RPS Weekly Newsletter



Friday 13th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy week we have had! The temperature really dropped towards the end of the week, so can I remind parents to ensure children have their coats each day and scarves, hats and gloves when needed.
I am extremely pleased to welcome **Marie-Clair,** a new teacher to RPS, who is now teaching Peck class while Annalise is on maternity leave.



It was lovely to see spots and Pudsey's favourite colour yellow filling the School for **Children In Need** on Friday. This charity raises money for a range of projects to support vulnerable children. We Thank you to all for your kind donations. We raised £140 collectively. A huge thank you!

On Wednesday 11th November, we marked **Remembrance Day**. The children across the school held a minute silence in their classrooms and also watched a Remembrance Day film explaining the history behind the day. Penguin class created poppies using paper plates, pipe cleaners and tissue paper. They watched a short CBeebies animation to commemorate the day.



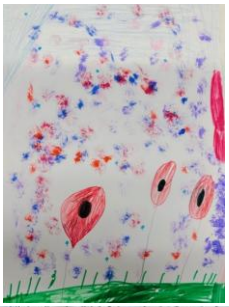




The theme continued in our after-school Art Club on Tuesday as children explored different ways of designing art that included poppies.











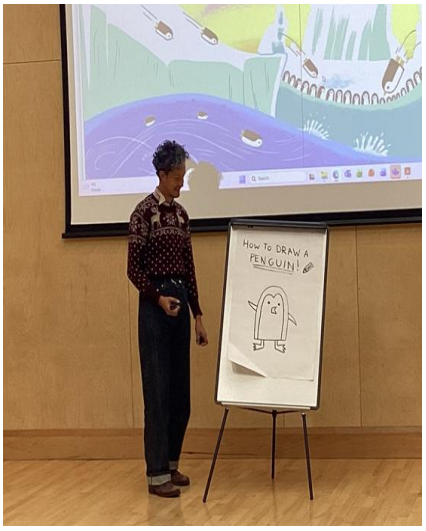


Thank you to all families who have made donations to the poppy appeal. Lisa (HoS)

Gabby Dawney and Alex Barrow visit RPS





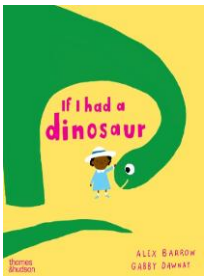


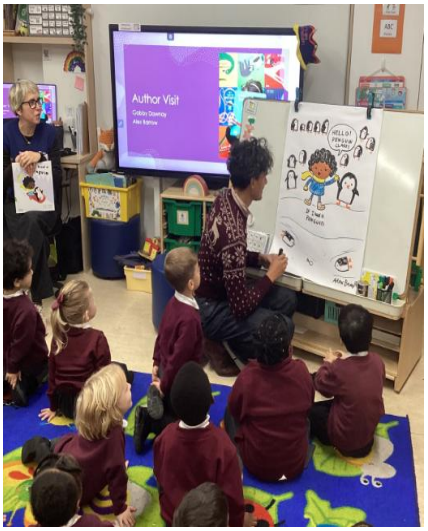
On Monday this week, Gabby Dawnay and Alex Barrow, the author and illustrator of the well-known book series If I had a… came in to meet EYFS and KS1 to share their new book If I had a Penguin. While Gabby read, Alex drew a wintery scene with the little girl from the story surrounded by penguins (which Penguin class particularly loved!).

At the end of the KS1 assembly, the children became illustrators themselves, with a guided draw led by Alex. Year 1 left with a signed copy of their newest book. This was a particularly special visit as our Reception children all take part in a writing unit based on their book If I Had a Dinosaur, so both teachers and children were delighted to meet the creators!

