

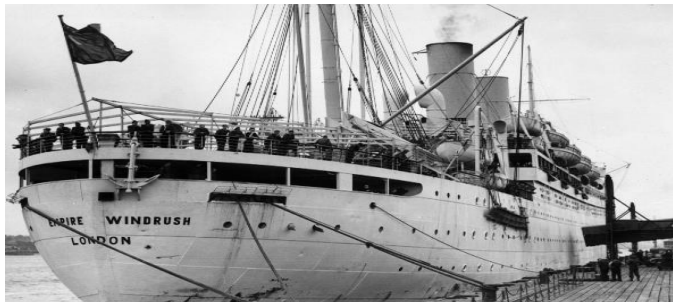
RPS Weekly Newsletter



Friday 6th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe it is October already. How quickly time is flying. October heralds the start of Black History Month. Amber, our History and RE lead, led an assembly on Monday to introduce Black History Month. Children will be doing lots of learning during history lessons with a specific focus on **Windrush**. The ship HMT Empire Windrush arrived at the Port of Tilbury on 21 June 1948 and its passengers disembarked a day later. The ship carried Caribbean migrants, many of them veterans of the Second World War. They arrived in England ready to support the country's efforts to rebuild after the end of the war in 1945.



The children will be learning about Baroness Floella Benjamin (a children's author) who made the journey to England. Children will listen to her story 'Coming to England' and will be encouraged to think about what it would have been like to leave your home country. Children in Key Stage 2 will also consider discrimination, what this is and its impact on emotional wellbeing and how to prevent it.



Black History Month Southwark have also announced a month-long programme of

events, presentations, visiting authors and workshops for all, including half term activities for children. You can find out more on their website [click here](#).

Many of the events are free and a true celebration of our community.



International Day: What better way to celebrate our diversity than to bring back International Day, our first since before the pandemic! Our PTA are organizing and funding this event for us and it is sure to be a lot of fun. All children, parents and staff are invited to dress up in a costume that represents their culture on **Tuesday 17th October**. A huge highlight of this event has always been our parents' fantastic cooking. We need your help once again and ask that you cook up a storm so that the PTA can sell your wares. Children will be treated to a storytelling workshop during the day and some international music to dance to from 3pm. We will be opening the gates to parents at 3pm (please note this is a time change) and you are warmly invited to join the celebration.

Run Rotherhithe Run: Calling all families to sign up and register for this family event on **Sunday 15th October**. We are trying to raise £500. If we get enough sponsors and family sign up we will receive an additional grant of **£5000** towards purchasing equipment for our school. So please, please sign up! We have currently raised £102 so there is still a lot to do. To register see the poster below. Have a fantastic weekend! HoS

Developing our allotments

Our plots are ready!

Over the past two weeks our gardening ambassadors, with the help of our gardeners (Hassan and Andrea) have finished preparing the vegetable plots, ready for sowing our seeds. They have also harvested the carrots that were planted earlier this year and the children from across the school thoroughly enjoyed tasting our produce. The ambassadors were intrigued by some of the odd shaped carrots – this is a sign that they are organically grown!

We would like to say a huge thank you to Hassan and our parent volunteer Andrea who has put in a lot of hard labour to get the plots ready. You are super stars!



Once the allotments were ready our children started sowing new seeds. Our new crops will include broad beans, onions, carrots and much more. We should start seeing growth spurts from our seeds in the next two to three weeks.

The children really enjoyed getting stuck into some gardening and we are sure that they will appreciate our harvest all the more knowing that they have played such a major role in growing everything.



STARS at work!

At RPS we are passionate about protecting the environment and improving air quality around our school. One of the ways we do this is by promoting sustainable travel. We have been working with TFL and the local authority to create a poster that is now proudly sitting in the noticeboard by the school gates. This shows places within the area that are a 10-minute walk to school and places that are 15 minutes away from school. It also shows bus routes and cycle paths. Please do encourage your children to look at the poster and support them to use the key.

Fame at last!: Hal and Zakhar ,two of our STARS team, worked with the local authority on Tuesday to create a film promoting walking to school. The children were very excited about this, and we cannot wait to see the finished product.



Highways consultation: Later in the day two children from the STARS team met with Sam, from the local authority's highways and environment department, to discuss their concerns about people parking close to the school gates. Olatide wrote: 'We discussed the problems we are having with parent's parking outside of school. We discussed about how some people in school have asthma problems and some parents leave their gas on which is hazardous to the health of our pupils'. Alex explained that idling is a real concern as it damages the environment and wondered if it would be possible to create banners to remind parents not to park or idle directly outside of the school gates. Sam watched the traffic and parking outside of the school and understood their concerns and said he would try to look into some solutions to help the children.

Books Swap: One idea the sustainability club had for helping protect the environment was to reuse previously loved books. On Thursday they organized their 2nd Book swap event. Children in year 1 to 6 brought in old books to swap for new books. The children had a great time organizing the event and now they have greater access to books to read at home. That's a win win for everyone!



