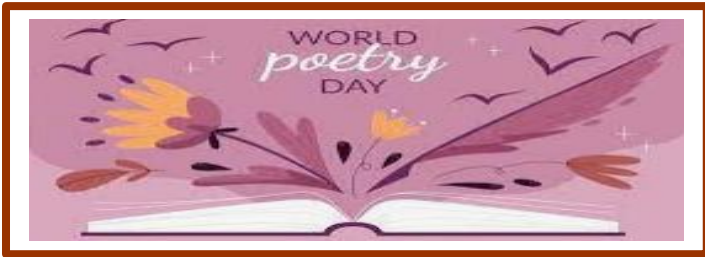


RPS Weekly Newsletter



Friday 22nd March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thursday 21st March was **World Poetry Day**. This day has been dedicated to promoting the reading, writing and publishing of poetry since it was first set up by UNESCO in 1999. In assembly this week we considered the structure of limerick and haiku poems. Both poems are very structured. Limericks for example, are funny or humorous and contain 5 lines. The first, second and last lines rhyme and the third and fourth lines rhyme. Why not encourage your child to have a go at writing a limerick poem this weekend.

The children enjoyed this limerick by the poet Edward Lear.

*There was an Old Man with a beard,
Who said, 'It is just as I feared!
Two Owls and a Hen,
Four Larks and a Wren,
Have all built their nests in my beard!*



Science Workshop for Parents: Save the date! On Wednesday 17th April we will be holding a fun parent workshop in the large hall at 2 pm. Come along and find out the explosive nature of our food and the science fun you can have with your children. See flyer below.

Parent conduct on our school premises: We respectfully ask parents and carers to ensure that their conduct on the playground reflects the inclusive and nurturing environment we strive to create at RPS. I kindly ask that any concerns or issues are brought to the school's attention through the appropriate channels. This ensures fairness, appropriateness and effective resolution for all involved.

World Book Day Costumes: If you have old or unwanted World Book Day costumes we will gratefully re-cycle them. Please only send in costumes that are clean and in good condition.

The **Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSE) curriculum** became statutory in September 2020. Relationship and Sex Education supports and guides children and young people in lifelong learning about relationships, emotions, the human biology of sex and sexuality. It is compulsory for all primary school children to receive relationship education. At RPS we follow the Christopher Winter's Project. You can find out more about our curriculum and watch a short film which provides further information and answers frequently asked questions by [clicking here](#). RSE will begin after the May Half Term.



Good attendance is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances. Schools have a responsibility to proactively manage and improve attendance across their school community.

Your child should be in school every day unless they are unwell. Please do not book term time holidays as this negatively impacts on children's learning.

After School Sports Clubs: The current sports clubs are drawing to conclusion next week. New letters for next term clubs will be available on Monday. Please return these as quickly as possible.

Easter Bonnet Parade: Don't forget it is the Easter Bonnet Parade on Tuesday.

Have a lovely weekend. Lisa (HoS)

'Streets For People' Youth Workshop

This week children in Year 5 & 6 participated in a 'Streets for People' Workshop. This initiative is being run by Southwark Council. They are trying to find out the improvements and changes people in Southwark would like on their streets and in their neighbourhoods. The aim is to make streets in Southwark cleaner, greener and safer. You can find out more by clicking on the following link [Streets for People community conversation](#).

Jade from year 6 has written her account of the workshop.

Thames class enjoyed the 'Streets for people youth' workshop where the children discussed how climate change has changed the world, and the reasons for climate change. Also, they discussed how to reduce using carbon emissions. The class also discussed how they got to school, and their thoughts about their journeys. After, they got a worksheet about around their area, like if there's space to play on their street and what they can see etc. They then wrote about things they liked/disliked about the area that they live in. For the final part of the session, they all wrote their wish on a flag, then they all gathered them together, and tied them to a red ribbon.



Streets for People - What do you want in your neighbourhood?

In this survey, tell us what Streets for People features you would like to see on your street and in your neighbourhood - open until March 2024. As part of Streets for People, we want to see real changes on...



