

RPS Weekly Newsletter



Friday 23rd January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been 'Energy Saving Week' and in assembly, the children considered what energy means. They learned about fuels that we use to produce energy. We discussed fossil fuels such as oil, gas and coal that provide us with energy to heat our homes and make electrical items work. They learned that fossil fuels are sourced from under the ground from the remains of dead animals and plants but that one day these will run out. They also learned that we get energy from water, wind and the sun. Then I tasked the children to consider ways of saving energy, with particular focus on electricity. They talked about turning off computers and televisions rather than leaving them on 'standby' and when leaving a room to consider whether the lights can be turned off. Their mission after assembly was also to remind their teachers to turn off computers at the end of the day as they sometimes forget!

Effra class recently enjoyed an exciting visit to the **Garden Museum**, where they delved into the fascinating world of habitats. The students conducted a minibeast investigation in the garden which provided them with hands-on learning about the diverse creatures and their environments. A highlight of the day was collecting worms from the wormery. The pupils were thrilled to observe these creatures up close using a digital microscope, enhancing their understanding of these tiny but important members of our ecosystem.

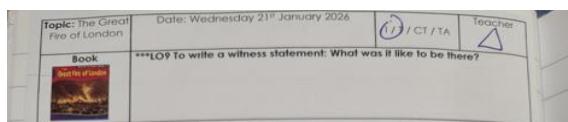


On Friday, Year 2 and both Reception classes, were each treated to a drama workshop entitled '**Midnight in the Toy Shop**'. This was led by Finley from '**Perform**'. The children were immersed into the world of story telling and really enjoyed the workshop. Perform, provide dance, singing and drama after school clubs in a number of locations within the local area. Children can try the club out for free and there is a discount for children from Rotherhithe. See the flyer below for more information. Huge thanks to Finley and Perform for providing these free workshops in school.

Folu from the **Education Wellbeing Team** will be delivering her second coffee morning next Thursday 29th January. This is focused on self-care and managing stress. Please think about coming along and read more about it in the flyer below.
Don't forget to make sure you are saving energy! Lisa (HoS)

Year 2 Star Writer-Rowan

Rowan in Year 2 has produced some wonderful and imaginative writing in role, exploring what it might have been like to witness the Fire of London. He has used vivid noun phrases and thoughtful, ambitious vocabulary choices to make his description truly come alive.



I was asleep and I woke up by blown up houses. I saw an arc of fire flames and thick, black smoke I ran down Padding Lane and I saw people ran carrying possessions and running for their lives! What if I die? The flames were as hot as Venus! Sweat was dripping from my forehead! I need to escape this inferno. I gathered my belongings and ran past St. Paul's Cathedral, down to the River Thames.

Year 3 are studying Ancient Egypt. In Peck class the children made a focus pattern in their art lesson. They first dyed paper with coffee before tearing it up and creating a layered, textured base. Then they pulled out patterns from visual prompts and replicated them on the page with oil pastels.



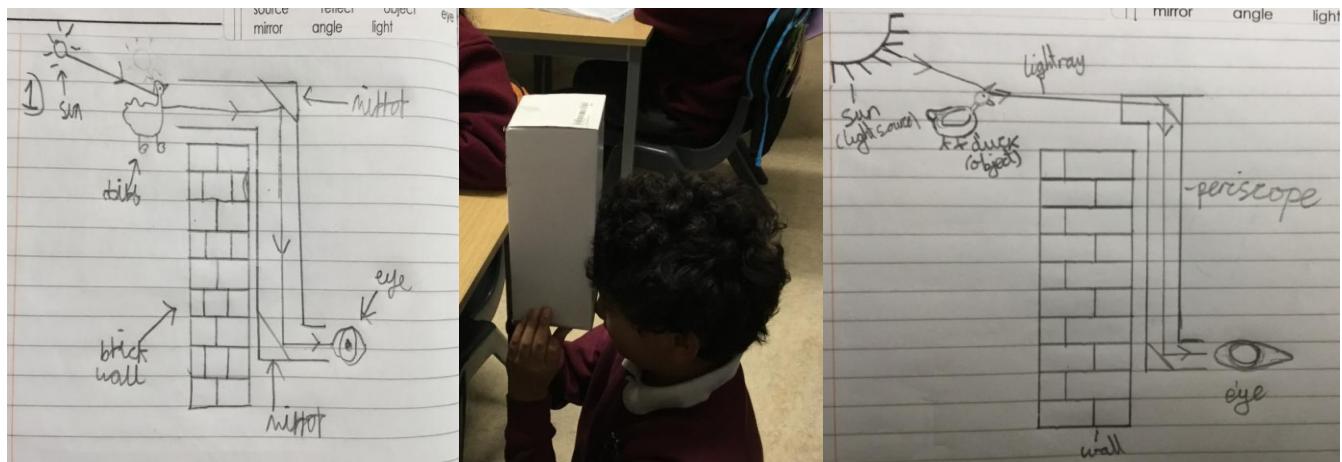
Year 3 love art!