Dates for your Diary

| | |
|---|--|
| 10th October | Next Steps for Reception meeting |
| 13th October | Hello Yellow Day! |
| Sunday 15th October | Run Kids Run Fun run event in Southwark Park. |
| 17th October | International Day |
| 19th October | Brent and Lea class dance performances for parents at 2:30 pm. |
| 20th October | Break up for half term |
| 30th October | Children return to school |
| 7th and 8th November | Parent's Evening |
| 11th November | Armistice Day |
| Week beginning 13th November | Anti-bullying week |
| 14th November | School photographer Phonics Workshop for Reception parents after school |
| 17th November | Children in Need |
| 22nd November | Flu vaccinations |
| 8th December | Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch |
| Week starting 11th December | Year group Christmas performances |
| 19th December | Class parties |
| 20th December | Break up for the Christmas holidays. Finish at the normal time. |

Attendance Matters

This week's winners of the attendance award.

Lea Class 97.5%

Octopus Class 95.2%

Well done and keep it up!

Please do not book holidays during term time!



Class Book Recommendations

Class: Seal Class

Favourite Book: Leo and the Octopus by Isabelle Marinov and Chris Nixon.



Ella

This book is about a boy called Leo who has Asperger's Syndrome. Leo struggles to make sense of the world. None of the other children seem to understand him and he doesn't understand them. Then one day he forms a special bond with an Octopus called Maya.

"I like the story because Leo learns lots of fascinating facts about Octopuses!" – Hewad

"Octopuses have blue blood!" – Myla

"They have a beak and three hearts!" – Ella

"Octopuses squirt black to confuse their predators!" - Ramzy

"Octopuses change colour. They turn white when they are calm and red when they are angry." - Quan

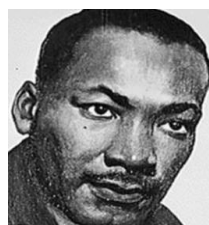
"Octopuses have big brains. They can solve puzzles and open jars!" Aiah

"They are boneless so they can squeeze into tiny gaps" - Nandana

"The book is about making friends and teaches you about making friends" - Thea

"It's a long book but I like it!" - Majid

"I liked it when Leo made friends with a boy at the end" – Nicole.



Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

— Martin Luther King —



| Class | Name | Achievement |
|---------|-------------|--|
| Whale | Jeronimo | For always being positive, optimistic, and enthusiastic about all aspects of his learning. His thirst for knowledge is contagious and admirable. He has used his phonics well and thought of some great adjectives when writing his diary account of baby bear going to the moon. Keep up the good work. I am very proud of you. |
| Octopus | Jordon | Jordon has a real love for learning. He always participates in class discussions, and we all benefit from his good ideas. He is a pleasure to have in the class. Keep it up! |
| Seal | Ella | Ella for really pushing herself to improve her writing. Her excellent attitude has continued at home by reading extra books. Well done, Ella, we are very proud of you! |
| Avon | Christine E | Christine has been an exceptional role model in Avon class this week, she is polite and kind to all around her. She is a hard worker and extremely resilient. Keep up the good work! |
| Eden | Urannia | Being a part of a positive team is important. This week Urannia showed that she is a caring and encouraging team member of our class when she championed another classmate's successes. Thank you for being such a wonderful role model, Urannia. We're lucky to have you in our class. |
| Tyne | Malik | Malik is an independent learner. He is always focused in all lessons and ensures he completes each task. Keep working hard and you will continue to do well! |
| Brent | Lucy | Lucy is our star of the week for her excellent talents displayed in music. She was able to use a range of musical vocabulary and is starting to use musical notation with improved confidence. |
| Lea | Sarah | Sarah has grown in confidence so much since year 5. She is putting her hand up regularly to share her brilliant ideas – I'm so proud of her! |
| Thames | Tierra-Lee | For writing an excellent section of her autobiography about her most important person using appropriate punctuation and relative clauses accurately. Well done! |

INTERNATIONAL DAY

Join us to celebrate our school's cultural diversity by savoring food and enjoying music from around the world!

All welcome to come wearing traditional clothes!

**17 OF OCTOBER AT RPS
FROM 3 PM**

We need your help, please bring the food! We know you are wonderful chefs and would love you to make food that represents your culture to share with the children.

(Please be mindful of allergens.)

Disclaimer:

The school cannot guarantee the content of all food/drink items on sale at the International Day fete as most stalls are provided by parents/external companies or provided through donations. Because of this the school cannot take any responsibility for any allergens present.

Run Rotherhithe Run

Join us at Southwark Park Athletics Track
on Sunday 15th October



At 2-4 pm

For a 1k or 2k run



All children receive a free healthy snack and
medal for participating

Please register and collect sponsors

Help us to raise £500 for play and PE equipment
for the school.

If we have enough children registered we will
receive an additional **£5,000** charity grant!!!

Registration, sponsorship and more information click
here: <https://bitly.ws/WEqH>

Or by scanning the QR codes below.

Help make children's playtime the best ever!

