

# Weekly Newsletter

#7

17 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](mailto:office@johnruskin.southwark.sch.uk)*



The 2025 UK Black History Month theme is "**Standing Firm in Power and Pride**". This theme emphasizes the resilience, strength, and unwavering spirit of Black communities, celebrating their collective power to effect positive change and the unshakeable cultural pride and heritage of Black people worldwide.

**FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

All classes will be taking part in our Black History Month sharing assemblies on **Friday 24th October at 9.20am**. Each class will showcase their learning and celebrate inspiring figures, stories, and achievements from Black history. Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend and celebrate with us.

Black History Month work will be shared on the school's website from **Friday, 24th October 2025**.

To celebrate Black History Month, we will be serving special themed lunches inspired by African and Caribbean cuisines on Friday 24th October 2025.

Click on the following link to see the menu:

[Special themed lunch menu](#)



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## Secondary School Open Events

Please click on the link below to see an **updated schedule** of Secondary School open events provided by a range of secondary schools: [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 ARE HOLDING A HALLOWEEN CUPEAKE COMPETITION AND SALE

After school on Thursday 23rd October  
in small playground.

Please bring in your entries that  
morning at 9am labelled with  
Child's name and class and leave on the  
table under the shed.

Prizes to be won



MUST BE NOT FREE!!

## Reception Open Days

For parents looking for reception places in September 2026

Tuesday 11th November at 9.30am

Wednesday 3rd December at 4pm

Contact the school office to book an appointment: [office@johnruskin.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:office@johnruskin.southwark.sch.uk)





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JOHN RUSKIN PRIMARY SCHOOL  
& LANGUAGE CLASSES

This school is rated Outstanding by Ofsted  
since 2009

## Holiday Activities



On the following pages you will find information about a wide variety of holiday activities and events for children and families. Many of these are free.

### Recommended reads

We have a wide selection of books to suit all ages and tastes, but if you are in need of some inspiration then here are some popular choices:

#### For 0 to 5 year olds



#### For 5 to 10 year olds



#### For 11 years old +



FREE

### Time Table

A inside for more details about each session.

#### Tuesdays

(Last Tuesday of the month)  
Chatterbooks  
4-5pm  
For ages 7-11  
(Term time only)

Sensory Storytelling & Play  
Last Tuesday of the month  
1.30-2.30pm  
(Term time only)

#### Wednesday

Baby Rhymetime  
10.30-11.00am  
Under 5's  
(Term time only)

Game for Cool Players  
4-5pm  
For ages 6+

#### Friday

Baby & Toddler  
2.15-3.00pm  
For ages 5 and under

#### Saturdays

Saturday Craft  
2-3pm  
For ages 5 and over

Southwark Heritage Centre &  
Walworth Library  
147 Walworth Rd, London SE17 1RW

## ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS FOR CHILDREN

Discover the range of free  
events available for families



Southwark  
Council



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**PREPAREROBOT**  
**CODING & ROBOTICS**

Southwark Heritage Centre and Walworth Library

Join us for coding, lego and robotic fun

**Thursday 30th October**

11am to 1pm, ages 6 to 11, with parents staying and building the robot together or 1.30pm to 3.30pm, ages 8 to 17 (without parents)

These sessions are free, but booking is essential Visit the library to book your place Ensure you follow the age guidelines For more information contact: [libraries@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@southwark.gov.uk)

A poster for a 'Preparation for Coding & Robotics' event. It features a cartoon boy thinking, a robot, and a laptop with coding symbols. The text 'PREPAREROBOT CODING & ROBOTICS' is in large, colorful letters. Below it, 'Southwark Heritage Centre and Walworth Library' is written. The event details are listed at the bottom, including the date 'Thursday 30th October' and the times '11am to 1pm, ages 6 to 11, with parents staying and building the robot together or 1.30pm to 3.30pm, ages 8 to 17 (without parents)'. It also states 'These sessions are free, but booking is essential' and provides a contact email: 'libraries@southwark.gov.uk'. The Southwark Council logo is in the top right corner.