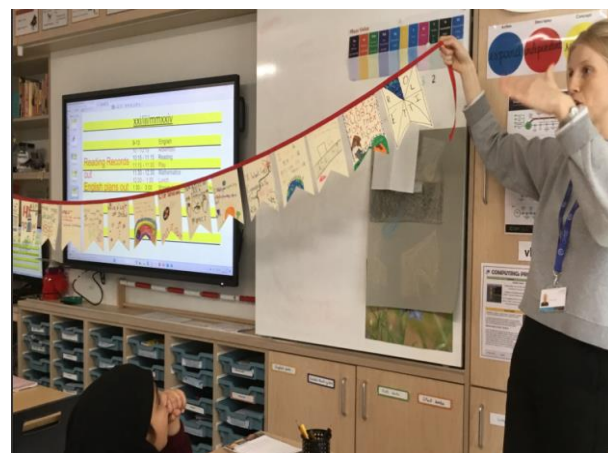
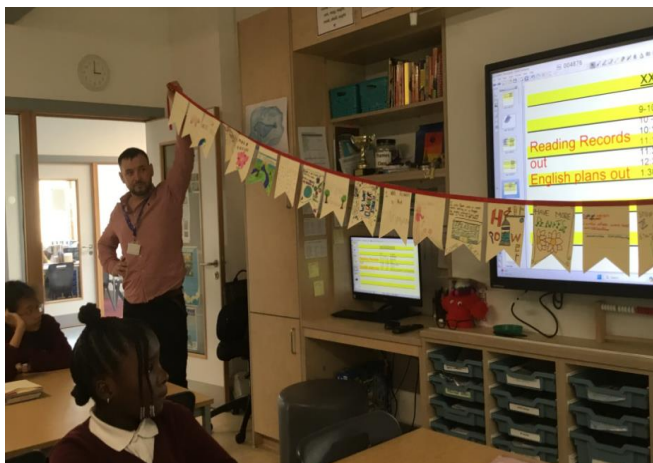
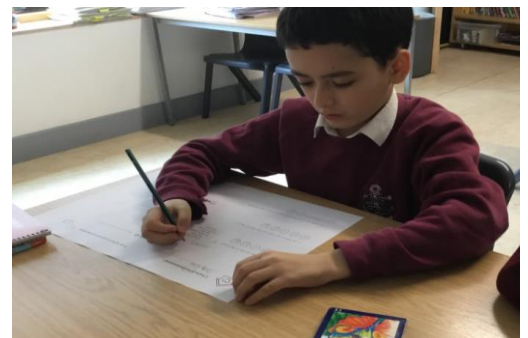
Streets for People - What else is going on?

As well as the surveys and other engagement activities you can find on this site, there are lots of other Streets for People activities going on throughout the year. You can see all the latest news on the Southwark Council website Streets for People page . Some of these...



Streets for People - Electric Vehicle Plan

Take a look at Southwark's draft Electric Vehicle (EV) Plan, part of a set of Streets for People plans, and tell us what you think about our proposals to make Southwark a borough which can respond to the increasing demand for EV infrastructure. You can read the full Electric...

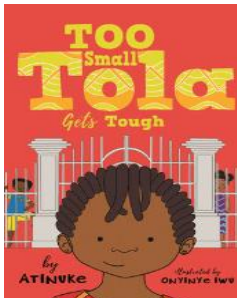


Pupil Book Recommendations

Pupil: Jasmine M

Book: Too Small Tola Gets Tough

Author: Atinuke



Tola is a young girl who is small but mighty for her age. Covid is coming to Lagos and people do not know what to do. Tola's brother and sister left her and Grandmummy alone in the house. Grandmummy told Tola that the food will last for the whole of covid but over the days the food kept disappearing each day until there wasn't any more food left.

One of Tola's neighbours suggested that Tola should work for one of his customers as a house girl. She would be fed well too. The next day, Tola and her neighbour went to the mansion. It was big!

A couple of days passed and Tola still missed grandmummy a lot. Sometimes she cried all night. The owners of the mansion, the Diamonds, argue a lot and Tola once tried to help them and she succeeded. One day, Tola noticed something was off, so she went to check it out. Her brain was swirling with mathematics. Did Tola save them all from the problem?

