

# RPS Weekly Newsletter



Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

The cold weather returned this week and it is still set to be cold next week. Please make sure your children wrap up warmly in coats, hats, scarves and jackets. Girls wearing skirts should wear warm tights. Please continue to take care in the playground, as some areas may become icy.

**Martin Luther King Day:** During assembly this week we celebrated the life of Dr Martin Luther King Jr. Children from year 6 helped lead the assembly and we considered King's dream that people would not be 'judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character'. We reflected on what this meant, and the fact that we still need to work towards achieving his dream across the world.

**Hello Planets Science Workshop:** As we are fast approaching Science Week 2023, all key stage 2 classes took part in a science workshop today called "Hello Planets". The zoom workshop was run by Liz Tinlin of tinlintalks.org. This was a STEM workshop that aims at provoking interest in STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). The children enjoyed learning some truly fascinating facts about the planets and their geology. The teachers were also learning too!

**Teacher Strikes:** I am sure parents will have heard that the NEU is planning to take industrial action. We are working with the LA and union representative to keep up to date with planned action. We will update you as soon as we have more information. We will do everything we can to minimize the disruption.

**Attendance Matters:** We continue to have a firm focus on attendance. We are busy arranging treats for groups of children who had 100% last half term. On February the 8<sup>th</sup>, children with 100% attendance will get the opportunity to have fun bowling.

**Is my child too ill for school?** We understand that it can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school when they are unwell. The NHS has published guidelines to support parents and carers with this. Their advice covers a range of topics, including coughs and colds. They advise that it is fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold, but if they have a fever, you should keep them at home until the fever goes. You can read more [here](#).

Winter illnesses continue to circulate at high levels and we want to keep children and staff as healthy as possible. We are supporting children to maintain good hygiene in school by encouraging them to wash their hands regularly and throw away any used tissues. You can help us by reinforcing this message at home.



I wish you good health and hope you have a restful weekend. Lisa (HoS)

# We Love Learning!

**Dulwich Picture Gallery Visit:** Thames class thoroughly enjoyed visiting Dulwich Picture Gallery and participating in 'Mark Makers'. This has been developed specifically to support year six students in their final year of Primary School, as they start to think about their transition to Secondary School. The children explored continuous line drawings, as well as experimenting with water colours, to create various shades and tones. They even had an attempt at 'blind' drawing (Blind contour drawing is a drawing exercise, where an artist draws the contour of a subject without looking at the paper).

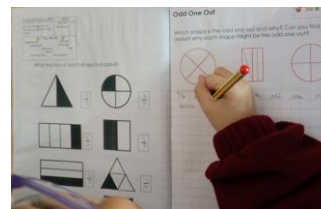
Ayham: 'It was such a great experience to be able to sit in front of real works of art. I felt like I was sitting in the same setting as the painting.'

Zelick: 'I wish we could do things like this more often'.



**Computing at RPS:** Computer studies covers a wide range of techniques and skill sets, ranging from programming and coding, through to design and photography.

In Fleet class's lesson today, children were learning how to alter the raw state of a photograph to change its look and feel. This can be by removing colours, to make an image monochrome (black and white), or to sharpen or blur certain elements of the image. This can enhance a key area that they wish the viewer to focus on.



**Maths at RPS:** Every morning is a maths morning at Rotherhithe Primary School and we are happy to say that our children absolutely love maths.

Year 2 have been beavering away solving fraction puzzles this week. The children are becoming very adept at explaining their thinking using complete sentences and they love a challenge!

# We love Forest School!

This week a new group of Reception children set off on their first adventure to our amazing Forest School. On this visit, the adults walked the children through the dos and don'ts of Forest School. By following the Forest school rules everyone stays safe and happy in the outdoor learning.

## Forest School Rules

- Look after your Forest School
- Do not pick anything growing
- Do not put your fingers or anything else in your mouth
- Stay within the boundaries marked, 'we don't go over it and we don't go under it'.
- Stay outside of the fire circle.
- Look above, below and around for hazards.

As you can see the children really enjoyed their new woody adventure and took to this amazing outdoor learning experience very quickly.





