppy Appeal

We will be supporting the Poppy Appeal in school by selling various items. The minimum suggested donation for a paper poppy or sticker is 20p, £2 for a pin badge and £1.50 for a wrist band. The Year 6 pupils will introduce the poppy appeal and will be going around the classrooms the week commencing 3rd November if your child would like to make a donation for one of these items.

Our Best Bits

Pathways to Write

This term, Miss Townsend has introduced our new writing curriculum, *Pathways to Write*. We have already seen an increase in pupil motivation, independence, and excitement for writing, with the children amazing us with the quality of their work.

EYFS

At the end of the Pathways to Write unit, the children joined in retelling the story. They all used expression when speaking as the children in the story and enthusiastically joined in.

Year 1

There was a wonderful 'awe and wonder' moment in year 1 when the children were comparing the first flight with the Wright Brothers' that was 12 seconds in the air. They compared this to their own running as well as the different in aeroplanes now.

Year 2

The children have been experimenting with different joins in their DT learning.

Year 3

It has been fantastic to see the children join all the skills they have learned in writing to produce their final piece this term. They were really proud of their achievements

Year 4

Year 4 have been expanding their sentences with Colourful Semantics and have been ambitious in upgrading their writing.

Year 5

The children have shown great progress and sense of achievement this week when reviewing their learning on multiplying by 10, 100 and 1000 and smashing it!

Year 6

The yearly tradition has lived on with the children making Poppies in year 6 in preparation for Remembrance Day.

		Celebration!					
EYFS Maisie	Year 1 Sophia	Year 2 Roman	Year 3 Macsen	Year 4 Jaxson	Year 5 Jess	Year 6 Gabby	

PE Days

Children should come to school wearing their Roseacres PE kit. Children are not able to wear logoed designer clothes or football kits. Earrings must be removed with long hair tied back.

Monday	Year 1 and year 4
Tuesday	Year 2 and year 3
Wednesday	EYFS, year 3, year 5 and year 6 (cricket)
Thursday	Year 2, year 5 and year 6 (swimming Autumn term)
Friday	Year 1 and year 4

Diary Dates

Remember to look at our community noticeboard on the website for things beyond school: [Community Noticeboard](#) | [ROSEACRES PRIMARY SCHOOL](#)

Autumn	Spring	Summer
27 th – 31 st October – half term 3 rd November – children return to school. 4 th November – year 5 Colchester Castle Trip 5 th November – Spooky Spoon competition 5 th November – year 5 and year 6 cricket session 4 6 th November – year 6 swimming 10 th November – flu spray 11 th November – Year 1 Join the Journey 12 th November – year 1 Join the Journey 12 th October – year 5 and year 6 cricket session 5 13 th November – year 6 swimming 13 th and 14 th November – year 5 Bikeability 14 th November – Children In Need 18 th November - EYFS open evening for September 2026 at 5.30pm. 19 th November – year 5 and year 6 cricket session 6 20 th November – year 6 swimming 20 th and 21 st November – year 5 Bikeability 21 st November – Non-uniform day for a PFA donation 21 st November – Winter Wonderland Disco – Friends Event 26 th November – PFA Christmas Wreath Making event (7pm – 9pm) 27 th November – year 6 swimming 28 th November – INSET day 8 th December – PFA gift market in school for children. 9 th December – AM KS1 Nativity 9 th December – PM and evening KS2 concert 10 th December – PM KS1 Nativity 11 th December – EYFS Christmas Song performance to families 11 th December - Christmas Dinner 11 th December – Christmas Jumper Day 13 th December – Roseacres Christmas Fete 17 th December – year 5/6 Trust Nutcracker Ballet Trip 19 th December – last day of term finish at 2.30pm	5 th January – children back to school 8 th January – year 5 swimming 14 th January – year 6 SATs meeting with parents at 2.30pm 15 th January – year 5 swimming 19 th January – year 6 Young Voices at o2 20 th January – INSET day 22 nd January – year 5 swimming 29 th January – year 5 swimming 5 th February – year 5 swimming 12 th February – year 5 swimming 16 th – 20 th February – half term 26 th February – year 5 swimming 26 th February – year 6 Leventhorpe Book Awards Launch Event 3 rd March – year 2 Aerozone Trip 5 th March – year 5 swimming 6 th March – World Book Day Celebration 12 th March – year 5 swimming 17 th March – Year 5 Daws Hall Trip 19 th March – year 5 swimming 20 th March and 23 rd March – Fab Science in school 26 th March year 5 swimming 27 th March – last day of term.	13 th April – children back to school 16 th April – year 4 swimming 23 rd April – year 4 swimming 30 th April – year 4 swimming 4 th May – bank holiday 7 th May – year 4 swimming 11 th – 14 th May Year 6 SATs 14 th May – year 4 swimming 18 th May – year 6 residential meeting with parents at 2.30pm 18 th May – Sports Day 21 st May – year 4 swimming 21 st May – year 6 Leventhorpe Book Awards Final Event 25 th – 29 th May term 1 st June – INSET 3 rd June – reserve Sports Day 4 th June – year 4 swimming 1 st June – 12 th June – year 4 multiplication table checks 8 th June – 12 th June – KS1 Phonics Screener check 11 th June – year 4 swimming 15 th June – 17 th June – Y6 Residential 18 th June – year 4 swimming 25 th June – year 4 swimming 7 th July – Year 6 end of year performance 16 th July – year 6 High Tea and leavers assembly 17 th July – last day of term 20 th July INSET day
New dates will be added in red		

Roseacres Friends

Save the dates

Next meeting – 12.11.25 at 2pm

Spooky Spoon competition in school on 4.11.25
2 family tickets to Braintree Rugby Club for the winning spoon!!