My favourite part of the book is when an old lady thought that just because Tola is small it does not mean she is not strong. The old woman was drying some clothes which she found extremely hard until Tola came up and asked if she needed any help, but the old woman did not want anyone small helping her. When Tola looked at her again Tola knew she needed help, so she crouched down to go and help her. To the old woman's surprise, she realised that Tola was extraordinarily strong.

My least favourite part is when Tola's siblings go without saying a proper goodbye to her and Grandmummy. If I were Tola, I would be disappointed and sad. It will make me feel like my siblings do not love me anymore. That is why that is my least favourite. It is just sad.

The thing I have learnt from the book is that you should not judge a book by its cover and that you will always need mathematics in your life. It might make you go further than you expect.

This book is good for the people who love drama. And for the ones who like funny books. If I were you, I would read this book. When I started to read the book, I was glued to it. It was funny and sad but also adventurous so I would recommend this book. Plus, it will make you laugh so much. Even the little children will like it. This book is for anyone young to old. Everyone will enjoy it. Also, there are more books from the same author. All her books are set in Lagos.

Thank you for your hard work on this book review Jasmine – excellent work!

Dates for your Diary

	Half Term Break
Week beginning 26th February	Parent's meetings with children with SEND need LGBTQ+ History week
28th February	Groundwork coffee morning for parents
29th February	Inclusion Quality Mark Review
4th March	Mock Phonics Tests for year 1 children Author visit for KS2
7th March	World Book Day
12th March	Year 1 & 2 Bedtime Stories National Literacy Trust Event
18th, 19th and 20th March	Scholastic book Fair
18th March	World Poetry Day
26th March	Easter Bonnet Parade
28th March	Year 1 Dance performance for parents.
28th March	Break up for the Easter holidays. Finish at the normal time.
	Easter Break
16th April	Children return to school STEAM week starts
17th April	STEAM workshops for children
13th May	Year 6 SATS week starts
20th May	Year 6 Residential trip to Hindleap Warren

STEAM

By: Jasmine Stanton, Jaidee Hallowell, Gabreen Hamsa and Jade Scriven.

Science

In Thames class this week, they measured the voltmeter of a light bulb, adding another battery each time, and then investigating and seeing if the bulb got dimmer or brighter every time.



Art/D/T

This week, Year 1 are learning how to identify how to stop wheels from turning. Children see examples of wheels that do not work and use their skills.

Science Workshop for Parents/Carers 'Explosive food'

Wednesday 17th April 2pm–3pm
in the main hall



Learn about food and its often explosive nature.

Find out about the incredible amount of energy contained in the food that goes in your mouth in this show packed with exciting chemistry and physics demonstrations.

Ri The Royal Institution
Science Lives Here

Attendance Matters

This week's winners of the attendance award.



Brent Class 99.4%

Octopus Class 96.5%

Well done and keep it up!

Please do not book holidays during term time!

Poetry is language at its most distilled and most powerful.

Rita Dove



Whale	Arya	Arya has made exceptional progress in phonics. She has been trying hard to apply her phonics to her writing. Well done Arya! We are all so proud of you!
Octopus	Mehavi	Mehavi's has made exceptional progress in phonics. Her reading confidence and fluency has come on leaps and bounds. She always participates in lessons and volunteers to read aloud. Keep it up!
Seal	Gladys-Martina	Gladys-Martina has demonstrated one of our school values of being creative. She produced wonderfully imaginative ways to create a picture of outer space using paints, collage, and a variety of materials.
Avon	Christine E	For having such a positive attitude towards her learning and being a great role model. Christine is always so polite to adults and her peers; she is kind and caring and is a delight to have in class. Keep it up!
Eden	Chyanne	We have been working on playscripts in Year 3/ 4. This week we worked hard on narration. Chyanne really impressed me with her choice of vocabulary and writing style. She is finding her 'voice'. Well done, Chyanne, keep it up.
Tyne	Tyne	I have been impressed with the behaviour for learning and how the class has transitioned with having a new teacher. Tyne has demonstrated resilience, empathy, and respect, which are some of the school's core values. Well done Tyne!
Brent	Ebuka	Ebuka has a fantastic attitude towards his learning. He is always willing to contribute to class discussions and does so excellently. Ebuka has also displayed great talk partner skills during lesson time. Well done, Ebuka, Keep it up.
Lea	Godwyn	For improvement in the content, presentation and his handwriting during English lessons. He is showing true resilience, and it is paying off. Well done!
Thames	Alexander	For excellent use of pace and vocabulary choice for effect in his recent written pieces. He has demonstrated a very strong sense of the audience and genre when writing a diary, newspaper report and an informal letter. Well done!



