

RPS Weekly Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you had a fantastic Easter break and enjoyed the sunshine.

Earth Day: Today is Earth Day. This day was created to encourage people to consider how to look after our planet. More than 193 countries around the world are involved in Earth Day activities. This week children have considered the damage that humans are doing to our amazing world. This includes plastic pollution which is damaging wildlife and our environment. Hundreds of fish species, including ones that humans eat, are consuming plastic regularly in their diets.



(microplastics found in sea species)

Cutting down too many trees in rainforests is increasing greenhouse gases, leading to climate change. This affects the habitats of wildlife and many are now in danger of becoming extinct.



4 types of tiger are now extinct due to hunting.

Friday 22nd April 2022

Humans are huge consumers of the Earth's resources and with energy costs rising dramatically, now is the time to think about how to conserve energy use.

- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.
- Turn off the lights when you are not in a room. Turn off at the mains rather than leaving technology on stand by.
- Eating vegetarian food is not only nutritious but helps save energy.
- Walk more.
- Recycle, recycle recycle!



Today our children across the school have been designing posters to raise awareness of Earth Day. In the afternoon we turned off as many lights and computers as possible to conserve electricity. We have also started Meat Free Mondays!

To mark 50 years, Earth Day Network is setting a goal of planting 7.8 billion trees - one tree for every person on earth. We have plans to plant many trees in our new school grounds. This also improves air quality. So what can you do to help.....

Have a fantastic weekend. Lisa Christiansen (HoS)

Guess Who?

Look who we spotted in the Peckham Peculiar! We already know how amazing Margaret is and are delighted that everyone in Peckham now knows it too! She was recognised in this piece for her passion for music and dedication to children and young people. She also designs and leads the music provision across our federation. We are very grateful and impressed to see that you are now famous Margaret!



KS2 SATs Video Guides:

With SATs Week drawing closer, we have collated a series of very useful videos covering all aspects of the exam week and how best to prepare both at school and at home. Please choose from the options below. We hope that you find this new material useful.

WATCH THE VIDEOS: [Here](#)

St George's Day



Tomorrow is St George's Day (St George is the national patron saint of England). This week we considered St George in assembly. When people think of St George they think of the legend of a heroic dragon slaying knight, but in fact George was not English and he is unlikely to have ever visited England.

What do we now believe about St George?

St George was not a medieval knight, but a Christian Turkish soldier. As is the case with many saints, he became a martyr when he was executed for his faith. St George refused to worship pagan gods and to persecute Christians. Emperor Diocletian is believed to have ordered his execution in the early 4th century.

St George's legendary story became popular with English Kings and St George became our patron saint. Did you know he is also the patron saint of many other countries? Ethiopia, Venice and Portugal to name but a few. For hundreds of years now St George's day has been set aside on the 23rd April to mark the date of his martyrdom.



World Book Day Competition

You may remember me mentioning a national world book day competition - the aim was to design a book token. The children's designs needed to encourage others to read books. A winner was selected from each year group that entered. Each of these children got to choose a book from our book fair as a prize. Well done to everyone who entered - there were some amazing entries.



Sofije in Year 1



Aquillah in Year 2



Daniella in Year 3



Astrid in Year 4



Elsie in Year 6



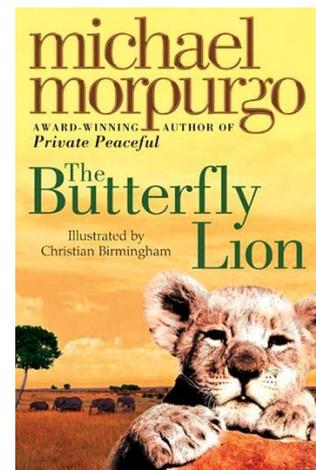
Teacher Book Recommendations

Teaching Assistant: Karon Stocker

One of my favourite books is: the Butterfly Lion by Michael Morpurgo

This is a heart-warming story of a young boy called Bertie who rescues an orphaned white lion cub from the African Bush. They become best friends until Bertie is sent away to boarding school, forcing them to be separated. The reader then finds out what happens years later when they are reunited again.

This is a beautiful story about companionship, loyalty and perseverance. A must read for all children aged between 9-11 years.



School uniform

Galiema will be sending out a letter to inform parents of the new school uniform soon.

Galiema held a meeting with the school council who have voted to change the colour of the jumpers. More information to follow soon.

Children will continue to wear our current school uniform until the end of this academic year - July 2022.

Debate Mate Cup Final

On Thursday 21st April the Year 6 debaters took part in the annual Debate Mate Cup. This was the first DMC held since COVID and it took place at Goldsmiths University in New Cross. The children were amazing! Two teams took part in four debates overall, winning three of them!