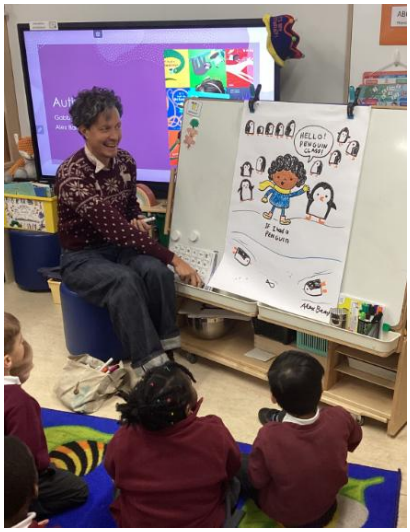
On Thursday Years 1-6 took part in an online poetry workshop with the one and only Michael Rosen. As part of the National Year of Reading, Michael read some of his silliest and most loved poems. A unanimous favourite for children was 'No Breathing In Class.'











Learning How Maths Shapes Our World

On Tuesday 10th November, we were delighted to welcome volunteers from the Numeracy Project to Rotherhithe Primary School. Pupils enjoyed an inspiring assembly that highlighted how maths is used in everyday life and is important within a wide range of careers.

Year 5 students then took part in engaging classroom workshops, using their problem-solving and teamwork skills to tackle real-world maths challenges. It was fantastic to see so much enthusiasm, resilience and confidence as pupils explored the importance of numeracy beyond the classroom.

A big thank you to the Numeracy Project volunteers for such an enjoyable and inspiring visit. Why not try the following Family Maths Challenge at home.

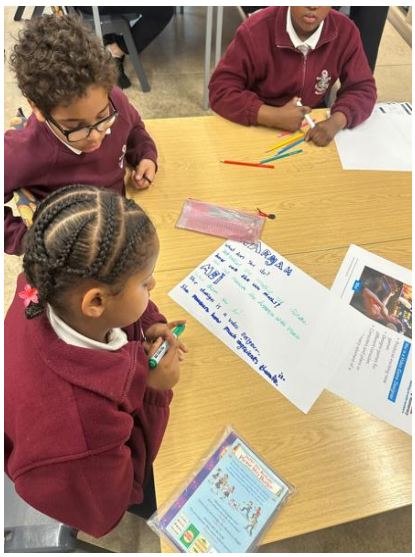
Ask a family member about their job and find out:

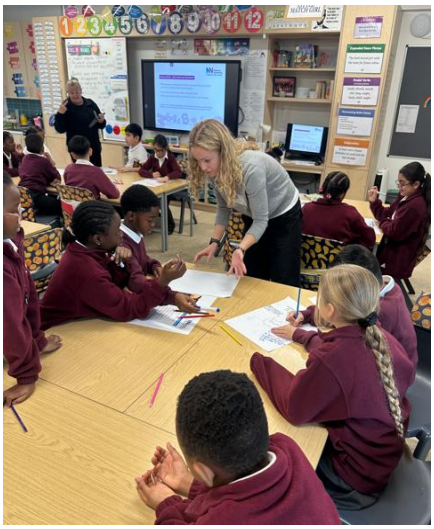
1. How do they use maths at work?
2. What calculations do they make?
3. Why is maths important in their role?

You could then share your findings with your class.













Year 4 are Sports Inspired!





The Y4 children attended a special **SportsInspired** day at the Salmon Centre in Bermondsey, and they had a super day. They tried five different sports - karate, netball, boccia, judo and dance - all led by professional coaches and instructors. They participated with interest and desire, trying new things and improving their skills. They even won a trophy for **Most Points Won**! I am very impressed and the children should be very proud!

The **Salmon Youth Centre** in Bermondsey (located at 43 Old Jamaica Rd, London SE16 4TE) partners with the UK charity **SportsInspired** to deliver sports, adventure, and physical wellbeing programs for local children and young people.
I am excited to announce that during the spring term a SportsInspired coach has agreed to deliver an after-school club for our children. We can't wait!



