

Newsletter

6th November 2026

ROBERT BLAIR SCHOOL

Upcoming Events

Week beginning 23rd November

Thurs 26th Y3 class assembly

Week beginning 30th November

Mon 30th Y5/6 Imperial War Museum

Thurs 3rd December Y1 class assembly

Thurs 3rd Y2 Story Garden Workshop

Week beginning 7th December

Spelling Bee Competition

Christmas Decorations

Week beginning 14th December

Monday 14th Reception Winter Concert

Tuesday 15th Nursery Winter Concert

Tuesday 15th Xmas lunch and Xmas jumper day

Wednesday 16th Year 1 Winter Concert

Thurs 17th Winter 2:45 Concert and Winter Fair

Fri 18h December: last day of term 2pm finish

Christmas Holidays

Mon 4th January 2027 INSET DAY for staff

Tues 5th January First day back for children

Message from Ms Liney

This week, we welcomed Year 6 back from their residential trip. It was wonderful to see them sitting up even taller at the back of assembly, full of the joys of what they had experienced at Cardfields. We made a point of how they had responded to these experiences with **wonderment and awe**, such an important Habit of Mind. Clearly, they had been intrigued by the natural world, making the most of getting outdoors and slowing down to interact with rabbits, horses, chickens, fire pits, den building and cooking, to name but a few activities.

Back at school, we turned our attention to the awe and wonderment created by the arrival of our chickens! We have four of the most beautiful birds imaginable. If you haven't seen them up close, please take a look. The hens are becoming more confident in their new surroundings, having come out from behind the bamboo to greet us. The children are super excited and are learning all about how to look after them. School council will be leading us in the naming process, gathering the children's ideas.

I am pleased to say that I was able to read out 119 names in assembly to congratulate the children who had 96 -100% attendance this week. We have a date set for a tea party in January for those who manage to keep it up all term. I am very much looking forward to that!

I would like to thank the parents who have already stepped forward with offers of help for our Winter Fair. If you'd like to get involved, please let us know. The more, the merrier.

House Points

Year totals so far...

