



Rachel McMillan Nursery School

Newsletter — Autumn 1 2026

21st September 2026

Welcome!

A warm welcome to everyone at the start of a new academic year - to our returning families and to our new friends.

We have started the new term visiting lots of children and families at home. Your child may be returning to Rachel McMillan or be starting with us for the first time. During this term, we will be getting to know you and your child and supporting them as they settle with us. Building relationships and getting to know each other is an important part of our nursery curriculum and this is supported by all of our settling plans.

Nicola, Siobhan and Ruth are out on the gates every day to help everyone and to answer any questions. We work in close partnership with all our parents to ensure your child gets the most out of their time in nursery. Please let us know how we can help you if you have any worries or concerns.



Staff News

There have been some changes to the Shelter teams. Here are the adults working in each Shelter. Photos are displayed by the school gates.

Shelter 1	Shelter 2
Siobhan and Catherine Laxmi Sharon Farha Ashika	Angela Salma Julie Gill Khady / Adenike Emily Meghan (PPA cover)

Shelter 3

Michelle
Lorraine
Charlene
Mandy / John
Jess
Meghan (PPA cover)

Shelter 4

Ali / Lisa
Blerta
Chelie / Edyta
Jennie
Vera
Zoe
Meghan (PPA cover)

Food and Allergy Safety

New guidance around managing allergies in schools has become statutory from September 2026. We are committed to providing a safe environment for all children and we ask for your cooperation to minimize risk as we have children in school with severe allergies.

Additional information will be shared this week about how you can help us and protect our children.

The Rainforest Reading Room

We are very proud of our library, which was opened last term, by the Mayor of Greenwich.



The library is open every day after school. Children, parents and carers have the opportunity to relax and enjoy sharing a book in a calm and inviting environment. It is a lending library so children are encouraged to borrow books to take home.

Parents are welcome to use the library as a meeting space with each other if arranged with us in advance.



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Songs and Rhymes for September

Children will take part in a small rhyme time session during the week. Here are the rhymes that we are learning this month.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive

One, two, three, four, five,
Once I caught a fish alive.
Six, seven, eight, nine, ten,
Then I let it go again.



Why did you let it go?
Because it bit my finger so.
Which finger did it bite?
This little finger on the right.



A Sailor Went to Sea

A sailor went to sea, sea, sea,
To see what he could see, see, see.
But all that he could see, see, see,
Was the bottom of the deep blue sea, sea, sea.

Applying for a School Place for 2027

Children born between **1st September 2022** and **31st August 2023** are due to start Reception in September 2027.

Residents of Royal Greenwich must apply through the local authority, even if applying for schools in other boroughs.

Application steps:

- Visit [Royal Borough of Greenwich Primary Admissions](#) to read the admissions booklet.
- List up to six preferred schools in order of preference.
- Submit your application online via eAdmissions by **15th January 2027**.

Check if any chosen schools require a separate Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and submit it directly to those schools if needed.

Key dates for September 2027 entry:

- Application opens: 1st September 2026
- Closing date (deadline): 15th January 2027
- Offers announced: 16th April 2027
- Deadline to accept offer: 30th April 2027

Many primary schools are holding open mornings this term, so that you can visit. Please check the school's website for details.

If you have any questions regarding your child going to school, please speak with Nicola or Nikki in the office.

ParentPay Donations

In order to enhance your child's learning about food preparation and social skills, we have daily snack sessions in class and activities during the day where we support the children to prepare food for themselves. To enable us to continue these activities we are asking parents for a voluntary contribution of £10 per half term to help towards the purchasing of food as well as other resources to support creativity in the environment.

Please make payment through ParentPay, item name, **The School Enrichment Fund**.



Diary Dates

Autumn 1 2026

- **Wednesday 23rd September—Macmillan Coffee morning for cancer research and support. (9:15am—10:15am—The Orchard.)**

If you are able to kindly donate any cakes for the event please let the front office know. Due to the updated legislation and guidance for allergies in schools, we please ask that you provide a list of ingredients for all cake donations and a label 'made in a home kitchen'.

**WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE MORNING**