

RPS Weekly Newsletter



Friday 16th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

October is Black History Month (BHM). This was launched on Monday 5th October in assembly. The children learned that Black History Month is a chance to celebrate the **achievements** of Black and Mixed Heritage people in the past and present. The first BHM celebrations occurred in the 1980s and the idea was created due to the lack of recognition of the achievements of many Black people throughout history.

Black History Month Workshop

This week, Year 5 took part in an engaging Black History Month workshop delivered by Jamie from the Millwall Community Trust. During the session, the children explored the meaning of diversity, discussed the importance of valuing and respecting differences, and reflected on how greatness can come from all backgrounds and communities.

Through thoughtful discussions and collaborative activities, pupils considered how diversity enriches our school and wider society. They explored the impact of fairness, inclusion and respect, and shared ideas about how we can celebrate and value one another's unique qualities.

The workshop encouraged children to think deeply about Black History Month and left them feeling inspired to celebrate diversity and stand together against racism.



It is with sadness that we say a fond farewell to Sola who has been our school chef for the past 12 years. We wish her well in her new role and hope she visits us in the future.

Scrap Play Shed

In assembly on Monday, we talked about the importance of being creative, problem-solving and collaborating with our friends when we play. On Wednesday, we finally opened up the Scrap Play Shed. Although we are still collecting a variety of materials to add to our shed, the children had a great time building constructions and using their imagination while playing. This was only possible due to your fantastic fund-raising efforts through Run Rotherhithe Run. So, a huge thank you to all families who have supported this event.

I hope our families have a wonderful two-week half term. See you all on the **2nd November**. Lisa (HoS)

What is "diversity"?

language values culture heritage
learning identity kindness interesting
personality family people
community likes **diversity** positive
same acceptance disability
personality race variety uniqueness
attributes religion difference



English Resource: Greatness Comes From Everywhere

© Premier League

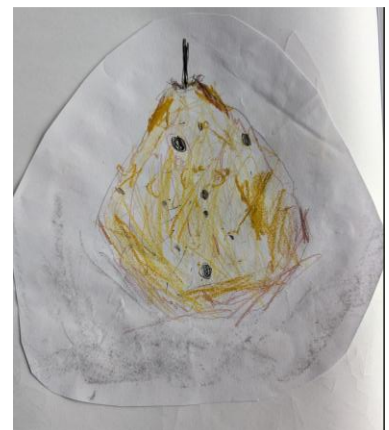
**"Watching Manchester United from a young age, I saw someone who looked like me winning Premier League titles, and someone from a similar background to me making history at my boyhood club.
Danny Welbeck, Chelsea FC**



