

Weekly Newsletter

#5

3 October 2025



NB: The newsletter is sent from a no-reply email system. If you have a query or question relating to the content of the newsletter(s), please email office@johnruskin.southwark.sch.uk



Important Dismissal Information

Dear Parents and Carers,

For the **safety and smooth dismissal of all pupils**, we kindly ask that parents and carers **wait until all children have been dismissed** before speaking to teachers.

📌 **This includes all matters, no matter how small** — such as lost jumpers, coats, or water bottles. By waiting until dismissal is complete, staff can focus on ensuring every child is safely handed over.

🕒 Once the children have been dismissed, teachers will be happy to discuss any queries or concerns with you.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of your child's Key Stage Lead, who you may also contact should you wish to raise an issue in the first or second instance:

Mrs Hancock – Nursery and Reception

Mrs Ahmed – Years 1 & 2 and SENCO

Mrs Corbyn – Years 3, 4, 5, 6 and the Language Unit

Thank you for your continued support in keeping dismissal times safe and orderly for everyone.

Hamilton Nwokolo, Headteacher



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Secondary School Open Events

Secondary School open events continue. Please click on the link below to see an updated schedule of events provided by a range of secondary schools. These events offer a valuable opportunity to visit schools, meet staff and learn more about their school's offer.

[Southwark Secondary Schools – Open Events 2025](#)

Important Note: John Ruskin does not endorse or recommend any specific secondary schools. The information shared is for your convenience and awareness only.



Friends of John Ruskin (PTA) Fundraising Success!



A big thank you to our amazing PTA and everyone who supported their recent pizza sale!
Together, we raised **£174**.

Children and parents really enjoyed having food available at Parents' Evening, and we're delighted to let you know that this will now be offered at every Parents' Evening.

Reception Open Days

For parents looking for reception places in September 2026

Wednesday 15th October at 9.30am

Tuesday 11th November at 9.30am

Wednesday 3rd December at 4pm

Contact the school office to book an appointment: office@johnruskin.southwark.sch.uk



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Year 5 School Journey – Deadline Extended

We are very pleased to announce that the deadline for signing up for the **Year 5 school journey** has been extended to **Friday 10th October 2025**. This extension gives families a little more time to secure their child's place on what promises to be a fantastic and memorable experience for all pupils.

To confirm a place, we kindly ask that a **£50 deposit** is paid at the school office by the new deadline. Please note that without this deposit, we cannot guarantee your child's place on the trip.

It is very important that we receive enough sign-ups in order for the school journey to go ahead. If we do not reach the required numbers, unfortunately, the trip will not be able to take place.

We strongly encourage all families who wish their child to attend to secure their booking as soon as possible. The school journey offers pupils an excellent opportunity to build independence, develop teamwork, and create lasting memories with their classmates.

Thank you for your continued support.

Parking on Grosvenor Terrace



Please be respectful of our neighbours when parking to drop off or collect your child from school and only park legally and safely. Recently the street has become very busy at the beginning and the end of the day which inconveniences the local residents and poses a danger to the children using that entrance.



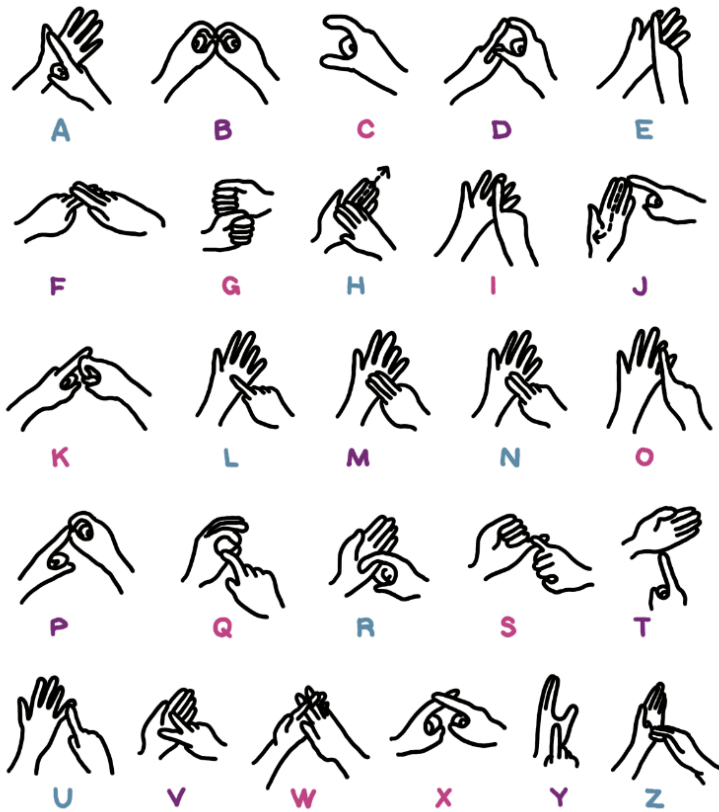
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British Sign Language



