



Forest School

We are very excited to be running a Forest School for all of the children in Reception this academic year. It will be held in the nature reserve area of Southwark Park on Mondays by Miss Rutherford. Each child in Reception will have the opportunity to attend a two hour session for an eight week period.

Forest School is an outdoor educational learning experience that encourages children to connect with nature through a range of activities taking place in a natural environment. The experience of outdoor learning combined with the practical, hands on aspects of forest school has shown to be a successful way to motivate children and deepen their learning.



Year 1 visit the Farm

Snowdrop and Tulip classes had a lovely morning at Surrey Quays Farm. They met lots of different animals including goats, cows, ponies, pigs and geese. They also saw grapevines and pear trees full of trees. There was a blacksmith in action and they also looked at the gardens and the River Thames. On the bus journey there and back the children's behavior was outstanding and we were very proud of them!

Mrs Clarke will be going on maternity leave on Friday 14th October. We hope she manages to have a rest before the baby arrives. She is leaving with our best wishes.

MacMillian Coffee Morning

Thank you to everyone who attended the Coffee morning, donated cakes and bought cakes after school.

The Parents Association are pleased to announce that we raised £605!

Thank you!



Dates for the diary

Thursday 20th October –
Parents' Evening

Friday 21st October – Last
day of school for half term

Monday 31st October –
INSET DAY: School closed
for children

Tuesday 1st November –
Book Week

Friday 4th November – Dress
as a Book Character Day



Year 3 & Year 4 trips

Last week the Year 3 classes went on a trip to Wrotham in Kent. The children built shelters in the woods using natural materials. They also cooked their own bread over an open fire. After that the children used hacksaws and glue guns to make miniature models of our shelters to bring back to school.

The Year 4 classes visited London Canal Museum. The children took part in an interactive workshop where we assumed the role of canal engineers. The children worked in groups to dig a tunnel through a sand castle in order to discover the importance of strength in a structure and look at beams and arches. To complete the workshop the children worked in pairs to build their own mini arches using a range of materials. The second activity was a local walk to explore the geography of the local area with reference to how the growth of the canals. The final activity was based in the museum and called the canal detectives. The children investigated a range of topics including, the internal structure of a canal boat, clothing worn by 19th Century canal people and how horses were used to pull canal boats. It was a very informative day and year 4 are now ready to apply their knowledge to some simple bridge building !



Bilingual Reading Scheme

At Southwark Park we now have a subscription to Kitaboo!, an online reading scheme with bilingual books in more than 20 different languages as well as English. These are ideal for parents' who are keen to read at home with their children in English and keep up their home language at the same time. If you are interested in finding out more about this scheme, please come to our parents' workshop at school on **Tuesday 1st November** from 2.45-3.15. We will also have some copies of our bilingual story books for you to look at and borrow. If you would like to attend, please sign up at the school office.

Nursery admissions – if your child is born between 1st September 2013 and 31st December 2013 they are eligible for 15 hours in Nursery from January 2017. Have you applied?

Maths Workshops

The Happy Puzzle Company came in and worked with Y2 to Y6 classes on developing children's problem solving skills through a number of fun, interactive games.

Much talking and laughter was heard!



Attendance & Punctuality

As of 6th October attendance at Southwark Park stood at 96.15%.

A few reminders:

- Holidays taken in term time will not be authorised and will be marked on the register as unauthorised.
- If your child is ill and sees a doctor or has an appointment, please can you bring in proof e.g. appointment card/letter.