Rhyle



Year 6 Investigate how periscopes work!

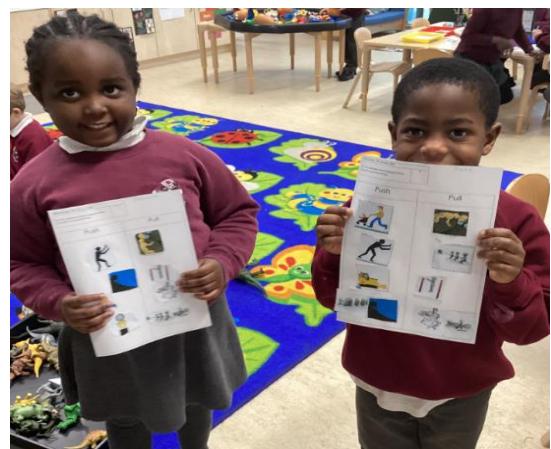
Year 6 pupils explored how a periscope works, learning how light is reflected and redirected to allow us to see over or around obstacles. Through practical demonstrations and discussion, the children discovered how mirrors and angles work together in simple optical devices. To support their learning, pupils drew clear scientific diagrams to show the path of light through a periscope, helping them to explain their understanding using accurate scientific vocabulary.



Forces



In Reception, the children have learnt about forces, focussing on the push and pull force. During their carpet session they explored different objects that could be pushed and pulled. They then sorted pictures representing the push and pull forces.



Nursery go to Forest School

Our Nursery children have a session of Forest School every week and they love it!! They enjoy going on bug hunts to explore the area and see what creatures they can find. They have also been checking the school's water butts to see how much rainwater has been collected. This is a fantastic learning opportunity for language and understanding of the natural world. Children noticed that it was 'half full' and considered how rain helps the environment and provides plants water to enable them to grow.

Children collected their own rainwater to mix into mud pies whilst others worked together to create burrows for animals and pretended to feed them, showing imagination and care for living things.

Every session of Forest School also includes mindfulness activities when the children use their senses and notice the sounds and smells around them.

All sessions include a snack and a story before heading back to nursery. What a lovely time of outdoor exploration.



We love Art!



Year 6 pupils' topic this term is focussed on World War II. As part of their art learning, they explored John Singer Sargent's powerful painting *Gassed* by recreating the scene through tableau. This activity enabled the children to experience the human side of the artwork, helping them to reflect on what it might feel like to be blinded, supported, led and healed, and to understand the vital importance of companionship and care. Following the practical activity, the children shared thoughtful discussions about their feelings and reflections while recreating the painting.



Oracy Matters

Our whole school debate topic this week is...

There should be no homework.



Each class debated this statement in their classroom this week using their oracy skills. Please ask your child about the discussion and what was presented for each side of the argument. You could even hold a mini debate at home!

My rate of book:



My book review

Book Review by Safiya

I recommend people of any ages to read this book and the rest of the stories.

I really enjoyed reading it . It is like I got sucked into the book because I could not put it down its filled with magical fun and it is very enjoyable . It is one of my favourite books.