toilet

Signs of the Week



Yesterday was National Poetry Day

This year, the theme was PLAY! Click on the following link to see how we used word play to create simple verse:

[National Poetry Day Activity](#)



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FOJR Christmas Card Project – Reminder!

Let the festive creativity shine! 🎨

It's that joyful time of year again, and we're inviting all children to take part in the **Friends of John Ruskin Christmas Card Project**! Their artwork will be professionally printed onto cards and gifts – perfect for spreading holiday cheer to loved ones.

✏️ How to Take Part

- Create a festive design on **A4 paper** – snowmen, reindeer, Christmas trees, or anything joyful!
- Use **bright colours** to make the artwork pop.
- Clearly write your child's **full name and class** on the back of the artwork to avoid any spelling errors.

📅 Deadline: Tuesday 8th October

Submit by this date to qualify for the **early bird bonus**!

FOJR will earn **20% commission** on all orders placed – a wonderful way to support our school while celebrating the season.

📄 What Happens Next?

Parents will receive a personalised proof card featuring their child's design. Orders and payments can then be made directly at:

👉 www.SchoolPrintWorld.co.uk

Let's make this Christmas magical with your child's creativity – and help raise funds for FOJR at the same time!



Dyslexia Awareness Week – A Parent's Guide



**Southwark
Independent
Voice**

Empowering families - creating brighter futures

Webinar: Dyslexia Awareness Week - A Parent's Guide

Thursday 9th October 2025

10:30am - 12:00 noon

Online via Teams

TO REGISTER EMAIL info@southwarkiv.co.uk

This webinar is for parent carers of children and young people who live in Southwark

Supporting Your Child's Learning Journey

Has your child recently been diagnosed with dyslexia or are you a parent concerned about your child's progress with reading, writing, or spelling? Have you noticed they're struggling with homework, or that they seem to be working harder than their peers to keep up?

You're not alone. Many parents have the same concerns, and this session is designed to provide you with an overview of dyslexia and some easy to implement support strategies.

Join us for a 90-minute interactive workshop designed specifically for parents. We will explore:

- **Understanding Learning Differences:** We'll demystify what dyslexia and other learning difficulties are (and are not!) and provide you with a clear, jargon-free overview.
- **Recognizing the Signs:** Learn to identify common indicators of dyslexia, and how to tell the difference between typical learning challenges and those that might require additional support.
- **Practical Home Strategies:** Discover simple, effective techniques you can use at home to support your child's literacy skills and build their confidence.
- **Navigating the School System:** Get advice on how to talk to teachers and the school's Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) to ensure your child receives the right support.

This session will also include breakout rooms where you can share your experiences with other parents in a safe, supportive environment. You'll leave with practical tools, a greater sense of confidence, and the knowledge that you have a community of support.

This webinar is being hosted by Southwark Independent Voice in partnership with Southwark Council and a Dyslexia Specialist



Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) application process

If a child or young person needs more help in school than what is normally provided through SEN support, parents or the educational setting may consider applying for an EHC needs assessment.

To increase the chance of being successful, requests made by parents should include evidence from school. For more support for parents requesting an EHCP contact [SIAS](#).

Requests made by schools usually include the six stages outline below.

Stage 1 - Initial discussion

- SENCO holds meetings with parents and other school staff to discuss the needs of the pupil.
- SENCO does classroom observation and looks at the pupils data.
- SENCO shares information and consent forms with parents.

Stage 2 - Information gathering

- SENCO gathers reports from professionals who have worked with the pupil in the last 2 years.
- SENCO gets evidence of interventions over the last 2 years.
- SENCO gets parents view on their child.
- SENCO checks all documents and begins request form.

Stage 3 - Send request to Southwark

- SENCO sends EHCP request form to Southwark.
- SENCO sends a copy of EHCP request form to parents.
- SENCO arranges meeting with parents to discuss next stages.

