

# RPS Weekly Newsletter



Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020

## Dear Parents & Carers

I hope that you are well, staying safe, and have had some opportunity to enjoy the sunshine. We are missing you here at school and look forward to a time when we are all together again. There has been a lot of speculation in the news about when children will return to school and we have had a number of parents ask us this question. We will continue to follow the government's advice but have not had any indication of when this is likely to be. Rest assured we will update you once arrangements change.

The school continues to be partially open for children of critical workers and others who may require further support. This includes those with: Education Health and Care Plans or SENDIF funding, families in temporary accommodation, families who may require support from social services or some families receiving support from Early Help that may require additional assistance from us. Please contact the school if you feel your family may require help in this way.

## KIDS WORKOUT

The children in school have been joining children across the country by completing Joe Wicks PE lessons each day and their fitness levels are definitely increasing. We are really pleased that you are enjoying his lessons. Some of you are also doing Zumba classes on line and I am sure Davion will get very fit on the running machine! I look forward to hearing how Maddie's virtual gymnastic lesson goes next week. Please make sure you all keep active and do some exercise each day.

I wish you lovely weekend and a Ramadan Mubarak!

## Reception September 2020

Families with children due to start school in Reception in September 2020 will have received their school offers this week. A number of the children starting have siblings and are from families already part of our community. We are delighted to continue working with you as partners in your children's education.

We are very much looking forward to meeting our new families and organising our transition and induction programme ready for these families.

## Easter Holidays

We hope you had a fantastic Easter break and enjoyed cooking some of the recipes on the website. Galiema is desperate to hear if anyone made her 'corn bread loaf' so if you made it please email your teachers and let us know what you thought.

The children had a lot of fun in school carrying out Easter egg hunts, making Easter cards, chatterboxes and playing hide and seek.



## Free School Meals Vouchers

Edenred vouchers for families that qualify for free school meals will continue. I would like to apologise to families who have been waiting for the vouchers. Unfortunately, the Edenred system was not able to cope with the demand and so there have been significant delays.

We have had a large number of families apply for Free School Meals during the past two weeks. Once we have your application we send this to Southwark and they will let us know if you are eligible. If you have not yet applied but would like to, please contact the office and speak to Sharon who is currently working Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. We will be in contact with families who have applied as soon as we hear back from Southwark. Once Southwark has agreed that your child is eligible, we can issue Edenred to email you FSM vouchers.

You should receive an email with an eCode. This needs to be 'redeemed' and converted into an eVoucher for a supermarket of your choice. EVouchers can take up to 4 days to arrive so be patient.

Families in receipt of the following benefits can apply for Free School Meals

- 1) Income Support
- 2) Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- 3) Income-related Employment and Support Allowance or support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- 4) Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- 5) Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

- 6) Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

## Southwark Healthy Packed Lunches

Southwark as a local authority is exceptional in that it provides a Southwark meal for all children of school age. Because of this we are offering a **Southwark healthy packed lunch** for families at RPS who would like to order these for their children. I sent out a link to enable you to order these in advance for the next two weeks. Collection of lunches is from 12:30pm. If you want to cancel the order at any time please contact the school by 9:30am in the morning.

## Life in School

It is certainly much quieter in school, but the children have been doing lots of learning and fun activities. Early years, year 1 and 2 children have been exploring exploding volcanoes and conducting bubble experiments!! They also celebrated the Queen's Birthday. Yesterday, year 3 & 4 children have been researching and celebrating St George's Day. Year 5 & 6 children have been producing fantastic acrostic poems and writing recipe instructions. They also made 3 commitments to the Earth for 'Earth Day'. Here are some of their promises:

- ✓ Plant more trees
- ✓ Turn off water when not using it
- ✓ Throw litter in bins



# HOME LEARNING

Home learning commenced again on the 20th of April and we will continue to provide weekly updates. Please make sure that you are doing as much of the home learning as you can. The teachers have worked hard to prepare a range of activities but if you feel you need more or an adjusted pack for a child with special needs please do email the teachers, who will source these for you.

Over the weeks we will continue to look at ways to improve home learning. We have also printed packs for those parents who have requested these, which can be collected from school.



We recently launched year group email accounts, so that you can communicate with the class teacher. We hope you find this useful. Please list the teacher's name in the email subject bar.

If you have any questions about the learning and want to send photos of the work your child is doing at home, please do so as the teachers really enjoy receiving these. The teachers cannot mark all the home learning, but a teacher may do the following:

- 1) Call you to follow up on an email if they think this will help your child.
- 2) Provide a short comment and advice about the work that they are sent.

Please do contact them.



Well done to all the children doing their home learning. Keep up the fantastic work. Here are some **star** home learners for this week.

Well done Smithey in Nursery class.



Well Done Isiah in Whale class. He made a bridge for Stephen Lawrence Day.

