

John Ruskin Primary School & Language Classes

We are an Ofsted Outstanding School

Outstanding results in all Key Stages Nursery
to Year 6

www.johnruskin.southwark.sch.uk



Weekly Newsletter # 6 – 13 October 2023

Year 6 Secondary School Transfers

The deadline to submit your child's secondary school application is **Tuesday 31 October at midnight**. You must complete the application by the deadline otherwise your child will not receive their preferred school choice.

Applications are made online only via the link:

<https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>

If you have forgotten your username and password, these are easily reset by selecting '**Reset password / Forgotten username**'

If you are still unsure about your school choices, there are open events taking place as follows:

[Secondary School Open Events 2023](#)

You can also read all the information about every school in Southwark via the handbook:

[Southwark Secondary Schools 2024-25](#)

If you need support with applying, please see Jonathan in the office who can help.



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Reminder - EYFS and KS1 Maths Workshop for Parents

We will be running a Maths workshop about how you can help your child with Maths at home.

Please feel free to come along to the bottom hall at 9:20am on Thursday 19th October after you have dropped your child off. We will be looking at how you can make Maths relevant at home and ways to support their number sense.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Mr Manera and Miss Clater

Reminder - Vermilion and Emerald classes- Postponed Meet the Teacher

These will be held on **Monday 30 October**.

Please book your appointment by calling or emailing the school office.

We look forward to seeing you then.

Reminder - Black History Month assemblies

Our Black history Month sharing assemblies will be held on Friday 20 October. Please come and look at the wonderful work we have to share.

Individual School Photos and Family Groups

The photographer will be in school on Thursday 19th October 2023 for individual and family group photos. If wish to have a family group photo, please bring your children into school at 8.00am. You will need to stay with your children at this time – so please do not send unaccompanied children into school. **No family group pictures will be taken after 8.45am.** Please arrive promptly at 8.00am if you wish family groups to be photographed together.

Normal individual photographs will be taken of each child during the school day.

Reminder: School uniform must be worn as usual on this day.



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October Half Term POP Vouchers

Southwark is repeating the holiday voucher scheme for eligible pupils (in receipt of Pupil Premium funding) for the October half term. As previously, this will be in the form of Post Office vouchers that are redeemed in any post office. The vouchers are redeemed as cash and each child receives £15 for the half term period. You will receive your voucher codes via email and post on **Monday 23 October** and you have 1 month to redeem them before they expire. The letter containing the voucher details will look like

this:




southwark.gov.uk

P102862-1

Ms Bella Pasta
11 Carbonara Way
Pisa Topping
Little Venice
Barry
CF11 3TQ

12345

Date: 23rd March 2023

Dear Ms Bella Pasta

Holiday Free School Meals

Gemelli Pasta is attending a school in Southwark and is eligible for free school meals. You are entitled to extra support during these school holidays. This letter has a barcode you can use to collect your payment of £30.00 from any Post Office branch.

How to get the one-off payment


Take this letter with one of the following IDs to any Post Office branch within 1 month of the date of this letter.


- Passport
- Photo Driving Licence
- National Identity Card (for EU citizens)
- Official government letter including your name and address such as:
 - Southwark Council Rent Statement
 - Council Tax bill (Southwark Council)
 - Letter confirming receipt of Housing Benefit, Universal Credit or similar
 - NHS letter

Do not destroy this letter as you will need it to collect your payment from the Post Office. This voucher expires 1 month after the date at the top of this letter.

If you are unable to visit a Post Office in person to get your payment, you can send someone with **this letter and your ID from the list above** to collect it for you. The person collecting on your behalf does not need their own ID.

Got any questions? See FAQs overleaf.

 For Post Office use only



9826 9394 0652 6536 440

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If you do not receive your voucher(s) or have any difficulty redeeming the voucher, you must call the council directly on 020 7525 2434 as the school will not be able to rectify any issues.