<b>Whale</b>	Binta	Binta has had a fantastic week. She has made sure to listen, focus and concentrate during her learning and has produced some amazing pieces of work. Binta has also been a star during phonics lessons this week and is already making improvements. Well done, Binta.
<b>Coral</b>	Abu	Abu has made wonderful contributions in Maths this week. He has displayed a can-do attitude and never gives up. Well done, Abu!
<b>Seal</b>	Wizzy	Wizzy for showing a very mature attitude to his learning. Wizzy has remained really focused during independent writing and produced a lovely re-write of the Owl Babies story.
<b>Effra</b>	Oscar	Oscar has returned to school and has been working hard to catch up on learning. He has really focused on joining his handwriting and increasing his writing speed. Well done for being dedicated to your learning.
<b>Walbrook</b>	Tony	Tony has worked really well in Maths. He has been extremely resilient and has produced amazing outcomes. Tony has also shown a positive attitude towards his learning even when he found some of the work challenging. Keep it up!
<b>Ravensbourne</b>	Tierra-Lee	Tierra-Lee regularly contributes to class discussions, but this week in a Geography lesson she really displayed her creative talents. We are currently learning about the Alps, and she created an acronym to remember all 8 countries that the Alps runs through. Well done, Tierra-Lee, I am duly impressed!
<b>Wandle</b>	Cameron	Because of his focus and concentration, Cameron has been able to convert mixed numbers into improper fractions, independently. Well done!
<b>Fleet</b>	Evelyn	For showing great perseverance in maths. After a difficult start to the week, Evelyn was able to recognise and write improper fractions. Amazing!
<b>Lea</b>	Ruby	For always trying her best in all she does. She is a very jovial pupil and makes everyone smile. Stay the bubbly, positive person you are Ruby.
<b>Thames</b>	Freddie	For displaying excellent learning behaviour in mathematics. He has been exceedingly attentive and as a result made progress in his understanding of fractions and the process involved when calculating with them. Well done!



# Dates for your Diary

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	Inset Day/ staff training
<b>4<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Children return to school</b>
<b>9<sup>th</sup> January</b>	World Religion Day
<b>16<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Martin Luther King Day
<b>20<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Hello Planet Workshops for years 3/4/5 and 6.
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	Ravensbourne Science Museum trip Lunar New Year!
<b>31<sup>st</sup> January</b>	Effra class trip – Ancient Egyptians
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	Year 6 Southwark Junior Citizenship workshop– Year 6
<b>7<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Internet Safety Day Walbrook Class trip – Ancient Egyptians
<b>9<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Height and Weight Check Reception to year 6
<b>10<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Break up for half term
<b>20<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Children return to school</b>
<b>21<sup>st</sup> February</b>	Diversity Role Models workshops
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	Inclusion Quality Mark Review
<b>27<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Year 2 mock SATs week
<b>1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	Parent's Evening
<b>Week starting 6<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 6 Mock SATs
<b>8<sup>th</sup> March</b>	World Book Day
<b>Week starting 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	British Science Week
<b>17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Dress up as you favourite Scientist or science inspired costume
<b>21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	World Poetry Day
<b>Week starting 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Poetry Week
<b>31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	Easter Bonnet Parade Achievement Awards  Early school closure at 2pm

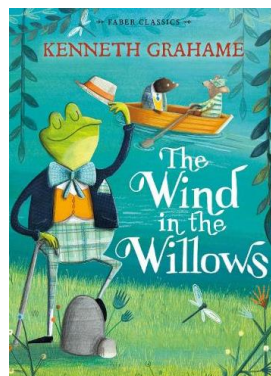
## Thought of the Week

Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. – Martin Luther King Jr

## Teacher Book Recommendations

**Teacher:** Alex Montgomery

**Favourite Book:** The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame



The book I read and re-read is 'The Wind in the Willows' by British writer Kenneth Grahame. It depicts the hilarious adventures of a group of animal friends in the English countryside in a series of short stories. The author's choice of language truly provides an immersive description of the Thames Valley and really brought the woods to life for me as a child. The characters: sensible Ratty, mischievous Toad and stern Badger remain vivid in my head and I love every single one of them!

Wind in the Willows has become such a classic story you can even watch the movie and look out for theatre performances too!

## Attendance Matters

This week's winners of the attendance award.

**Coral class** 100%

**Ravensbourne Class** 98.1%

Well done and keep it up!

**Please do not book holidays during term time!**





## Karate

Is your child interested in Karate?

Karate classes for children have started on Wednesdays between 5-7pm at the Lewington Community Centre (Silwood Estate).

Session one: 5-5.55pm - 7-11yrs

Session two: 6-6.55pm - 12-17yrs

£2 per child

There are 20 spaces for each session and the minimum attendees required is 10 for each session. Children must wear modest loose clothing (such as a tee-shirt and jogging bottoms) and arrive on time.

The club will be closed during school holidays. All members will be required to leave immediately after sessions and vacate the building.

Jacqueline Willis (Karate Volunteer Project Manager)

Michael Jacques (Karate teacher)

Stella Hutton (Karate Administration Volunteer)

Contact Jacqueline on +44 7950 726542 if you are interested in reserving a place.



Keeping children safe on the internet is essential and there are a number of online organisations that provide advice for parents. UK Safer Internet Centre can be accessed at the following website: [Click here.](#)

Guides and resources

## Parents and Carers



### Have a conversation

It is really important to chat with your children on an ongoing basis about staying safe online. Not sure where to begin? These conversation starter suggestions can help.