3270

Paradise park

3350

Clock Tower

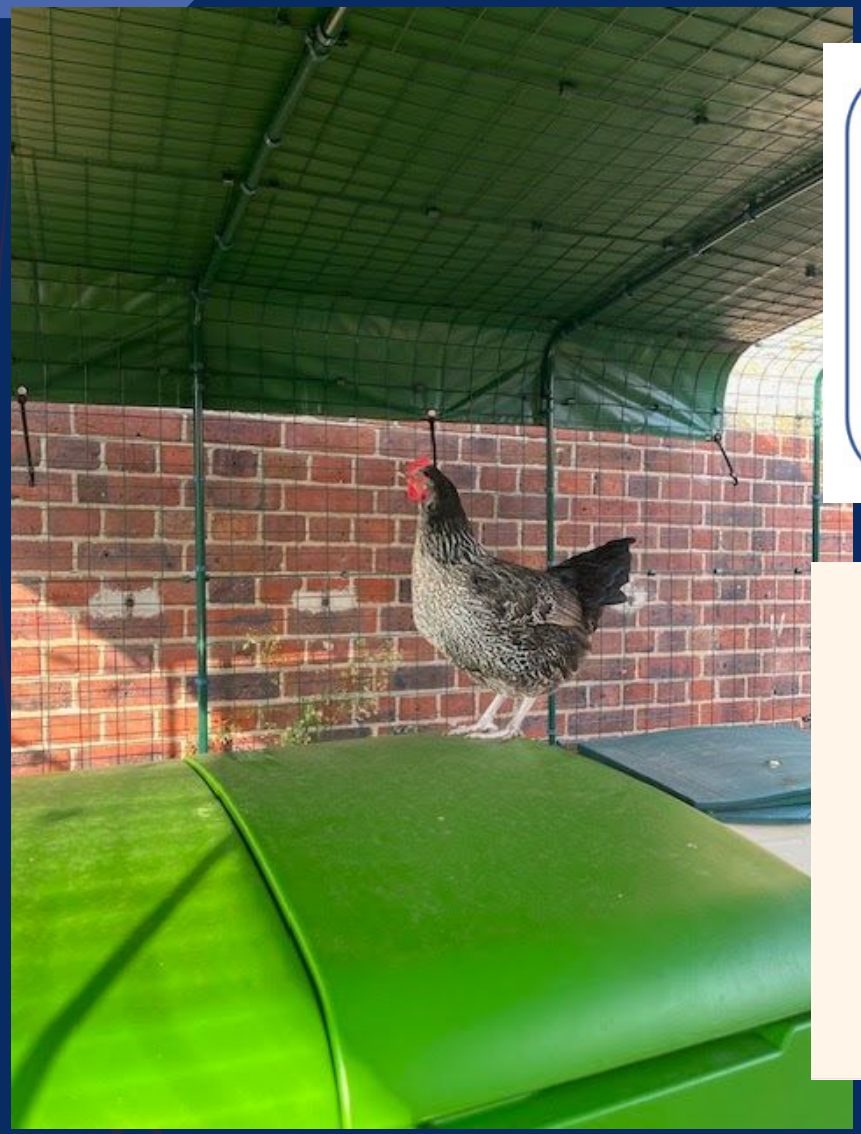
2880

Cally Bridge

3540

Market Road

Our chickens have landed!



Responding with Wonderment and Awe

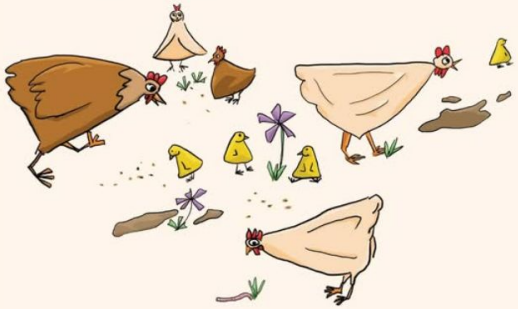


Become intrigued!

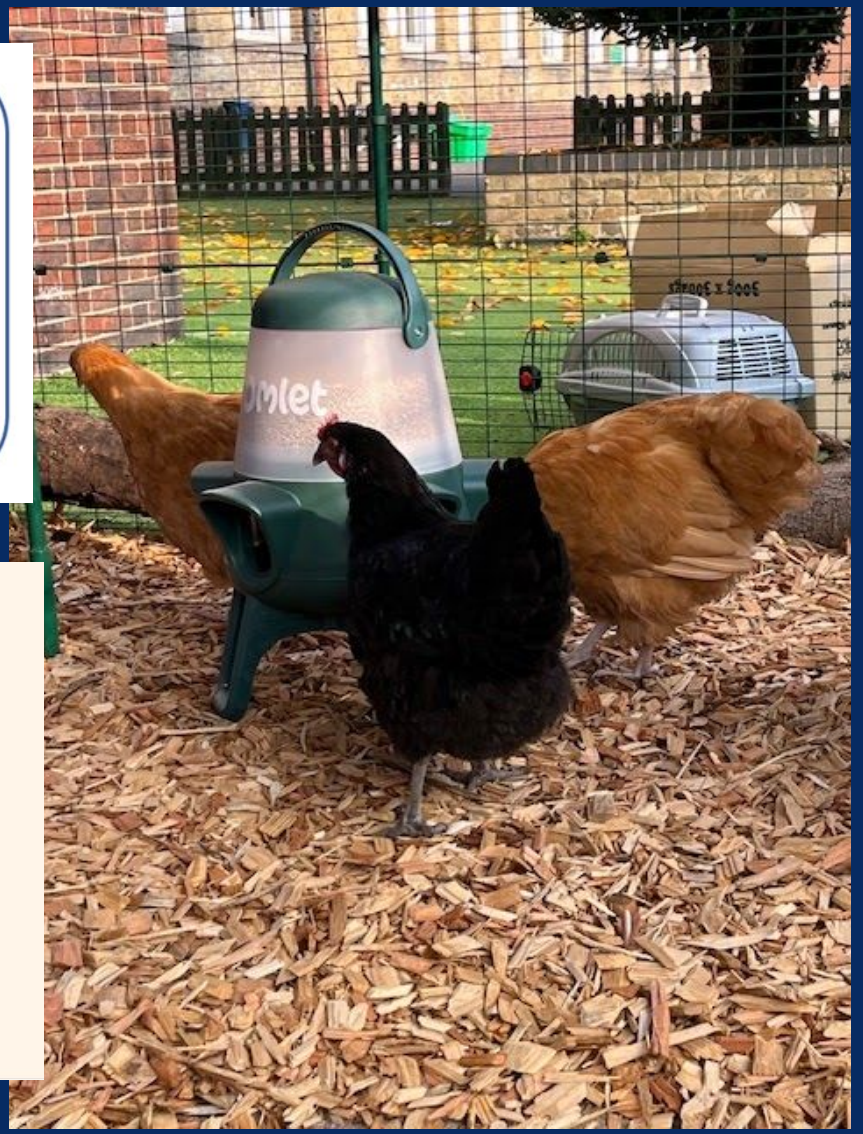
Finding the world awesome, mysterious and being intrigued with phenomena and beauty.