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Social media Information - [Child Safety Online](#)

Child Safety Online:

A practical guide for parents and carers whose children are using social media

Why children use social media

- Entertainment
- Belonging
- Confidence
- Popularity
- Self-esteem
- Expression



Social networking is hugely popular. Many young people are sophisticated in the way they use social media apps and websites, tailoring their communication for different audiences, and accessing them from a range of devices including smartphones, tablets, and games consoles.

But social media, like all forms of public communication, comes with some risks. Not all of these risks turn into actual problems; and if children never face any risks, they never learn how to deal with them. By helping your child understand what the risks are, you can play a big part in preventing them from turning into problems.

Understand the risks children may need to deal with

What they could see or do:

- Seeing or sharing of violent, sexual and pornographic content
- Inaccurate or false information and extreme views
- Promotion of harmful behaviours including self-harm, anorexia and suicide
- Over-sharing of personal information
- Actively or unintentionally getting involved in bullying or hurtful behaviour

Who they might meet:

- People who might bully, intimidate or frighten
- People posing behind fake profiles for:
 - Mischief-making
 - Sexual grooming and stalking
 - Blackmail and extortion
 - Identity theft and hacking

How this could affect them

- Fear of missing out leading to excessive use or exaggeration
- Getting upset by things they have seen and being uncertain about what to do
- Engaging, or being pressured into engaging in more risky behaviour either by accident or by design
- Developing unrealistic, and perhaps depressing ideals of body image and gender
- Becoming subject to peer pressure or interactions that are intense or too difficult to handle
- Creating an online reputation that may create problems for them in the future





Practical tips to help minimise the risks your child might face

It's good practice for apps and websites to have safety advice and well-designed safety features which can make a real difference to how safe your child will be when using them.

Work through safety and privacy features on the apps that your child is using, or might use. Make sure they understand the point of these and how to use them. Don't be put off by believing your child knows more than you: the tools are actually quite easy to manage.

- **Ask them to show you** which social media apps they use and what they like about them. Talk about how they use them and what makes them so engaging.
- **Explain how you can use privacy settings** to make sure only approved friends can see posts & images.
- **Check if any of their apps have 'geo-location' enabled**, sharing their location unintentionally.
- **Show them how to report offensive comments** or block people who upset them.
- **Check 'tagging' settings** so that when others are posting or sharing photos online, your child's identity is not revealed. Also, get people's consent before sharing photos.
- Encourage your child to **come and talk to you** if they see anything that upsets them.

Keep talking and stay involved

In a mobile age, children can't be completely protected, even by the best privacy controls; another child may use different settings. So it's important to keep talking to your child about the implications of social media.

Getting a sense of what they think is a useful place to start; you may be surprised by how much thought they may have given to the issues. Encourage your child to think carefully about the way they, and others behave online, and how they might deal with difficult situations.

- People may **not always be who they say they are online**: how can this create problems?
- Why is it **unwise to meet** anyone in the real world that you've only ever met online?
- Even if you think your messages are private, remember that words and images can always be **captured and broadcast**.
- People **present themselves differently online** - do they really look like that? Are they always having that good a time?
- Be aware that screens, and especially being anonymous, can lead people to say things they **wouldn't say to someone's face**.
- What does **being a good friend and a likeable person** online look like?
- There can be **pressure to be part of a particular group** online or to be seen to be **following a certain set of ideas**. How can you take a step back and make your own decisions?

For more Information

You can find out more about how children use social media, the apps they use, the risks they face, how to use privacy settings, and advice and tips about how to talk to your children at:

www.childnet.com/sns
www.internetmatters.org
www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety
www.parentzone.org.uk
www.thinkyouknow.co.uk/parents
www.askaboutgames.com

To make a report

Concerned about online grooming or sexual behaviour online? Contact CEOP: www.ceop.police.uk

If you stumble across criminal sexual or obscene content on the internet you should report it to the Internet Watch Foundation: www.iwf.org.uk





Age Restrictions on Social Media Services



Our advice with regards to age restrictions is that it's always better to wait until the required age to join any social media service. These rules around age relate to privacy, but also are relevant to safety. Some services offer additional protection for users who are registered as under 18, and by supplying a fake age young people can potentially lose some of this protection. Young people also risk being exposed to content which is intended for older users when they use sites that are not designed for people their age.