Name of book : Harry Potter and the prisoner of Azkaban
Author of book : J.K Rowling
Illustrator of book : Minalima

Summary :

A prisoner, Sirius Black is on the run while Harry Potter is at his aunt and uncle's house thinking what a new year at Hogwarts is going to be. They have a new defence against dark arts teacher : Professor Remus Lupin who appeared to be friends with Sirius which was a shock to Harry , Hermione and Ron . To add to this , Sirius was Harry's godfather , appeared to be innocent and Professor Lupin is a werewolf .

THE PE & SCHOOL SPORTS NETWORK

SEND SATURDAY SPORTS CLUB

AGES 5-18

OPEN EVERY SATURDAY (TERM TIME ONLY)

OPEN TO SEND PUPILS IN SOUTHWARK

For more information please contact Glyn and George via the emails below:
Glyn Davies: glyn@lpessn.org.uk
George Richards: george@lpessn.org.uk

Telephone: 0207 237 1928 Ext: 4086 - Website: www.lpessn.org.uk

THE PE & SCHOOL SPORTS NETWORK

SEND SATURDAY SPORTS CLUB

The Saturday sports club runs through the year at Bacon's College. The club caters for SEND students of all disabilities between the ages of 5-18 years old. Each session lasts for 60 minutes.

There is a highly skilled and motivated team of 14 working at the club ranging from teachers, teaching assistants, coaches, and special needs specialists.

As well as improving fitness levels and health and wellbeing the club works on social skills such as listening skills, waiting, sharing, teamwork, individual work and focus.

Sports and activities change weekly - trampolining, nature trail and the gym for the older clients, volleyball, football, basketball, multi skills, tennis, cricket, badminton, boccia, new age curling, dance, parachute games, athletics, capoeira, etc.

The club currently run in 4 different sessions:

Session 1: 10:30 - 11:30
Session 2: 11:30 - 12:30
Session 3: 12:30 - 13:30
Session 4: 14:00 - 15:00

Venue:
Bacon's College, Timber Pond Road
Rotherhithe, London
SE16 6AT

"The Network and Saturday Sports Club at Bacon's College has offered myself and family much-needed respite. Glyn, George and the team are very understanding and aware of my son's SEN needs: autism and ADHD. "

Telephone: 0207 237 1928 Ext: 4086 - **Website:** www.lpessn.org.uk

Dates for your Diary

6.1.26	Children return to school
7.1.26	Recorder lessons start for year 5 Swimming lessons start for Effra class
8.1.26	Pioneer Dance starts back
9.1.26	9.30am new to reception open morning
13.1.26	EYFS/KS1 Reading parent workshop 9:00-9:30 am Sound Steps Assembly
14.1.26	KS2 Reading parent workshop 9:00-9:30 am
15.1.26	Groundwork parent coffee morning 9-9:45 am
18.1.26	Energy Saving Week
22.1.26	Effra class trip to the Garden Museum
23.1.26	'Midnight in the Toyshop' workshops for Reception and Year 2 children.
29.1.26	Groundwork parent coffee morning 9-9:45 am
3.2.26	Breck Foundation workshops Yr 3 & 4 and YR 5 & 6: Staying safe online First Debate Mate competition
5.2.26	Year 4 Parent Workshop – Multiplication check 3:45 pm
6.2.26	Time to Talk Day (mental Health and wellbeing)
9.2.26	Year 1 Parent Workshop – Phonics Screening check 3:45 pm Safer Internet Day LGBT – history week
12.2.26	Groundwork parent coffee morning 9-9:45 am
13.2.26	Break up for Half term
25.2.26	Pupil Led Review parents meeting (all classes except Brent)
26.2.26	IQM review Brent class Pupil Led Review parents meeting
2.3.26	Yr 1 Mock phonics check
3.3.26	Tyne class trip to the National Gallery Parents evening individual meetings
5.3.26	World Book Day
9.3.26 week	STEAM Week/Yr 6 Mock SATS Avon & Peck trip to the National Gallery
16.3.26 week	Parents meetings for children with SEND
21.3.26	World Poetry Day
23.3.26	Effra class trip - Royal Festival Hall
26.3.26	Achievement Awards KS2 Pioneer Dance finishes
27.3.26	Easter Bonnet Parade Achievement Awards KS1 Children break up for Easter