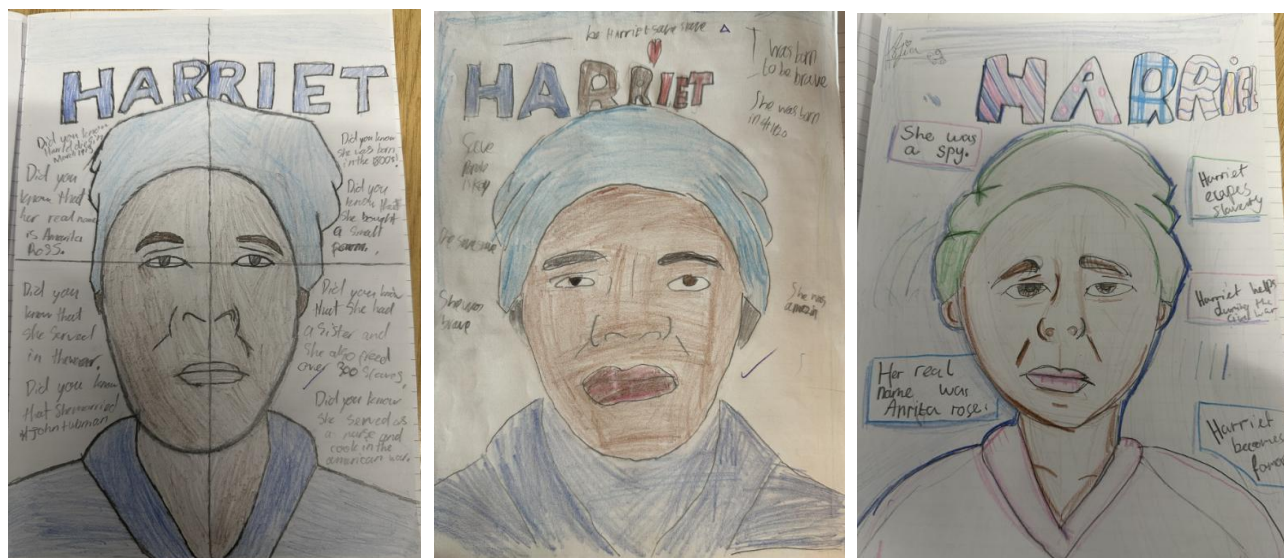
Year 1 Observational Drawing



Whale Class have been developing their observational drawing skills by applying their knowledge of drawing materials and mark making to create artwork linked to our class story, *Whatever Next!*. The children carefully explored objects from the story, including Baby Bear's boots and some of the fruit he took on his journey, identifying shapes, lines and textures before drawing what they observed. They experimented with a range of drawing tools and marks, using careful observation to add detail and texture to their work.



Black History Month – Year 5 portraits and Research about Harriet Tubman



This week, Year 5 thoroughly enjoyed learning about the extraordinary life of Harriet Tubman. Through their research, they discovered how she bravely escaped slavery and dedicated her life to helping others gain their freedom through the Underground Railroad. They were fascinated to learn about her service as a scout, spy, nurse and soldier during the American Civil War.

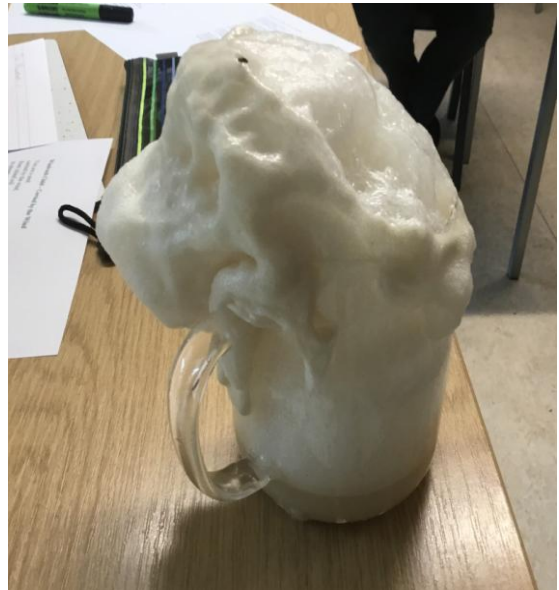
Inspired by her courage and determination, the children created beautiful drawings of Harriet Tubman and surrounded them with carefully researched facts about her life and achievements. They worked with great enthusiasm and creativity, producing thoughtful posters that celebrated the legacy of this remarkable woman who changed history.



Year 6 Science: Investigating Helpful Microorganisms

As part of their science learning on microorganisms, Year 6 have been consolidating their understanding of how microorganisms can be beneficial. The children explored the role of yeast in food production by carrying out an investigation into its effect on pizza dough.

Pupils observed how yeast, a living microorganism, reacts when mixed with warm water and sugar, producing gas that causes the dough to rise. Through discussion and observation, they developed their understanding of fermentation and discovered how microorganisms are used in everyday life to make foods such as bread and pizza.



TALKING TUESDAYS

ORACY HAND SIGNALS

I agree because...



I disagree because...



I challenge that because...



I would like to build on what has been said...



Linking to what has been said...



Books are better than films.



Oracy Matters

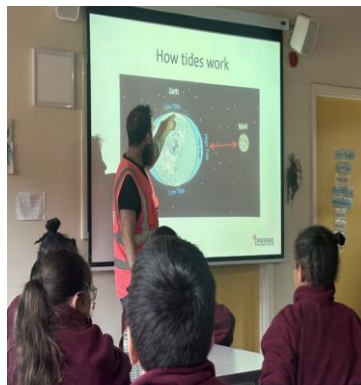
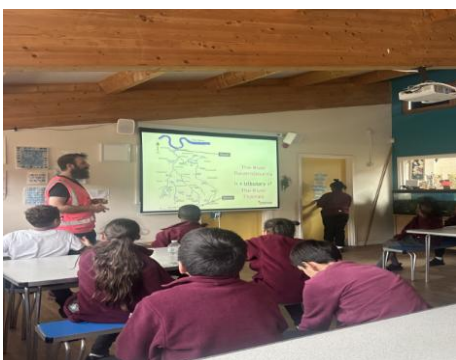
Please use this statement as a discussion point with your family.

