

RPS Weekly Newsletter



Friday 8th November 2019

Monday 11th November is Armistice Day. In assemblies the school will be remembering the lost lives of all those who have died in wars around the world, but particularly in the World War I.

In preparation for Remembrance Day children have engaged in a range of poppy themed art work across the school. The artwork is fantastic and on October 26th some of this art work was put on display in Surrey Quays shopping Centre. This initiative was set up by The Royal British Legion in preparation for this year's poppy appeal. We still have poppies left and are grateful for all donations from parents.

We have also created a display of some of the art work in our Reception area so please try to have a look when you come into school.



Firework Safety Code

We hope all families had fun on Bonfire night. In assembly on Monday, children considered the history of Guy Fawkes and his failed attempt to blow up parliament with his fellow conspirators. They were also reminded about the firework safety code. We were pleased to see that children have returned to school on Wednesday without suffering any injuries. They have been talking very enthusiastically about the displays they have seen and the fun that they had.

Its nearly here....



We will be fundraising for Children in Need on **Friday 15th November**. Instead of their school uniform children can wear 'spots' to school in return for a donation for this worthy charity. We suggest a £1 donation which we will collect at the gates.

Get spotty!

Year 5 & 6 Football Tournament

Our children took part in a football tournament on Tuesday achieving a very creditable 4th place position. We were knocked out after a really close game on penalties. The team that beat us went on to win the competition. The children were very well behaved and determined. Well done

STOP BULLYING

On Tuesday all children across the school watched a special anti-bullying presentation and year 5 & 6 children took part in workshops. These considered bullying and its impact. They were presented with scenarios and considered the balance of 'power' in situations and how to prevent or stop bullying from happening.

The children were very engaged and thoughtful in the workshops. They were encouraged to 'speak up' and 'stand tall'.

Thank you to Suzy Malakhi (SMSC Lead) for organising this thought provoking event.



ODD SOCKS DAY FOR ANTI-BULLYING WEEK



As part of anti-bullying week, on **Tuesday 12th November** we are inviting children to wear '**odd socks**'. This will celebrate and symbolise the similarities and differences between us. The children will be encouraged to accept difference and treat others with the respect they deserve.



Parent Governor Vacancy

Naima Ali has resigned from her position as parent governor which leaves the governing body with a vacancy. We thank Naima for her contributions. Consequently, we will be holding parent governor elections. You will receive a letter on Monday inviting any parent who is interested in making a difference to the federation, to put themselves forward to be elected as a parent governor.

Applications need to be completed and submitted to the school office by Monday 25th November. If there is more than one person nominated, election papers will be circulated to all parents on the 27th November. The final ballot will close on the 4th December at 9:30 am.

This is your opportunity to represent the views of parents and help make the federation a successful one.

Brio Academy Leadership Award

Brio Academy Leadership Awards

We are developing our play leaders this year into 'sport leaders'. We consider this to be a very important position and have sent 5 children to receive leadership training on how to teach games to other children. They have shown a talent for leading and inspiring others.

I am proud to say that the following children have achieved their leadership awards:

Mayflower Class: Ja-Shawn Samuels, Sahr Kamara

Cutty Sark Class: Elianna Muwanga, Missun Saedi and Edwin Jacob Anoop.

The children were presented with their certificates during star of the week assembly and they are waiting in anticipation for high vis waistcoats to arrive to ensure they are visible always in the playground.

Ready steady....play!

Reading volunteers wanted

We are looking for volunteers to hear our younger children read. If you could dedicate some time each week to supporting in school please approach staff at the gates or leave a message for myself or Nina Hall (our English lead).

Please help us to get our children reading.



As a school we have changed our approach to teaching children to read. During inset days in September all staff received training related to a shared reading approach. This approach uses class texts to teach children **explicit** reading strategies. This includes early reading skills, such as using phonics to decode words, pointing to words as children read and using pictures to support attempts to read words.

Within this approach we have a very strong focus on building **vocabulary** knowledge. Introducing children to word meanings using visuals including pictures or teaching children to use the context of a sentence to estimate word meanings.