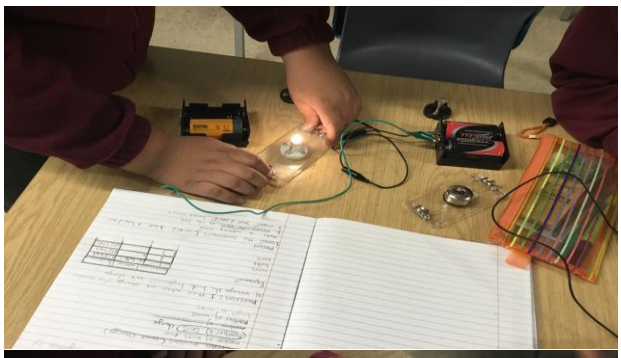


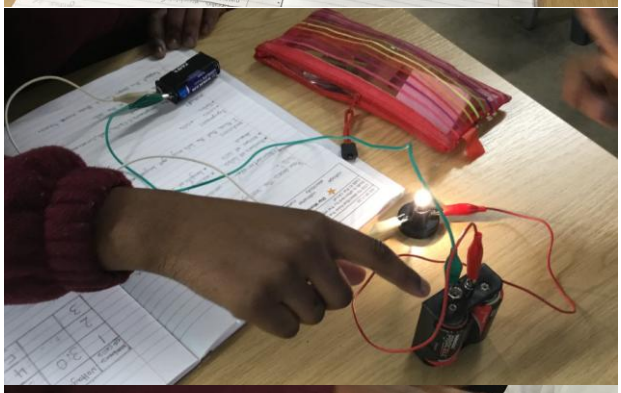
Young Scientists Shine as They Investigate Electricity!

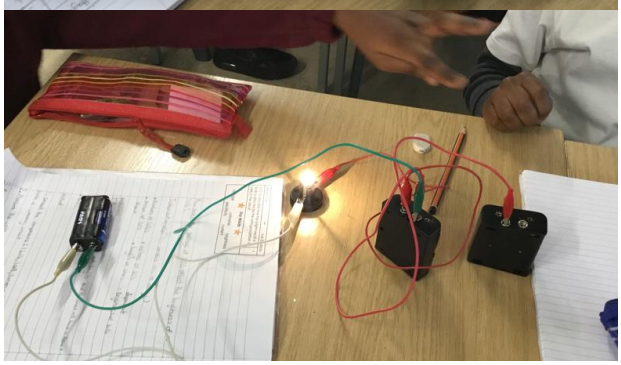
Year 6 pupils have been putting their science skills to the test by exploring voltage and discovering how it affects the brightness of a bulb. During the lesson, children worked collaboratively to build electrical circuits using cells, wires and bulbs before making predictions and carrying out investigations.

The budding scientists calculated the voltage in different circuits by counting the number of cells used, learning that each cell provides approximately 1.5 volts. They then observed what happened when additional cells were added to the circuit. Pupils quickly discovered that increasing the voltage made the bulb shine more brightly, while fewer cells resulted in a dimmer light.

Using careful observations and scientific reasoning, the class recorded their results and identified a clear pattern between voltage and brightness. Through practical investigation, pupils developed their understanding of how electrical energy is transferred around a circuit and how voltage affects the output of electrical components.







TALKING TUESDAYS



Younger children should get more playtime than older children.

Oracy Matters

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

Can you persuade someone to change their point of view?

Dates for your Diary

9.11.26	Author visits – Gabby Dawney & Alex Barrow
10.11.26	Individual and sibling photographs Maths specialist assembly and workshop for Year 5 Parents' meeting for children with SEND.
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
17.11.26	Sports Festival at Bacons College
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
Penguin	89.7%	
Whale	92.9%	
Octopus	93.5%	
Coral	**95.6%**	
Seal	91.9%	
Peck	**97.9%**	★★
Avon	**95.2%**	★
Wandle	90.5%	
Effra	**97.1%**	★
Lea	**96.1%**	★
Severn	**96.8%**	★
Thames	**95.4%**	★

Please help us to improve our school attendance. Our current attendance stands at **94.1%**, which is below the national expectation of **96%.**
Please make sure children are in school unless they are unwell.



