

# RPS Weekly Newsletter



**Dear Parents & Carers,**

The Christmas festivities have truly enveloped RPS today. It has been a joy listening to the children happily singing as they recorded their class performances. You are in for a real treat! When they are ready, we will post these on the class private pages for you to view. I would like to say a special thank you to Tony (RPS web designer) for filming these today.



It was great seeing the festive jumpers that the children and adults wore. I was particularly impressed with Maya in Effra class. Her Miss Santa costume was fantastic – it even included hair accessories!

Unfortunately, there are some children who will not be having such a fun time at Christmas this year. So, I would like to say a huge thank you for your kind donations for **Save the Children**, which will hopefully brighten the days of others.

**Christmas Dinner.....** was amazing! Well done to the cooks. The children enjoyed pulling crackers and telling jokes whilst listening to Christmas tunes. I think I also spotted a few dancing!

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

## **Christmas Parties**

Children can wear party clothes on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December ready for their Christmas party on Wednesday afternoon.

Food will be bought for the children by their class teachers using the donations that have been given the school.

## **After School Clubs**

All After School Clubs are now finished for this term. Information about new clubs will be given out at the start of the new term.

## **FSM vouchers**

Parents of children who are eligible for FSM will receive 1 voucher for each child during the first week of the holiday. We hope it will help make a difference this Christmas.

## **Wall of Hope and Thanks**

Thank you to all the parents who have sent in supportive comments of hope and thanks. It is heart warming to hear your lovely words – they lift our spirits. Thank you!

Have a lovely weekend.

# Wall of Hope and Thanks

We are all in this together, let's obey the rules to keep us and others safe and together, we shall overcome.

Very happy with the peaceful people in this area. You all are amazing

Thank you to all parents and carers support, a little chat and understanding at the gate.

Together we'll beat these challenging times. Thank you all for been positive.

Peace and love to all xx

We have to look after each other at these trying and unusual times. We all need each other as never before. I offer my broad shoulders for anyone distressed to lean on. Thankfully, there is hope at the dark tunnel. We shall overcome!

It's has been a difficult 2020 for all of us. My fears and hopes for all of us throughout 2021 is that thank the lord we have survived the first bout of COVID-19. And we are now going through the second bout for Christmas and the New Year. I just pray that sometime in the near future, by the grace and mercy of the almighty there will be an end to all of this for all of us.

Thank you the protection and hard work you're doing for our community

Thank you everyone for your constant support to the school

A big thank you to Southwark Community for being patient and following the new rules in order to be safe during lockdowns.

I appreciate and love all parents /carers irrespective of your background. We need to stand together and support each other during this hard time in the name of "HUMANITY" You are all in my thoughts and prayers during this hard time. Stay strong! Covid is real! Covid does not discriminate! Let's follow the rules. Together we can! Happy New Year!

No ghosts or goblins and trick-or-treats, No candy or flowers for yours sweets. No gifts to buy or presents to give, just be Thankful for the life that you live. Thanks to you all and Happy New Year.

I have really appreciated all the works, supports and helps that as a great team you have done during this pandemic. Thank you so very much.

I'm so proud of being part of this amazing community. We rock!

Thanks to all the key workers in our community, keeping everything going and looking after us all.

## COVID Update

Children from one of our families have tested positive for COVID-19 this week. As a consequence, both Fleet and Brent class have been directed to isolate. These children will not return to school until January.

The school remains open. Your child should attend school as normal.

### Remote Learning - Laptops

We are pleased parents are taking up the offer of borrowing a DfE laptop when children are directed to isolate. You must return it when the isolation period comes to an end in the good condition.

## COVID FAQ

### My child has symptoms of COVID -19. What should I do?

If your child develops **symptoms** of COVID-19 you **MUST** book a COVID test. We can provide a test for families who are unable to get to a test center or who have attempted to arrange a home test and have been experiencing challenges.

At this point the whole household **must** self-isolate until the test results return. Siblings should **not** attend school. If the test result is **negative** then everyone can resume normal daily living. If the test result is **positive** the whole household will need to continue to self-isolate and must inform the school.

### My child has been identified as a contact of someone who is positive. Who must isolate?

Only the contact person needs to isolate in this instance. This is a precaution to prevent spreading the virus. The other household members can continue normal daily living and siblings can go to school. This changes if the child then develops symptoms. At this point follow directions above.



I have previously informed you that the school can no longer afford its current staffing structure due to budget challenges. As a consequence, staff have been through a 'restructure' process. This means that 12 members of staff are being made redundant. These staff are leaving at the end of term. Most have been working at Rotherhithe for many years and we are extremely sad to see them leave. I would like to say a huge thank you to each and every one of them for making such a huge contribution to the school.

The following members of staff will be leaving:

**Sue** – Speech and Language specialist  
TA

**Kim** – English specialist TA

**Simone** – Resources Manager

**Janice** – Attendance Officer

**Jackie** – Nursery Nurse

**Delrose** – Nursery Nurse

**Jay** – Teaching Assistant

**Elaine** – Teaching Assistant

**Lisa Powell** – Teaching Assistant

**Jo Kirby** – Teaching Assistant

**Pauline McAvoy** – Teaching Assistant

**Kellie Ansell** – Deputy Head Teacher

**Jordan** – I would like to congratulate Jordan for completing his apprenticeship. He is now moving on to new challenges.