Attendance Matters

Class	Weekly percentage	Star attendance winners
Penguin	92.6%	
Jellyfish	92.5%	
Octopus	97.5%	
Whale	99.1%	
Eden	93.9%	
Tyne	91.7%	
Avon	97.3%	
Peck	99%	
Effra	98.3%	
Brent	98.5%	
Lea	99.2%	
Thames	93.5%	

Please help us to improve our school attendance. Currently we fall below national expectations for attendance- 96%.



Attendance Week to Date

For All Pupils



Attendance School Year to Date

For All Pupils

If children are unwell they should remain at home, but please **do not book holidays** during term time! This may lead to a penalty notice.

Reminder: Parents need to contact the school and let us know each day that a child is absent. If you have the Study bugs app, this makes it far easier for you to let us know. So, if you have not already signed up to study bugs, please do so by following this link:

<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>





Star of the Week

Octopus	Isa	I have been really impressed with his attitude to learning this week. He has improved his handwriting and his ability to balance addition equations in Maths. Keep up the hard work!
Tyne	Haris	Haris has shown fantastic determination in his English work this week. Even though English isn't always his favourite subject, he has put in impressive effort to improve his spelling and presentation. His hard work has really paid off, and he has produced some brilliant pieces on our Great Fire of London topic. Well done, Haris!
Eden	Nuraiah	Nuraiah is our Star of the Week for her amazing attitude to learning and behaviour. She showed amazing enthusiasm in all her lessons and was willing to go over and beyond. I want you to keep it up!
Avon	Israel	For showing fantastic improvement in his cursive handwriting and overall presentation. You have worked very hard and listen to feedback. Keep it up!
Effra	Simeon	Simeon is our Star of the Week for his exceptional engagement during our recent trip to the Garden Museum! He demonstrated impressive curiosity, asking insightful questions about Woodland minibeasts. Well, done!
Brent	Chyanne	Well done Chyanne! You consistently inspire your peers in every aspect of learning. You shine exceptionally in peer discussions, always contributing thoughtfully, delivering or take part in meaningful partner talk. This not only enhances your own learning but also ensures those around you feel supported and confident. Your positive attitude always makes a real difference in our classroom. Keep it up 😊
Lea	Charlotte	Charlotte is applying her oracy skills excellently during class debates, using hand signals and sentence stems to develop her answers. She is also a participant of Debate Mate and has used additional skills that she has learnt there. I have been so impressed!
Thames	Nadine	For demonstrating sustained and diligent learning behaviour, resulting in commendable progress. She consistently shows great attention to detail, remains highly attentive, and demonstrates a strong and growing independence in her learning.

TRY A FULL
CLASS FOR
FREE



Well, THAT WAS FUN!

We loved introducing your child to the confidence building world of Perform today.
And guess what, it's just the beginning...



Play is a **POWERFUL THING**

Perform classes help boost children's **confidence, concentration, coordination** and **communication** skills, as well as being lots of fun.

Our expertly designed drama, dance and singing sessions for 4-7s and 7-12s are run by experienced teachers, hand-picked for their warmth and approachability.

They'll be with your child every step of the way – inspiring and encouraging them to develop vital life skills as they discover the joy of performing.

“We couldn’t be happier with William’s Perform experience. We signed up to boost his confidence and it’s making a wonderful difference.” - Samantha Nye

What does Perform offer?

