

# RPS Weekly Newsletter



Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## Dear Parents & Carers

It has been an unusual week at RPS. We are very pleased that the unfortunate squatter situation has been resolved. The police arrested the squatters on Wednesday evening and they are being prosecuted. They have received warnings to not return to the Day Care Centre.

Contractors have secured the Day Care building and we currently have 24-hour security with guard dogs on site.

We thank all parents who supported the school in productive ways. Your kind words and gifts were appreciated. It was a very challenging time and we have worked tirelessly to resolve the situation.

We are very proud of the staff who ensured learning and play continued in a calm and focused way.

Children who were absent on Wednesday due to concerns regarding the squatter's presence will have their absence authorised for that day only. Absences on Thursday and Friday will not be authorised as the squatters had been removed and measures were in place to ensure the children were safe.

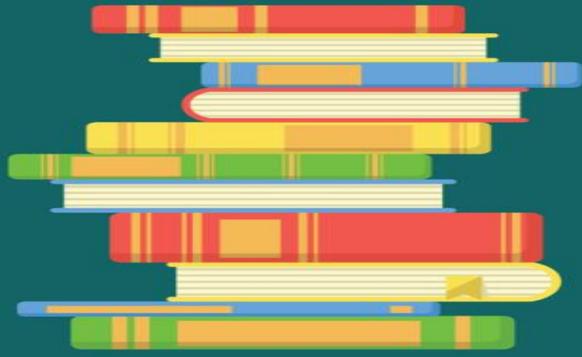
Thank you for your ongoing support.



Next week is British Science week. The theme is 'Our Diverse Planet' which extends our work so far on climate change. Children will be taking part in workshops and carrying out a range of scientific activities. Additionally, we will be running a 'Science Gadget shop' in the playground after school. You can see the range of items on sale on the poster below. The cost of items ranges from 50p to £3. Please ensure you have the **correct change**.

As parents you are your children's first teachers, so we would love you to reinforce and support their science learning at home. Please see the ideas poster below that provides suggested activities for families.

The children are looking forward to another exciting week of learning.



# WORLD BOOK DAY



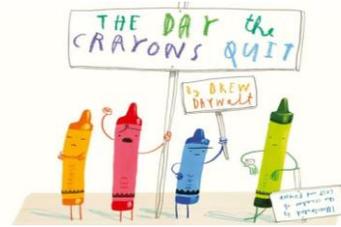
We moved our World Book Day to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March this year and were very pleased that we did. The sun shone for us on Friday and the school week finished on a high. It was fantastic to see the children dressed up as their favourite book characters. There were quite a few from Hogwarts and I noticed several characters from Alice in Wonderland wandering around. The children looked amazing. Well done for being so creative! You can see pictures of the children on our blog or by following us on twitter: <https://twitter.com/RPSPrimary>

The theme of this years World Book Day was 'Time to share' and we were very pleased that so many of you joined the children to share a book during our reading cafés. The children also read with a pupil from another year group.

They all had such a fun day. They were treated to storytelling workshops provided by the Freshwater Theatre company



All classes explored the story 'The Day the Crayons Quit' by Drew Daywalt.



As part of homework we set the challenge of decorating a potato as a favourite book character. The results were brilliant, and the children enjoyed showing off their creative talents.

The winner potato artists are as follows:

- |            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| Calypso    | Idris     |
| Belfast    | Ronnie    |
| Mayflower  | Nikkya    |
| Cutty Sark | Edwin     |
| Kingfisher | Jack      |
| Kon Tiki   | AJ        |
| Pearl      | Amy       |
| Endeavour  | Melina    |
| Seal       | Melek     |
| Octopus    | Madison   |
| Whale      | Mikail    |
| Turtle     | Charlotte |
| Jellyfish  | Hudson    |
| Penguin    | Emma      |

Thank you to Nina Hall for organising this wonderful day.



# BOOK FAIR

World Book Day would not be complete without us holding a book fair.

Next week on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>** we will be holding a book fair in the school's library. Children will get an opportunity to visit the book fair and have a look at the range of books on sale. Children need to spend their £1 voucher on a book before the end of March, so why not come and browse the books available at our fair. A bonus is that the school receive free books dependent on the number of books we sell.

**YOUR £1 TOKEN**

Choose from

Get a **FREE £1** book or £1 off!

SPONSORED BY **NATIONAL BOOK tokens**

Rob Biddulph

VALID FROM **27 FEBRUARY - 29 MARCH 2020**

Use your token to get a **WORLD BOOK DAY BOOK** for **FREE** or **£1 OFF** a book or audiobook costing **£2.99** or more at your local Bookseller.