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 as this may lead to a penalty notice.

Studybugs

A single poppy has the soul of a thousand heroes and the tears of a million loved ones.
D. Rothwell





Whale	Batu	Batu is always amazing us with his fantastic science facts and impressive knowledge. He loves sharing what he knows with the class and is always eager to teach us something new. His enthusiasm for learning is infectious, and he helps make our classroom an exciting place to be.
Octopus	Isabelle	Isabelle has really impressed us with her confident contributions on the carpet and fantastic focus when completing independent tasks at her table. Keep up the hard work Isabelle, well done!
Coral	Janaii	Janaii has really put a fantastic effort into his learning this week. I have been impressed with his **enthusiasm** and the questions he asks about his work. Keep up the good work!
Seal	Ayman	Ayman has shown fantastic focus when working at his table, settling quickly and concentrating on his learning. It has also been lovely to see his confidence grow on the carpet, he is putting his hand up more and sharing his ideas with his classmates. Keep up the hard work!
Avon	Isaiah	Isaiah has been working hard to develop his spelling skills and sound out words. He has shown improvement in his writing by using his phonics knowledge to support his learning and help him spell words independently. Well done, Isaiah.
Peck	Madison	She has shown great perseverance this week, pushing herself even when tasks have been difficult and she's really had to think deeply to work it out. She has shown she is ready to learn and impressed both Lubana and I.
Effra	Malik	During our Sport Inspired trip on Wednesday, he engaged enthusiastically with the activities, and his behaviour was exemplary. The way he conducted himself was fantastic! It was a delight and so uplifting to see him so passionate about something and really getting involved with the learning. I was very proud of him!
Wandle	Enzo	Enzo has really settled well into life at Rotherhithe and in Wandle Class. Although he is new to English, he did brilliantly during our PE fun day at the Salmon Centre, enthusiastically attempting new sports with coaches and friends.
	Ian	Ian was spotted supporting his friend who is new to English and was using his own Spanish language skills to translate words and instructions to his friend in the playground.
Lea	Ahmed	Ahmed has worked hard to improve his writing this week. He is becoming increasingly ambitious with his vocabulary and literary devices, using them effectively to engage the reader and bring his ideas to life. Keep up the fantastic effort, Ahmed!
Severn	Saifan	Saifan has written an amazing character description. His ideas were very original and he used a great authorial voice and ambitious vocabulary.
Thames	Camari-Lee	For displaying excellent learning behaviour, particularly when independently correcting mathematical calculations and spellings in his writing. Well done!

Winter Wellness Reminder

As the colder months arrive, coughs, colds and other winter bugs become more common. We know you might feel a bit under the weather sometimes, but coming to school every day helps you to:

- Keep learning and make progress
- Spend time with your friends
- Enjoy all the fun activities at school

Your child can come to school if they have the following
(based on NHS guidance):

- Minor coughs & colds
- Sore throat
- Conjunctivitis
- Ear infection
- Cold sores
- Head lice

Please contact the school if your child has the following:

- Whooping cough
- High temperature
- Chickenpox
- Diarrhoea & vomiting

Every Day Counts!

Being in school helps you learn, build confidence and be part of the school community.

Thank you for supporting your child's attendance and helping to keep our school a happy and healthy place.





1st Place

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 - 12.30pm** **Starting 15th January 2027**
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

BEST START IN LIFE | FAMILY HUBS | UK Government | BWCFC@1stplace.uk.com | www.1stplace.uk.com | @1stPlaceCentre | Southwark Council

SOUTHWARK FATHERS GROUP
KEEPING FAMILIES STRONG

FATHERS FOR FATHERS

Drop-in after care support following on from Southwark Fathers Group.