- Performing arts-based games and exercises
- Focus on a different social skill each week
- Small classes and feedback on your child's progress
- Specially created scripts, videos and apps
- End of term presentation for family and friends

Try a **FREE CLASS** at your nearest venue

Perform Surrey Quays

Thursdays at 4pm (4-7s), 5.05pm (7-12s). Time And Talents In Surrey Quays Shopping Centre, Time And Talents, SE16 7LL

Perform Isle Of Dogs

Fridays at 4.15pm (4-7s), 5.20pm (7-12s). Barkentine Community Hall, 12 The Quarterdeck, E14 8SJ

Perform Bermondsey

Fridays at 4pm (4-7s), 5.05pm (7-12s). Bermondsey Village Hall, Leathermarket Gardens, SE1 3TD

Until 14 Mar, new joiners can use ROTH140326 for a £40 introductory discount.

Ready to try for free?

Your child's first class is free, so why not give it a go? Classes take place all over, have a look online or call us:

perform.org.uk/try
020 7255 9120



Parent/Carer Support at Rotherhithe Primary School



With Folu from Groundwork
Education Wellbeing Team

We offer non-judgemental and
confidential support for
parents/carers of children with
anxiety, challenging behaviour,
and/or neurodiversity

Tea/coffee Morning

Time: 9:00- 9:45



Upcoming dates:

- 15th January: Introduction to the EWT
- 29th January: Selfcare & Managing Stress
- 12th February: Online Safety for Children



For more information please contact:
foluke.oshin@groundwork.org.uk

Millwall Breakfast and After School Clubs

Come and join us for our Breakfast and After School Clubs!

Breakfast club will start at 7.45am- This will include breakfast of cereal or toast and will cost £5.50 per day

After School club- sports activities and games will cost: 1 hour £6.30 and 2 and half hours £13.65

We are able to offer a discount to families that wish to book a full week after school club and this is charged at £57.75 per week.

Wraparound Care (ASC) will not be suitable for Nursery aged pupils.

Please see Sharon in the Office for more information!



Are you interested in working for NEST—or do you know someone who might be?

At NEST, we offer a wide range of rewarding roles across our schools. Whether you're an early careers teacher, an experienced educator, returning to work after a break, or simply looking for meaningful employment, we'd love to hear from you.

We have opportunities in **teaching, school administration, finance, HR, and estates.**

Click [here](#) to view our current vacancies or register for our talent pool and learn more about joining the NEST team and the exciting career opportunities available.



AutismSupportTeam@Southwark.gov.uk

AUTISM SUPPORT TEAM TOILET TRAINING FOR PARENT/CARER ONLY

HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR AUTISTIC CHILD TO DEVELOP TOILETING SKILLS

In partnership with the Autism Education Trust (AET) we are offering Developing Toileting Skills Training for Parent + Carers of autistic children.

Aims:

- To develop knowledge of how to support autistic children to achieve toileting independence.
- To understand the importance of working with others to support autistic children to develop independent toileting skills

Learning objectives:

- Understand how autism can impact on children developing independent toileting skills.
- Understand the importance of all adults working together to support the development of independent toileting skills.
- Consider how to remove barriers to developing toileting skills and how to make reasonable adjustments to support further toileting independence.

Free Training Online Dates:

• 21 st October	9.45 – 11.45 2025
• 15 th December 2025	12.30 – 2.30 2025
• 9 th February	9.45 – 11.45 2026
• 23 rd March	12.30 – 2.30 2026
• 18 th May	9.45 – 11.45 2026
• 23 rd July	12.30 – 2.30 2026
• 6 th August	9.45 – 11.45 2026
• 13 th August	12.30 – 2.30 2026

Register [here](#)

Online Microsoft Teams Training Link will be sent to your email 2 days prior to start date of training.



EPEC BEING A PARENT

For parents of children aged 2 – 11 years

This 9 week course helps parents learn practical skills for everyday life.

- Looking after yourself as a parent
- Recognise and manage your children's emotions
- Learn positive parenting strategies
- Support your children's resilience

Contact: Claire Gager

JOIN NOW

Email:
Claire.gager@southwark.gov.uk

Call: 07547 659 646

WHEN IS IT ON?

