



Autumn Newsletter

East SILC Roger Cannon School

December 2025

MESSAGES FROM THE LEADERSHIP

Message from the Executive Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the festive season and the end of a busy autumn term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the achievements and experiences of our learners and staff at East SILC Roger Cannon School. This term has been filled with energy, enthusiasm, and a real sense of community spirit.

We celebrated generosity and teamwork through events like the Children in Need walk, which raised an incredible £303. Thank you to everyone who took part and supported this cause. Our Christmas Carol and Coffee Morning, along with the YAMSEN Christmas concert, were wonderful opportunities for our learners to showcase their talents—thank you to all staff, parents, and learners who made these events possible.

Throughout the term, learners have developed important life skills: Our Social Café has provided a space for learners to build friendships, celebrate achievements, and develop social skills. The commitment and progress shown by all classes—RC1 to RC12—has been inspiring.

Sadly one of our learners, Sophie Booth, passed away this term. Sophie was a popular and loved member of the Roger Cannon Community. On behalf of the East SILC I am sure you will share in our condolences to Sophie's family during this difficult time.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. I wish you and your families a restful, joyful festive season and a very happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in January for another exciting term.

Warm regards,
Louise Quinn
Executive Principal

Message from the Head of School

As we get ready for Christmas, I hope you're looking forward to a well-earned break and time to celebrate with family and friends. This term has been fantastic, and I'm so proud of the hard work from both learners and staff.

Everyone has shown great effort and enthusiasm. When I visit classrooms, I'm always impressed by the energy of our staff and the positive attitude of our learners.

They've enjoyed a wide range of experiences - starting with building reading skills, which are so important for confidence and success, then exploring experiments in Science, practising maths and numeracy, cooking in Food Technology, developing independence skills through community visits, and so much more.

Our KS2 learners have settled in brilliantly, making friends and adapting to new routines. It's wonderful to see their confidence growing every day.

Our 16+ learners have also made a great start, engaging in programmes that prepare them for life beyond school. They've shown maturity and commitment as they take on new challenges.

The recent Children in Need walk was a great success, and a big thank you to everyone who took part and supported the event. Your efforts made a real difference.

One of the highlights of this festive season was our Christmas Carol and Coffee Morning, along with the YAMSEN Christmas concert. Our learners gave amazing performances, and we are so proud of them. A heartfelt thank you to all staff, parents, and learners who helped make these events possible.

Wishing you all a happy and restful festive season. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Thanks,
David Bergan
Head of School

Food Technology

During food tech lessons we have been exploring food through texture, smell and taste of a range of different foods. We have used our hands to explore the texture of foods and describe the texture of the food to each other using our key words. Each learner has taken part in smelling a range of food and expressing if they liked or disliked the smell. We took part in taste testing foods of different categories.



Bike Ability

RC1 & 2 were lucky enough to have a visit from bike ability who ran 3-day training sessions with all learners, to help learn how to ride a bike, improve skills when riding a bike or to help gain confidence while on a bike. They taught us how to stay safe on a bike and what equipment we need to wear to ensure our safety.



Christmas

Each day in December our cheeky elf Elvis has left us a surprise or a task to complete, one of his tasks he set we us was to make Christmas decoration and stick them around our room to make the classroom more festive. Each learner created their own gingerbread Christmas tree bauble, once we had created them, we went to the school Christmas tree and hung our baubles on and counted down from 10 to see the lights switch on.



Children In Need

A huge thank you for your generosity donating to Children In Need at the Come Outside Event that took place on the 21st November at the Roundhay Park. It was a lovely day with all the learners and the parents that joined to support the cause.

We are so thrilled we raised £303!



Roger Cannon

RC1 & RC2

We had fun during PFA covering lots of different topics. We started in September recognising who can help us while we are at school and searching the school to locate where adults are located within the school. We then were identified individuals who could help us when out in the community such as police officers.

We have ordered the sequence on how to cross a road from stopping, looking both ways and listening. We then took this knowledge onto the carpark to independently cross the zebra crossing, making sure we followed the sequence we had to ordered in the classroom.

In our topic of looking after ourselves, we have explored how to use a toothbrush and how to brush teeth effectively independently. We turned into dentists and help a range of patients and clean up their teeth and make sure we passed on helpful advice on how to keep their teeth healthy.