Non-Uniform Day for a donation – 21.11.25
Winter Wonderland Disco – 21st November 2025
EYFS – 2.30pm – 3.15pm
KS1 – 3.15pm – 4.15pm
KS2 – 4.15pm – 5.15pm

See the attached leaflets for information on
Christmas Wreath Making – 26.11.25 (7pm – 9pm adults only)
Christmas Fete – 13.12.25
Christmas Raffle – 13.12.25

SEND

Wild 'n' Wacky in Harlow are trialling SEND sessions and the first session is on Tuesday 14th October – after school from 4pm to 5.30pm 😊
After that there will be one on 18th November and 9th December before we hopefully start doing them every first Tuesday each month!

Parents and carers are advised to book online as they are controlling capacity to a lower level than usual.
Here is the link: <https://bookings.wildnwacky.co.uk/book/send-session/163>

Our SEND sessions offer exclusive access to our playframe and interactive facilities in a quieter, more relaxed environment. These sessions feature:

- Discounted price to our usual off peak prices
 - Reduced capacity.
 - Music switched off.
- Soft ambient lighting in the main seating area and playframe.
- Reduced number of customer announcements to minimise sensory input.

While some team members have personal experience supporting children with additional needs, please note they are not specialist trained. We are only providing play facilities and not support or counselling. Parents and carers are responsible for supervising their children at all times during their visit. We kindly ask all guests to be patient, understanding, and respectful of others to help create a safe, supportive environment where everyone can feel comfortable and included.

School Nurse Team

The school nurse team are holding drop-in sessions for parents and children these will be spread around the district and there will be a drop in every week. The sessions in the libraries are available to parents and young people, the drop in at Spangles is available for parents and children under 11 yrs old and the Youth Drop in is for older children 11 years +.

We are waiting for the poster for the drop- in sessions on a Wednesday morning at Spangles, the team will be available on Wednesday 22nd October 19th November and 17th December 9.00am to 10am.

Dates	Resources	Referrals
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The school nurse team will be available on Wednesday 19th November and 17th December 9.00am to 10am.	Essex Local Offer Supporting your Neurodivergent Child West Essex Inclusion Project Essex Family Wellbeing SEND IASS Autism Central West Essex Inclusion Project One Plan Process Essex Frontline	Community Paediatric Service West Essex Community Specialist Services
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Safeguarding

Parking

When picking up or dropping off children at schools, you should do the following:

- Allow yourself plenty of time as the area is likely to be busy.
- Do not park on yellow zigzag lines and avoid parking opposite them.
- If you decide to park further away, please be considerate of local residents and avoid blocking driveways or access ways, especially for emergency vehicles.

[Parking outside schools | Police.uk \(www.police.uk\)](#)

Are you worried about a child?

As a school, we consider safeguarding to be a priority. We welcome parents and carers talking openly to us about their concerns for the safeguarding of children and families. Remember, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you have any concerns about a child, you can contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads via the school office. Please ask to speak to Vicky Childs, Sian Watson or Kerry Renton and specify that you have a safeguarding concern.

If you are worried about a child or young person, you can call the NSPCC helpline for support and advice for free on 0808 800 5000. If a child is in immediate danger, you should call 999.
Children can call Childline at any time on 0800 1111.

The designated safeguarding leads at Roseacres are Mrs Childs, Mrs Watson and Mrs Renton.

Fortnite

Fortnite continues to reign supreme in the gaming world, drawing in millions of players with its bold graphics, fast-paced action and constant stream of new content. This guide looks at the latest developments in the game – such as themed updates, crossover characters and limited-edition cosmetics – and what they mean for young players and the adults who support them.

It also unpacks some of the key online safety risks associated with Fortnite. With in-game purchases, cross-platform communication and regular seasonal updates creating an 'always on' experience, it's vital that trusted adults understand how to help children and young people enjoy the game without being exposed to unnecessary risks.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FORTNITE

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI 12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 650 million registered users, Fortnite remains one of the most played and discussed online games globally. Known for its vibrant graphics, fast-paced gameplay, and cultural crossovers with everything from music artists to superhero franchises, the game continues to capture the attention of young people. This guide outlines the risks trusted adults need to know about, including game updates, and offers practical safety tips to help address them.

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player, offline mode in Fortnite; it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about, both in terms of connectivity and using up data. You may find that dedicated, young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about family time or trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – limited-time cosmetic 'skins', music tracks, LEGO items, and battle passes. Children can feel pressured to spend money on V-Bucks – the in-game currency – to avoid missing out, particularly as exclusive items rotate frequently. Some items may not return to the store for years, while Battle Pass rewards are often "gone when they're gone".

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

There's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as mini-games and emotes. Guns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, so discretion is advised. Past seasons have introduced characters and references from mature franchises like The Witcher and Halo.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. Crossplay allows friends to play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC, while the Party Chat feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can put youngsters at risk of exposure to strangers, inappropriate language, and cyberbullying.

FREQUENT UPDATES

Seasonal releases introduce new map changes, gameplay mechanics, and cosmetics. Ongoing updates can increase screen time and potential for obsession as children try to unlock rewards before the season ends. These regular renewals help to hold players' interest, but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back. Seasons often change thematically.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from films and TV shows like Power Rangers and Avatar: The Last Airbender, to comic book characters including Batman. Other collaborations with series, artists, and influencers may expose children to music, language, or ideas that are more suitable for older audiences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

DISCUSS SAFE SOCIAL INTERACTION

Talk with children about who they're playing with online. Coordinate play time with the child's friends for socialisation and safety in numbers. Encourage them to avoid private voice chats with strangers and remind them not to share personal information. Use real-life examples to explain potential risks, and remind them that if they see something concerning, they should tell a trusted adult.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents to do something fun with their child, while making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game. Make sure any young player knows this.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College