

RPS Weekly Newsletter



Friday 13th December 2019

It has been another busy week at RPS - with the sounds of Christmas bells and singing ringing through the school there is no doubt that Christmas is very nearly here. We can feel the excitement building in the children.

We hope that everyone is looking forward to a fun packed family Christmas. The Christmas message of giving and caring for others is a universal one. Unfortunately, not all families will be looking forward to the Christmas period. Some children may not have enough food to eat or presents to open on Christmas day. Some of our year 6 children have worked with the **Childhood Poverty Trust** to raise awareness of this. Please read the article at the end of this newsletter taken from an online report in the metro. Our children have helped raise money for the charity. We thank them for their empathy and ambition to make a difference. I ask all of you to check on elderly neighbours this Christmas and spread some **kindness** and cheer at this festive time.

If you have spare time and could volunteer to support a family on a regular basis, **Home Start Southwark** are really keen to find volunteers to support their work with local families.

If you would like to get involved, please approach a member of the senior leadership team or telephone or email them at: 020 7737 7720 / info@homestartsouthwark.org.uk



We hope you enjoyed this year's Christmas productions as much as we did. The Key Stage 2 (years 3-6) children's performance was amazing. I am very proud of them. The arrangements were very impressive, and the Christmas version of Bohemian Rhapsody brought a tear to my eye.

Reception and nursery children looked so cute in each of their performances. It is wonderful to see how many songs and actions they have learned and what a fantastic job of performing the nativity Reception children did.

Year 1 & 2 taught us the story of Ralph the Reindeer and reminded us of the importance of looking after and helping others.

There is a lot of hard work that goes into organising these performances and we thank all of our wonderful teachers and support staff for making sure they were memorable.

Music News

Singing Club

Children in years 2-6 are invited to join singing clubs in the spring term. This is a club currently provided for **free** by the school. The first class of the New Year will be on **Friday 10th January**. The times are 3.15-4.30. If your child would like to join, please email info@margaretsmusicltd.com to book a place

Djembe Drumming Club:

Children in years 3-6 are invited to join this new percussion class starting on Wednesdays, 3.15-4.30. Please email Info@margaretsmusicltd.com to reserve your place. There is a cost of **£30** for each term for this club.

Lamda drama class

This drama club is running on Tuesday Between 3.15-4.30

The cost for this club is **£55** for the term. Please speak to Liz or email Margaret at: Info@margaretsmusicltd.com if you are interested in joining this club.

Don't forget.... Reception Admission Deadline

Parents must complete an **online** application if you have a child that will be moving into Reception in September 2020. Applications for Reception places must be made by the **15th of January 2020**.

Please see Southwark's 'Starting Primary School in Southwark 2020/21' information booklet on our website under the parent tab.



Years 1, 2 and 3 had a great time dancing and playing party games on Thursday at the after-school PTA disco.

Thanks to Donna and Alex for organising this event and to all staff who stayed after school and used their time to ensure the children had a fun time.



Once again, the Christmas fair was well attended and was a huge hit. The event raised £734 which will be used to purchase fun things for the children to do in school to support their learning, e.g. providing specialist workshops, prizes for awards to name but a few. We are very grateful for your support and contributions to these events.

Again, thanks to all teachers for giving up their time to ensure the event was a success.

Last Day of Term

Thursday 19th December is the last day of term.

Please make sure you collect your children **promptly at 2pm**.



16 th Dec	KS2 Achievement Award Ceremony Parents Evening Start of poetry week
17 th Dec	KS1 and EY Achievement Award Ceremony at 11:15
18 th Dec	Class parties pm (own clothes) Parents Evening Christmas Elf visiting Early Years and year 1 & 2
19 th Dec	LAST DAY finish at 2pm!

Parent's Evening

It is nearly time for parents evening. Please sign up for an appointment with your child's class teacher.

Parent's evening for all classes in years 1-6 (except for Cutty Sark class) are being held on **Monday 16th and Wednesday 18th December.**

If families require an interpreter, please let your teacher know urgently, so that this can be organised. We cannot guarantee we can provide an interpreter, so where possible parents should arrange for a friend or family member to help with translation.