CHICKEN HAIKU

With a cluck, they strut,
peck-pecking, with feathers fluffed,
like fat triangles.



© Poem Peter Friend (@peterfriendwriting)
© Illustration Gracie Friend (@friendly_art)





The Habits of Mind

ROBERT BLAIR SCHOOL





taking the time to slow down, get outdoors and appreciate the beauty of the natural world



Anti-Bullying Week
16th - 20th November 2026

ROBERT BLAIR SCHOOL



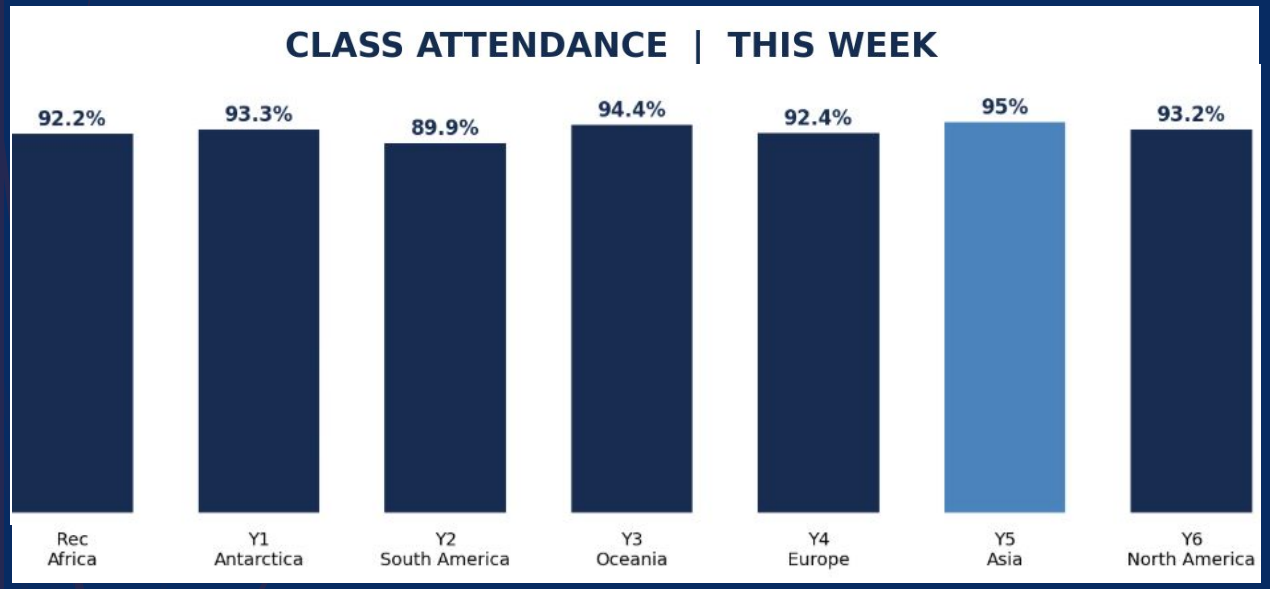
We celebrated **Anti-Bullying Week** in school with a special assembly led by our School Council. School council performed a role play they devised themselves, along with a question and answer session about how children should respond to bullying. This year's theme was 'breaking the silence' and classes learned what bullying is, how to prevent it, what to do if they experience or witness bullying, and the importance of speaking out and supporting one another. A special shout out to **Zaynab in Y6** who created this wonderful poster that has been displayed around the school.





