

# RPS Weekly Newsletter



Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

So, the sunshine didn't last but the signs of spring are definitely appearing! This week the whole school has been immersed in a range of STEAM activities focused around this year's theme of 'Change and Adaptation'.

The children were treated to an array of science experiments on Thursday as we welcomed Ted Hill from the Royal Institution. The **Royal Institution** is a leading independent charity dedicated to connecting as many people as possible with the world of science.

Ted led 3 workshops across the day and then provided training after school so that our teachers can be inspired to continue delivering fantastic science lessons in class. He wowed the audiences with his amazing experiments, which focussed on the necessity of clean energy and sustainable fuel. To watch the key stage 2 workshop please follow this link: <https://rotherhitheprimary.co.uk/rps-news/scientist-visit/>

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Ted for his amazing shows.



A group of Year 4 girls went to Harris Academy in Bermondsey to participate in a **chemistry workshop** delivered by Dr. Hay. Students were introduced to the relevant vocabulary and discussed how it was related to the day's lesson.

Armed with protective glasses, the girls used pipettes and tweezers to transfer items such as sodium hydroxide pellets, strips of magnesium and ammonium nitrate into liquid substances such as water and ethanoic acid while they recorded its outcome.



**STEAM Careers:** To start STEAM week, Harj Sahota, who is a Special Advisor for the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) discussed careers that are available in this very important and exciting sector.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport is the government department responsible for setting national policy for the arts, museums, broadcasting, music, film, lottery, sport and tourism. You can watch this very special assembly by following this link: <https://rotherhitheprimary.co.uk/rps-news/we-meet-harj-from-dcms/>

We would like to say a huge thank you to Harj for providing this inspirational talk for our children.

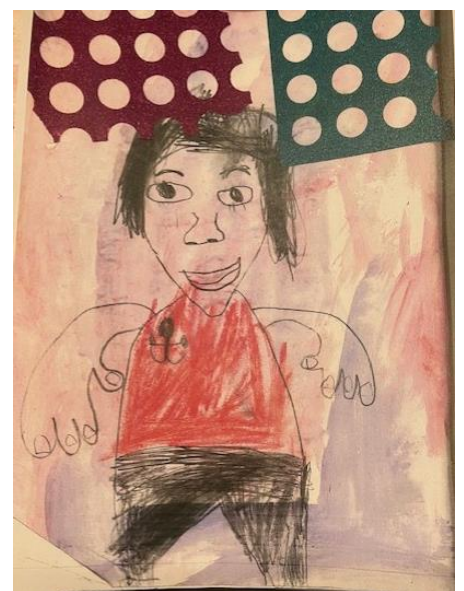
Have a fantastic weekend. Lisa (HoS)

# STEAM Week 2025!

Kandace Walker is an award-winning writer and artist of Jamaican Canadian, Saltwater Geechee and Welsh heritage. Her writing has appeared in **The Poetry Review**, **Poetry Wales** and **The Guardian** and has aired on Channel 4 and BBC Radio 4.

On Monday Kandace started working with small groups of year 3 children discussing Dendrology. Dendrology is the scientific study of trees and woody plants and focuses on their identification, classification, and characteristics, helping us understand the crucial role they play in ecosystems. The children have been exploring the use of pastels and have created some beautiful effects.

As part of year 4 & 5 art learning this week they have produced some fantastic mixed media portraits.



# STEAM Trips!

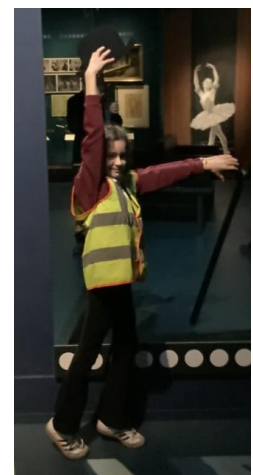
On Friday 14th March, Fleet class had an exciting opportunity to visit the Victoria & Albert Museum as part of their studies on the Victorian era and as part of STEAM week.

During this trip, they participated in a ceramics workshop that allowed them to explore the fascinating properties of clay. The students learned why clay is such a valuable material for designers. While at the museum, they examined various objects from the V&A collections. Each piece told a unique story about our identity, the world around us, and the aspects of life that we celebrate or remember.

The children were led in a workshop with clay by three artists, who were also teachers and art historians! They helped the children plan, design and make their work, while guiding the children with specific skills and techniques. It was a brilliant experience and a very successful one for all the children!

They clearly enjoyed exploring the costume department of the beautiful V & A Museum too!