Thank you to parents for completing free school meal application forms. The raffle has been drawn and Cecilia Kassi's family have won. We hope you enjoy the hamper.

Best Attendance

The classes with the best attendance for this week are:

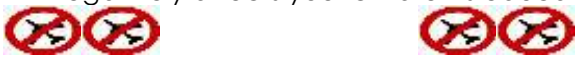
KS1: Octopus Class – 96.6%

KS2: Belfast Class – 97.1%



Amazing! Keep up the good work everyone!!

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



 **Year 6 Star Writer is....** 

Isabel Manu

...Suddenly, the forest floor he can feel is no longer quishy and soft. Crunch! Bones! The floor is covered with bones; fingers, toes and ribs scattered across the forest floor like confetti. The trees all around him, are like menacing beggars trying to strangle him and gauge his eyes. Filled with horror Jack (who is shaking like a leaf) pushes away the vines and thorns. Beneath the leaves, the bony grimmers danced mockingly at his useless attempt to escape. He can see no way out. He is trapped.

After School Clubs

Please note that all after school clubs provided by the school have now finished for this term.

We will send letters out about new clubs in January.

6 o'clock club will still be running next week as usual.



Current Leader Board

Are you practicing your practicing your times tables facts at home? Get practicing and see if you can be top of the leader board next week!

Richard	Rock Hero	Calypso	Year 6	Elianna	Breakthrough Artist	Cutty Sark	Year 4
Cashara	Rock Hero	Kingfisher	Year 4	Tyler	Unsigned Act	Cutty Sark	Year 5
Abdul-Rayyan	Rock Legend	Calypso	Year 6	Elliot	Unsigned Act	Cutty Sark	Year 5
Winy	Rock Legend	Kingfisher	Year 4	Jimmy	Gigger	Cutty Sark	Year 4
Elsie	Rock Legend	Kon Tiki	Year 4	Alesia	Gigger	Kon Tiki	Year 3
Daniyal	Rock Legend	Cutty Sark	Year 4	Isata	Gigger	Endeavour	Year 4
Abdirahman	Rock Legend	Calypso	Year 6	Yacquub	Gigger	Kingfisher	Year 5
Amelia	Rock Legend	Coral	Year 2	Mateo	Gigger	Cutty Sark	Year 4
Mohammed	Rock Legend	Kon Tiki	Year 4	Asia	Gigger	Kon Tiki	Year 4
Sara	Rock Legend	Kingfisher	Year 4	Eva	Gigger	Kon Tiki	Year 3
Juwon	Rock Legend	Calypso	Year 6	Makayla	Gigger	Pearl	Year 4
Isabel	Rock Star	Calypso	Year 6	Istaahil	Busker	Kon Tiki	Year 5
Gulis	Rock Star	Calypso	Year 6	Mitchel	Garage Rocker	Mayflower	Year 4
Kieran	Rock Star	Kon Tiki	Year 4	Missun	Garage Rocker	Kingfisher	Year 5
Jared	Rock Star	Calypso	Year 6	Shaydon	Garage Rocker	Cutty Sark	Year 4
Daniel	Headliner	Mayflower	Year 5	Halah	Garage Rocker	Cutty Sark	Year 6
Damian	Headliner	Kon Tiki	Year 4	Anifat	Garage Rocker	Calypso	Year 4
Amal	Headliner	Cutty Sark	Year 4	Hamza	Garage Rocker	Kon Tiki	Year 4
Henrietta	Headliner	Mayflower	Year 5	Muhanna	Wannabe	Kingfisher	Year 5
Hyatt	Support Act	Calypso	Year 6	Chrystal	Wannabe	Mayflower	Year 5
Vincy	Support Act	Cutty Sark	Year 5	Kayna	Wannabe	Cutty Sark	Year 4
Soz	Support Act	Kon Tiki	Year 4	Sarah	Wannabe	Kingfisher	Year 5
Ellen	Support Act	Cutty Sark	Year 5	Kafia	Wannabe	Cutty Sark	Year 5
Ethan	Support Act	Kon Tiki	Year 4	Michael	Wannabe	Mayflower	Year 3
Muhib	Support Act	Kon Tiki	Year 4	Kuba	Wannabe	Endeavour	Year 4
Ashley	Support Act	Belfast	Year 6	Isaac	Wannabe	Kingfisher	Year 4
Aisha	Support Act	Belfast	Year 6	Sophia	Wannabe	Kon Tiki	Year 5
James	Support Act	Mayflower	Year 5	Cody	Wannabe	Cutty Sark	Year 5
Tyreece	Support Act	Kon Tiki	Year 4	Zahra	Wannabe	Mayflower	Year 4
Temilola	Breakthrough Artist	Kon Tiki	Year 4	Yasin	Wannabe	Kingfisher	Year 3
Jacob El	Breakthrough Artist	Kon Tiki	Year 4	Soliyana	Wannabe	Pearl	Year 5
Charlie	Breakthrough Artist	Kon Tiki	Year 4	Evelyn	Wannabe	Mayflower	Year 4
Myles	Breakthrough Artist	Mayflower	Year 5	Benjamin	Wannabe	Kingfisher	Year 4
Ufuoma	Breakthrough Artist	Kon Tiki	Year 4	Frankie	Wannabe	Kon Tiki	Year 4
Raheemah	Breakthrough Artist	Pearl	Year 3	Sydnie	Wannabe	Kingfisher	Year 5