Can you persuade someone to change their point of view?

Year 5 explore Creekside!



Year 5 had a fantastic time visiting Deptford Creekside Community Centre, where they learnt all about rivers and their local environment. The children ventured into the river and used nets to collect and identify a variety of animals. They also investigated how quickly the river was flowing and discovered lots of fascinating facts about the wildlife living in and around the creek. It was a fun, hands-on experience that brought their learning about rivers to life!





Week ending 9 th October		
Whale	Asante	Asante has shown our school value of creativity through his fantastic work in art. During our observational drawing lesson, he carefully used a range of techniques we have been learning, including cross-hatching, shading and dots to create texture, depth and shadow. His thoughtful approach and artistic flair helped bring his drawing to life. Well done, Asante!
Octopus	Troy	Troy has shown great effort this week, especially in phonics and maths. We have been really impressed by his participation and confidence when completing tasks both on the carpet and at his desk. Well done, Troy! Keep up the great work.
Coral	Amatia	Amatia has shown great effort in her learning this week. She has really tried to be independent in her work, and I have particularly been impressed with her writing and how she uses her word bank to help her with her spellings. Keep it up!
Seal	Scarlette	Well done to Scarlette for a fantastic week! This week, Scarlette has been working hard to complete Maths challenges and has shown great determination in all her learning. I was also particularly impressed with how she used helpful calm corner strategies when feeling in the blue or red zone. Keep up the amazing work!
Avon	Alex	Alex is the Star of the week for his fantastic progress in English. He has been working incredibly hard on his independent writing, focusing on extending his sentences and adding more detail to his ideas. Alex is also using his phonics knowledge to sound out words and has developed into a more confident writer. Well done, Alex!
Peck	Ashan	Ashan is always ready to learn. His behaviour has been commended by staff across the school. Thank you for being a brilliant role model and representing our school so well to external visitors.
Wandle	Yusra	Yusra only joined our class recently but has had an excellent few weeks. She has shown great learning behaviour and has been able to meet the high expectations we have of her. She has recently shown great listening and attention skills in group tasks.
Effra	Penelope	Penelope has settled into Effra class with great ease, and she has become a valued member of our class. It feels as though she has been here from the beginning. It has been amazing to see. Well done Penelope!
Lea	Mohammed	Well done, Mohammed! Your fantastic speaking skills and excellent vocabulary make a brilliant contribution to our English lessons. We are also so proud of the thoughtful speech you wrote for the School Council elections and your success in winning a place. Keep up the amazing work!
Thames	Amelia	Amelia has demonstrated excellent creativity and thoughtfulness in her art. She carefully incorporated the techniques taught during lessons, including symbolism and chiaroscuro, to create a meaningful and visually striking composition. Thank you and well done!
Severn	Olivia	Olivia has really impressed us with her growing confidence in class and her thoughtful contributions to class discussions. Keep it up!



Week ending 16 th October		
Whale	Kiki	Kiki has impressed us with his fantastic maths skills and is a natural mathematician. He confidently uses the maths vocabulary taught in lessons to explain his thinking and tackle challenges. Keep up the great work, Kiki!
Octopus	Aamiri	We have been so impressed with Aamiri's focus and determined attitude, especially in reading and writing. Keep up the hard work Aamiri, we are so proud of you!
Coral	Trey	Trey has put a huge amount of effort into both his learning and behaviour this week. I was also really impressed with his diary entry based on the book <i>Clean Up!</i> He worked hard, stayed focused, and showed great enthusiasm throughout the week. Keep up the fantastic work!
Seal	Aharona	Well done Aharona! Aharona has been doing a fantastic job in English, using conjunctions to expand sentences and make her writing more interesting. Aharona has also shown great confidence when solving addition word problems in Maths. Keep shining!
Avon	Ravel	Ravel has made great progress in Science. He was able to recall the process of pollination, identify the functions of a plant, and demonstrate excellent recall of key vocabulary. Well done, Ravel, on your fantastic progress and excellent use of your learning!
Peck	The Whole Class!	Thank you for a fantastic half term. It has been a pleasure teaching you all. I couldn't pick one star of the week because you are all stars in my eyes! I wish you the very best and will stay in touch to hear how you are getting on. Good luck 😊
Effra	Amber	Amber has really impressed me with her AMAZING writing this week! She has used the success criteria to guide her writing and has used some fantastic vocabulary to make her writing more interesting. Well done, Amber!
Wandle	Alfie	Alfie is our star of the week for his excellent learning attitude in English. He has taken total control of his targets, particularly regarding handwriting and presentation. It has made a massive difference to the quality of his work and we are very pleased with him! Keep it up!
Lea	Amari	Well done, Amari, for your fantastic writing! You used powerful similes and emotive language to show Bess's feelings clearly. Your handwriting has also improved and is much neater. Keep up the great work!
Thames	Ayla	For making excellent progress with her reading comprehension. She consistently applies reading strategies effectively and demonstrates increasing confidence when answering comprehension questions. Well done, Ayla! Keep up the fantastic effort and enthusiasm for reading. We are very proud of you!
Severn	Amelia	Amelia has been an incredibly supportive learning partner this week, helping her table partner complete their work successfully. She does this while also maintaining a high standard of her own work. Well done and thank you, Amelia!