Adonijah for his effort in producing fantastic homework and beautiful handwriting. I wish my handwriting was as neat!

★ Star Writing ★

Alexander (year 6) – such emotive and well selected language. Brilliant!

WB: 05.03.24
L.O. To write a letter home in role as an evacuee



Daffodil Cottage
Paperny
Cornwall
England

2 Oak Road
London
England

5th March 1939

Dear Mother,

Thank you for the letter! I simply radiated joy and delight upon opening it. I've been writing for you to write since I'd arrived in the countryside. The farm is great, however, writing to you makes me miss you more.

Despite missing you, the countryside isn't half bad. Every day, everyone receives healthy fresh food. Believe it or not, none of the food is "ined" but the negative is that they don't have delicious coffee - which is a bummer. The food doesn't even hold a candle up to yours.

When I arrived, we were taken to the Town Hall. I became the embodiment of fear. We all had to line up (it's horrid than you think) and were selected like a cow at a cattle market. As I stood there, a nice priest came and picked me. I was first picked by Uncle Chris who has a kind expression on his face and a heart of gold but could

never come close to you.

Cor blimey, my job are back-breaking. My job are to take the supply out to sea, casting nets to catch crustaceans and catching fish for the village of paperny. The last one is really hard, almost impossible. I don't have the patience or strength to catch fish. Can you believe it?

School has never been my friend, but now learning is fun. We spend most of our time outside and we only have two classes with around twenty children. Even though your teacher came with us, I have a new teacher named Mr. Jackson - and he's extremely kind to us. Most of the children are going through the same thing as me and are very kind to me. My best friend is called Mark, he's a German but he does speak nice to me.

Me and Mark love playing chess together - despite me always winning and us're in the class, some class before or after school - depends on when he finishes his job - before or after. Of all people I'll be sad to say goodbye to, it will be him. We also love the marbles you sent me, they're really fun to play with. They are beautiful and perfect - just like you.

I'm in a busy house yet I've never felt more lonely. I hope for your peace has filled me up and I miss you too. I wish this stopped war was over!

From your loving son
Albert

P.S. don't forget to feed our fish Moya and Fochas as well as our dog Jasper.

Chyanne (year 3) – beautiful vocabulary choice and writing style. Well done!

Week beginning 11.03.24

The Giving Tree

L.O: I can write a scene of a play (Scene 5: Branches)