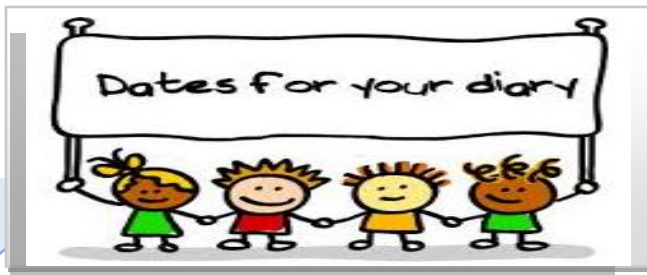
Teachers teach verbal reasoning and comprehension skills explicitly.

Local Authority Review

This week we invited an advisor from the local authority to visit the school and observe reading lessons to consider the effectiveness of this approach. The advisor was in school Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. She observed teachers teaching with leaders and heard some children in year 1, 2 and 3 read.

She was very impressed with the quality of teaching and clear application of phonics skills. She formulated next steps with leaders to move the approach on.

I would like to thank all staff for their hard work. You are amazing!



Week starting 11 th Nov	SEN meetings with parents
11 th Nov	Remembrance Day
12 th Nov	Anti-bullying odd sock day
15 th Nov	Children In Need
18 th Nov	Maths week
19 th Nov	6 pm Governors Resources committee meeting
21 st Nov	Reception open morning
6 th Dec	Christmas Fair
10 th Dec	6 pm FGB meeting
11 th Dec	Carol Concert Year 3-6
12 th Dec	Xmas Play - Nursery am Reception pm
13 th Dec	Xmas Play KS1 Christmas jumper day
16 th Dec	KS2 Achievement Award Ceremony Parents Evening Start of poetry week
17 th Dec	Award Ceremony KS 1 11:15
18 th Dec	Class parties pm (own clothes) Parents Evening
19 th Dec	LAST DAY finish at 2pm!



KS1 (year 1 & 2) start time 11:15 am

Whale Class 20th November

KS2 (year 3-6) start time 11:30 am

Kon Tiki 13th November

Mayflower 20th November

Calypto 4th December

New Build Update

On Tuesday Galiema and I met with the new build project leader and Vivienne Harris from Southwark Road Safety team to plan new entrance and exit arrangements for children once the new build construction works start. Safety of our children is of utmost importance to us and we are looking at all possible arrangements to ensure that the entrance to and from school at these times is safe and smooth causing the least disruption to all including the local community.

We are excited to say that our children will work with Vivienne to create podcasts explaining the new school systems and to create a road safety song. We will keep you informed of any further updates.



Best Attendance

The classes with the best attendance for this week are:

KS1: Octopus Class 99%

KS2: Cutty Sark Class 99.4%



Amazing! Keep up the good work everyone!!

Please **do not** book holidays during term time. This negatively affects your children's education.



Phonics



Workshop

Join us for a phonics
workshop in the
Infant hall at 9.10–9.45
**Tuesday 12th
November**

Learn how to
support your child
with their reading
and writing.



ROTHERHITHE PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOLIDAY DATES 2019-2020

AUTUMN TERM

Inset Day 1: Monday 2nd September (no children)

Inset Day 2: Tuesday 3rd September (no children)

Inset Day 3: Wednesday 4th September (no children)

Start

Children back

Thursday 5th September - Friday 18th October 2019

Half Term

Monday 21st October

Friday 25th October

Children Back

Monday 28th October - Thursday 19th December 2019

SPRING TERM

Children back

Start

Monday 6th January - Friday 14th February 2020

Half Term

Monday 17th February

Friday 21st February

Children Back

Monday 24th February - Friday 3rd April 2020

SUMMER TERM

Children back

Start

Monday 20th April - Friday 22nd May 2020

May Day

Friday 8th May 2020 (75th anniversary VE Day)

Half Term

Monday 25th May

Friday 29th May

Children Back

Monday 1st June - Friday 17th July 2020

Inset Day Monday 20th July (no children)

Inset Day Tuesday 21st July (no children)

Inset Days

2nd, 3rd, & 4th September 2019

20th & 21st July 2020

Please note that this year the May bank holiday has been moved to Friday 8th May to celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE day.

Please note that children are not at school on inset days. These are training days for staff.