Dates for your Diary

2 Week Half Term Break

2.11.26	Children Return to School
3.11.26	Whole School Flu Vaccinations
4.11.26	Hygiene workshops for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
9.11.26	Author visits – Gabby Dawney & Alex Barrow
10.11.26	Individual and sibling photographs Parents meeting for children with SEND needs
11.11.26	Armistice Day Year 4 to Sports Inspired Festival
12.11.26	Michael Rosen Workshop Poetry Party
16.11.26	Road Safety Week Anti-bullying week
20.11.26	Children in Need
2.12.26	Author visit
4.12.26	Drama 4 All Workshops for Years 1 & 2 Christmas Fair after school
8.12.26	Parents' Evening
9.12.26	Parents' Evening Follow up flu vaccinations
10.12.26	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
12.12.26	Achievement Awards 10 am KS1 10:30 KS2
14.12.26	Lea Class Trip to the National Portrait Gallery Achievement Awards Christmas Performances- exact timings to be confirmed
17.12.26	Attendance Parties
18.12.26	Class Parties
Christmas Holidays	

School Trips

Parents, please remember you must provide **consent** for children to attend school trips, or your child will miss out.

Please give your consent on Arbor before the cut-off date and time.

Attendance Matters

Class	Weekly percentage		Star attendance winners
	Week ending 9.10	Week ending 16.10	
Penguin	90.3%	85.9%	
Whale	95.7%	94.6%	★
Octopus	93.5%	85.4%	
Coral	97.2%	98%	★★
Seal	96.4%	96.4%	★★
Peck	95.5%	91.4%	★
Avon	97.4%	93.7%	★
Wandle	91.8%	93.7%	
Effra	97.3%	89.5%	★
Lea	95.4%	89.9%	★
Severn	98%	96%	★★
Thames	97.7%	97.7%	★★

Please help us to improve our school attendance. Currently, our attendance is below the national expectations of 96%. Please make sure your children are in school unless they are unwell.

91.6%

Attendance Week to Date
For All Pupils

94.0%

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 as this may lead to a penalty notice.

“Every great dream begins...

with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.