The children behaved brilliantly, showed real engagement and were a credit to the school.





# Star of the week



<b>Octopus</b>	Gideon	Gideon, inspired by our Science topic 'Materials', created a model house with a waterproof roof. It is brilliant to see you continuing your learning at home. You are a fantastic Science ambassador.
<b>Tyne</b>	Emma	In just a short time at RPS Emma has shown incredible courage and adaptability, made new friends and participated enthusiastically in class activities. Her positive attitude and resilience have not gone unnoticed.
<b>Eden</b>	Edward	Edward worked hard on his art work during STEAM week. He tore up paper to create a collage that showed a bat flying at night.
<b>Avon</b>	Nicole	For always following instructions and being the best she can be. Nicole is always making sure she is trying her best in class and is always demonstrating our school values. Keep it up.
<b>Fleet</b>	Reggie Ramiyah Rayan	Reggie, Ramiyah and Rayan all produced wonderful mixed media self-portraits. They showed their individuality in different ways as well as including different elements of media to make their work unique.
<b>Ravensbourne</b>	Daniel	Daniel has shown remarkable progress in his writing, consistently striving for the highest standards. His dedication is evident as he actively engages in editing his work. Additionally, he has excelled in all our STEAM activities, demonstrating creativity and enthusiasm. Keep up the fantastic work, Daniel!
<b>Wandle</b>	Joshua Denver	Whew! What a wonderful week of activities for STEAM week. Everyone has done so well, but I would like to acknowledge both Denver and Joshua for their digital adaptations of their selfies. They explored and delved into the many tools available to them and produced interesting pieces. Well done, boys!
<b>Severn</b>	Adela	Adela showed excellent knowledge of ingredients, flavours, food preparation and cooking in the DT lesson for STEAM week. This resulted in a delicious curry for the class to share.
<b>Trent</b>	Chada	Chada wowed us all during our food DT session for STEAM week, where the year 6's made a curry. Chef standard chopping! You can tell that she helps at home, well done Chada.

# Dates for your Diary

	Half Term Break
<b>24<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Children return to school
<b>4<sup>th</sup> &amp; 5<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Parents Evening
<b>6<sup>th</sup> March</b>	World Book Day – dress up as a book character.
<b>Week starting 10<sup>th</sup> March</b>	STEAM week  Artist Kandace Siobhan Walker working with groups of children in Avon class.
<b>13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Scholastic Book Fair arrives  Science Workshops for classes
<b>17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Mock SATS year 6 Scholastic book Fair open
<b>24<sup>th</sup> March</b>	SEND parents meetings
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	Easter Bonnet Parade
<b>4<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Break up for the Easter Break
	Easter Break
	Children return to school

## Careers Talk

I am sure you have noticed the logos for the new block of flats and maisonettes being built on Rotherhithe New Road opposite the school's car park entrance. Valerie Cole (Resident Liaison Officer) from Guildmore Construction company visited RPS and led a special assembly focussed on health and safety when on a construction site. She showed the children hard hats, protective goggles, gloves and protective boots that must be worn. Valerie also talked about the different careers that exist in the construction industry, including health and safety officers, masons (brick layers), designers, electricians, plumbers and plasterers. She has invited children to visit the site in small groups and the children are looking forward to seeing the construction in action as it starts to reach its final phase.



**GUILDMORE**

## Attendance Matters

Class	Weekly percentage	Star attendance winners
<b>Penguin</b>	97.1%	
<b>Jellyfish</b>	84.8%	
<b>Octopus</b>	96.4%	
<b>Whale</b>	95.7%	
<b>Eden</b>	91.2%	
<b>Tyne</b>	80.9%	
<b>Avon</b>	92.8%	
<b>Fleet</b>	84.8%	
<b>Ravensbourne</b>	94.5%	
<b>Wandle</b>	88.7%	
<b>Severn</b>	95.6%	
<b>Trent</b>	95.2%	

Please do not book holidays during term time! These may lead to a penalty notice.



**Parents can now log in to Arbor to book and pay for trips, uniform, and clubs. We hope you found it advantageous to book your parent evening appointments on the app too.**

**You can also see your child's attendance information including their attendance percentage.**

**If you are having trouble accessing Arbor, please speak to Sharon in the school office.**



Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.

**W.B. Yeats**  
POET



**Science**  
 In year 6 children did science posters about kitchen and electricity safety.

**Making art with Rod Kitson!**

Rod Kitson is a local artist living and working in London. His work focuses on the act of making the art rather than aiming for perfect outcomes. He has been working with our art and science ambassadors on botanical theme drawings in the style of William Morris.