#### ■ Ask your children to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online.

What games do you and your friends like to play online? Can you show me the websites you visit the most? Shall we play your favourite game online together?

#### ▲ Ask them about how they stay safe online.

What tips do they have for you, and where did they learn them? What is OK and not OK to share?

#### ● Ask them if they know where to go for help.

Where can they go to find the safety advice, privacy settings and how to report or block on the services they use?

#### 💜 Think about how you each use the internet.

What more could you do to use the internet together? Are there activities that you could enjoy as a family?

# Winter Timetable 5<sup>th</sup> January-10<sup>th</sup> February 2023



We are now operating a system on first come, first served basis with a limited capacity in each centre.  
A few sessions still require a booking so please check our timetable and email us to book on

[ccadmin@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:ccadmin@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk)



## Monday

### Venue: Ellen Brown

**Stay and Play (1-5 years) 10am-11:30am**

Learning through play and stimulating activities whilst meeting other families with our team on hand to support you with any queries.

**Boogie Mites (0-5 yrs)**  
Times: 1:30pm-2:15pm

Music programme to support children's language, brain development, physical, social and emotional development.

### Bookstart Sessions

**Bookstart (0-5 years) Term Time Only**  
10am-11:30am

Have fun bringing stories alive through storytelling, arts and crafts and register with the library.

### WHERE:

**Canada Water Library**  
21 Surrey Quays Rd, SE16 7AR

**Blue Anchor Library**  
Market Place, London, SE16 3UQ

## Tuesday

### Venue: Ellen Brown

**SENSational Stay and Play (0-5 years)**  
10:00am-11:30am **Booking Required**

A session that encourages the development of early attention and social communication skills for children with additional and special educational needs such as Autism, Global Developmental Delay, Social Communication Delay, ADHD, and any other additional needs.  
(No session 10<sup>th</sup> Jan due to staff training)

**Baby Massage (8 weeks old-pre-crawlers) Booking Required**  
Dates: 17<sup>th</sup> Jan-7<sup>th</sup> Feb (4 weeks)  
Times: To be confirmed

Baby massage promotes bonding and attachment, and helps to boost a baby's immune system, reduce stress, relieve colic, and encourage sleep.

**Antenatal Workshop Booking Required**  
4-week course for expecting parents.  
More details to come.

Dates: To be confirmed

To enquire, please email:  
[ccadmin@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:ccadmin@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk)

### Venue: Rotherhithe

**Stay and Play (0-5 years)**  
10am-12:00pm - From: 17<sup>th</sup> January  
(No session 10<sup>th</sup> Jan due to staff training)

Fun and stimulating activities for children and families. Parents can get advice and support around child development, parent-child wellbeing and much more. Access to internet for parents via site laptop for further support- Ask a member of staff.

Warm Space.

## Wednesday

### Venue: Ellen Brown

**Toddler Time (2-5 years) 10am-11:30am**  
An opportunity for toddlers to learn and develop through fun by exploring, being active and creative, supporting next steps into nursery education.

**Chattertime (18 months-5 years) 1:30pm-3:00pm Booking Required**

A session that encourages the development of early communication skills through play with a top tip every week and support from a Speech and Language Therapist.

### Venue: Pilgrims Way

**Bookstart (0-5 years) Term Time Only**  
10am-11:30am  
Have fun bringing stories alive through storytelling, arts and crafts and register with the library.

### Speech and Language Drop in Dates:

Meet a speech and language therapist for advice and tips:

18<sup>th</sup> January- Toddler Time at Ellen Brown

26<sup>th</sup> January-Baby & Me at Ellen Brown

27<sup>th</sup> February- Book Start at Canada Water Library

8<sup>th</sup> March- Toddler Time at Ellen Brown

20<sup>th</sup> March - Book Start at Canada Water Library

## Thursday

### Venue: Ellen Brown

**Baby and Me (0-12 months) 10:00am-11:30am**

Join this relaxed session and have an opportunity to bond, play and have fun with your baby and meet other parents.

**No session on the 19<sup>th</sup> January due to staff training**

### Venue: Rotherhithe

**Breastfeeding Café Drop in**  
10am-12:00pm

A session offering information and practical support for pregnant and breastfeeding mums and their families.

### Venue: Pilgrims Way

**Melodies 4 Mums (Invitation Only)**

Dates: 2<sup>nd</sup> February-6<sup>th</sup> April  
10-week programme

Connect with your baby and other parents in a supportive space, unwind and de-stress through the joy of singing and music-making

Contact the centre for more details

[ccadmin@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:ccadmin@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk)

### Speech and Language Additional Support

Are you concerned about your child's communication skills? Contact us to book an appointment for the **WellComm session** to receive one to one support and advice on next steps.