RC3

RC3 have had fantastic start to the year! This term has seen the introduction of 'Read Write Inc (a Phonics program) into our timetable. The class have worked very hard to 'fill the gaps' with their sound knowledge to support their reading fluency. As our reading abilities have developed, we have also enjoyed reading our new class reading book- 'The Worst Witch' by Jill Murphy. They have found it exciting to learn all about 'Cackle's Academy' and the main character 'Mildred Hubble'. Another popular lesson in RC3 is Science. This term we have really enjoyed learning about the Earth. They particularly enjoyed relating the layers of the Earth to the layers of cake to support with understanding. We can't wait for next term to be just as fun!



RC4

RC4 have had a great term. Every learner has strived and had an amazing start to year 11. We have had lots of walks around the local area to understand and show road awareness and pedestrian safety. We have safely used multiple public buses, making sure we are respectful and representing our school well. The majority of RC4 completed the ramble at Roundhay and were able to complete the full 3 and a bit laps, everyone was extremely tired after that day. We also trialled opening our shop during lunch times for staff and learners, where we would sell food. This allowed us to practice the exchanging of money and social interactions. The food left over from our shop we donated to a local food bank on the 8th December, with most of our learners walking while carrying the food to give to those most in need. Every learners showed good understanding of what a food bank is and why we have them. I am very much looking forward to the rest of the year with this wonderful class.

Kind Regards,
Mr Convy.



RC5

RC5 have had a fantastic term settling into their new class and have been building friendships. Students have worked hard on their social skills and have enjoyed social cafe each week where students prepare and serve each other drinks as well as ask each other about their weekends and celebrate each others achievements. They have taken part in swimming lessons this term where they have developed their transport skills as well as spent time in the pool learning water safety. On Pfa trips, students have looked at budgeting and understanding the cost of things such as snacks for social cafe and also for hygiene products. We were also fortunate to practice our transport skills in order to catch the bus to the springs and partake in the into film festival meaning students got to see Harold and the purple crayon which everyone enjoyed lots! Children in need was a great day for RC5 with students getting involved in charity and raising money by completing their sponsored walk.



Roger Cannon

RC6

RC6 have had a fantastic Autumn term. This term, we've focused on collaboration and respect, helping students work together effectively and appreciate each other's strengths. We have also focused on developing resilience both in their peer relationships, and with learning. In Preparation for Adulthood learners have been responsible whilst out in the community and whilst attending some incredible school trips. We have been to the park, bowling and enjoyed a cinema trip with other classes.

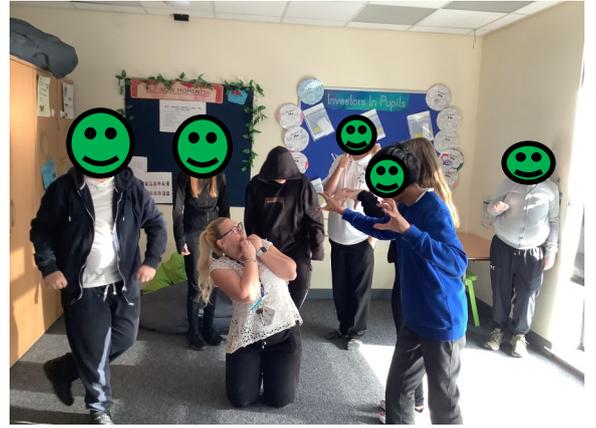
A particular high in RC6 was working together collaboratively to host a successful toy stall at the Christmas fair, they made themselves and the class team very proud, well done!



RC7

This term in drama we have explored a variety of fairytales using drama techniques such as Tableaux. Learners have demonstrated great enthusiasm and knowledge of non-verbal drama skills. During the run up to Christmas we have focussed on Hansel and Gretel, learners have had the opportunity to make biscuit houses!

RC7 have had lots of fun this term exploring the local area of Leeds. Focusing specially on bus travel and pedestrian safety whilst creating memories that last a lifetime. Well done to all learners for demonstrating great enthusiasm and progress!



RC8

Class 8 have had an action-packed autumn term! They've enjoyed several Preparation for Adulthood trips, which helped strengthen their road safety skills and build independence by choosing and purchasing items from local shops.

