

# RPS Weekly Newsletter



Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you had a fantastic holiday. We are all set for a busy half term as we start to prepare children in Year 6, Year 1 and Year 4 for statutory testing during May and June, this is therefore, an extremely important time for children to have good attendance!



During whole school assembly on Monday, the children were asked to think about all the good reasons for coming to school. Their responses focused on the value of attending school to learn and how this would be important in helping them get a good job in later life. They also highlighted the benefit of connecting and socializing with friends and adults. The children had lots of good ideas for ensuring they are fit, healthy and ready for learning.

I was impressed at how aware they were that if they ate healthy food it could help prevent them from being unwell. We also talked about washing hands carefully, to avoid catching viruses and being physically active was also high on their list of priorities. They considered the importance of getting sufficient sleep. We discussed the idea of organising their uniform and school equipment the night before to ensure they are organized and more likely to be on time.

Adel and Skylah were instated as our 'Year 6 Attendance Ambassadors' and they presented certificates to children whose yearly attendance had improved by the end of last term. I do hope to see the school's attendance improve this term as sadly the school's attendance is below the government's target of 95% or higher.

## Millwall Lionesses V Sutton

Once again I would like to say a huge thank you to Millwall FC for providing free tickets to the Millwall Lionesses' football match against Sutton on the 29th of March. I hear it was an exciting match which ended in a 2-2 draw. It was great to receive some pictures showing Lexi-Mai at the stadium. I am so glad she had a brilliant time.

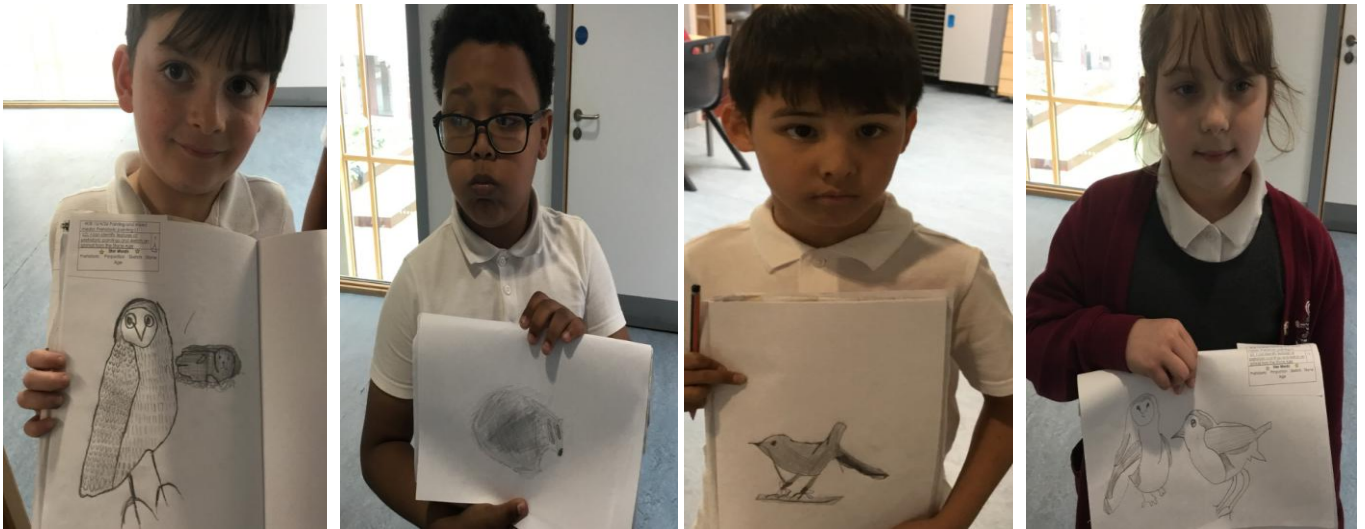


Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> of April is St George's Day. St George is the patron saint of England. On this day, children are invited to dress up on this day in red, white and blue or as a knight or dragon from the famous legend.