Scene 5

characters: Narrator, Tree, Boy

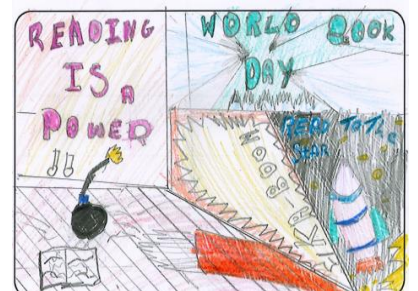
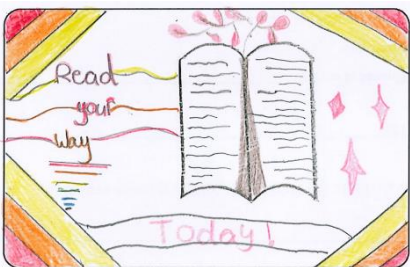
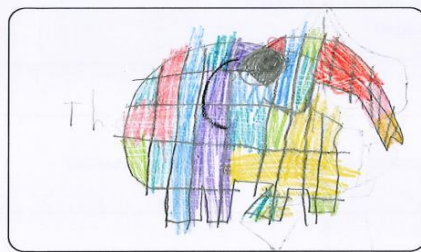
Narrator: The more ^{dependent} dissatisfied the user, the more the tree longed to see ^{amazing} the boy, ^{sentence} get all he had ^{stay} stay ^{away} away for a long time. Autumn dashed in and the orange, orange leaves fell off the trees. Suddenly, winter darted in and the trees were ^{drained} drained by ^{dizzy} dizzy, creamy ^{white} snow. There were signs of nature from birds ^{tweeting} tweeting to ^{flowers} flowers ^{blooming} blooming ^{unexpectedly} unexpectedly. ^{Summer} Summer ^{trick} trick in and all ^{that} that was left was a ball of yellow. And soon there was a heatwave, and the boy came back!

Tree: Come boy, come and make hats and you will be ^{popular} popular. Come boy, let's pretend to be very ^{popular} popular. Come boy, let's pretend to be a ^{giant} giant and ^{rescue} rescue a ^{daring} daring - hot building. Before its too late. Together we make the best ^{tears} tears over. Many adventures await us! Boy, don't tell me how to play the ^{clapping} clapping game. I can be grateful for what we have. I love to ^{mess} mess around with new games. Owww. I can't walk. I'll go ^{glis} glis. Can you give me a house?

Narrator: Like a static, the tree lay ^{still} still not moving one inch. He felt like he was ^{loved} loved the boy ^{breathlessly} breathlessly. ^{dragged} dragged the branches on his ^{shoulder} shoulder. ^{puzzled} puzzled if the tree ^{sighs} sighs. He was ^{absolutely} absolutely speechless.

WBD Book Token Competitions Winners

The winners of this year's World Book Day 'Design a Book Token' were announced in assembly on Thursday. It was a tough choice as there were so many fantastic designs. The WBD theme of 'read your way' was clearly expressed in the children's designs. The talented winners got to select a book to keep and read. Well done all. A selection of the designs will be sent on to the official WBD competition which closes in April.





Science



Technology



Engineering



The Arts



Mathematics

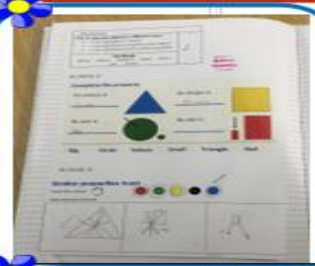
By: Jasmine Stanton, Jaida Hallowell & Sabreen Hamsa, Olmedo Bogicevicova

Jade Scriven, Tahani Miah and Cristina

Maths

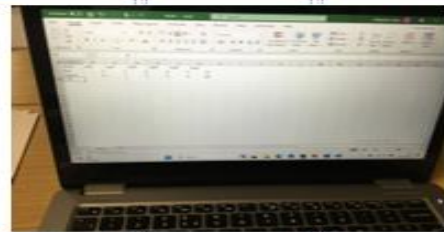
For maths this week, we are reporting from Eden class. Iman has gave us a summary of what she did,

"So we were subtracting fractions and adding them as well I really enjoyed representing the sums with bar models .



Computing

This week in year six, Thames class were creating a dice roll spreadsheet, on Excel spreadsheet. So, both partners rolled a dice five times, and saw who got the greatest score, recorded it into their books, then on the laptops "It was very fun, but also kind of hard!"- Jade. Some of the children had to teach the ones who weren't there to do the lesson, but instead about the last science lesson they had done.



Computing

In year one (octopus class), the children were describing different objects, like if the shapes sizes were big or small, what colour the shapes were, and what the shapes were called, like a triangle or a square.

GET ACTIVE KIDS

HOLIDAY CLUBS 2024

Your child will have an action-packed day at Get Active Kids Holiday Club. They will have a choice of over 30 different activities and sports throughout the week, all whilst developing their skills and making new friends!

Our experienced team are all enhanced DBS checked, first aid and safeguarding trained.