Correct answers in 7 days!

Name	Class	Year	Correct Answers
Cashara	Kingfisher	Year 4	1,569
Mohammed	Kon Tiki	Year 4	1,040
Winy	Kingfisher	Year 4	704
Jimmy	Kon Tiki	Year 4	579
Tyler	Cutty Sark	Year 5	560

Do you know a times table rockstar?
Here are some interesting statistics about our players:

Our average Speed per question is 9.62 secs

89% accuracy

9% of registered pupils have played in the last 7 days

PARENTS' INFORMATION EVENT

Please come to our 1st Parent Information Event of the year on:

Wednesday 22nd January

At 3:30 pm – Junior Hall

Timetable of events:

Federation update from Executive Head Teacher

Followed by a range of short workshop/discussion groups:

Our new approach to teaching reading

Inclusion- Meet our speech and language therapist

New Build update

Please come along. Free crèche provided

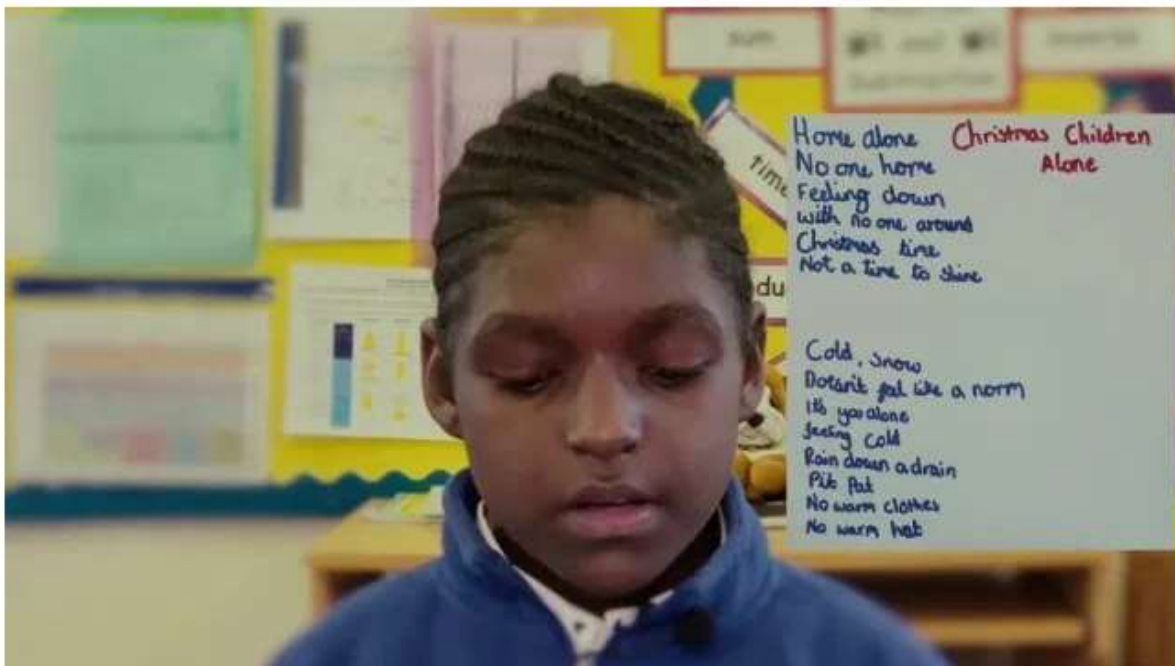


Boy's heartbreaking poem says childhood poverty hasn't changed since Victorian times



EXCLUSIVE

Zoe Drewett Wednesday 4 Dec 2019 12:02 am