WEDNESDAYS
STARTING 14TH JANUARY 2026

CRAWFORD BEST START
FAMILY HUB
5 CRAWFORD RD,
LONDON SE5 9NF

THURSDAYS
STARTING 15TH JANUARY 2026

COIN STREET
NEIGHBOURHOOD
FAMILY & CHILDREN CENTRE
108 STAMFORD STREET,
LONDON SE1 9NH

What time?
10am-12pm



Southwark Children & Family Hubs

CPCS
Community & Child
Services

EMPPOWERED
COMMUNITY
SERVICES

Southwark
Council

Southwark
Council

START
FOR
LIFE

easypeasy

Support your child's development for free

Get unlimited access by scanning the QR code*

Parenting advice and activity ideas for children aged from birth to five, shared by our community and experts.

Available for all parents and carers in Southwark.



easypeasyapp.com/southwark



*For full terms and conditions, please visit easypeasyapp.com/terms.

FATHER'S GROUP



Join a 10-week course to improve your parenting skills.

Whether you are a father, grandfather or stepdad, receive advice and tips on topics such as positive parenting, improving relationships and role modelling.

Crèche provided.

When Friday Morning's at 10.30am - 12.30
Starting 16th January 2026

Where 1st Place Best Start Family Hub
12 Chumleigh Street, Burgess Park, SE5 0RN

BOOK A PLACE

Email: tara.long@southwark.gov.uk or jamal.jones-Thomas@southwark.gov.uk

Phone: 07513 713 090



Southwark Family Hubs



IWFC@1stplaceuk.com
www.1stplace.uk.com



TAP – IN SESSIONS

Free and stand alone information sessions for parents and carers on a range of topics.

Join us with Thinking About Parenting and TAP in to....

Monday 18th January
10am - 12
MS Teams

Parenting and Autism

Thursday 29th January
10am - 12
MS Teams

Parenting and ADHD

w/c 9th Feb
10am - 11.30
MS Teams

Ages and Stages

w/c 2nd Feb
10am - 11.30
MS Teams

Parenting Foundations

w/c 2nd March
10am - 11.30
MS Teams

Parental Emotional Wellbeing

w/c 9th March
10am - 11.30
MS Teams

Bullying Awareness

w/c 16th March
10am - 11.30
MS Teams

Emotional-Based School Avoidance

w/c 23rd March
10am - 11.30
MS Teams

Digital Safety

w/c 9th March
10am - 11.30
MS Teams

Tuesday 24th March
10am
MS Teams

Parenting and ADHD

w/c 23rd March
10am - 11.30
MS Teams

Parenting and Autism

Thursday 19th March
10am
MS Teams

Parenting and Autism

Tuesday 24th March
10am
MS Teams

Parenting and ADHD

All sessions held online - link will be sent 1-2 days before session via email



TO REGISTER FOR A PLACE
[CLICK HERE](#) OR CONTACT

Beth Gilbey

07394 865 980

bethany.gilbey@southwark.gov.uk

earlyhelp@southwark.gov.uk



**Rose VOUCHERS
for fruit & veg**

1st Place

Free fruit and vegetables for families with young children

The Rose Vouchers Project gives vouchers to buy fresh fruit and vegetables from local markets and some other places. If eligible, you will receive at least £4 of vouchers every week.

Who is it for?

If you live in Southwark and have children under 5*, or are more than 10 weeks pregnant, you may be able to get Rose Vouchers if one of the following applies:

- You receive Healthy Start
- You have a low or no household income (less than £408 income a month if you are on Universal Credit)
- You have no recourse to public funds (NRPF)
- Children must be under 5 until 31st August

Find out more

SCAN ME 

1stplace.uk.com/rosevouchers 

rosevouchers@1stplace.uk.com

  Impact on Urban Health



e2e
end2end TV

FOR AGES 8-16 FORTNIGHTLY SATURDAY 10.30-12.30PM

DIGITAL CREW SATURDAYS

WWW.END2ENDTV.CO.UK



#NEW for 2026 SCREENLAB

MONTHLY CLUB FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 10-18 INCLUDING DIGIFILMIX™



SATURDAY AFTERNOON 1.30-4.30PM

ONCE A MONTH FUN!

e2e 

PREMIUM BRAND NEW CLUB

FOR FILM MAKERS, TECHIES & CREATIVES

- USE BROADCAST TV & FILM EQUIPMENT
- EXPLORE MEDIA INC. NEW ANIMATION SUITE
- CONSIDER YOUR AUDIENCE
- BECOME GREAT CONTENT CREATORS

FIND OUT MORE & BOOK: WWW.END2ENDTV.CO.UK

Start for Life

Southwark

Helping you to give your child the best start in life, with support during pregnancy to the age of 5.