They impressed Conor and Karon, as they have done throughout the year, with their dedication and preparedness, composure and confidence and wonderful attitude towards their teammates and opponents. This was their final (official) competition as our Debate Mate club and we want them to be as proud of themselves as we are of them!

We really hope as many of them as possible keep on debating when they get to their Secondary schools.

See the gallery here: [Click here.](#)

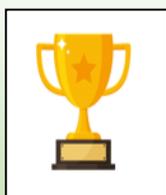


Attendance Matters

This week's winners of the attendance award.

Whale Class 95.2%

Wandle Class 96.4%



Well done and keep it up!

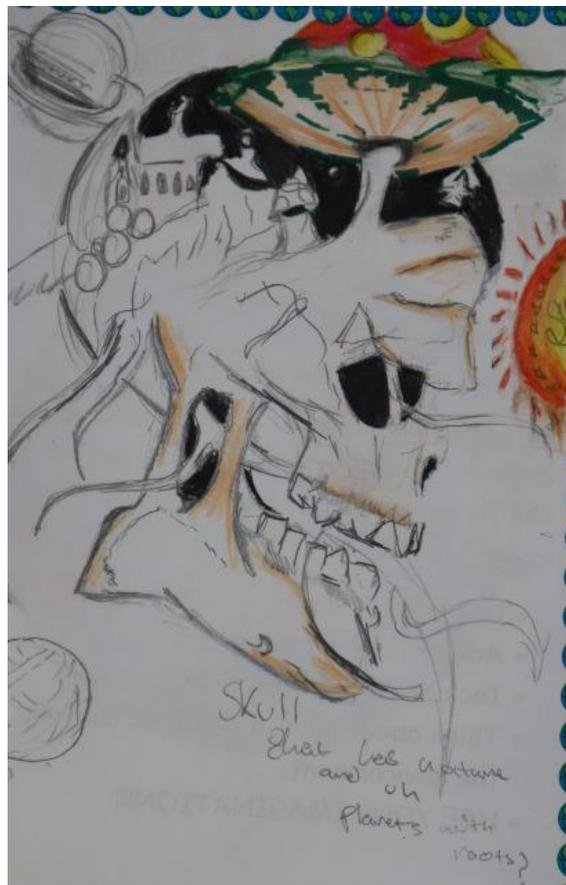
Earth Day Poster Designs

The theme for this year's Earth Day event is "Invest in Our Planet." We challenged the children to design a poster that raises awareness of climate change and how to find solutions for it. We ran this as a competition.

The children created some amazing posters. The talented winners for each class are:

Winnie - Lea
Evelyn - Lea
Lexi - Effra
Dylan - Ravensbourne
Leila - Whale
Ruby - Wandle
Rayan - Coral
Edela - Walbrook
Elsie - Thames
Iman - Seal

Well done everyone- some fascinating ideas. [Click here.](#)



Attendance Matters!