ATTENDANCE MATTERS

ROBERT BLAIR SCHOOL



ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS

YEAR 5

95%



Being in school means:

- ✓ more learning
- ✓ stronger routines
- ✓ time with friends
- ✓ better progress

We will always work with families where there are genuine barriers to attendance. If attendance is becoming difficult, please speak to us early so that we can work together to support your child.

93.2%
Whole-school attendance this year to date

95.2%
National average



Under 3s

ROBERT BLAIR SCHOOL

Safer Sleep for Babies- The Lullaby Trust

The Lullaby Trust recommends to always place you baby on their back for every sleep, both during the day and at night. We reviewed our Safer Sleep policy and provided staff with training during our recent INSET day to ensure safe sleep practices are followed.

Keep your baby's cot clear of pillows, toys and loose bedding, and use a firm ,flat mattress. For the first six months, your baby should sleep in the same room as you, but in their own cot or moses basket.

Keep your baby away from cigarette and vaping, and make sure they do not get too hot. Smoking around babies increases the risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). Following these simple steps can help keep your baby safe while sleeping.
For more advice, visit
www.lullabytrust.org.uk



Let's Play and Learn at home

What's in the bag?

Put familiar objects like a teddy, spoon or ball in a bag.
Let your little one pick one out, explore it a talk about what they find .

A fun way to build on vocabulary!



Woodland Adventures!

The children have been busy exploring the wonderful world of woodland animals! As part of our autumn topic, the children have been enjoying spending time in the outdoor area, collecting leaves and discovering the different colours, shapes and textures.



What's on for families this month in Islington



0-5s Outdoor Stay and Play, Foxham Wildlife Garden

Looking for a fun, free outdoor activity to enjoy with your whole family?
Join The Garden Classroom at Foxham Wildlife Garden for some wildlife-friendly gardening! Families can enjoy fresh air, learn gardening skills and help create a welcoming home for local birds, insects and wildlife.
Tuesdays , 10am -12pm at Foxham Gardens, Foxham Road, N19 4QA



Jumping Beans Stay and Play!

Does your little one like to move, jump and play?
Come along to Bright Stars Islington's Jumping Beans, a fun and lively session for 0-5.The session encourage your child to get active, build confidence, develop social skills, and support your child's learning and development.
Wednesday, 12:15-1pm, 3 September to 24 December 2026. Term time only at Ambler Children's Centre.



Children in Need
Friday 13th November

ROBERT BLAIR SCHOOL

Pyjama Day Fundraiser

On Friday, the children enjoyed coming to school in their cosy pyjamas to help raise money for a fantastic cause! It was lovely to see so many children getting involved and enjoying the day.

We raised £100!

A huge thank you to all our parents and families for their generous donations and support. Your contributions and participation are greatly appreciated!





Free magazines for Years 3-6!