World Book Day is a charity funded by publishers & booksellers in the UK & Ireland.



## New Build Update

Galiema has interviewed several building contractors with the local authority project managers. She informed the governing body on Thursday evening that she has requested hoarding that advertises the benefits of the school's long awaited new building. On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> we will be choosing interior colours and fabrics for the new building.



On Thursday, our English Lead and English consultant 'moderated' writing books. This means she looked through books, made judgements about progress and set next steps for children's learning. We are very pleased to see how much progress the children have made. Very well done to our wonderful teachers and children for all their hard work.



Hopefully parents have now received the survey link that was texted. Please contact the school office if you did not receive it. This parent survey is to celebrate what we do well and to identify areas we may need to improve.

Please complete it by the **16<sup>th</sup> March.**  
**Thank you!**



The Federation's Business Manager met recently with Tree Tops and Southwark's Legal team regarding Tree Tops taking over our after-school care provision. We had anticipated that this process would have been finalised by now but unfortunately there have been delays within Southwark's legal team. However, the process has been clarified and should take 6-8 weeks to be completed and we estimate handover by the 5<sup>th</sup> May. Parents who use our current after school provision should continue as normal. We will provide you with further updates.



Year 2 children have completed mock SATs tests this week with their teachers. Children were focused and well behaved.

Teachers will use the results of these assessments in two ways.

- 1) To plan future learning.
- 2) Organise any support arrangements that may be beneficial for the children during the SATs period.

Thank you to all the year 2 team for organising these so efficiently.

# STAR WRITER

This week's star writer is:

## **Serena from Belfast Class**

*'Dear Diary*

*What a catastrophic day it's been! As I sit here now on my rocking chair (which is full of patches) my body is drained from a pool of emotions. Why must we suffer from a crime we haven't committed? All because of merciless Hitler! My not-so fabulous day started like any other until my peace was interrupted.*

*First thing in the morning, I had my breakfast (the usual bacon and eggs) – Ma says, 'too much bacon ain't good for your body', but we all know the real reason. Typical Ma always trying to cover up the fact that we can't afford it. Following our meagre breakfast of rations, I was helping Ma (who was a keen participant of the 'Dig for Victory' campaign) dig out her favourite rose bush in order to plant up some potato crops. There wasn't a breath of wind. Which made my conscience fear what would happen next. Beads of sweat trickled down my brow as the golden shards of light glared down on me with a scorching blaze. The blur of the Anderson shelter was faint, but in my mind, it was clear as day; I hope we won't be using that anytime soon I said to myself, but I knew that thought was only temporary. Gazing into the distance, my ginger cat named Coco was digging a hole without a care in the world as if the earth was at peace – but in this country there was no such thing as peace, just chaos all the time. Exhausted I sat down tired from digging. I couldn't help but gaze at the leaves, which were dancing effortlessly even though the wind was just passing by. Tingling in my ears, I*

*could hear the robins singing a serene harmony, while the black crows squawked at them trying to get some rest. Childishly, I felt my mouth twitching – me trying to not to laugh, but my mind wandered off taking me back to a world I craved for...Every beat in my heart yearned for Pa's calming voice to comfort me; but his absence was killing me.*

**BANG!**

*Abruptly, the piercing sound of the siren – a whale's mournful cry rattled in my ears breaking the peaceful silence. All of a sudden, a frightening thought flashed through my mind telling me that Coco wasn't okay. The colour of my skin drained out of my face as terror gripped my hand telling me not to look up to the sky. In a blink of an eye, Ma swiftly pulled my arm leading me to the shelter only to find Jess (my younger sister) trembling with fear, while listening to the tuneful melody of Glen Miller. As my eyes adjusted to the darkness, I noticed my cat Coco was quivering in the corner) licking her paw as her emerald eyes darted to every side of the room – not aware of her surroundings.*

*After what seemed like an eternity, the booming siren (signaling it was 'all clear') raged in my ear, but the smell of danger hung in the air like a broken cobweb. Even though we were all safe, frustration tickled me, knowing that no one got hurt- why do we have to waste our precious time? As soon as I went outside, everything looked the same; there were no damages – it was another false alarm! Why must we endure this unmeaningful assault?'*

**Well done Serena.**



You are warmly invited to attend your child's class performance.