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## FUN FOOTBALL SESSIONS FOR EVERY GIRL



FOR GIRLS  
AGED 5 - 11



TIME AND DATE

Every Monday (17:00 - 18:00)

£ COST

FREE



LOCATION

BURGESS PARK ASTRO TURF, COBOURG ROAD, SE5 0JB

WHO WE ARE

THE PE & SCHOOL SPORTS NETWORK (SOUTHWARK JAGUARS FC)



FOR GIRLS  
AGED 12 - 14



TIME AND DATE

Every Monday (17:00 - 18:00)

£ COST

FREE



LOCATION

BURGESS PARK ASTRO TURF, COBOURG ROAD, SE5 0JB

WHO WE ARE

THE PE & SCHOOL SPORTS NETWORK (SOUTHWARK JAGUARS FC)

### ➔ NEXT STEPS

head to [www.EnglandFootball.com/participate/women-and-girls/Play](http://www.EnglandFootball.com/participate/women-and-girls/Play) to book your first session or contact us to find out more:

Joe Howard ([joe@lpessn.org.uk](mailto:joe@lpessn.org.uk))

SCAN ME FOR WILDCATS



SCAN ME FOR  
SQUAD GIRLS' FOOTBALL



#LET  
GIRLS  
PLAY







London Wildlife Trust  
**Centre for  
Wildlife Gardening**

28 Marsden Road,  
London SE15 4EE

## Half Term Family Workshops with London Wildlife Trust



### Bushcraft

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October  
10am till 3pm

Two days to learn how to survive in the wild! On the first day you will make shelters and filter water and on the second you'll seek wild food and make fires. Crafts and activities. You can book for either day or both.



### Natural Inks and Scrapbooks

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October

Have fun making inks from turmeric, wild grapes and oak galls, and grind charcoal to make paint to produce your own unique art pieces to take home. Make a scrapbook with inspiration from the garden.

All courses are for **families living in Southwark**. Suitable for primary aged children but you are welcome to bring your younger and older ones too. £3 booking fee but let us know if this is too much for you. Only one free Southwark workshop per academic year (Sept-July)

Booking required: visit our website [www.wildlondon.org.uk/events](http://www.wildlondon.org.uk/events) or use the QR code  
email: [dwallace@wildlondon.org.uk](mailto:dwallace@wildlondon.org.uk) for any queries.

Funded by



To book please scan the QR code  
or visit  
[wildlondon.org.uk/families](http://wildlondon.org.uk/families)  
[dwallace@wildlondon.org.uk](mailto:dwallace@wildlondon.org.uk)



## What's On at St Margaret's House for Children and Families

Join us for free workshops, a low-cost  
performance for families and find out about our  
term-time activities

### Young People



**Tickets: FREE**

### FREE Half Term Circus sessions

Sessions support the development of new skills, communication and creative thinking! Children will learn different juggling and balancing techniques.

Free to attend thanks to funding from the Tower Hamlets Mayor's Community Fund.

Sessions are aimed at children aged 5-8 years.  
Click the picture to find out more and book your ticket

**Venue:** Tramshed Community Hub, Digby Street, E2 0LS

**Dates & Time:**

- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October, 10am-12noon
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2-4pm
- Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October, 10am-12noon

### Young people



**Tickets: from £5**

### Dan of All Tricks – Family Show

Roll up, roll up! Dan's got some circus tricks to share with you! Prepare to be wow-ed! Join us for a whistle-stop-tour through juggling, balancing and much, much more. This show will amaze as you travel through the many tricks Dan has got up his sleeve. This is a family experience not to be missed. Click the picture to find out more and book

**Venue:** Mulberry Hall, St Margaret's House, 21 Old Ford Road

**Date:** Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November

**Times:** 11am and 2pm

**Running Time:** 35mins plus 15 mins of circus play

**Suitable for children 3+ and their families**

St Margaret's House Arts and Wellbeing Centre, 21 Old Ford Road, E2 9PL

[www.stmargarethouse.org.uk](http://www.stmargarethouse.org.uk)



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**





Young people



Free to attend

### Halloween Community Litter Pick

Put on your best costume and join the fun as we work together to keep our neighbourhood clean and litter-free!

Costumes are encouraged, and all children dressed up will receive a bag of sweets!

We provide the litter-picking equipment you need

**Venue:** Meet at St Margaret's House, 21 Old Ford Road

**Date:** Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October

**Time:** 2-3pm

Young people



Tickets: from £2

### Term-time: Saturday Circus

Our low-cost Circus sessions for children take place every Saturday during term-time.

Join us and learn new circus skills led by professional juggler and National Centre for Circus Arts teacher, Dan Rose.

Click the picture to find out more and sign up

**Venue:** Mulberry Hall, St Margaret's House, 21 Old Ford Road

**Dates:** Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November to Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December

**Time:** 9.45am-10.45am (School Years 1-3, younger children can attend if accompanied by an adult)

11am-12noon (School Years 4-6)

Young people



Tickets: Free

### Term-time: Hilarity Academy

Our free, fun space for young people to learn and engage in the skill of making people laugh.

