

# RPS Weekly Newsletter



**Friday 29th September 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well done to all those children and adults who cycled to school this week. Keep it up.

**Gardening Project:** At RPS we are always looking for charitable donations to enable us to provide fantastic opportunities for our children and to develop the learning environment. We are very pleased to announce that Nina Hall successfully raised £10,000 in charitable donations from the Nicolas Stacey society. This money is being used over the year to develop the allotment area in our school. Each class has an allotment bed and with the help of a paid gardener and volunteers the children are going to plant and grow a range of food products to eat and sell. It is very exciting! We have new Gardening Ambassadors (you can see some at work below) who have been busy mucking in and helping to distribute the newly arrived compost to our vegetable plots in preparation for sowing next week. They had a fantastic time and worked really hard! Thank you!



**RPS Crest Award Club:** RPS has a new Science Club, and they had their first session this week. They were given a challenge which involved researching different trees and deciding which tree to plant that would meet a set of given specifications. The selected tree needed to

provide lots of shade, homes for animals, and it also had to be native to the UK. In the end, there were only 4 trees left that were suitable. Did you know that not all trees that grow in England are native to England? For example, the Sweet Chestnut tree originated abroad.



**Nexus Academy:** I am pleased to inform you that RPS has now completed the academy transfer process and has received confirmation from the Secretary of State that as of 1st October, RPS and DKH will join the Nexus Multi-Academy Trust and become academies. We cannot wait to embark on this new journey together and continue to make RPS the best school for our children and school community.

**School Council Elections:** Over the past two weeks, year 6 children have been drafting speeches and presenting to children across the school, in an effort to be voted for the coveted position of Chair or Vice Chair of the School Council. I am pleased to announce that the votes are in, and Jaida was voted Chair of the council with Alex becoming the Vice Chair. Well done to both of you. We look forward to seeing what you can achieve over the year. The full school council will be announced next week.



**International Day** is coming back! Save the date: **Tuesday 17th October**. Parents invited from 2:30 pm onwards.

Thames class participated brilliantly in the PE and Schools Sports Network Year 5/6 6-a-side Football Competition. They were split into 3 teams and played with enthusiasm and skill in a round-robin format. Their communication and teamwork were pleasing to see. Great effort was given by all with Team A winning one of their matches 4-0. Scorers: Lemar, Lauk, Emma and Rueben. Well done!

