

# Weekly Newsletter

#26

27 March 2026



## Dear Families

It has been a fantastic Spring term, with so much to celebrate across the school. Our well-attended Eid celebration was a real highlight, bringing our community together. We have also successfully launched our Year of Reading, with children already showing great enthusiasm and engagement. World Book Day was a wonderful occasion, with children coming to school dressed as their favourite book characters, which brought stories to life across the school.

Science Week was also a great success, alongside a range of enterprise projects that the children thoroughly enjoyed.

Our recent school journey was very successful, and we are incredibly proud of our John Ruskin athletes who took part in an inclusion sports event. It has truly been a busy and rewarding term.

As we approach the Easter break, please remember to follow the school uniform policy when purchasing items.

Thank you to all parents for your continued support, particularly regarding the new headship. It is an honour to lead such a wonderful, inclusive and diverse community.

I wish you all a restful break and look forward to welcoming all our families back on Tuesday 14th April.

**Hamilton Nwokolo**

*Headteacher*

**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)**



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We would like to say goodbye to Diane Davies, who has worked at the school for the past nine years. During her time with us, Diane has made a significant contribution in ensuring the school meets its statutory requirements, particularly in relation to the school website.

We thank Diane for her hard work and commitment to the school community and wish her all the very best for the future.

## 🌙 Thank You for Celebrating Eid with Us!

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for our Eid Celebration event! Your presence, kindness and community spirit helped make the afternoon truly special. We are incredibly grateful for all the families and friends who supported the event, and a special thank you go to those who generously donated food, treats and drinks — your contributions brought so much joy to the children and families who attended.

Thanks to your amazing support, we raised **£635**, which will go directly to benefit the children of **John Ruskin**. Your generosity helps us continue creating memorable experiences and opportunities for our school community. ❤️



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## Free NHS webinar on childhood vaccinations - for parents and carers of nursery school children

Thursday 26 March, 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm

Join us **online** for a **free NHS webinar on childhood vaccinations** for parents and carers of nursery school children. We'll cover everything you need to know to keep your little ones safe and healthy. You'll hear from NHS doctors and nurses who care for children every day and will include:

1. Some of the diseases that vaccinations protect against
2. How vaccines work
3. The routine vaccination schedule in the UK

There will be time to ask questions in a safe and open space. You can also submit a question before the event when you sign up. Please note we cannot give individual health advice.

Register to attend webinar here: [selondonics.org/childimm-Mar26](https://selondonics.org/childimm-Mar26)

## Important Information for Parents and Carers: Meningitis

Southwark Public Health has shared the following information after recent reports of meningococcal disease in Kent.

Although meningitis is rare, it can be very serious. Young children can become unwell very quickly, so it is important to know the signs and seek medical help straight away if you are concerned.

The recent cases are in Canterbury and surrounding areas. The risk to children and families in Southwark is very low. Targeted action has been taken in the affected area, and no additional measures are needed locally at this time.

Meningococcal disease (including meningitis and septicaemia) can become serious very quickly.



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**Spotting symptoms early and getting urgent medical help can save lives.**

## What to look out for in babies and young children

Symptoms can appear suddenly and, in any order, and children may not have all of them.

Common signs include:

- Fever, cold hands and feet, pale or blotchy skin
- Unusual tiredness, floppy body, or irritability
- Refusing feeds, vomiting
- High-pitched cry
- Grunting, rapid or unusual patterns of breathing
- Stiff neck or dislike of bright lights (more noticeable in older toddlers)
- Difficulty waking or confusion
- Seizures (fits)
- A rash that does not fade when pressed (a glass test may help check this)

**If your child seems “not themselves”, is getting worse quickly, or you are worried, please seek medical advice.**

## **When to seek help**

- Call NHS 111 for urgent advice
- Call 999 or go to A&E if your child is seriously unwell
- Do not wait if symptoms are getting worse or a rash does not fade

## **Prevention and reassurance:**

- Meningococcal disease is uncommon, especially in young children.
- The overall risk to families in Southwark remains very low.
- Meningitis B vaccine is usually given to babies at 8 weeks, 12 weeks, and 1 year.
- **Young children who have missed one or more dose of the MenB vaccine can have this free of charge before their second birthday, parents should speak to their GP to book an appointment.**

For more information: [What is meningitis? Symptoms, risks and how to protect yourself – UK Health Security Agency](#)

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### Curriculum in Action – Science

**CURRICULUM IN ACTION**


# SCIENCE

**JSR X SCIENCE MUSEUM**

This term, both Year 5 and 6 have had trips to the amazing the Science Museum. The children had a great time with the hands-on exhibitions and entertaining, educational shows!