Have a great week! Lisa (HoS)

## Year 3 love art!

Year 3 have been learning about prehistoric art and exploring the features that prehistoric paintings have in common. The children studied animal drawings and learned how to identify basic shapes to help them achieve accurate proportions in their own artwork. They also discussed and described why prehistoric people often painted animals, linking their artwork to their historical understanding. This lesson encouraged careful observation, creativity, and thoughtful discussion.



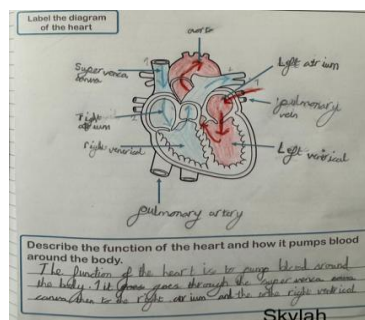
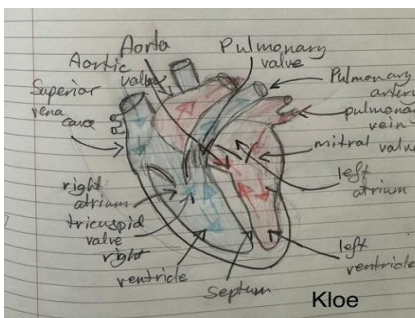
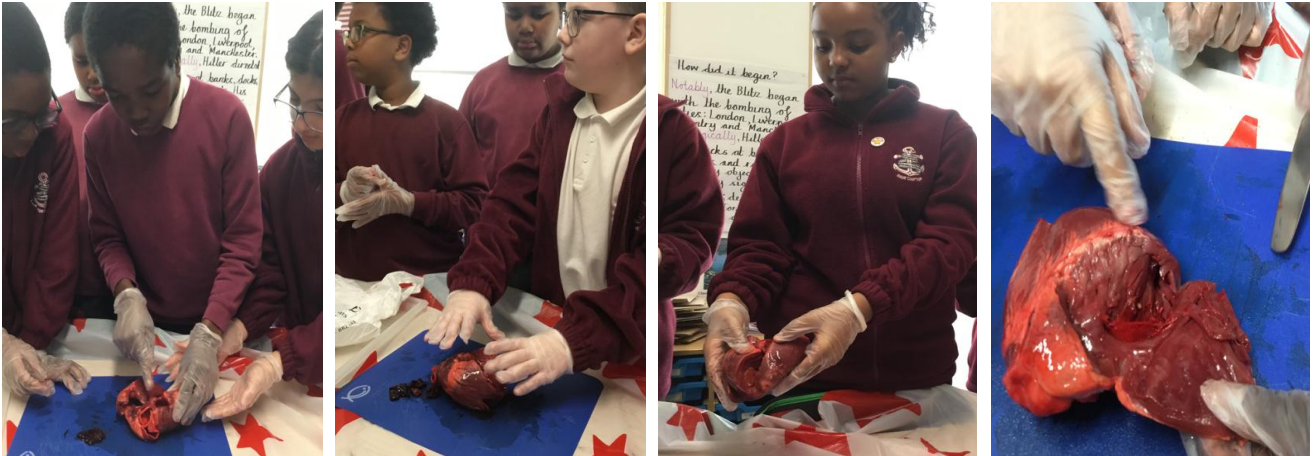
## Year 1 scientists!

Year 1 have commenced their new science unit on plants. The children have been learning to identify and name a variety of plants found in their local environment and have developed an understanding that seeds grow into plants. They combined their oracy and scientific enquiry skills to make predictions about plant growth and explored what plants need to grow and stay healthy. As part of the unit, pupils enjoyed learning how to plant a seed and were able to explain the steps involved with confidence and enthusiasm.