## Year 5 & 6 Football competition



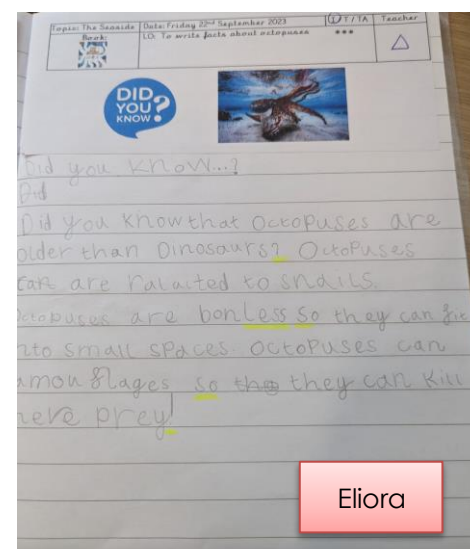
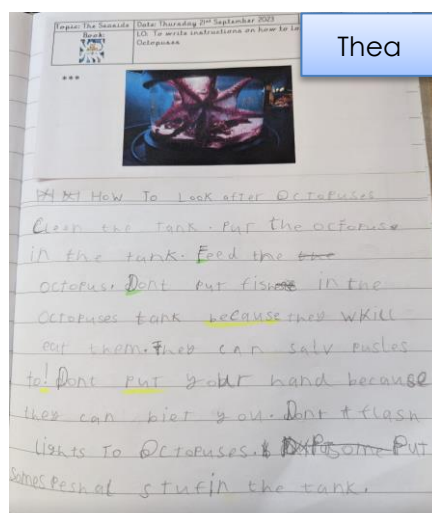
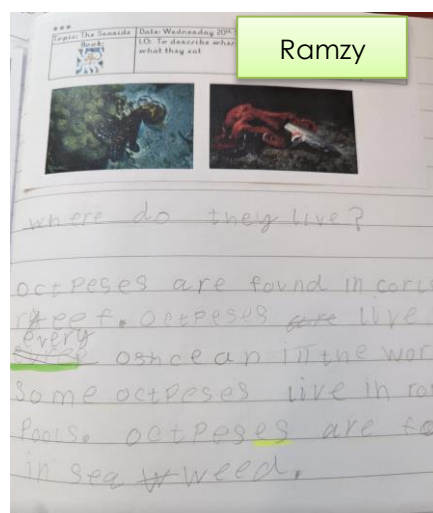
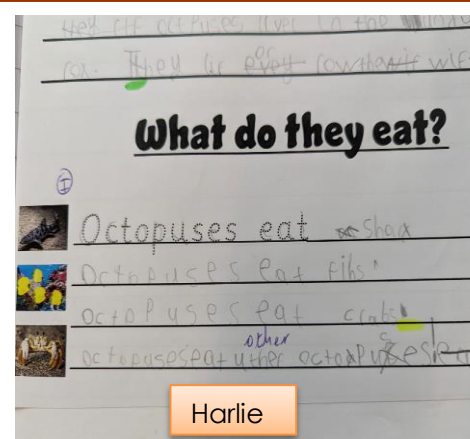
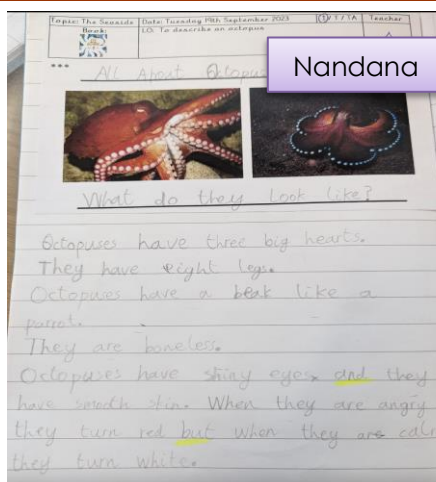
## We love art!



In Art this week, Year 5/6 children discussed the effect of light and dark on an object and considered how to draw it. They were able to explain the term Chiaroscuro (an Italian word meaning light and dark) and understand how it can be used for effect and created form by applying chiaroscuro to a tonal drawing.

## Year 2 Star Writing

Year 2 have been reading a book called 'Leo and the Octopus'. The children were very excited when we received a letter from the London Aquarium. The children were asked to write a brochure, so that visitors can learn more about these amazing animals. The children were up for the challenge and got straight to work. With fantastic results!



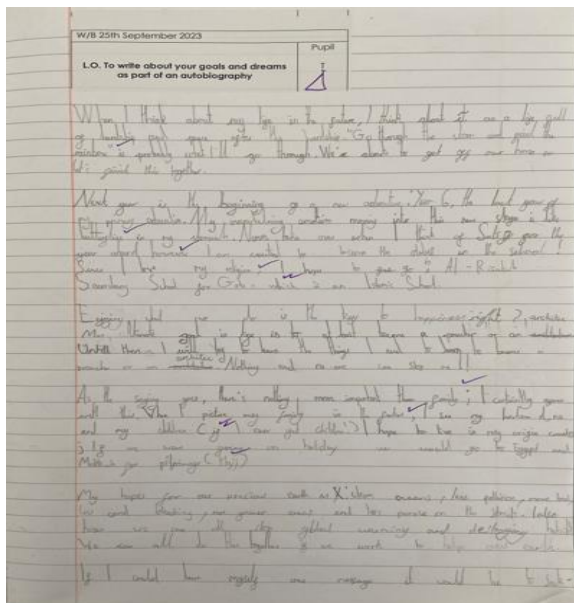


# Dates for your Diary

<b>6th October</b>	National Poetry Day
<b>10th October</b>	Next Steps for Reception meeting
<b>13th October</b>	Hello Yellow Day!
<b>Sunday 15th October</b>	Run Kids Run Fun run event in Southwark Park.
<b>17th October</b>	International Day
<b>19th October</b>	Brent and Lea class dance performances for parents at 2:30 pm.
<b>20th October</b>	Break up for half term