### Curriculum in Action - continued

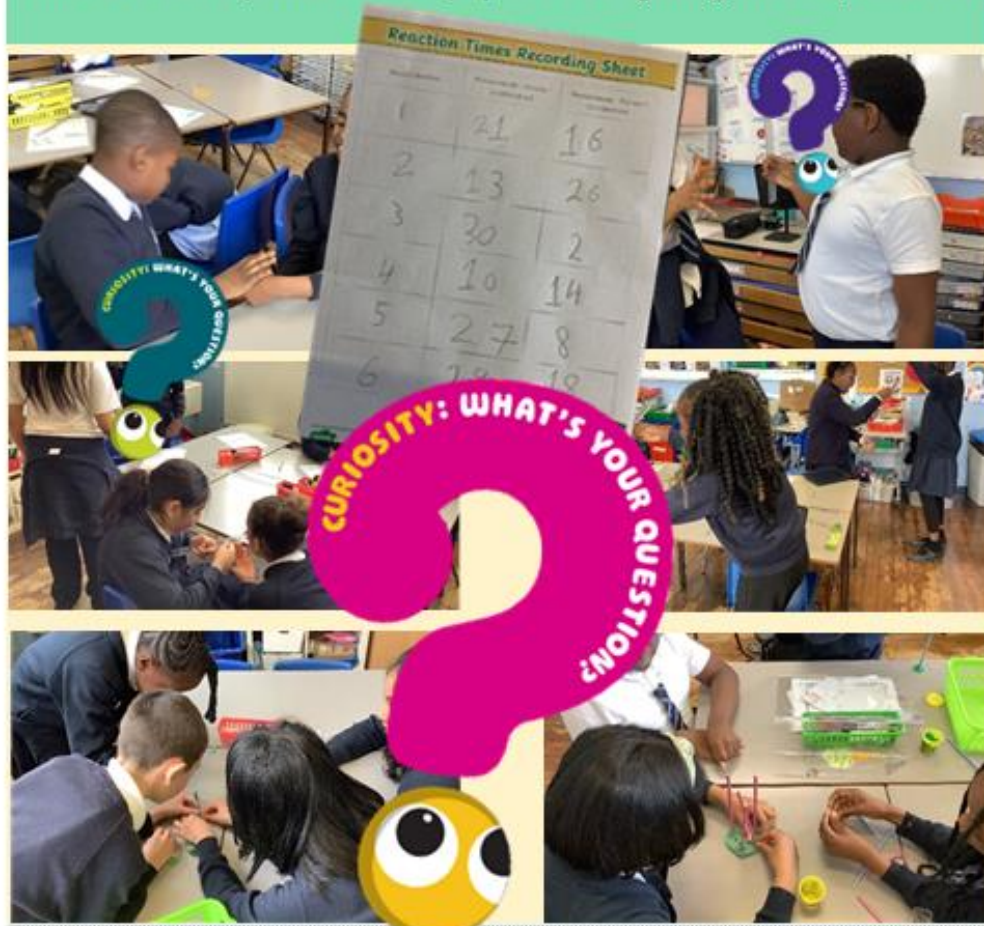


As part of our celebration of Science Week, Burgundy Class took part in some STEM investigations inspired by what we said we are curious about. Out of all the topics that we thought about, we chose two questions that we wanted to investigate further:

*Are some people faster than others?*

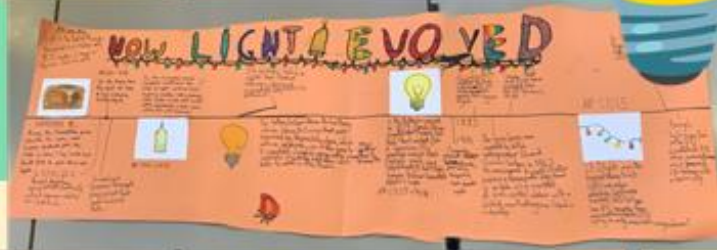
*Can you build a tower to reach the moon?*

Here are some photos of the pupils investigating these questions!