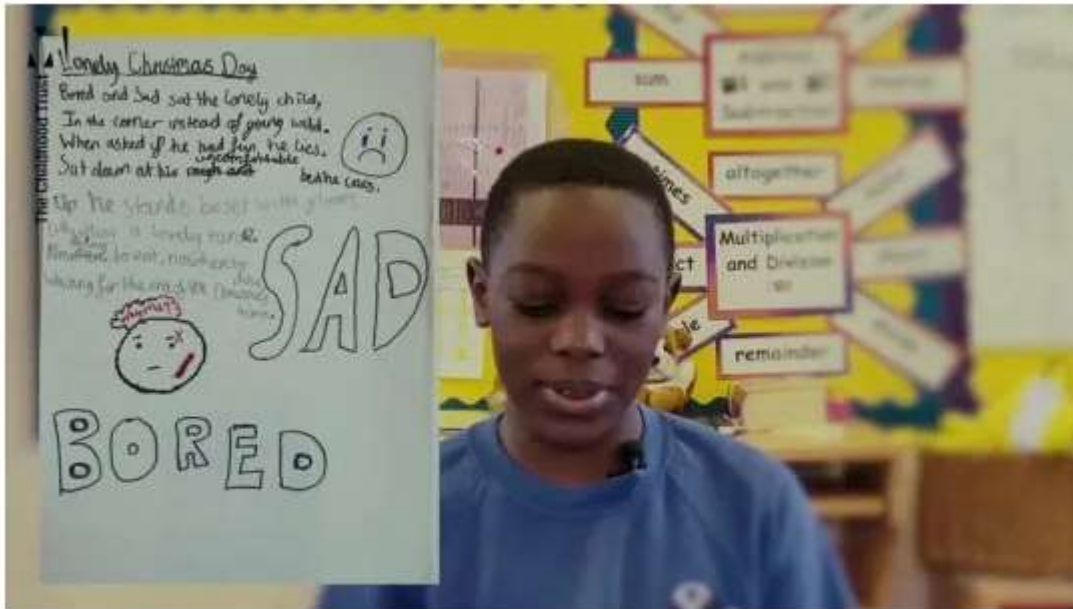


One schoolboy said poverty in the UK is now as bad as it was in the Victorian era (Picture: Childhood Trust)

A heartbreaking video shows schoolchildren reading poems about the reality of facing Christmas in poverty. One schoolboy, 10, said the situation is so bad for some children it's as if 'nothing has changed' since the Victorian era. The children wrote poems about the devastating impact of living with poverty, with one boy writing the line: 'Nothing to eat, nowhere to dine, waiting for the end of Christmas time.' According to a survey by the Childhood Trust, poverty for children is actually even more prevalent today than Victorian times when Charles Booth, a 19th Century social reformer recorded 35% of Londoners as living in poverty. In 2018, the Trust found that had risen to 37% of children in London living in poverty – around 700,000 children. One person who knows all too well the impact on children is George*, father to three boys aged eight, six and two and a teenage girl, 16.