Email: [ccadmin@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:ccadmin@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk)

## Friday

### Venue: Ellen Brown

**Baby Explorers (12 months-24 months)**  
10:00am-11:30am

An opportunity for you and your child to play together and actively explore the environment through stimulating learning opportunities

### Venue: Rotherhithe

**Boogie Mites (0-5yrs)**  
Times: 10:00am-10:45am

Music programme to support children's language, brain development, physical and social and emotional development.

### Venue: Pilgrims Way

**Cygnat Workshop**

Times: 12pm-2:00pm

Workshop for parents/carers of children 5-18 yrs old with Autism.

For more information contact:  
Blagoje Vucinic

[Blagoje.vucinic@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:Blagoje.vucinic@southwark.gov.uk)

**Winter Timetable 9<sup>th</sup> January-10<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

**Speech and Language support**

**Virtual Chattertime and Drop In Sessions**

Are you worried that your child is not talking or doesn't understand you? Do you have questions or concerns about your child's communication skills? Please book onto a session with a speech and language therapist

To book on, email: [gst-lr.contacts@nhs.net](mailto:gst-lr.contacts@nhs.net)

Website:  
[www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/communityspeechandlanguage](http://www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/communityspeechandlanguage)

Facebook: @EvelinaSLT



**Free Vitamin D**

Pregnant women, new mums, and children under four in the borough can get free vitamin D supplements.



**HENRY Programme**

This programme aims to help you feel more confident as a parent, physical activities for the little ones, what children and the whole family eats, family lifestyle habits and enjoying life as a family.

To book please email: [Henry@gstf.nhs.uk](mailto:Henry@gstf.nhs.uk)

For more information, please visit  
<https://www.henry.org.uk/>



**Rose Vouchers**

Support to buy fresh fruit and vegetables for low-income families and living in SE1, SE5 or SE17

If you wish to register to please phone 0207 358 2878 or email [ccadmin@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:ccadmin@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk)



**Our registration form is now available to complete on our website**

<http://br-cc.org.uk/br-cc/>

**Please complete this if you are new to attending our Children and Family and Centres.**

**We have gone paperless to help save the environment.**

**Please scan the QR Code to download the timetable and sign up to our mailing list and be the first to know everything that is happening in the Children and Family Centre.**



**50 Things To Do Before Five!**

Download the app or visit the website for free fun activities to do with your child and have fun, play, and learn.

Website: <https://50thingstodo.org/>



**Dolly Parton Imagination Library**

If you live in Southwark and have a child under 5, you can register to receive a FREE book every month until their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. Sign up and make bedtime fun.

For more information please email:  
[ccadmin@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:ccadmin@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk)



**Contact us!**

**Ellen Brown Children and Family Centre**

145 Grange Road (Spa Park) SE1 3EU

**Pilgrims Way Children and Family Centre**

Tustin Estate, Manor Grove, SE15 1EF

**Rotherhithe Children and Family Centre**

Southwark Park (Hawkstone Road entrance) SE16 2PF

**South Bermondsey Children and Family Centre**

Tenda Road, SE16 3PN

Telephone: 0207 358 2878

[ccadmin@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:ccadmin@pilgrimsway.southwark.sch.uk)

Please visit our websites for further information

<http://br-cc.org.uk/br-cc/>



Southwark adult learning Service  
Thomas Carlton Centre  
Alpha Street London SE15 4NX

For more information and to  
book a place please contact

**Kate Bagnall**  
Family Learning Manager

[Kate.Bagnall@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:Kate.Bagnall@southwark.gov.uk)

phone  
020 7358 2100



Enrol now for  
**FREE**

## FAMILY LEARNING ACTIVITIES



**Spring 2023**  
**@ Thomas Calton Centre**  
Corner of Choumert Road and Alpha Street

Enrol now for **FREE FAMILY LEARNING ACTIVITIES** Starting: Spring 2023  
**Booking essential for all courses**



Course Title	Code	Venue	Day	Time	Start date	Weeks	Materials
<b>Family Pottery-</b> Have creative fun with clay with your school age child -(2 max)	FL2013	TC	Monday	4pm-5.30pm	09/01/23	5	£5.00 material fee
<b>Reduce, reuse and recycle-</b> creative fun for all the family	FL2003	TC	Monday	1pm-3.30pm	13/02/23	1	Nil
<b>Reduce, reuse and recycle-</b> creative fun for all the family	FL2004	TC	Tuesday	1pm-3.30pm	14/02/23	1	Nil
<b>Family learning -Creative Creatures</b> fun for all the family	FL2010	TC	Saturday	12pm-2.30pm	04/03/23	2	Nil
<b>Family Textiles-</b> Exploring textiles, suitable for all ages. Each week we will develop a different textile skill	FL2015	TC	Monday	4pm-5.30pm	20/02/23	5	Nil