In a fun and creative art workshop led by Rod, we took our sketchbooks outside to the school playground to draw plants. The sun was shining, and the air was fresh as we explored the vibrant greenery around us. Rod shared tips on capturing the details of leaves and flowers, encouraging us to look closely at nature's beauty. It was a relaxing and inspiring experience, connecting with both art and nature in such a fun way!

**ART**

In year 4/5 children learnt how to draw portraits



**Mathematics**

In year 1 children learnt how to use a number line.



**Computing**

In year 4/5 children learnt how to use a form to record information.



**Year 1 artists!**

The children in year 1 explored the artwork of Clarice Cliff, a designer and artist who created pottery and ceramics.

They used their painting and blow painting skills to create some fantastic effects.





Southwark's  
**EASTER  
OF FOOD AND FUN**

Activity programme for children and young people aged 4-16 years who get benefits-related free school meals

**7 April to 17 April 2025**

[www.southwark.gov.uk/foodandfun](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/foodandfun)

Funded by



Department  
for Education

Contact our  
providers to  
sign up

**North East  
Southwark**

**AUTISM VOICE**

- 👤 Ages: 5 to 15
- 📍 Neckinger Tenants and Residents Association (TRA) Hall, 87 Spa Road, SE16 3SG
- ☎ 07460 399 290
- ✉ [autismvoice1@gmail.com](mailto:autismvoice1@gmail.com)
- 🌐 [www.autismvoice.org.uk](http://www.autismvoice.org.uk)

**BALLERS ACADEMY - TEENS ONLY**

- 👤 Ages: 13 to 15
- 📍 Peter Hills Primary School, Salter Road entrance, SE16 5ED
- ☎ 07400 543 210
- ✉ [info@ballersacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@ballersacademy.co.uk)
- 🌐 [www.ballersacademy.co.uk](http://www.ballersacademy.co.uk)

**CITY HOPE CHURCH**

- 👤 Ages: 12 to 16
- 📍 City Hope Church, 121 Drummond Road, SE16 2JY
- ☎ 07305 163 038
- ✉ [kwame@cityhope.london](mailto:kwame@cityhope.london)
- 🌐 [www.cityhope.london](http://www.cityhope.london)

**MILLWALL COMMUNITY TRUST**

- 👤 Ages: 6 to 13
- 📍 St Pauls Sports Ground, Salter Road, SE16 5EF
- ☎ 07903 245 088
- ✉ [tsells@millwallcommunity.org.uk](mailto:tsells@millwallcommunity.org.uk)
- 🌐 [www.millwallcommunity.org.uk](http://www.millwallcommunity.org.uk)

**PARENT SKILLS2GO**

- 👤 Ages: 4 to 10
- 📍 Lewington Community Centre, 9 Eugenia Road, SE16 2RU
- ☎ 07725 818 283
- ☎ 07394 662 602
- ✉ [admin@parentskills2go.com](mailto:admin@parentskills2go.com)
- 🌐 [www.parentskills2go.com](http://www.parentskills2go.com)

**ZENOCH COMMUNITY HUB**

- 👤 Ages: 5 to 16
- 📍 City of London Academy (COLA), 240 Lynton Road, SE16 5LA
- ✉ [zenochservices@gmail.com](mailto:zenochservices@gmail.com)
- 🌐 [www.zenoch.co.uk](http://www.zenoch.co.uk)

**North West  
Southwark**

**FAST 58**

- 👤 Ages: 5 to 15
- 📍 Roundhouse Hall, 2 Cardinal Bourne Street, SE1 4EJ
- ☎ 07973 311 684
- ✉ [dwalsh1503@gmail.com](mailto:dwalsh1503@gmail.com)
- 🌐 [www.fast58.org.uk](http://www.fast58.org.uk)

**JUNIOR ADVENTURE GROUP -  
ELEPHANT & CASTLE**

- 👤 Ages: 5 to 11
- 📍 The Castle Centre, 2 St Gabriel Walk, SE1 6FG
- ☎ 0800 640 9516
- ✉ [hello@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk](mailto:hello@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk)
- 🌐 [www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk](http://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk)

**East Central  
Southwark**

**ANGELS BREAKFAST AND  
AFTERSCHOOL CLUB**

- 👤 Ages: 8 to 16
- 📍 Parish Church of St Luke's, Chandler Way, SE15 6DT
- ☎ 07957 472 504
- ✉ [angelsbreakfastafterschoolclub@gmail.com](mailto:angelsbreakfastafterschoolclub@gmail.com)