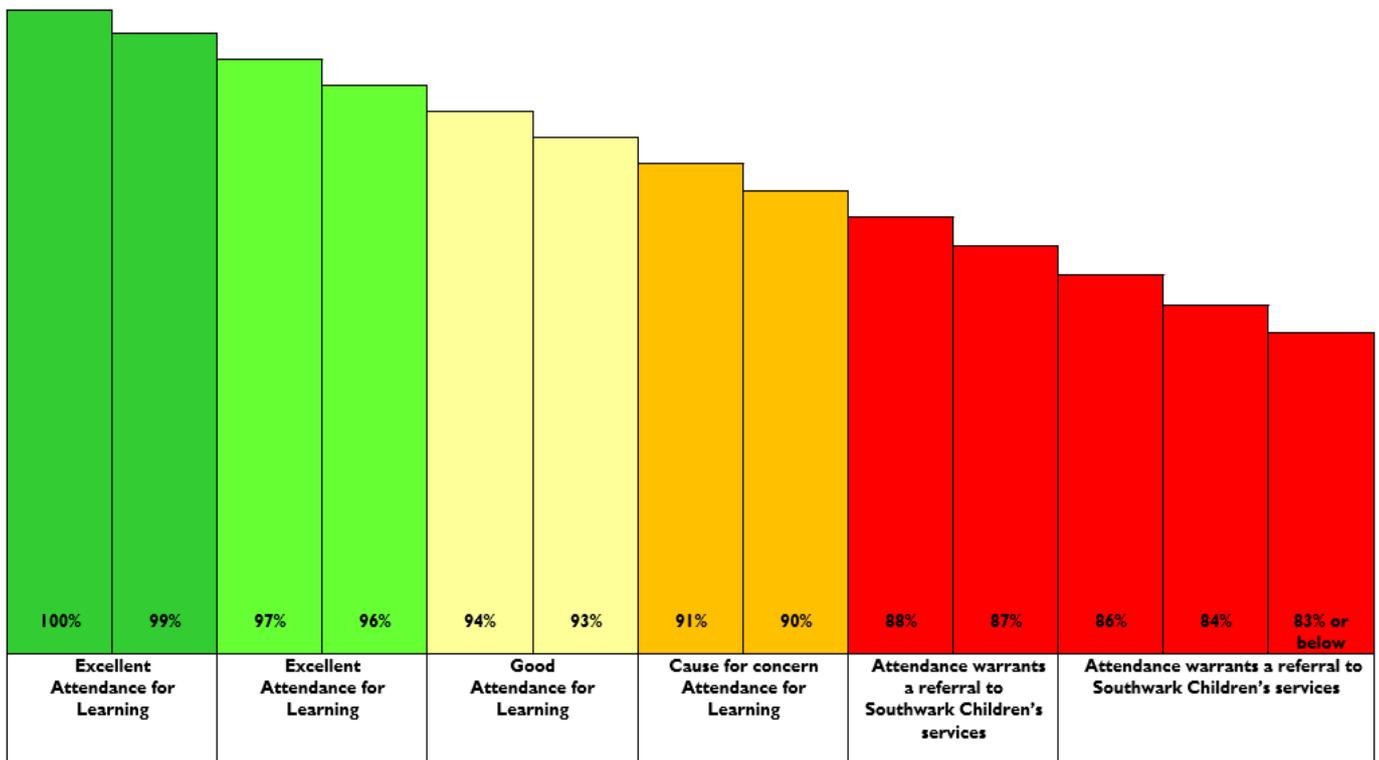
All parents and carers want the very best for their children and for them to get on well in life. Having a good education is important to ensure that children have the best opportunities in their adult life. They only get one chance at school, and your child's future may be affected by not attending school regularly. If children do not attend school regularly they may:

- Struggle to keep up with schoolwork. In a busy school day, it is difficult for schools to always find the extra time to help children to 'catch up' with lost learning.
- They may not achieve their full potential.
- Children miss out on the social side of school life. Poor attendance often affects their friendship groups. Children with lower attendance are more likely to find it difficult to make and keep friends – a vital part of growing up.

Setting good attendance patterns from an early age, from nursery and through-out their school journey will also help your child later on in their life. Children who have poor school attendance records may have less chance of securing a job when they are adults.

We are here to help and want to work in partnership with you. Please contact the school office and ask to speak to Kofi Danquah, if you need support or are concerned about your child's attendance.

Persistent Absence: Please note that parents have a legal responsibility to inform the school of any absences. If a child's attendance drops below 90% they are considered to be 'persistently absent' and the school will request a meeting with parents or carers. At this point the school may consult with the Education and Inclusion Team to discuss attendance concerns.





STAR OF THE WEEK

Whale	Ava	Ava has been making excellent progress in her writing and she has been trying hard in all of her other subjects, especially Art. Well Done Ava.
Octopus	Jamie	Jamie has been on the pot of gold three times this week! He has put a tremendous amount of effort into every aspect of his learning. Well done Jamie!
Coral	Ehab	This week Ehab returned to school with a can-do attitude. He has been actively listening and was engaged throughout this week's learning. Keep it up!
Seal	Abdullahi	Abdullahi returned this week with a very good attitude towards his learning. He has tried really hard and this has shown in all of his work this week. Please keep it up!
Effra	Mohammed	Mohammed has worked hard to write a retell of a fictional story, adding in extra detail and description. He had worked hard to ensure that his spellings and punctuation was correct. Amazing!
Brent	Sheriff	For superb work this week in Maths. Sheriff has been cooperating and explaining concepts to his partner and the class with precision and showed great understanding. Superstar!
Walbrook	Precious	For making great progress in her Times Tables Rock Star fluency. She is close to knowing her times tables within than 6 seconds. Breath-taking!
Ravensbourne	Sasha	Sasha has had a great week. He has returned from the Easter break with a wonderful approach to his learning. I am excited that his positive daily choices may make this term his best yet. Well done, Sasha!
Lea	Leo	Leo has worked very hard on his phonics and writing this week. Well done Leo keep up the positive attitude!
Thames	Makayla	For writing a lively informal letter in the role of an evacuee child, incorporating appropriate descriptive vocabulary and a range of punctuation. Lovely writing, Makayla!