Download the Start for Life brochure

Packed with essential resources for parents and caregivers. Useful information in one place to help you find a wide range of local support and services.





Mindful Mums

Free wellbeing groups for new mums

Parenting can be the most extraordinary thing we ever do. It can also be the most exhausting and challenging. If you feel overwhelmed, you're not alone, join one of our free 5-week meet up groups. Open to all mothers and birthing people with babies 0-12 months.

Rye Oak Children and Family Centre, SE15 3PD
Thursdays 1pm - 2.30pm
15 January - 12 February

Crawford Children and Family Centre, SE5 9NF
Thursdays, 11am - 12.30pm
6 February - 26 March

Book your place
selmind.org.uk/mindful-mums

Contact us
mindfulmums@selmind.org.uk


South East London 





SOUNDSTEPS
MUSIC SCHOOL

Free Children Piano/Keyboard Taster Available Now

- Weekly 1 hour lessons available Monday to Sunday for children aged 5-13
- Children learn to read, write and play music in every lesson. we also provide keyboard at every lesson
- Termly Exams and certificate along with opportunities to sit at internationally recognised exams and perform at live events

Contacts us Now by Email, Phone, Whats App or via our Website/QR Code to Book Your “FREE TASTER SESSION”

 e:office@soundstepsmusic.co.uk t:07926 371583 www.soundstepsmusic.co.uk



BEST START IN LIFE

EPEC BABY & US

Baby & Us is a 9 week peer-led group which helps parents gain confidence in parenting and everyday life with a new baby (0-9 months).

This includes supporting parents in understanding baby's cues, coping with challenges around feeding, sleep, and crying, interacting positively with baby and managing parental stress.

JOIN NOW

Contact: Claire Gager or Sunshine Brand
Email: Claire.gager@southwark.gov.uk or Sunshine.Brand@southwark.gov.uk
Call: 07547 659 646 / 07597 506 898

Or scan QR code to complete registration form



WHEN IS IT ON?
STARTING WEDNESDAY 14TH JANUARY 2026
RYE OAK BEST START FAMILY HUB
WHORTON RD, LONDON SE15 3PD

What time?
10am - 12pm



BEST START IN LIFE

EPEC BEING A PARENT 1-3

For parents of children aged 1 – 3 years

This 9 week course helps parents learn practical skills for everyday life.

- Looking after yourself as a parent
- Recognise and manage your children's emotions
- Learn positive parenting strategies
- Support your children's resilience

JOIN NOW

Contact: Claire Gager
Email: Claire.gager@southwark.gov.uk or Sunshine.Brand@southwark.gov.uk
Call: 07547 659 646 / 07597 506 898



WHEN IS IT ON?
STARTING TUESDAY 13TH JANUARY 2026
1ST PLACE BEST START FAMILY HUB
12 CHUMLEIGH STREET
LONDON
SE5 0RN

What time?
10am-12pm



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

For parents of children aged 8 – 18 years

This 12 week course helps parents and carers to

- Build positive family relationships
- Manage anger and stress
- Implement effective discipline strategies
- Understand your child's development
- Recognise and value your family and cultural traditions
- Develop effective communication
- Meet others and share ideas

JOIN NOW

Who to contact: Rebecca Arinze
Email: rebecca.arinze@southwark.gov.uk
Call: 07939635458

WHEN IS IT ON?
Starting Tuesday 6th Jan 2026
Face to Face English
Online/Face to Face - Spanish
Starting Wed 7th Jan 2026
Face to Face - Arabic
(online groups also available)

What time?
10am-1pm