George has worked at the Houses of Parliament as an attendant for almost 20 years but when his wife started studying to become a health and social care worker, he became the sole breadwinner. When he applied for benefits, he says he was told his salary was too high to qualify, despite him being unable to afford his rent and bills. He told Metro.co.uk: 'There's no help available so you have to help yourself. 'I've got four children, I've got rent to pay, I have to pay council tax and bills and on top of that you've got to find something to eat. 'I found I just didn't have enough. What the children needed – I couldn't afford it. 'I didn't have enough money to let them go on class trips, at Christmas, I nearly cried. 'I really want to do this for my children, but I don't have the money.'

George took out an expensive loan that eventually left him more than £10,000 in debt. Last Christmas he couldn't afford any presents for his children and they barely managed to eat. He is worried they face the same this year as well. He added: 'I have been paying it off. It has been very hard, but I've only got a bit left to go. 'It will change my life to not be in debt anymore. But I've had to do it all on my own. There was no help, nobody [in power] wanted to know. 'Debt is not something people want to talk about. Not having enough money for your children, you don't want to speak about it. 'So, no-one really knows how many people are going through the same thing.'



One of the children wrote in his poem 'nothing to eat, nowhere to dine, waiting for the end of Christmas time' (Picture: The Childhood Trust)

A shocking new report yesterday revealed a child becomes homeless every eight minutes in Britain. Homeless charity Shelter found 183 children lose their homes every single day, with child homelessness at its highest rate in the UK since 2006. The 'Generation Homeless' report is the first time the charity has been able to reveal the rate at which children are made homeless, as opposed to more general figures. By Christmas Day, at least 135,000 children will be living in temporary accommodation, the charity said. The Childhood Trust today launches its annual Big Give Christmas Challenge campaign, with the charity doubling all donations made to support disadvantaged children in London. Child poverty rates have soared since 2010, with London suffering the biggest increase in child poverty among working families at 68%.

Chief Executive Laurence Guinness said: 'It is appalling that in such a wealthy city so many children dread Christmas because of hunger, anxiety and feeling left out. 'We are appealing to all Londoners to generously support their local children's charity and to help us ensure that disadvantaged children in London will receive the support they need this Christmas and throughout the year.' Money raised through the Big Give Christmas Challenge campaign is spread equally between 77 children's charities to support over 90,000 young people.

To see this report on line please go to: <https://metro.co.uk/2019/12/04/boys-heartbreaking-poem-says-childhood-poverty-hasnt-changed-since-victorian-times-11262775/>

To donate to the Big Give campaign please go to: <https://donate.thebiggive.org.uk/christmas-challenge-2019/childhoodtrust>



Home-Start Southwark Services

Home-Start is one of the leading family support charities in the UK. Our Family Support Coordinators visit families to assess their needs and match them with a trained local volunteer. Home-Start volunteers help families deal with the challenges they face. We support parents as they learn to cope, improve their confidence and build better lives for their children.

Please call/email Home-Start Southwark for further information.

020 7737 7720 / info@homestartsouthwark.org.uk

<p>CORE SERVICE (0-5 years)</p>	<p>Support in the home for all families with children under 5 living in Southwark</p>
<p>BUMP TO BABE PERINATAL (last trimester – 6 months)</p>	<p>Support in the home for mums who are in the perinatal period from the last trimester of pregnancy to six months after birth</p>
<p>BIG HOPES, BIG FUTURES (18 mths – 5 years)</p>	<p>Nursery readiness programme that actively engages parents in their children’s early learning, supporting them to create a positive home environment. Delivered either by a volunteer in the home or in a group.</p>
<p>MELLOW BABIES PARENTING PROGRAMME (under 1 year)</p>	<p>14 week parenting course which helps mums understand how their own childhood experience may impact their decision-making in parenting their children.</p>
<p>MADE OF MONEY (0-5 years)</p>	<p>Support for parents who are struggling with debt or finding it hard to manage their finances.</p>

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.