Thank you all for your dedication, humour and your humanity. We wish you all the best of luck in the future.

## Early School Closure on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December

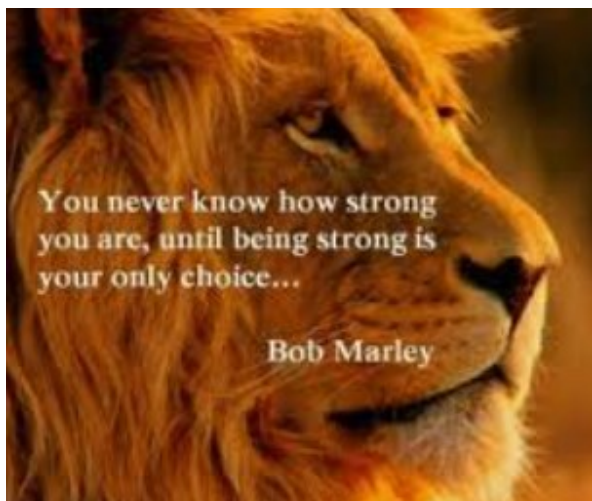
In line with the recent Department of Education and Public Health England recommendations, the last teaching day of the Autumn term will be **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**. We acknowledge the late notice and thank you in advance for your support and understanding. Please note that in order to facilitate this change; there will be one less INSET day in the summer term. Therefore, the last teaching day in the summer term will be **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021**.

## Year 2 Phonics Screening Check

Teachers have started administering the Phonics screening check to children in year 2. The children were taken individually from class to complete the check with their teacher in a quiet room.

The children's mental well being was monitored carefully throughout and they all managed very well. They should be proud of themselves. We certainly are.

Those children who were not in this week will complete the check next week.



## Free School Meals

**Are you entitled?**

If you think your child may be entitled to FSM please complete the FSM application form. You can download the form using this link: <https://bit.ly/35ydYT0> or call the school office to request a form. Once you have downloaded and filled out the form, please hand your completed application into the school office.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- 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)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- 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)

Registering for free meals could also raise an extra **£1,320** for your child's primary school.

If you require further help, please contact Sharon Hudson or Maxine in the school office or email at:

[shudson@rotherhithe.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:shudson@rotherhithe.southwark.sch.uk) or  
[office@rotherhithe.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:office@rotherhithe.southwark.sch.uk)





<b>7.12.20</b>	Year 5 & 6 Bikeability
<b>Week beginning</b>	Year 2 Phonics Screening Check
<b>14.12.20</b>	
<b>16.12.20</b>	Class Parties
<b>17.12.20</b>	Virtual Award Ceremonies
<b>18.12.20</b>	Break up -100% attendance certificates.

### RPS Virtual Tour



As we are unable to invite prospective parents on to the school site, we have created a short virtual tour for parents. This can be accessed on our website. <http://rotherhitheprimary.co.uk/> Please encourage any interested parents to watch it.




### Applying for a Reception place September 2021

All applications for a primary school place must be completed online at the following link:  
[www.southwark.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

The application must be completed by the **15<sup>th</sup> January**.

### Attendance

All children should aim to have above 95% attendance.

Class	Total	Best attendance
<b>Early Years</b>		
<b>Jellyfish</b>	91.3%	
<b>Penguin</b>	96.2%	
<b>Key Stage 1</b>		
<b>Whale</b>	87.6%	
<b>Octopus</b>	78.9%	
<b>Coral</b>	N/A	
<b>Seal</b>	N/A	
<b>Key Stage 2</b>		
<b>Effra</b>	97.1%	
<b>Fleet</b>	97.5%	
<b>Brent</b>	91.8%	
<b>Walbrook</b>	93%	
<b>Ravensbourne</b>	N/A	
<b>Wandle</b>	N/A	
<b>Lea</b>	93.9%	
<b>Thames</b>	92.9%	

Well done to the classes with the best attendance this week. Keep up the good work everyone!!

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

Please remember you may need to quarantine after trips abroad.



<b>Whale</b>	Chayce	For always showing kindness to his peers. He is such a lovely friend. Well done Chayce!
<b>Octopus</b>	Mason	Mason has worked really hard in his writing. He has great determination which has enabled him to make great improvements.  Well done Mason!
<b>Effra</b>	Scarlett	For an excellent performance in the play. She learned the song, dance and words really well. Amazing Scarlett!
<b>Walbrook</b>	Goldie	For being more confident in Maths and for her fantastic writing. Well done Goldie!
<b>Wandle</b>	Ayni	For fantastic progress in writing. She has slowed down and so is applying the past tense spelling rules consistently. She is editing her work really well and checking it makes sense. Keep it up I am really proud of you!
<b>Lea</b>	Lewis	Lewis has worked really hard this week – the imagery in his English work has been really well thought out and imaginative! Equally, his Arithmetic scores just keep getting better and better! Well done!
<b>Thames</b>	Christiana	Christiana has wowed me in her writing this week. She has been really ambitious in her choice of vocabulary and is really developing her writer's voice through our unit on the Wedding Ghost. Keep it up!