## Year 5 Star writing

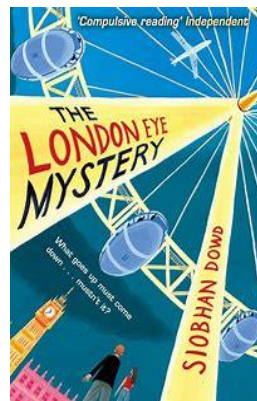
It made my day when Maqdis in year 5 brought her fantastic autobiography for me to read this morning. Well done, Maqdis!



## Pupil Book Recommendations

**Pupil:** Lemar

**Favourite Book:** 'The London Eye Mystery' by Siobhan Dowd



The London Eye Mystery is a very mind racing, belly turning book. On Monday 24 May at precisely 11:32am, Ted and Kat watch Salim (their cousin) go on the London Eye. On the same day, at 12:02pm, the pods return to the platform and they watched people come out...but where is Salim? Aunt Gloria is worried sick that Salim has been kidnapped and the police are confused but Ted -whose brain runs on a different operating system- and his sister Kat follow a trail of clues across London in a desperate bid to find their cousin while time ticked dangerously by...

I would recommend this book to people who like adventure and mystery books.

## Attendance Matters

This week's winners of the attendance award.

**Tyne Class** 97.3%

**Seal Class** 97.2%

Well done and keep it up!

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



In nature  
nothing  
exists  
alone.

-Rachel Carson



I CHOOSE  
KINDNESS



I CHOOSE  
KINDNESS

Class	Name	Achievement
Whale	Arya	For showing good concentration and using good listening skills during whole class carpet sessions. She has then used her knowledge and been courageous when attempting maths problems independently. Keep it up!
Octopus	Malik	Malik is trying hard to apply his phonic skills in his writing. Well done!
Seal	Harlie	For working exceptionally hard during phonics lessons and applying his skills when reading and writing. Well done
Avon	Leila	Leila has been producing fantastic pieces of working during English. She is very reflective and is always so engaged in lessons. She ensures she returns to her success criteria and is always keen on upleveling her work. Keep up the amazing work!
Eden	Jamie	Having courage (one of our core values) is doing something even when you are afraid. Jamie, this week, showed amazing courage during swimming this week. He is turning up every week and doing his best. I am so proud of you, Jamie!
Tyne	Annabel	Annabel is an absolute pleasure to teach and a fantastic role model to her peers. She always gets her homework done on time, completes her work with vigour and shows real maturity towards those who may be struggling in class.
Brent	Dontea	Dontea has been a superstar in maths this week. He has shown excellent arithmetic and problem-solving skills. He has shown great resilience when facing challenges and always has a positive attitude. Well done, Dontea!
Lea	Georgina	Georgina has worked so hard on improving her handwriting and making sure it is consistent across all her books. I have been so impressed!
Thames	Astrid	For excellent participation in class discussions around our science unit on 'Our Environment' and for displaying a mature attitude to her learning. Thank you and well done!



Famatabintu	For always helping in Peace Club and looking after the younger children making sure they always have a friend.
Jude	For looking after another child who was sad and playing with them.