This space is designed for male carers who have previously attended the Southwark Fathers Group who want to stay connected with male carers, receive parenting support or information, advice and guidance in a specific area of need, or touch base with the Parenting Team, in a community setting.

When	1st Friday of every month at 10.30am - 12.30 Upcoming dates: **8th Jan, 5th Feb and 5th March**
Where	1st Place Family Hub 12 Chumleigh Street, Burgess Park, SE5 0RN

To find out more information please or contact
Email: Tara.Long@southwark.gov.uk or Jamal.Jones-Thomas@southwark.gov.uk
Phone: 07513 713 090

1st Place | Southwark Family Hubs | Southwark | BWCFC@1stplace.uk.com | www.1stplace.uk.com | @1stPlaceCentre

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 on 07547 659 646 or 07597 506 898

Email: claire.gager@southwark.gov.uk or sunshine.brand@southwark.gov.uk

Or scan QR code to complete registration form



WHEN IS IT ON?

STARTING WEDNESDAY 13TH JAN 2027

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

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

(online groups sometimes available)

JOIN NOW

Who to contact: Rebecca or Jamal

Email: rebecca.arinze@southwark.gov.uk or Jamal.Jones-Thomas@southwark.gov.uk

Call: 07939635458 or 07710 018 385



WHEN IS IT ON?

Starting Tuesday 12TH January 2027
Ann Bernadt Family Hub, 29 Chandler Way SE15 6DT

Face to Face English
Online/Face to Face - Spanish

Starting Wed 13th January 2027

Face to Face - Arabic

What time?
10am-1pm

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

JOIN NOW

Contact: Claire Gager

Email: Claire.gager@southwark.gov.uk

Call: 07547 659 646



WHEN IS IT ON?