## Year 6 get to the heart of it!

Year 6 have started their new science unit on *Animals Including Humans*, with a focus on the circulatory system. Pupils have been learning to describe the structure and function of the heart and to identify the differences between oxygenated and deoxygenated blood. As part of their learning, the children observed the dissection of a heart, allowing them to identify key structures including the superior vena cava, aorta, valves, atria, and ventricles. Pupils utilised their oracy skills effectively when explaining how blood moves around the body, demonstrating a secure and developing understanding of the circulatory system.



Year 6 continued their study of the heart engaged in cross-curricular learning through art, applying clay techniques such as cross-hatching and using clay slip to create detailed models of the heart, reinforcing their understanding and use of new scientific vocabulary. Cross-hatching (scoring) and slip are essential techniques for joining clay pieces, preventing cracking or separation during drying. By scratching intersecting lines into both surfaces and applying liquid clay (slip), you create a strong bond. Firmly pressing and twisting the pieces together to lock them in place.



# A Midsummer's Night Dream

## A Magical Theatre Experience for Years 5 and 6

Year 5 and 6 were very fortunate to attend the Unicorn Theatre's 2026 production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and what a treat it was! This magical and highly entertaining adaptation brought Shakespeare's beloved comedy vividly to life in a way that was both accessible and engaging for young audiences.

Blending carefully selected moments from Shakespeare's original text with inventive staging, playful performances, and plenty of humour, the production captured the imagination from start to finish. The cast's energy and creativity made the characters easy to understand and incredibly fun to watch, while clever use of movement, music, and visual effects helped to create the enchanting world of the play.

The children were thoroughly absorbed throughout, laughing at the mischievous antics and marvelling at the magical moments on stage. The performance not only entertained but also exposed pupils to Shakespeare in a positive and memorable way, building confidence and enthusiasm for classical theatre. It was a truly inspiring experience and a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to enjoy live performance while enriching their learning beyond the classroom. We would like to thank Kealan for procuring us free tickets!

'I like the acting, particularly the facial expressions'

- Deeqa

'I really liked the costumes'

- Annabel

'I like their clever use of lights'

- Arilena



# Star of the Week

<b>Whale</b>	Inara	Inara has shown significant improvement in her effort during maths. She approaches maths with enthusiasm, and this is clearly reflected in her growing ability to count in groups of ten and then continue in 'ones' with individual units. Well done! ★
<b>Octopus</b>	Abdullah	Abdullah has returned to school with a positive attitude, settling into familiar routines well and approaching his learning with growing confidence.
<b>Tyne</b>	Mariam F	Mariam has really impressed us with her fantastic attitude to school life. She comes to school ready to learn, tries her best in everything she does and is always polite and kind to others. Mariam shows great manners and is a positive role model in the classroom.
<b>Eden</b>	Shabnam	Shabnam joined Rotherhithe recently and has settled in amazingly. I have been very impressed with the resilience she has shown, persisting even if she finds something hard. She has been going above and beyond. Keep it up!
<b>Avon</b>	Maliyah	This week, Maliyah has put great effort into her writing. She has built amazing sentences and carefully checked her spellings. Keep it up!
<b>Peck</b>	Dahbia	Dahbia always comes to school ready to learn and gives her best in every lesson. She listens carefully, tries new challenges, and never gives up. Her positive attitude inspires her friends and makes learning more fun for everyone.
<b>Effra</b>	Yassin	Yassin's punctuality has improved so much and his attitude towards learning has really flourished. He is showing both maturity and determination and it's wonderful to see. Keep it up!
<b>Brent</b>	Kodi	This week in Brent, Kodi has stood out with his fantastic English writing on our new class read of 'The Chocolate Tree'. Kodi created an outstanding direct address and showed even more enthusiasm in editing his work to make it even better. Keep it up Kodi- Very well done!
<b>Lea</b>	Saifan	Saifan has mastered coordinates and reflection in our maths lessons this week. His careful and systematic approach really impressed me and he has been able to apply his learning to problem solving questions.
<b>Thames</b>	Skylah	For accurately labelling the parts of the heart and clearly explaining its function and the pathway of blood through the heart. Well done!