## Curriculum in Action – continued

Vermillion Class in Year 4 have made some incredible timelines on the history of light as part of their Electricity unit. This work has led up to them making lamps in their Design and Technology lessons. STEM for the win!



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## Parent Course – Starting Soon

We are pleased to offer a new parent course at John Ruskin Primary School. Camberwell After School Club, in partnership with ParentSkills2Go, will be delivering a **12-week parenting workshop** titled “My Child and Me”, starting on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April**, from **10:00am – 12:00pm**.

This programme focuses on how parents and carers can support their children’s wellbeing through cultural perspectives, while also building practical skills that can be applied at home, within the community, and in the workplace.

This is a great opportunity to build confidence, connect with other families, and access valuable support.

To register, please use the following link:

<https://forms.gle/zAz6aaJUwztHKnLR8>

My Child  
And Me

Parenting support workshop.

**TUESDAY 14TH APRIL 10AM-12PM**

Scan QRcode to register

JOHN RUSKIN PRIMARY SCHOOL  
John Ruskin St, London SE5 0PQ

FOR DETAILS,  
HOW TO REGISTER CONTACT  
KEMISOLA ON  
**07961150931**





## Accent Catering Newsletter April 2026

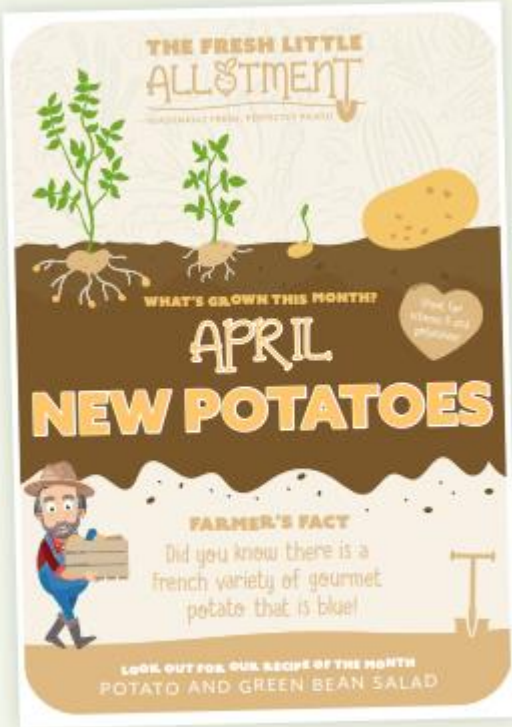


### Seasonally Fresh, Perfectly Picked

April feels like the perfect time to celebrate one of spring's most delicious arrivals: new potatoes! With their smooth skins and naturally creamy texture, new potatoes bring fresh flavour and comfort to lighter seasonal meals. This month, we're using them in our Creamy New Potato and Leek Curry and tossing them into a fresh New Potato, Green Bean & Herb Salad.

New potatoes are also full of goodness, providing vitamin C, potassium and fibre to support healthy muscles, digestion and energy levels as we move into the brighter spring months.

**Fun fact:** New potatoes are harvested earlier than other potatoes, which gives them their thin skins, sweeter taste and creamy texture - you don't even need to peel them!



### Day at the Beach coming soon!

#### JOIN US IN MAY

Get ready for some seaside fun - it's Day at the Beach! A chance to imagine the sound of the waves, feel the warm sand between your toes and enjoy all the excitement a beach day can bring.



#### Did you know?

Beaches help protect the land by acting like a natural barrier, stopping strong waves from damaging the shore.