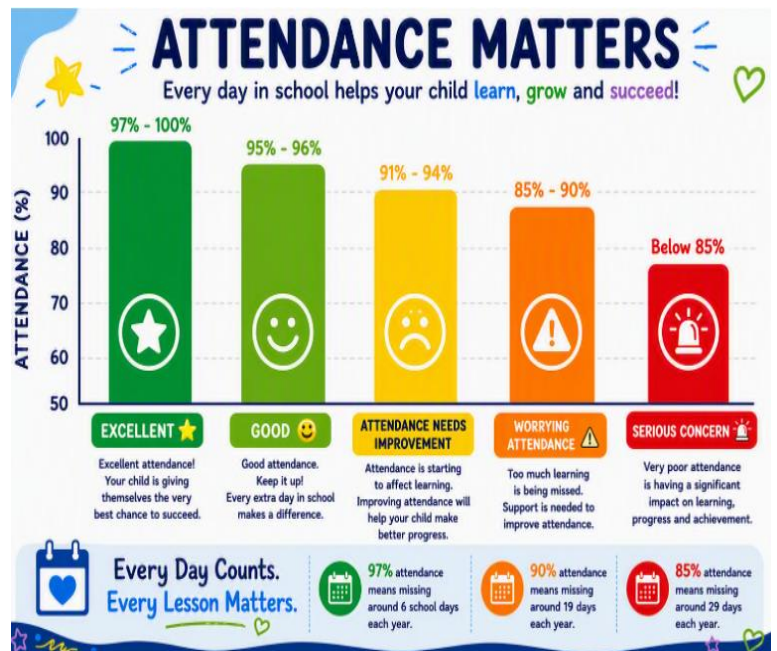
Attendance Parties October 2026

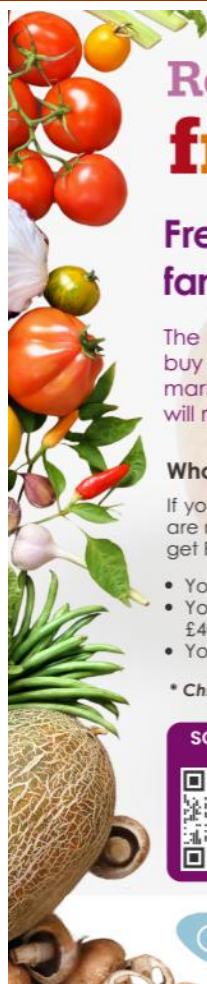


On Friday, children who had 100% attendance for this past half term got to party with Lisa and Kofi. Kofi looks like he is having far too much fun!

The children were treated to popcorn and a drink and then they boogied and sang in the playground. Well done to those children who have achieved this recognition. Keep up the brilliant attendance.

Parents whose children's attendance has fallen below 95% will have received a Stage 1 attendance letter on Thursday. This is part of NEST's attendance policy. Hopefully, those children will improve their attendance. If it drops further, you will be invited to a Stage 2 meeting.





Rose VOUCHERS for fruit & veg

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



1stplace.uk.com/rosevouchers
✉ rosevouchers@1stplace.uk.com



Rose VOUCHERS for fruit & veg

Free Fruit and Vegetables for Families with Young Children Living in Southwark

Get vouchers every week to buy fresh fruit and vegetables for your family.

Available if you are pregnant or have children under 5 until 31st August, and have a low income, no income, or NRPF.

Find out more

1stplace.uk.com/rosevouchers



Centre details



SOUTHWARK PLAYHOUSE YOUNG COMPANY

Is your child aged 8 - 10 and lives in Southwark, or goes to school here?

Southwark Playhouse is recruiting new members for its youth theatre, the Young Company, this Autumn/Winter.

These are weekly drama workshops led by talented theatre professionals.

Our participants make new friends, learn new skills, perform at one of London's leading off-West End theatres and most importantly have lots of fun!.

It's free to join and there are no auditions. We operate a waiting list when there is strong demand.

Find out more and sign up on our website at southwarkplayhouse.co.uk/participate or email participation@southwarkplayhouse.co.uk



THEATRE ACADEMY

Confidence through creativity

★ SING ★ DANCE ★ ACT ★ BELONG

Award-winning musical theatre classes for children aged 3-12 where children build confidence, make friends and develop skills for life.

ALL Childcare Vouchers Accepted



MINIS

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Music, movement, messy play and magical adventures for little ones aged 0-5 and their grown-ups.

Sibling Discounts



EVERY CHILD DESERVES A PLACE TO SHINE.

Financial support available through our bursary fund.

2 WEEK TRIAL ONLY

£18.50
ALL CLASSES



WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO



@musicalmayhemlondon
www.musicalmayhem.org

CONTACT US

Email: info@musicalmayhem.org
Tel: 07842259367

Alex & Matteo
ESTATE AGENTS



Southwark
Council

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN

Activities:

Stay & Play, Arts & crafts, Sports & games Fun with maths & science

EVERY WEEK
TUESDAYS- THURSDAYS
Starting 22nd September 2026

TIME: 3:30PM - 5:00PM

VENUE: THE LEWINGTON CENTRE
COMMUNITY CENTRE
9 EUGENIA ROAD ROTHERHITHE SE16 2RU

FOR DETAILS & TO REGISTER
07498308655

Admin@parentskills2go.com
parentskills2go.org

Proudly supported by



FREE STREET CRICKET

WHEN:

Friday 4:00-6:00
Ages 8-15

WHERE:

Southwark Park, SE16 2TX

All abilities welcome
Wear what you want
Make new friends
No equipment needed
Explosive action