## Attendance Matters!

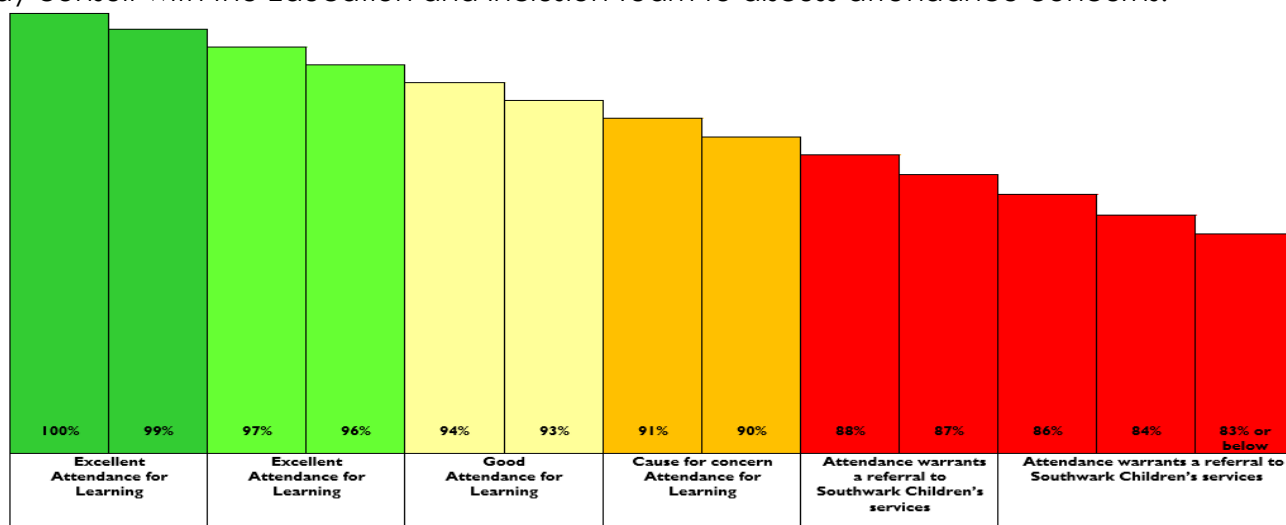
All parents and carers want the very best for their children and for them to get on well in life. Having a good education is important to ensure that children have the best opportunities in their adult life. They only get one chance at school, and your child's future may be affected by not attending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



## Is your child too ill to come to school?

**It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school or nursery when they're unwell.**

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](#). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school on the first day of absence letting us know that your child won't be in. Please make sure you provide details within your reason for absence.

For more information about when your child is too sick to attend school, please see the attached NHS link: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



## Open Mornings 2023:

CLOS

We are delighted to invite any prospective parents and carers to our Nursery and Reception open mornings. They will run from 9.30am to 11.30am. They will consist of an introduction meeting followed by a tour of the school conducted by the head of Early Years.

As there is a limited number of space on our tour, we are offering the dates on a first come, first serve basis. Please book your visit by email on



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

### Tour Dates:

Tuesday 26th September 2023  
Tuesday 3rd October 2023  
Tuesday 10th October 2023  
Monday 6th November 2023  
Monday 13th November 2023  
Monday 20th November 2023



### Next Steps in Reception

On Tuesday  
**10th October at 3.30**  
Reception Class Teachers invite  
you in to the classrooms to  
discuss the following:

- . Homework
  - . Reading
  - . Timetables
  - . Forest School
  - . How you can help your child
- Thank you for your co-operation,  
Reception Team



## OPEN DAY

### Old Kent Road Fire Station

Saturday, 30th September 2023 12pm–4pm

- Your chance to meet local firefighters and get fire safety advice.
- See our latest fire and rescue service equipment.
- VR headsets, line rescue demonstrations, 64 metre turntable ladder, hydraulic car cutting equipment, facepainting, sand art.

405 Old Kent Road London SE1 5JH  
For more info contact Old Kent Road fire station:  
T 02085551200 ex 84535

**LFB**  
LONDON FIRE BRIGADE