### Create your own potato print:



#### What you'll need:

- Potatoes
- Coloured Paints
- Pens
- Paint Brush
- Card
- A Knife

#### Instructions:

1. Take one of the potatoes and carefully cut it in half using a knife.
2. On the inside of one half, draw whatever you would like your print to be.
3. Carefully cut around your drawing and remove the extra potato, leaving your shape raised.
4. Paint your potato shape with any colour you like.
5. Press the painted potato onto the card and lift it up to reveal your print. Ta-da!

Remember to ask an adult for help when using sharp objects!







THE GLOBE CHURCH  
INVITES YOU TO OUR

# Community Easter Egg Hunt

Join us on

28 March 10:30am-12:30pm

Dickens' Fields (off Falmouth Road)

Snacks

Face  
Painting

Prizes

[www.globe.church/easter](http://www.globe.church/easter)

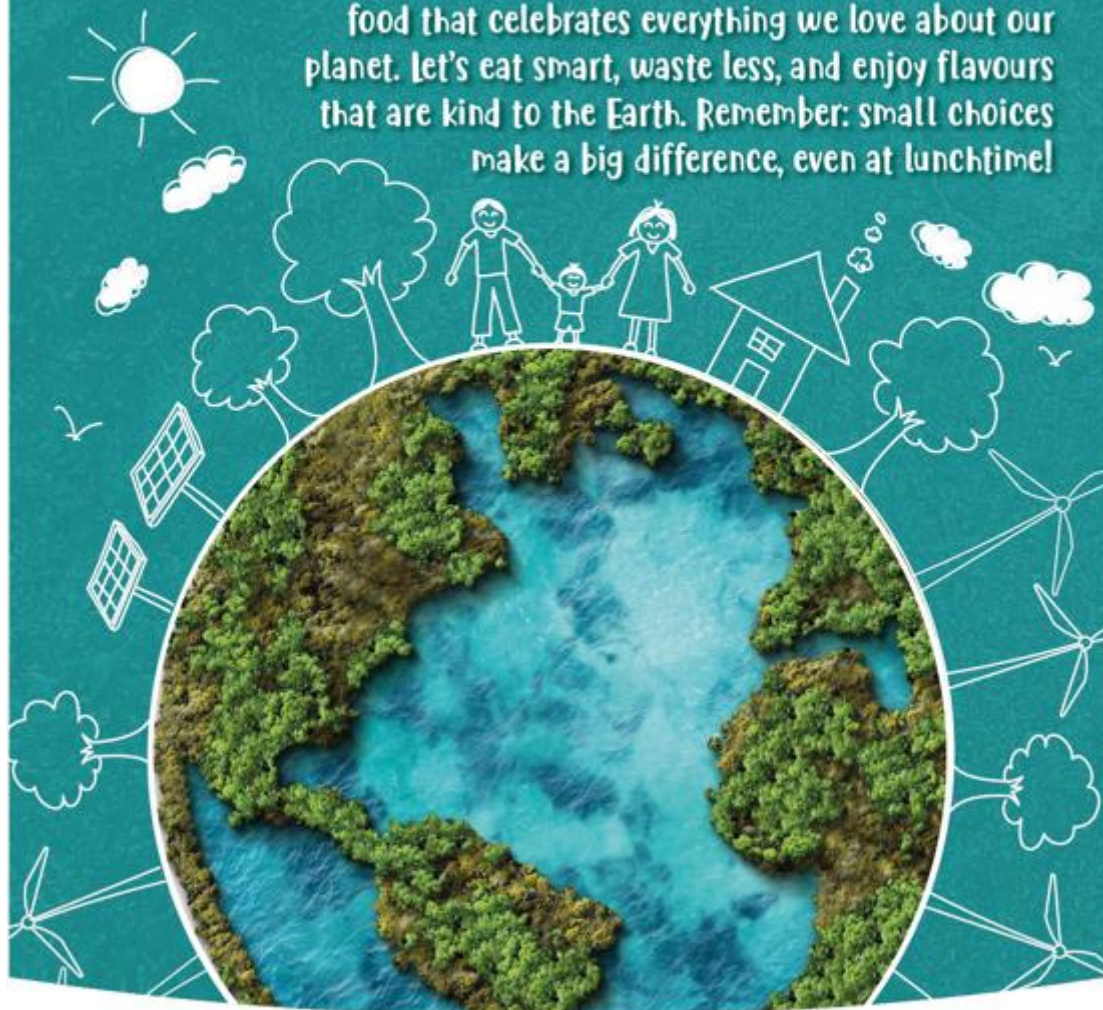


Accent

# EARTH DAY!

*Special menu day*

Join us for a special lunch filled with feel-good food that celebrates everything we love about our planet. Let's eat smart, waste less, and enjoy flavours that are kind to the Earth. Remember: small choices make a big difference, even at lunchtime!



WEDNESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL





# EARTH DAY!

Special menu day

Plant Protector Chicken & Mixed Bean Chilli  
Served with Tomato Rice  
**(Mu)**

or

Green Team Vegetarian Chilli Con Carne  
Served with Tomato Rice  
**(Ce.Mu)**

~

Green Bean Beans

~

Planet Power Tomato and Cucumber Salad

~

Kind to the Earth Choco and Raisins Crispy Cakes  
**(G.Mk.So,Su)**



**LOOK OUT! ALLERGENS**

Ce = Celery	F = Fish	L = Lupin	Mu = Mustard	Se = Sesame Seeds
Cr = Crustacean	G = Cereals containing	Mk = Milk	N = Nuts	So = Soya
E = Eggs	Gluten	Mo = Molluscs	P = Peanuts	Su = Sulphur Dioxide





## Support children with disabilities and special educational needs

**A free 5-week online course for parents/carers/TAs/classroom volunteers**



### This course will explore:

- The rights of disabled children and those with special educational needs (SEN)
- Supporting the inclusion of children with disabilities and SEN
- Helping children with disabilities and SEN to participate in a full range of activities