CHANCE TO SHINE
STREET



SURREY
CRICKET
FOUNDATION

CONTACT | Alex Hughes | ajhughes@surreyccricket.com | 07756 269946



London Wildlife Trust
Centre for
Wildlife Gardening

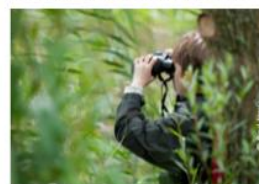
What's on at Half Term



Urban Nature Club

Terrific Trees

Monday 26th October 1-3pm
£10 per family and aimed at children of 6 and up, but you are welcome to bring younger siblings too.
Discover the trees on our site, who lives in them and their stories. Make a tree book and some leaf prints to take home. Book online at www.wildlondon.org.uk/events



Family Nature Discovery

Tuesday 27th October 1pm till 3pm
Free activity. Booking required.
Come and discover nature in our garden through pond dipping and minibeast hunting. Make some bird food to take away or hang in the garden.
www.wildlondon.org.uk/events



Nature Storytime

Tuesday 27th October 10.30 till 11.30 am
Outdoor story time with nature themed stories and activities.
No need to book, just come along.



Evening Autumn Celebration

Thursday 29th October
Make a lantern, go on a nature walk to find nocturnal wildlife and toast apples and marshmallows over a fire.
Free, booking required.
www.wildlondon.org.uk/events

To book please scan the QR code or visit wildlondon.org.uk/families



BALLERS[®]
FOOTBALL
ACADEMY

GIRLS FOOTBALL



LED BY
BECKIE MOORE
ARSENAL U15 GIRLS COACH

PRIMARY SCHOOL
YEARS 4-6

4-5PM

SCAN TO REGISTER



SECONDARY SCHOOL
YEARS 7-11

5-6PM

SCAN TO REGISTER



EVERY TUESDAY • FREE

THE DOCKLAND SETTLEMENTS 3G PITCH
400 SALTER ROAD, ROTHERHITHE, SE16 5AA

NITE

National Institute
of Teaching and Education

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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 or full 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

030 8389 4767 ext. 125

Apply via OX Apply

IGNITE THEIR INNER SPARK!

Weekly in-school band lessons that
celebrate fun, individuality and creativity!

**ROCK
STEADY**



Click the link below for the website and sign up if you would like your child to start having music lessons.

<https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>

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 a breakfast of cereal or toast and will cost £5.50 per day

After School Club sports activities and games will cost £6.30 for 1 hour and £13.65 for 2 ½ hours.

We are able to offer a discount to families who wish to book a full week of After School Club, which 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 career 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



SIV Parent Support Group Connect, Share and Support

Tuesday 15th September 2026
10am to 1pm

The Links Community Centre
353 Rotherhithe New Road
SE16 3HF

Are you looking for support, advice or just a place to connect with other SEND Parent Carers?

Join our friendly support group where we share experiences, offer guidance and find encouragement from others who understand.

Whether you are facing specific challenges or just looking for a supportive SEND community, we would love you to join us.

The life of a SEND parent carer brings so many daily struggles and often it is the parent carers mental, emotional and physical health that suffers.

Come along and meet others so you know you are not alone on this journey.

No one needs to be alone on their SEND journey, SIV is run by parent carers of children/young people with SEND, so we really do understand how difficult and life changing being a parent carer of a child with SEND is.

If you find it difficult to join a group you do not know, please do not worry one of our team will welcome you and support you throughout.

Light refreshments provided

* This event is for adults only as we do not have facilities for babies and children.



SAVE THE DATE!

Make sure you don't miss any of our upcoming events

YEAR 5 ANNUAL REVIEW (transition for Secondary)

Tuesday 6th October 2026 – 10am to 1pm

Recommended for those with children in Year 3, 4 & 5

Come along and learn from the Southwark SEND team what the Year 5 Annual review is about. This annual review is so important as it's the one that goes forward for secondary school choices.

MEET THE SIAS TEAM (Southwark Information Advice Service)

Thursday 19th November 2026 – 10am to 1pm

SIAS has a new manager, come along and meet the whole SIAS Team. Find out what they do and how they can help. PLUS share your experience of the service with the new manager so they can improve the service.

EMOTIONAL REGULATION (BIG feelings, helping you to understand how you can support yourself and your child with greater safety, calm and confidence)

Tuesday 1st December 2026 – 10am to 1pm

Join GRAPEFRUIT WORLD who combine educational expertise, evidence-informed practice and lived experience, to help you understand the foundation of emotional regulation. Plus learn how to become the regulation anchor your child needs while being able to regulate your own emotions.

WHERE – The Links Community Centre, 353 Rotherhithe New Road, SE16 3HF

Light refreshments provided

* These events are for adults only as there are no facilities for babies and children