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

18<sup>th</sup> March                  Whale Class

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

18<sup>th</sup> March                  Mayflower Class

25<sup>th</sup> March                  Cutty Sark Class

1<sup>st</sup> April                          Pearl Class

Week of 9 <sup>th</sup> March 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Meetings for parents of children with SEND needs.
10 <sup>th</sup> March	RPS host the next round of Debate Mate
Week of 9 <sup>th</sup> March	British Science Week
11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Book Fair
16 <sup>th</sup> March	Margaret taking children to sing at the Battle of Trafalgar concert. Mock SATS week for year 6
27 <sup>th</sup> March	PTA Easter Bonnet Parade
30 <sup>th</sup> March	KS2 Achievement Awards at 11:30 am
31 <sup>st</sup> March	EYFS and KS1 Achievement Awards at 11:15 am Full governing body meeting 6pm
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Attendance assemblies Last day of term. School closes at 2pm



We will continue to notify parents of any updates we receive from Public Health England regarding the Coronavirus.

In school we have discussed effective handwashing and good general hygiene habits. We will continue to ensure that children have access to handwash at all times.

Our cleaning company is following an even stricter cleaning regime including use of a stronger antibacterial spray. They are cleaning door handles and light switches.

I would like to remind you of the DfE helpline number if you are concerned about the COVID – 19 virus **0800 046 8687** you can also call **111** for advice if you or child feel unwell.

There is currently no intention by public health to close schools.

## Best Attendance

The classes with the best attendance for this week are:

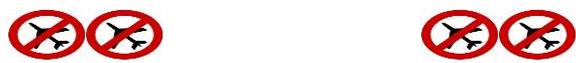
**KS1: Whale Class 97.8%**

**KS2: Cutty Sark Class 96%**



**Amazing! Keep up the good work everyone!!**

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



# Price List

	Stretchy Smile Man	ONLY £0.50		Dinosaur Fossil Digging Kit - Small	ONLY £2.00
	Rainbow Mini Spring	ONLY £0.50		Finger Dragonfly	ONLY £2.00
	Dinosaur Puzzle Kit	ONLY £0.50		Bouncing Putty	ONLY £2.00
	Butterfly Glider	ONLY £0.50		Parachute Men	ONLY £2.50
	Touchable Microbubbles	ONLY £0.50		Glow in the Dark Dinosaurs	ONLY £3.00
	Colourful Slime Tub	ONLY £1.00		Rattle Magnets	ONLY £3.00
	Bubble Tubs	ONLY £1.00		Magic Spring	ONLY £3.00
	Rocket Balloons	ONLY £1.00		Volcano Erupting Set	ONLY £3.00
	British Bird Glider	ONLY £1.50		Crystal Growing Kit	ONLY £3.00
	Finger Flying Rocket	ONLY £1.50		Dinosaur Fossil Digging Kit - Large	ONLY £3.00
	Flying Glider	ONLY £1.50		Grow Your Own Crystal Tree Kit	ONLY £3.00
	Bubble Wand	ONLY £2.00		Gold Panning Kit	ONLY £3.00
	Crazy Glow Kit	ONLY £2.00		Tornado Alley Kit	ONLY £3.00

# Homework Poster

## Science Week

### Our Diverse Planet

Design a poster to show our "Diverse Planet" and what we can do to protect it.



You can also write a poem, design a 3D model or write a balanced argument.

## ROTHERHITHE PRIMARY SCHOOL

### HOLIDAY DATES 2019-2020

#### AUTUMN TERM

Inset Day 1: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September (no children)  
Inset Day 2: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September (no children)  
Inset Day 3: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September (no children)

Start

Children back  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Half Term

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October

Children Back

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October - Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019

#### SPRING TERM

Start

Children back  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Half Term

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February

Children Back

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

#### SUMMER TERM

Start

Children back  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

May Day

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 (75<sup>th</sup> anniversary VE Day)

Half Term

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

Children Back

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020  
Inset Day Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July (no children)  
Inset Day Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July (no children)

#### Inset Days

2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020

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

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

# ROTHERHITHE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## HOLIDAY DATES 2020-2021

<b>AUTUMN TERM</b>	<b>Inset Day 1: Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September (no children)</b>
Start	<b>Children back</b> <b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September - Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020</b>
Half Term	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2020
Children Back	<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020</b>
<b>SPRING TERM</b>	<b>Inset Day 2: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021</b>
Start	<b>Children back</b> <b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021</b>
Half Term	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2021 Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
Children Back	<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February - Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021</b>
<b>SUMMER TERM</b>	<b>Inset Day 3: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021</b>
Start	<b>Children back</b> <b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021</b>
May Day	Friday Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021
Half Term	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2021 Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
Children Back	<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June - Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021</b> <b>Inset Day 4: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July (no children)</b> <b>Inset Day 5: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July (no children)</b>

### **Inset Days**

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021

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