Tuesday 19th April	Children return to school for the start of the summer term.
Thursday 28th April	Parent Healthy Zones coffee morning
Week starting 9th May	Year 6 SATS tests
Month of May	Year 2 SATs testing window
Week starting 23rd May	Year 6 Conover Hall Trip
Thursday 26th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ National Thank a teacher day ➤ London History Day
Friday 27th May	Break up for half term
30th May-6th June	Half Term holiday
7th June	Children return to school
8th June	Local Authority Deep Dive
8th-10th June	Phonics screening check administered to year 1 & some year 2 children
13th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Full Governing Body Meeting ➤ Year 4 Multiplication Check administered ➤ Money Week
23rd June	Year 6 Kooth Transition Workshops
Week starting 27th June	Art & DT week
4th July	KS1 Sports Day
5th July	Year 3 & 4 Sports Day
6th July	Year 5 & 6 Sports Day
7th July	EYFS Sports Day
11th & 12th July	Healthy Living Dance Workshops
13th July	Year 5 Splash concert
14th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Year 3 & 4 Young Readers Event ➤ Year 6 prom
15th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reports home and new classes announced. ➤ Healthy Eating Day
18th July	Meet your new teacher
19th July	Parents Evening
21st July	Last Day of term. 11:30 – year 6 graduation Award ceremony.

PLEASE COME TO OUR HEALTHY ZONES COFFEE MORNING

THURSDAY 28TH APRIL

Rotherhithe Primary School has been working on a project called Healthy Zones, in partnership with the charity School Food Matters. The Healthy Zones project runs across 80 schools in Lambeth & Southwark, supporting staff and students to improve school food environments.

With our local high streets flooded with junk food, we want to stop this unhealthy tide at our school gates and place nutritious food centre stage. Our aim is to make sure it's easy to be healthy at Rotherhithe Primary. To do this, we need your help!

Our breakfast club and after school club have already become Healthy Zones and we will be launching a new and improved school food policy in September 2022. You can find out more from our students' video [here](#). We would now love to hear your views as parents and carers to ensure our policy can be put into practice within our school community.

If you would like to get involved and have your say on our food policy, please come along on **Thursday 28th April** to our coffee morning, after drop off. **There will be tasty things to try!** Any questions or for more information please do ask.



Thought of the Week

Happiness is a gift and the trick is not to expect it, but to delight in it when it comes
- Charles Dickens

Government Update: Children who have symptoms of a respiratory infection, including COVID – 19.

Respiratory infections are common in children and young people, particularly during the winter months. Symptoms can be caused by several respiratory infections including the common cold, COVID-19 and RSV.

For most children and young people, these illnesses will not be serious, and they will soon recover following rest and plenty of fluids.

Very few children and young people with respiratory infections become seriously unwell. This is also true for children and young people with long-term conditions. Some children under 2, especially those born prematurely or with a heart condition, can be more seriously unwell from [RSV](#) (bronchitis).

When children and young people with symptoms should stay at home and when they can return to education.

Children and young people with **mild symptoms** such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to **attend** their education setting.

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.

All children and young people with respiratory symptoms should be encouraged to cover their mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and/or sneezing and to wash their hands after using or disposing of tissues.

It can be difficult to know when to seek help if your child is unwell. If you are worried about your child, especially if they are aged under 2 years old, then you should seek medical help.

Children who have a positive COVID test result

It is **not** recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.

If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test, if they can. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.

Children and young people who usually go to school, college or childcare and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.

For more information on the most recent government guidance please [click here](#).

KIDS IN THE WILD

IS YOUR CHILD 9-11 YEARS OLD?

DO YOU WANT YOUR CHILD TO HAVE THE ULTIMATE SUMMERTIME ADVENTURE?
ARE YOU FED UP WITH SEEING THEM INSIDE ON SCREENS?
DO YOU THINK THEY WOULD BENEFIT FROM TIME SPENT IN THE WILDERNESS?

Channel 4 and the producers of *Junior Bake Off* are making a brand-new series and are looking for children aged 9-11 to spend two weeks camping in nature this summer.

By encouraging independence outdoors, we will explore the relationships and skills children develop when put to the test.

VISIT WWW.APPLYFORTHEWILD.CO.UK
OR EMAIL KIDSINTHEWILD@LOVEPRODUCTIONS.CO.UK

<https://loveproductions.co.uk/contributorprivacynotice>

LOVE
productions



SENsational Stay & Play



Every Thursday
(Term Time only)

9.00am - 10.45am

To book a place call:

02072374050

A fun group for children with SEND and their parents/carers.
Explore our wonderful setting while spending time with other parent/carers and young children who have learning differences.

Cherry Garden School, 41 Bellenden Road,
Peckham, SE15 5BB