Arts & Crafts • Sports • Indoor Games

- ✓ All childcare vouchers accepted
- ✓ Early booking & sibling discount
- ✓ From £18 per day



OPEN EVERY SCHOOL HOLIDAY

9:30am - 3:00pm
Early drop off from 8am
Ages 4-11

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Crossfield St, Deptford, SE8 3PH (next to Deptford train station)



To book please visit our website:
www.getactivekids.co.uk

07596 135900

info@getactivekids.co.uk

EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB

SCHEDULE

TUESDAY 2ND APRIL - FRIDAY 12TH APRIL

TUESDAY 2ND	WELCOME DAY!
WEDNESDAY 3RD	EASTER MASK
THURSDAY 4TH	EASTER EGG HUNT
FRIDAY 5TH	DISCO DAY
.....	
MONDAY 8TH	GROW YOUR OWN CRESS
TUESDAY 9TH	BUNNY SLIME
WEDNESDAY 10TH	SPRING SUN CATCHERS
THURSDAY 11TH	MUSIC MADNESS WITH JOEL FROM ROCKSTEADY
FRIDAY 12TH	DISCO DAY

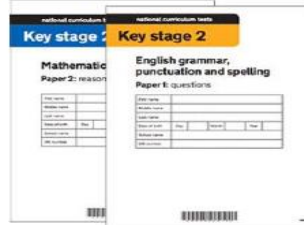


www.getactivekids.co.uk
07596 135900
info@getactivekids.co.uk



Year 6 SATs Parent Workshop

Please come and join us to find out all about SATs week for your child. We will discuss the weeks arrangements, how children are assessed and how you can support your child at home.

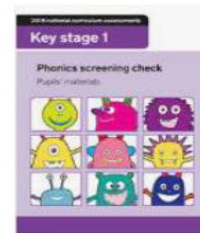


Location: Rotherhithe Primary School
Thames Classroom

Date: Tuesday 26th March
Time: 3:45 pm

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Parent Workshop

Please come and join us to find out all about how we teach phonics, how your children will be tested and how you can support your child at home.



Location: Rotherhithe Primary School

Date: Thursday 28th March
After the dance performance



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across the following areas
and online**



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FREE TASTER SESSION.

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www.soundstepsmusic.co.uk



Year 4 Multiplication Check Parent Workshop

Please come and join us to find out all about the multiplication check. We will discuss how your child will be assessed and how you can support your child at home. Please keep encouraging your child to practice on TTRS.



Location: Rotherhithe Primary School
The Meeting Room

Date: Tuesday 18th April
Time: 3:45 pm

EASTER BONNET COMPETITION



Design an Easter Bonnet at home and bring it in to school.

Bonnets will be judged by the Art Ambassadors and a **PRIZE** (for each class) will be given to the best bonnets in the following categories:

- * Most Vibrant
- * Most Home-made
- * Most Durable

The children will parade their creations in a special parade assembly on

Tuesday 26th MARCH.

Parents welcome to attend!

KS1 @ **9:15 am** in the **large hall**

KS2 @ **9:45 am** in the **large hall**

Nursery **morning children** @ **11:45am in class**

Nursery **afternoon and full time children** @ **2:45pm in class**

Reception @ **2:45pm in class**



Easter Holiday Family Workshops at the Centre for Wildlife Gardening, 28 Marsden Road, SE15 4EE

All days are from **10am till 3pm** and are for Southwark residents only. Booking is required. Free but £3 refundable deposit (please contact dwallace@wildlondon.org.uk if this is too much for you). Visit our website www.wildlondon.org.uk/events to find these and other activities. Suitable for primary aged children but you are welcome to bring your younger ones too. These are **not** drop-in activities. Only one course per adult each academic year.

Thursday 4th and Friday 5th April Brilliant Birds

Join us for one or two days discovering our local garden birds and how they make nests, migrate and how to help them. Take part in the nest challenge. Find your inner cuckoo! Fun activities, crafts and games.

Thursday 11th and Friday 12th Minibeast Magic

Join us for one or two days to discover minibeasts high and low. How to sort them and how to create habitats for them. Games, pond dipping, crafts, minibeast racing, bush beating.