Stage 4 - Awaiting request outcome

- SENCO and parents meet to discuss outcome of EHCP request from Southwark.

Stage 5 - Responding to outcome

Not to proceed Assessment agreed

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SENCO and parents discuss next steps: • Appeal, or • resubmit at a later date. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southwark carry out assessments. • Co-production meeting. • Southwark issues draft EHCP. • After reviews final EHCP is issued. |
|--|---|

Stage 6 - EHCP issued

- SENCO shares EHCP with teachers and support staff.
- Funding is issued and school allocates appropriate support for pupil.
- SENCO arranges annual review for around a year after the EHCP issue date.



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Free Dental Checks for Children

Click on the following link for further information: [Give Kids a Smile Day on 31st Oct 2025](#)

Free Dental Check-Ups for Children

Ensuring healthy smiles for every child

We believe in the importance of accessible healthcare. Every child should have access to high quality, essential dental care, no matter their circumstances.

Early dental care is critical in shaping a child's long-term health, and regular check-ups – ideally every 6 months – are key to preventing issues (such as tooth decay and cavities) and creating positive habits that last a lifetime.

We're aware that not all children have access to this care, which is why we've partnered with 'Give Kids a Smile' to offer 100 free check-up appointments on 31st Oct 2025 to children at the Williams Dental clinic.

On the day, you can expect:

- FREE dental check-ups for children
- FREE gifts & resources for every child
- Helpful oral health advice to parents and guardians – to help to understand how to support your child's dental health at home.

Colosseum Dental

A poster for 'Free Dental Check-Ups for Children'. It features a smiling girl being examined by a dentist. The text 'Free Dental Check-Ups for Children' is in large, bold letters. Below it, the phrase 'Ensuring healthy smiles for every child' is in a script font. The poster explains the importance of early dental care and mentions a partnership with 'Give Kids a Smile' to offer 100 free check-up appointments on 31st Oct 2025. It lists what to expect on the day: free dental check-ups, free gifts and resources, and helpful oral health advice. The Colosseum Dental logo is at the bottom.



Keep your teeth clean and healthy

For a healthy smile that lasts a lifetime,
it's really important to look after your teeth.

- ✓ Brush your teeth twice a day, once in the morning before you have breakfast and again at bed time
- ✓ Make sure you brush your teeth for at least 2 minutes
- ✓ Use a pea-sized amount of toothpaste on your toothbrush
- ✓ Brush every tooth in your mouth, not just the ones you can see
- ✓ Go to see a dentist for regular check-ups
- ✓ Try to make healthy food choices

Tooth Friendly Food



Tooth Enemies (food that can harm your teeth)



 Colosseum Dental



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How to Brush Your Teeth

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Key Events for Week Commencing 6 October

Monday
2.00-2.30 **Burgundy Class swimming**

Tuesday
10.00-10.30 **Turquoise Class swimming**
10.30-11.00 **Scarlet Class swimming**

Friday
2.00 **Vermilion Class swimming**

Forthcoming Dates

14 October
Vermilion Class visit to Heritage Centre

21 October
Burgundy Class visit to Heritage Centre

11 November
Vermilion Class visit to Horniman Museum

14 November
Year 6 visit to Imperial War Museum

24 November
Green Class visit to Tower of London

Autumn Term Dates 2025

*INSET days: Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 September
(school closed to pupils)*

Wednesday 3 September - Friday 24 October

Half Term Holiday: Monday 27 October - Friday 31 October

Monday 3 November - Friday 19 December
(school closes at 2pm)



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Southwark Council Bulletin

Read here: [Latest News](#)



Useful Links

School term dates 25-26 - [Term Dates 2025-26](#)

Our website – www.johnruskin.southwark.sch.uk

School caterer - <https://accentcatering.co.uk/>

Uniform supplier – www.earthuniform.com/collections/john-ruskin-primary-school

Secondhand uniform supplier – uniformerly.co.uk/search-listings/?q=&c=17273

The Nest - thenestsouthwark.org.uk

Chess in Schools - www.chessinschools.co.uk

Southwark Council – www.southwark.gov.uk

Camberwell Leisure Centre - southwarkleisure.co.uk/centres/camberwell-leisure-centre

Parentkind - www.parentkind.org.uk

Children's Commissioner - www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk

Department for Education - www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education

Ofsted - www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

NHS - www.nhs.uk

TFL - travelforlife.tfl.gov.uk