WEDNESDAYS

STARTING 13TH JAN 2027

CRAWFORD CENTRE
5 CRAWFORD RD, LONDON SE5 9NF

What time?
10am-12pm

THURSDAYS

STARTING 14TH JAN 2027

RYE OAK CHILDREN & FAMILY CENTRE
WHORLTON ROAD, PECKHAM, SE15 3PD

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 or Sunshine

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 12TH JAN 2027

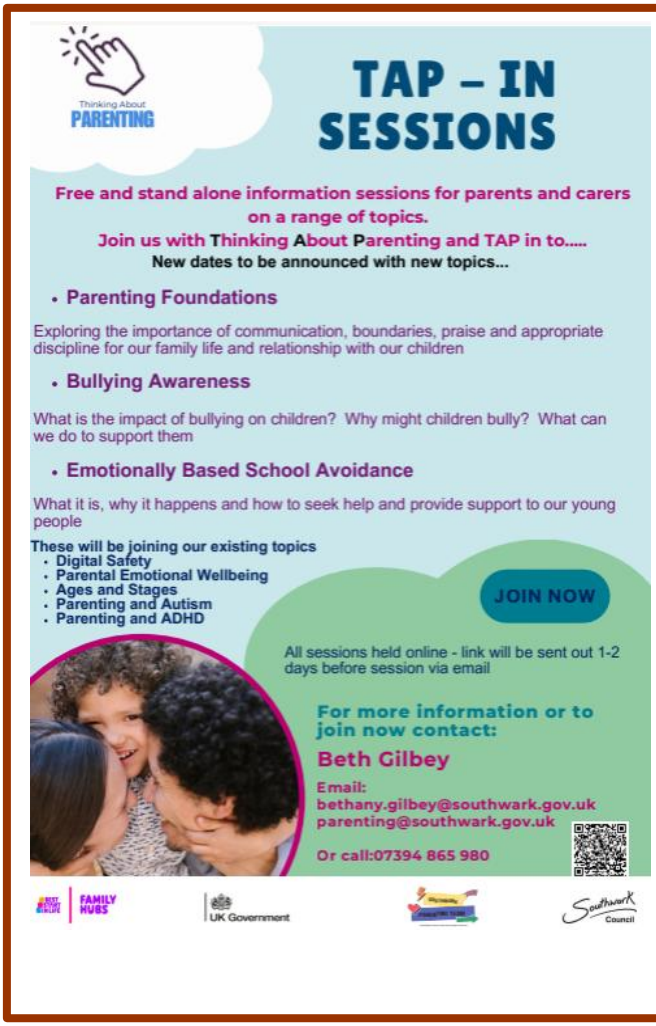
BEST START FAMILY HUB 1ST PLACE
12 CHUMLEIGH STREET, LONDON, SE5 0RN

What time?
10am-12pm


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
SCAN ME
1stplace.uk.com/rosevouchers
rosevouchers@1stplace.uk.com
1st Place
Alexandra Rose Charity
Impact on Urban Health
Southwark Council


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
SCAN ME
Centre details
Alexandra Rose Charity
1st Place
Impact on Urban Health
Southwark Council


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@surreycricket.com | 07756 269946


Thinking About PARENTING
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.....
New dates to be announced with new topics...
• Parenting Foundations
Exploring the importance of communication, boundaries, praise and appropriate discipline for our family life and relationship with our children
• Bullying Awareness
What is the impact of bullying on children? Why might children bully? What can we do to support them
• Emotionally Based School Avoidance
What it is, why it happens and how to seek help and provide support to our young people
These will be joining our existing topics
• Digital Safety
• Parental Emotional Wellbeing
• Ages and Stages
• Parenting and Autism
• Parenting and ADHD
JOIN NOW
All sessions held online - link will be sent out 1-2 days before session via email
For more information or to join now contact:
Beth Gilbey
Email:
bethany.gilbey@southwark.gov.uk
parenting@southwark.gov.uk
Or call:07394 865 980
FAMILY HUBS
UK Government
Southwark Council

Autism Support Team

Developing Toileting Skills

Free online training for parents & carers of autistic children

In partnership with the Neuroinclusive Education Network (NEN)

Do you want to know how to support your autistic child to achieve toileting independence and how to work with others to develop these skills?



Through this training session you will learn:

- ✓ How autism can impact the development of toileting skills
- ✓ The importance of all adults working together to support the process
- ✓ How to remove barriers to developing toileting skills
- ✓ How to make adjustments to support further toileting independence

All sessions are delivered **online** for **free**
by Early Years Autism Support Officer, Annette Archer

Click here or scan to register

Upcoming sessions	
Tuesday 20th October 2026	10:00am - 12:00noon
Tuesday 8th December 2026	12:00noon – 2:00pm
Monday 8th February 2027	10:00am – 12:00noon
Tuesday 23rd March 2027	12:00noon – 2:00pm
Tuesday 25th May 2027	10:00am – 12:00noon
Monday 26th July 2027	12:00noon – 2:00pm
Thursday 5th August 2027	10:00am – 12:00noon
Thursday 12th August 2027	12:00noon – 2:00pm

A Microsoft Teams meeting link will be sent to your email 2 days prior to the training

National Autistic Society | Neuroinclusive Education Network

autismsupportteam@southwark.gov.uk

Southwark Council southwark.gov.uk

educational wellbeing team

AUTUMN 2026 NEWSLETTER

A little hello from us

Hello from the ***educational wellbeing team (ewt)***! We'd like to wish all children, young people and families a happy and restful break. In this newsletter you can find some of our top recommendations for things to do this half-term, along with some tips of how to look after yourself and your wellbeing.

As always, we're here if you need us – and we look forward to connecting with you again after the break.

What is an *educational wellbeing team*?

We are a group of trained professionals who work with schools to support the emotional wellbeing of children, young people and the wider school community. Our work consists of:

Learning Together
You might see us in an assembly, running drop-in sessions in schools, or delivering a fun corridor workshop.