Our learners also took part in exciting enrichment activities, including a sponsored walk at Roundhay Park—where they put their public transport knowledge into practice—and a range of fun events for Children in Need. These included baking buns, completing a treasure hunt, and, of course, enjoying their delicious creations afterwards!

One of the weekly highlights for Class 8 is Social Café, a special time for learners to reflect on their achievements, share conversations, play games, and relax with tasty treats from the menu.

Well done, Class 8—you've had an amazing term!



RC9

This term has been packed with enriching experiences for RC9 learners. They practiced road safety while exploring the community as pedestrians, learned independence by travelling on the bus, and showed generosity through fundraising for Children in Need and hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning. Highlights included a visit to Malham Cove as part of the Access to the Dales event, where learners enjoyed the stunning Yorkshire scenery, and a trip to the cinema for the Into Film Festival, sparking creativity and discussion. It's been a wonderful term of learning, growth, and memorable adventures!

Roger Cannon

RC10

RC10 have had a good first term of the year. They have all settled well into their new class with new pastoral teachers. The learners are working towards different tiers in social cafe rewards which goes down well. As each week goes back more learners are receiving certificates and we are so proud of all their achievements. During PFA we have focused on a variety of areas including independent travelling, healthy eating, and places of worship. During this topic, the group accessed multiple visits off site to a variety of places including the gurdwara, local church and a reward trip to the cinema for the into film festivals. Children in need was a successful day taking part in the annual Roger Cannon ramble and the weather even turned out to be lovely on that day.



Mr Mann & Miss Prangnell

RC11

What an amazing first term for RC11! You've worked hard, supported each other, and embraced every opportunity to learn and grow. Here are some of the highlights:

- **Exploring Malham Cove** - We enjoyed a beautiful walk and took in some breathtaking views while learning about the local landscape.
- **Cultural Visits** - Our trip to a local Gurdwara and Anglican church. This helped deepen understanding of different faiths and traditions, and all learners demonstrated great respect throughout.
- **PFA** - We've been focusing on healthy bodies, exploring the importance of good sleep and eating habits to support wellbeing.
- **Class Reading** - We have been reading "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens, The class have really enjoyed exploring the story of Scrooge and his transformation. The class enthusiasm and positive attitude have made this term a real success. Keep up the fantastic work as we move into Term 2.



Have a restful holiday and see you in the new year!

– The RC11 Teaching Team



RC12

As the holiday season approaches, our Post-16 learners have been embracing the festive spirit! With decorations up and excitement in the air, preparations for our end-of-term celebrations are well underway.

Recently, our learners demonstrated fantastic teamwork by preparing, serving, and selling jacket potatoes during a charity morning. This event not only raised funds for a worthy cause but also highlighted the importance of giving back to the community.

Our learners have also been busy with **enterprise projects**, showcasing creativity and business skills through initiatives such as:

- **Fruit and Vegetable Box Scheme**
- **Candle Making**
- **Selling products at Leeds Market**

They've gained valuable **work experience on the farm**, developing practical skills and learning about sustainability and responsibility in a real-world setting.

Alongside this, learners have enjoyed a range of **enrichment activities at JJ**, as well as **swimming sessions for leisure**, promoting health, wellbeing, and confidence.

To top it off, a group of learners experienced an action-packed day at the Bramhope Duke of Edinburgh Centre. Activities included go-karting, archery, and team-building games—all designed to build confidence, resilience, and collaboration skills.





Important Dates

Please make sure you make a note of these important dates in your diary

Friday 19th December
Monday 5th January
Break Up Half Term
Return To School

Friday 13th February
Monday 23rd February
Break up Half Term
Return To School

Thursday 2nd April
Monday 20th April
Easter Holidays
Return To School

Monday 4th May
Bank Holiday

Friday 22nd May
Monday 1st June
Break Up Half Term
Return To School

Friday 17th July
Summer Holidays

NURSING CONTACT INFORMATION

We would like to ensure that you have the Inclusion Nursing Service Contact Details, should you need to contact a member of the team during the holiday.

Jacquie Beattie

East SILC Lead Nurse

0113 2492431 or

0795 129 0212

Lisa Grimes

0796 039 1238

If you cannot contact a member of the Inclusion Nursing Service, please contact Susan Carr Team Leader 0113 2738644 or the service Coordinator.



Leeds Community Healthcare 
NHS Trust