We know that social media services are popular with young people of all ages. Parents have an important role in helping prepare their children to go online before they start to use social media platforms. Together you can look at the key things they need to know about staying safe online, critical thinking, and the safety settings that are available to them.

Below is a selection of websites designed to help you understand the risks relating to social media and how to navigate them with your children:

- Healthychildren.org – Create a Family Media Plan
<https://www.healthychildren.org/english/fmp/pages/mediaplan.aspx>
- Kidshealth.org - Teaching Kids to Be Smart About Social Media.
<https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/social-media-smarts.html>
- Common Sense Media - Reviews for what your kids are into (Movies, TV shows, Books, Games, Podcasts & Apps)
 - <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>
- NSPCC – Keeping Children Safe Online
 - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/>
- Young Minds – A guide for parents: Social Media
<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/social-media/>
- CEOP – Is my child ready for social media? thinkuknow.co.uk





Reception – Year 6 Nasal/ Injectable Flu Vaccination session

Southwark Nursing Team will be carrying out the annual Flu Vaccinations for all children in Reception to Year 6 in school on **Wednesday 18 October.**

Please see link for further information about the process and why it is important for your child to have the vaccination: [Flu Letter to Parents - 2023-24](#)

5 reasons to get your child vaccinated

- 1. Protect your child**
The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia
- 2. Protect you, your family and friends**
Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family
- 3. No injection needed**
The nasal spray is painless and easy to have
- 4. It's better than having flu**
The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record
- 5. Avoid costs**
If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

2 3

Please confirm your consent by scanning the QR code below and completing the online form for each of your children in school or complete via the link: [Flu Consent Form](#)



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The form takes no longer than 2 minutes to complete and the deadline for submitting the e-consent form is 72 hours before the session, excluding weekends.

NHS Leaflet - [Protecting your child against flu](#)

If you have any queries, please contact the relevant immunisation team below:

Southwark Schools: Hrch.ImmunisationTeamMailboxSouthwark@nhs.net Tel: 020 3903 3373

Sign of the Week

Since the start of this school year, all classes have been learning a Sign of the Week. It is introduced to them on a Monday and is used, when possible, throughout the week along with other learnt signs. So far, as a school, we have learnt to sign:

- good morning
- good afternoon
- how are you?
- please
- thank you
- sorry
- today
- now
- yesterday
- tomorrow



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Some signs have more than one meaning and some weeks, we learn more than one sign if they are connected. Some classes or year groups have learnt other signs that link with their work such as signs for weather (sun, rain etc).

After half term, we will be including the *Sign of the Week* in our newsletters.

We look forward to sharing our signing with you soon.



Key information for week commencing 16 October 2023

Monday 16 October

2.00-2.30 **Burgundy swimming**

Tuesday 17 October

10.00-10.30 **Scarlet Class swimming**

10.30-11.00 **Turquoise Class swimming**

Wednesday 18 October

All day **Turquoise Class out to football tournament**

All day **Flu vaccinations – YR-6**



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Thursday 19 October

All day Main School, LU and John Ruskin Nursery Individual Pupil Photos
9:20 EYFS and KS1 Maths Workshop for Parents

Friday 20 October

AM Black History Month sharing assemblies
11.00 Brandon Individual Pupil Photos
2.00-2.30 Vermilion swimming
3.30 School finishes for Half Term

Forthcoming Dates

Black History Month

October 2023

October Half Term Holiday

Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October

Vermilion and Emerald classes- Meet the Teacher

Monday 30 October

Book Fair

Thursday 9 to Wednesday 15 November; 3.30pm to 4pm, Bottom Hall

Anti-Bullying Week – Theme ‘Make a Noise’

w/c Monday 13 November

Road Safety week – Theme ‘Let’s Talk About Speed’

w/c Monday 20 November

Year 5 School Journey to *Kingswood*

Monday 18 to Friday 22 March 2024



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