Wellbeing Support
We offer 1-1 support to help with low mood and worries before they become bigger.

Supporting Families
From workshops and drop-ins to parent coffee mornings, there are lots of ways to get involved!

Get In Touch
n: 0333 011 3050
e: ewt.southwark@groundwork.org.uk

Hours:
Monday-Thursday: 9am-5pm
Friday: 9am-4pm

https://ewtsouthwark.org.uk/

MAKE A REFERRAL

MILLWALL PL KICKS GIRLS SESSIONS

Premier League Kicks

FREE FOOTBALL SESSIONS

Wednesday

St Paul's Sports Ground
SE16 5EF
4:30pm–6:00pm
Girls
8–18 year-olds

Thursday

Docklands Settlements
SE16 5AA
5:30–7:00pm
Girls
8–13 year-olds

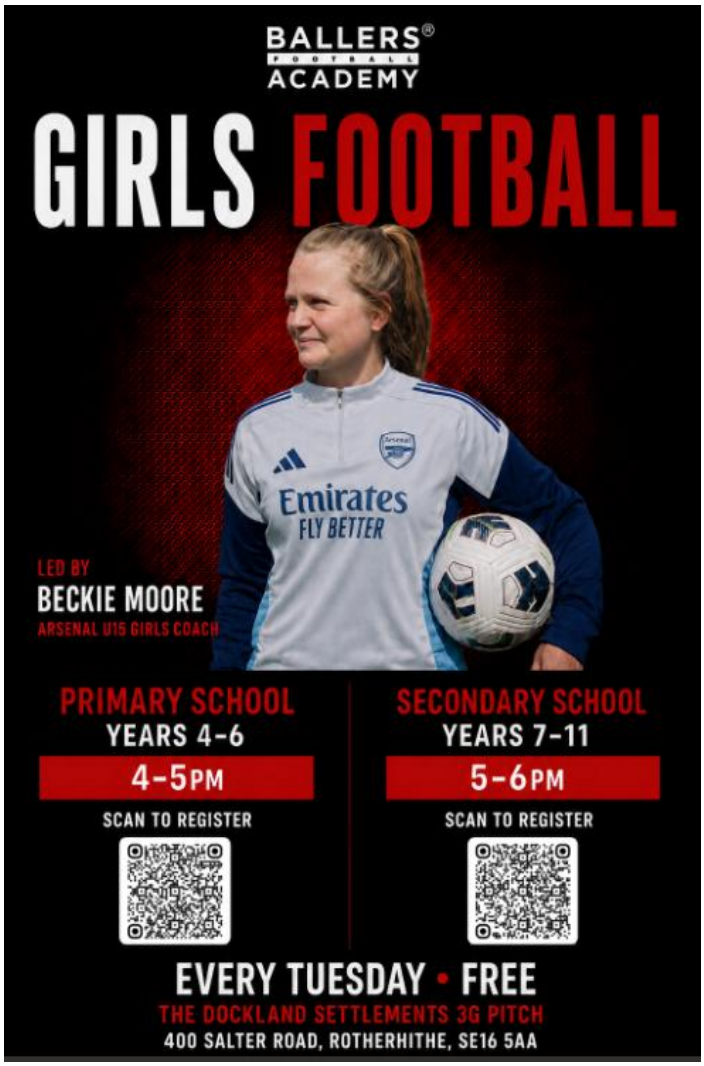




For more information, contact gperkins@millwallcommunity.org.uk

Premier League Kicks | WIGGETT GROUP

Follow us on Instagram:







Click the link below for the website and sign up if you would like your child to begin 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 starts at **7:45am** and includes cereal or toast. The cost is **£5.50 per day**.

After School Club sports activities and games cost **£6.30 for one hour** or **£13.65 for two and a half 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

Southwark Independent Voice
Empowering families - creating brighter futures

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 need 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.

Southwark Independent Voice
Empowering families - creating brighter futures

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