

Weekly Newsletter

#27

17 April 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been delighted to welcome the children back following the Easter break. They have returned fantastically well; moreover, they have re-engaged positively with school life, showing enthusiasm, focus, and a great attitude to learning.

Furthermore, I kindly ask that parents and carers do not engage in conversations with class teachers at the end of the day while children are being dismissed. This allows teachers to dismiss children safely and efficiently. If you need to speak with a teacher, please wait until all children have been safely dismissed before doing so.

Finally, a polite reminder that parents and carers must not hook the main gate open at any time. This is a safety measure to ensure all children remain secure on the school site. The gate will only be managed by members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), who supervise the site at the start and end of each day.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a safe and positive environment for all children.

Kind regards,

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

LOST PROPERTY

We have several items of lost property that was unclaimed from the spring term, if you know your child has lost something please email the office@johnruskin.southwark.sch.uk with a description of item(s).

Anything unclaimed will be disposed of after **Friday 24th April 2026**.



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Online Safety: Five Nights at Freddy's

We know how quickly trends spread online, and it's completely natural for children to talk about things they've seen or heard from friends, siblings, or YouTube. Recently, several pupils have been discussing the Five Nights at Freddy's films and games. While the franchise is very popular, it's important for families to know that it is not suitable for primary-age children.

Common Sense Media highlights that these games include:

- Strong horror themes
- Frequent jump scares
- Frightening animatronic characters
- Scenes of violence and peril

These elements are designed for older audiences and can be upsetting for younger children, even if they seem curious or confident.

As a school, we take safeguarding seriously — including online safeguarding, which is becoming more important than ever. We completely understand how challenging it can be for parents and carers to keep up with fast-moving online content, and we're here to support you. If you ever want to check whether a game, film, app, or any other media is age-appropriate, you can find clear guidance on the Common-Sense Media website here:

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>



Youth Theatre Opportunity

If this may be of interest to any of your children, Blue Elephant Theatre have just relaunched their **Youth Theatre**, running from **Bethwin Road Adventure Playground**. The sessions are **fully funded and free**, taking place on **Wednesdays from 4.30pm–5.30pm**.

There is more information and a sign-up link available on their website:

<https://blueelephanttheatre.co.uk/young-peoples-theatre-0>





ONE PLACE, ONE STOP FOR SUPPORT & ADVICE

RYE OAK BEST START FAMILY HUB

WHAT'S ON OFFER

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| SUPPORT FOR TEENAGERS | HOUSING ASSISTANCE | DEBT, BENEFITS & WELFARE | SIGNPOSTING ADVICE & GUIDANCE |
| | FAMILY SUPPORT | PARENTING SUPPORT | |
| COMMUNITY PAEDIATRICIAN | | | |

We're all here to give you help, advice, support and guidance. If you're a family with children aged 0-19 (25 with SEND) come along to Rye Oak Best Start Family Hub every Wednesday to get all the advice and support you need under one roof

EVERY WEDNESDAY
RYE OAK BEST START FAMILY HUB
WHORLTON RD, LONDON SE15 3PD

For more information email: childrenscentre@ivydale.southwark.sch.uk
or call 020 3848 5780





CHESSFEST

FRIENDS · FAMILY · FUN



FREE

Sunday 12th July 2026, 12pm to 7pm
Trafalgar Square, London

Fun, family-friendly chess in the open air, free and open to all



Free chess lessons

Grandmaster guests

Giant chess sets

Living chess performances

Challenge the chess master



Simultaneous displays

Giant blitz chess matches

Puzzle rush competitions



Proudly supported by



No booking required – just turn up!

www.Chess-Fest.com

X @Chess_Fest

@londonchessfest

Brought to you by





Inclusive Community Martial Arts Sessions for Children & Young People (SEND)

Fun, beginner-friendly sessions.

Inclusive of disabled and neurodivergent children.

Saturdays | 11:45am – 12:30pm

Starting 14 February

Harris Academy Bermondsey,
55 Southwark Park Road,
London, SE16 3TZ



Free to attend

Advance booking via Eventbrite (QR code)



Delivered by EasyStep UK
Supported by Access Sport





Music Therapy

for children and young people with SEND

Free group sessions led by qualified music therapists

Spring 2026 Dates for Oval

Ashmole Primary School, SW8 1NT

6.15-7.15pm for ages 4 - 12 & 13 - 25

16th April, 21st May, 18th June,
9th July

Every 3rd
Thursday

Email emma.chapman@in-deep.org.uk
Or call 07761 263 105 to sign up

Or join us for an online session!

Music Therapy

11.30am-12.10pm for ages 3 - 10

1pm-1:40pm for ages 11 - 20 and 21 - 30

25th April, 23rd May, 27th June, 25th July

Every 4th
Saturday



EAT CURIOUS IS COMING TO OUR SCHOOL MENUS!

After the April Term Break, we're introducing meals made with Eat Curious, a plant powered ingredient made from pulses.

**Eat
CURIOUS**

WHY ARE WE USING IT?

We are gradually introducing more plant-based ingredients to help support pupil health, reduce our environmental impact and to encourage sustainable food choices.

WHAT IS EAT CURIOUS?

Eat Curious is made from peas and faba beans and is designed to cook and taste like familiar favourites. This means we can continue serving dishes children enjoy - just in a more sustainable way.

Eat Curious products are also free from the top 14 allergens, helping us provide inclusive meals for more children.



NUTRITIONAL BENEFITS

Eat Curious is:

- High in plant protein to support growth and energy
- High in fibre to support healthy digestion
- 100% plant based

It is a great source of steady energy for lessons, playtimes and after-school activities.

BETTER FOR THE PLANET

Peas and beans are sometimes called "soil superheroes." They naturally fix nitrogen, meaning they take nitrogen from the air and return it to the soil. This helps farmers grow healthy crops while reducing the need for fertilisers.

We're proud to continually evolve our menus to support both pupil well-being and the environment. For additional information about Eat Curious products, you can also visit their website at: <https://eat-curious.com/us/home>.

Accent



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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>



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Key Events for Week Commencing 20 April

Monday
2.00-2.30 **Burgundy Class swimming**

Tuesday
All Day **Burgundy class Nunhead Cemetery**
10.00-10.30 **Turquoise Class swimming**
10.30-11.00 **Scarlet Class swimming**

Wednesday
9.20 & 10.35 **Turquoise class assembly**

Friday
2.00-2.30 **Vermilion Class swimming**

Forthcoming Dates

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

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

School policies, including the school's safeguarding policy –

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

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

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