Protecting
London's
wildlife for
the future

To find out more and book your place
please visit:

www.wildlondon.org.uk/events



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ENCOURAGING OPEN CONVERSATIONS AT HOME

With tricky topics and occasional clashes of opinion, it can be challenging to maintain an environment where children feel able to talk candidly and honestly. However, encouraging such conversations helps to develop trust – making it easier to unpack even sensitive subjects as children get older. Here are our top tips for promoting open conversations at home.

1 CREATE A SAFE SPACE

Criticism, blaming or shaming can all prevent children from feeling emotionally safe – while showing affection, positive attention and an interest in what a child has to say builds their sense of security. These formative years are when children's opinions and values begin to take shape, so it's important to provide a non-judgmental environment in which to discuss them – especially if their opinions differ from your own.

2 CONSIDER OTHER OUTLETS

Some children may find it easier to talk while they're participating in another activity such as drawing, writing, walking or sport. If it's possible, taking part in these activities together presents you with an opportunity to communicate while doing something side by side. A child may feel less pressure that way and can be more inclined to open up of their own accord.

3 NORMALISE CHATS ABOUT FEELINGS

Incorporate mental health and emotional wellbeing into everyday conversations, using age-appropriate language and examples to help children understand their emotions. Ask questions like "How are you feeling today?", "What was the best and worst part of your day?", "If you could start today again, what would you do differently?" and "Is there anything you want to talk about?"

4 LISTEN ACTIVELY

When children express themselves, make it obvious that you're listening closely and giving them your full attention. Maintain eye contact and validate their feelings without immediately trying to solve the problem. It's not helpful to dismiss their issues as childish or 'teenage angst' – or to assume that they'll simply 'get over' whatever they're feeling. Children don't have your life experience; their resilience is still developing as they learn to push through difficulties and handle problems.

5 ASK OPEN QUESTIONS

Encourage children to share their thoughts by asking open questions about their feelings and experiences. Closed questions (such as "Did you enjoy school today?") are more likely to elicit a simple "yes" or "no" response. Instead, you could ask things like "Who did you spend time with at break?" or "Who did you sit with at lunchtime?"

6 RESPECT THEIR BOUNDARIES

If a child isn't ready to talk about something yet, respect their boundaries; this reinforces that their feelings are important and worthy of consideration. Ideally, you're aiming to let them know you care without smothering them, so just make it clear that you're there for them whenever they're ready to chat. Gentle, regular check-ins can sometimes be the best form of progress.

7 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Model open, honest and healthy communication in front of children and young people. Try to demonstrate kindness when talking about others and yourself, because if children hear adults being overly harsh, critical or judgmental, or see them having unrealistic expectations of themselves, it makes them more likely to adopt and repeat this behaviour themselves as they grow.

8 HAVE REGULAR CHECK-INS

Check in with children periodically to discuss how they're feeling and what's going on in their lives. This could be a weekly or monthly conversation, where the child has an opportunity to share whatever's on their mind. For parents and carers, getting away from the house and other distractions might be productive here; you could consider regular trips to a coffee shop or a café, or just a weekly walk.

9 PROVIDE RESOURCES

It's often beneficial to let children know about other support that's available to them if they're struggling to talk to you specifically. Encourage them to talk to school counsellors, trusted adults or even a therapist, if necessary – while normalising this route and dispelling the harmful stigma around asking for help. Older children could engage with resources such as *Koeth* or *YoungMinds*.

10 CELEBRATE EMOTIONAL EXPRESSION

It's beneficial to praise children for expressing their feelings honestly – emphasising how important it is to talk about their emotions and how proud you are of them for doing so. This can be especially pivotal for boys, who often experience more of a stigma around talking frankly about their feelings and their mental health – a barrier that can be overcome, with enough love and support.

Meet Our Expert

With 10 years' experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and interim executive board member, Anna Bateman has a superb understanding of what works in pedagogy, school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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ig @wake.up.wednesday

yt @wake.up.weds

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