RISEN ABOVE  
93%

## Improved Attendance Awards went to.....

Rising to above 90%: Lexi-May and Aidan

Rising to above 93%: Zack, Nyrah, Karim and Faith (yr1)

Rising to above 95%: Deborah, Ayan and Chelsea (yr 6)



RISEN ABOVE  
95%

# Dates for your Diary

13.4.26	Children return to school
16.4.25	Pioneer Dance starts back
17.4.26	Dodgeball Club starts for years 3 & 5
20.4.26	Central School of Ballet assembly
21.4.26	School council trip to Rosecourt
22.4.26	Eden and Effra class trips to the National Gallery
27.4.26	Year 5 Climate change workshops and special assembly
30.4.26	Year 3 Pedestrian safety training
4.5.26	School closed – Bank holiday
5.5.26	School council trip to Rosecourt
<b>Week starting 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>	KS2 SATS. Monday SPaG, Tuesday Reading Wednesday and Thursday Maths.
13.5.26	Year 5 pupils Music Festival Queen Elizabeth Hall
22.5.26	London History Day Break up for half term
1.6.26	Children return to school
4.6.26	Pioneer Dance starts back
8.6.26	Phonics Screening check and Year 4 MTC to be administered this week.
9.6.26	Thames Garden Museum Trip
12.6.26	Sport Inspired workshop for years 3 & 4
16.6.26	Year 3 & 4 to Sports Inspired Festival at the Salmon Centre Brent and Lea trip to the National Portrait Gallery
17.6.26	Year 1 & 2 Young Readers Event trip to at Canada Water.
<b>Week beg 29.6.26</b>	Parents meeting for children with SEND needs.
26.6.26	Spanish Day
1.7.27	Southwark School's Secondary School transition day
2.7.26	Year 6 Performance of Matilda to parents at 4:30 pm
3.7.26	Year 3 to attend Central School of Ballet workshops
6.7.27-8.7.26	Year 6 residential trip
7.7.26	Years 1, 2 & 3 Sports Day
8.7.26	EYFS sports Day
9.7.26	Years 4, 5 & 6 Sports Day Pioneer Dance finishes
10.7.26	PTA Summer Fair
13.7.26	Meet your new teacher Parents evening
16.7.26	Year 6 Prom
22.7.27	11:30 Year 6 graduation ceremony End of year parties Break up for the summer holiday

## Attendance Matters

Class	Weekly percentage	Star attendance winners
Penguin	92.5%	
Jellyfish	95%	★
Octopus	95.2%	★
Whale	87.6%	
Eden	88.7%	
Tyne	93.1%	
Avon	90.9%	
Peck	98.2%	★
Effra	98.3%	★
Brent	92.4%	
Lea	96.7%	★
Thames	93.3%	

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



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:

**Studybugs**

**EVERY**day  
counts  
attendance matters

Don't let your child get left behind.  
Students who miss school, miss out.



Rotherhithe  
Primary School

Join us at  
our school  
on

Thursday  
30<sup>th</sup> April  
at  
3.45pm  
thermomix

VORWERK

## Endless answers to 'What's for dinner?'

Need inspiration for easy midweek meals or healthy, kid-friendly dishes? Join us to find out more about Thermomix® including how you could get yours for FREE!

You are invited to attend a special Thermomix Event being held at RPS. You will discover how to make delicious, nutritious meals from scratch effortlessly!

This is an interactive session that will include:

- ✓ Quick and Easy ways to cook balanced, family-friendly meals
- ✓ Fun ways to involve children in making healthy food choices
- ✓ How to reduce ultra-processed foods in your family diet.

You will have the opportunity to taste delicious samples prepared with a Thermomix.