Workshops include learning how to tell jokes, creating sketches, writing stand up material and clowning. Sessions are for local young people in school years 3-6

Click the picture to find out more and sign up

**Venue:** The Chapel, St Margaret's House, 21 Old Ford Road

**Dates:** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November to Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December

**Time:** 3.45-5pm



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**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**





## Flu vaccinations

**NHS**  
South London Children and  
Young People's Community  
Immunisation Service

### Children with underlying health conditions are more at risk from flu

- Serious lung problems (including asthma needing steroids)
- Heart conditions
- Kidney or liver disease
- Diabetes
- Weakened immune systems due to disease or treatment
- Spleen problems (like sickle cell disease)
- Neurological conditions (like cerebral palsy)

### Protect them this winter Make sure they have their flu vaccine



Scan the QR code  
to complete the  
consent form



September 2025





**AutismSupportTeam@  
Southwark.gov.uk**

## **AUTISM SUPPORT TEAM TOILET TRAINING FOR PARENT/CARER ONLY**

### **HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR AUTISTIC CHILD TO DEVELOP TOILETING SKILLS**

In partnership with the Autism Education Trust (AET) we are offering Developing Toileting Skills Training for Parent + Carers of autistic children.

#### **Aims:**

- To develop knowledge of how to support autistic children to achieve toileting independence.
- To understand the importance of working with others to support autistic children to develop independent toileting skills

#### **Learning objectives:**

- Understand how autism can impact on children developing independent toileting skills.
- Understand the importance of all adults working together to support the development of independent toileting skills.
- Consider how to remove barriers to developing toileting skills and how to make reasonable adjustments to support further toileting independence.

#### **Free Training Online Dates:**

- |                                  |                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| • 21 <sup>st</sup> October       | 9.45 – 11.45 2025 |
| • 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2025 | 12.30 – 2.30 2025 |
| • 9 <sup>th</sup> February       | 9.45 – 11.45 2026 |
| • 23 <sup>rd</sup> March         | 12.30 – 2.30 2026 |
| • 18 <sup>th</sup> May           | 9.45 – 11.45 2026 |
| • 23 <sup>rd</sup> July          | 12.30 – 2.30 2026 |
| • 6 <sup>th</sup> August         | 9.45 – 11.45 2026 |
| • 13 <sup>th</sup> August        | 12.30 – 2.30 2026 |

Register [here](#)

Online Microsoft Teams Training Link will be sent to your email 2 days prior to start date of training.





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## Key Events for Week Commencing 20 October

Monday

2.00-2.30

**Burgundy Class swimming**

Tuesday

10.00-10.30

**Turquoise Class swimming**

10.30-11.00

**Scarlet Class swimming**

Morning

**Emerald Class visit to Veolia Waste Management Facility**

11.00-15.30

**Burgundy Class visit to Heritage Centre**

Wednesday

09.25 & 10.35

**Vermilion Class assembly**

Friday

2.00

**Vermilion Class swimming**

## Forthcoming Dates

11 November

**Vermilion Class visit to Horniman Museum**

14 November

**Year 6 visit to Imperial War Museum**

21 November

**Year 3 visit to Horniman 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](http://www.johnruskin.southwark.sch.uk)

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

Uniform supplier – [www.earthuniform.com/collections/john-ruskin-primary-school](http://www.earthuniform.com/collections/john-ruskin-primary-school)

Secondhand uniform supplier – [uniformerly.co.uk/search-listings/?q=&c=17273](http://uniformerly.co.uk/search-listings/?q=&c=17273)

The Nest - [thenestsouthwark.org.uk](http://thenestsouthwark.org.uk)

Chess in Schools - [www.chessinschools.co.uk](http://www.chessinschools.co.uk)

Southwark Council – [www.southwark.gov.uk](http://www.southwark.gov.uk)

Camberwell Leisure Centre - [southwarkleisure.co.uk/centres/camberwell-leisure-centre](http://southwarkleisure.co.uk/centres/camberwell-leisure-centre)

Parentkind - [www.parentkind.org.uk](http://www.parentkind.org.uk)

Children's Commissioner - [www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)

Department for Education - [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education)

Ofsted - [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

NHS - [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

TFL - [travelforlife.tfl.gov.uk](http://travelforlife.tfl.gov.uk)