**BIRD IN BUSH CHAMPS**

- 👤 Ages: 5 to 11
- 📍 Bird in Bush Primary School, Bird in Bush Road, SE15 1QP
- ☎ 07512 514 833
- ✉ [iali@birdinbush.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:iali@birdinbush.southwark.sch.uk)
- 🌐 <https://birdinbushprimary.co.uk>

**DAMILOLA TAYLOR CENTRE**

- 👤 Ages: 11 to 16
- 📍 Damilola Taylor Centre, 1 East Surrey Grove, SE15 6DR
- ✉ [youthservicesinfo@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:youthservicesinfo@southwark.gov.uk)

**JUNIOR ADVENTURE GROUP -  
PECKHAM**

- 👤 Ages: 5 to 11
- 📍 Peckham Pulse Leisure Centre, 10 Melon Road, SE15 5QN
- ☎ 0800 640 9516
- ✉ [hello@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk](mailto:hello@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk)
- 🌐 [www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk](http://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk)

See the listings to choose the best club for your child. Please book a place with your chosen provider as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. If you have any queries, please contact the Holiday Activities and Food Team at [haf@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:haf@southwark.gov.uk).

**West Central  
Southwark**

**BURGESS SPORTS**

- 👤 Ages: 5 to 12
- 📍 Surrey Square Primary School, Surrey Square, SE17 2JY
- ☎ 07384 336 925
- ✉ [afruja@burgesssports.org](mailto:afruja@burgesssports.org)
- 🌐 [www.burgesssports.org](http://www.burgesssports.org)

**South  
Southwark**

**DYNAMIC COACHING**

- 👤 Ages: 4 to 16
- 📍 Dulwich Hamlet Football Club, Champion Hill, Edgar Way, SE22 8BD
- ☎ 07756 826 105
- ✉ [admin@dynamicmail.co.uk](mailto:admin@dynamicmail.co.uk)
- 🌐 [www.dynamiccoachinguk.com](http://www.dynamiccoachinguk.com)

**EXCEL BEYOND BARRIERS**

- 👤 Ages: 4 to 16
- 📍 Ketra Community Hall, Telfer House, Seeley Drive, Kingswood Estate, SE21 8QW
- ☎ 07958 064 597
- ☎ 020 8079 7290
- ✉ [info@excelbeyondbarriers.com](mailto:info@excelbeyondbarriers.com)
- 🌐 [www.excelbeyondbarriers.com](http://www.excelbeyondbarriers.com)

**JUNIOR ADVENTURE GROUP -  
CAMBERWELL**

- 👤 Ages: 5 to 11
- 📍 Camberwell Leisure Centre, Artichoke Place, Camberwell Church Street, SE5 8TS
- ☎ 0800 640 9516
- ✉ [hello@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk](mailto:hello@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk)
- 🌐 [www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk](http://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk)



Sangeeta Leahy  
Director of Public Health  
Public Health Division  
Children and Adult Services  
[haf@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:haf@southwark.gov.uk)  
Date: 27 February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Lisa Christiansen ([lisachristiansen@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lisachristiansen@hotmail.co.uk)) is signed in

**Southwark's Easter of Food and Fun, 2025**

We are delighted to inform you that this Easter, the council will once again be hosting Southwark's Easter of Food and Fun from 7 April 2025 to 17 April 2025.

The council is partnering with local holiday club providers, Leisure Centres (Camberwell, Peckham and Elephant and Castle) and the Damilola Taylor Centre to provide an exciting programme for children and young people in our local communities. Free places are available for children between the ages of 4 and 16, who are eligible for free school meals.

The programme aims to give local families access to free, healthy food and fun activities over the Easter holidays. Each programme will provide:

- free, healthy and tasty food
- fun physical activity sessions
- a wide range of other activities to suit different ages and personalities
- opportunities to learn more about food and nutrition for children and families

Details about the programme are available at [www.southwark.gov.uk/foodandfun](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/foodandfun)

We encourage you to register your child/children to make sure they have an enjoyable and memorable holiday period. Please visit [www.cenl.org/southwark/foodandfun](http://www.cenl.org/southwark/foodandfun) to book a place.

To book a place at Damilola Taylor Centre, please visit <https://forms.office.com/e/QA1v8L0x6n>.

Yours sincerely

Sangeeta Leahy  
Director of Public Health  
Children's and Adults' Services

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