Spaces are limited so please sign up using the following Eventbrite link:

[Rotherhithe Primary School Thermomix Demonstration](#)

(If we have enough people attend we may be given a Thermomix to raffle!)

Thank you to Monica (year 2 parent) for organizing this event.

# Applications open to join the Royal Ballet and Youth Opera free programmes

**Applications are now open to join the Royal Ballet and Opera's Youth Opera Programmes.** We are inviting young singers aged 8–11 (on 1 September 2026), living in and around London, to apply to join our **Young Voices** programme and **Youth Opera Company** this September.

Applications close at **midnight on Sunday 10 May.**

Both programmes are **free** and offer an exciting opportunity for young people to develop their singing, performance skills, and confidence.



## **Young Voices (Ages 8-9)**

A six-month singing training programme developing vocal skills and musical understanding and vocal skills, with performance opportunities in showcases at the **Royal Opera House**.

## **Youth Opera Company (ages 9–11)**

A multi-year programme offering all-round training in the performing arts. Members develop vocal technique, language, stagecraft, musical literacy and creative skills. They also have opportunities to create and perform their own new operas, and to audition for the Children's Chorus, who perform in productions on the Royal Opera House main stage.

Current members say:

*"It has been one of the most amazing experiences of my life. Before I joined YOC, I was a bit hesitant about opera, but I now really enjoy it!"*

— **2025 Youth Opera Company member**

*"YOC is really special because I've met lots of other young people who like singing, like me. I've also loved performing on the Royal Opera main stage in The Magic Flute and in Hansel and Gretel."*

— **2026 Youth Opera Company member**

Find out more and apply here: [RBO Youth Opera Programmes](#)

**Applications close at midnight on Sunday 10 May.** If you have any questions, or run into any issues completing the application form, please do get in touch at [youthopera@roh.org.uk](mailto:youthopera@roh.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.

**NITE**  
National Institute of Teaching and Education

**nest**  
Nexus Education Schools Trust

## TRAIN TO TEACH PRIMARY

with NEXUS Education Schools Trust

In Partnership with The National Institute of Teaching and Education (NITE)

Inspire Young Minds. Shape the Future. +

Are you a graduate ready to start a rewarding career in teaching?

Train to teach with Nexus Education Schools Trust and The National Institute of Teaching and Education (NITE), part of Coventry University Group.

At Nexus, you'll gain hands-on classroom experience in our schools, while NITE provides the expert training and academic support. Together, we'll help you build the skills, confidence and experience to become an outstanding primary teacher.

Why Train at a NEXUS school?



**Full-time and Part-time Pathways**

Training can be completed full-time over one year at five days per week, or part-time over two years at 2.5 days per week for a more flexible pathway.



**Hands-On Classroom Experience**

You'll be actively involved in the classroom from the start, but we'll build your responsibilities gradually to allow you to develop your practice and build confidence.



**Expert Support**

You'll work with mentors and teachers who know what it takes to train as a teacher. They bring years of classroom experience, practical insight and a genuine desire to help you get the best out of your training.



**Supportive Community**

Our schools are collaborative, encouraging and nurturing. From day one, you'll be welcomed into the team, guided and supported as you learn the ropes. You'll have the space to make mistakes, try new strategies and grow into the teacher you aspire to be.

Who We're Looking For

We welcome graduates in all subjects who are:

- Passionate about working with children.
- Creative, patient and resilient.
- Eager to make a real difference.



SCAN HERE

TO BEGIN YOUR APPLICATION

Take the first step towards your future in teaching.



[info@nexuschools.org](mailto:info@nexuschools.org)



030 8391 4767 ext. 125



Apply via OX Apply



**FREE** online talk by

Jane Keyworth

FACE family Advice Lead Facilitator

## Decreasing Depression

23rd April 7-8pm



Book online

[www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

Parents - Live Talks page