ROBERT BLAIR SCHOOL

A Gift from the Bookmark Charity

As part of our celebrations for the **National Year of Reading**, children in Years 3–6 have each received a free copy of *Storytime* magazine to take home and enjoy. The magazine is packed with exciting stories, fairy tales, myths, legends, beautiful illustrations, puzzles and activities. It aims to spark children's imaginations, encourage creativity and inspire a lifelong love of reading.
This initiative supports our commitment to making reading fun, accessible and enjoyable for all children, while encouraging them to explore different types of stories and discover new reading interests.
A huge thank you to the **Bookmark Charity** for generously funding these magazines and helping us to inspire the next generation of readers!



GO ALL IN.
National Year of Reading 2026



Cardfields Residential

ROBERT BLAIR SCHOOL



Last week, Mr Davies and Ms Duff took the year 6 class to Cardfields for their residential experience.

The children had an absolute blast! They enjoyed many activities including BMX riding, orienteering, hiking, shelter building and cooking on an open fire.

The children showed excellent behaviour and we have received wonderful feedback from the Cardfields staff regarding their team work, resilience and friendships. We are very proud of them! Have a read of their “thank you” letters.

Robert Blair School
Brewery Road
Islington
N7 9QJ

Cardfields Centre
Hatfield Peverel
Chelmsford
CM3 2NR

Monday 19th November

To Elaine, Lisa and Anne,

I am writing to thank you for providing us a marvellous week while we were at Cardfields! We all had a terrific time!

At first, I was ~~sup~~ surprised when our bus broke down. It was chaotic! Then, three minutes later, a tree fell down, so then it turned into eight minutes. It was quite a shabby coach ride, but we got there, eventually.

When we arrived, we had an interesting tour of the grounds and we were lead by Elaine to give us a look around the house (more like a mansion.) A

After, I was scared because I didn't know how to make my bed. I still don't know how to make my bed now! So I thank Anne for that.

I should highlight that Lisa set up phenomenal activities for us. What I won't thank you for is the exhausting walk to Heather Hills. It was quite fun but extremely tiring. What I've also got to thank you for is the printing. I know my styrofoam kept breaking but please forgive me for that.

Second of all, I would like to thank Lisa for organising these fun activities. Because of you, I finally learnt how to cook. Next time, I hope we can do BMX on an ~~enorm~~ enormous, harder track. I would have also loved to do another activity like pond dipping or egg and spoon race.

Last but not least, Anne. Thank you for cooking us delicious food. My favourite meal was pizza and chocolate ice cream roll. Also, shout out to Nick. You kept us full with toast and sandwiches.

A thank you letter is not enough to show my appreciation of these four ~~things~~ days. Overall, I had the best time with my friends. Telling jokes and laughing all day I will never forget those memories.



Christmas Events

Our Winter Fair – Parent Volunteers Needed!

Our Winter Fair will take place on

Thursday 17th December after school.

We are looking for support from parents and carers to help make the event a success. We would really appreciate any help with preparing for the fair and running the stalls on the day. If you think you could spare some time to volunteer or have an idea for an additional stall that you think would be a great addition, please speak to **Ms Maguire or Ms Peart**. We would love to hear your ideas and welcome as much support as possible. Thank you for helping us make this a wonderful event for our school community!





Reception Places

Reception 2027

If you have or know of a child due to start Reception in September 2027 and would like to find out more about school life at Robert Blair please do book onto one of our upcoming school tours. All tours start at 9:30am with an introduction from the Head of School

- Wednesday 18th November
- Wednesday 2nd December

Please do contact the school office to book onto one of the tour dates.

Places for Reception 2027 spaces can be made following the link below:

https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place/how-to-apply#guide-sections

Current Reception class vacancies

We have a few remaining spaces in our Reception class this year. If you know of anyone looking for a space, please do encourage them to contact the school office to book a school tour.

ROBERT BLAIR SCHOOL

2026 – 2027 term dates

August 26

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 26

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October 26

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November 26

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December 26

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January 27

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February 27

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28						

March 27

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April 27

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May 27

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 27

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July 27

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Inset Day
(no school for students)

Bank Holiday

School Holidays