**Thursdays 10am-12pm**

**From 23rd April to 21st May 2026**

**The course will be delivered online using Zoom**

To book a place please complete the application form using the link or QR code:

<https://tinyurl.com/bdfyetnx>






# AUTISM COFFEE MORNING

April is Autism Acceptance Month. Join Southwark's Autism Support Team (AST) for a coffee morning to celebrate with us.

- ✓ Meet the Autism Support Team
- ✓ Speak to local services available to you and your family
- ✓ Connect with other parents of Autistic children

 Thursday  
16 April, 2026

 9:30 AM  
11:30 AM

 Park College, 5  
Kennington Park  
Place, SE11 4AS

**RSVP**

Please let us know if you're coming so that we can plan accordingly!



Use the QR code above, or follow this link:  
<https://forms.office.com/e/1wGgMXGd7H>



*Southwark*  
Council





**CAMBERWELL AFTERSCHOOL PROJECT**



**EASTER HOLIDAY PLAYScheme 2026**

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
(except Good Friday and Easter Monday)**

**CLOSING DATE  
MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2026**



BOOK NOW TO SECURE YOUR PLACE by scanning the QR Code OR CLICK ON THE Link



[HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/E/7VDKFECB1F](https://forms.office.com/E/7VDKFECB1F)

More Information

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WWW.CASPUK.ORG

Registered Charity No. 1085664 , company limited by guarantee 03948654



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## Key Events for Week Commencing 13 April

Monday  
2.00-2.30 **Burgundy Class swimming**

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

Friday  
2.00-2.30 **Vermilion Class swimming**

## Forthcoming Dates

22 April **Turquoise class assembly**

29 April **Emerald Class assembly**

8 May **Y3 Natural History Museum**

## Summer Term Dates 2026

*INSET day: Monday 13 April  
(school closed to pupils)*

**Tuesday 14 April -- Friday 22 May**

**(May Day Bank Holiday – 4 May)**

Half Term Holiday: Monday 25 May -- Friday 29 May

**Monday 1 June -- Friday 17 July  
(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)

School policies, including the school's safeguarding policy –

<https://johnruskin.southwark.sch.uk/parents-information/policies/>

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)

Southwark parenting - [Request a place on a parenting programme | Southwark Council](#)

