Spa Camberwell, Southampton Way, SE5 7EW
A special school for autistic pupils

2nd October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

October is set to be an exciting month across our school. We will mark Black History Month, with pupils exploring inspiring stories, achievements, and cultural contributions through classroom learning and a range of enriching activities.
We will also recognise World Mental Health Day on Friday 9th October, taking time to promote wellbeing, encourage open conversations, and support our pupils in understanding the importance of looking after their mental health.

A reminder that the last day of term is **Friday 23rd October**.

Highlights from this week

Meet the Therapists – Reception and KS1

Thank you to all the families who joined us on Tuesday. We hope you found the session informative, helpful and supportive, and that it provided an opportunity to learn more about the support available to our pupils.

Starting School Sessions

Thank you to everyone who attended this week's Starting School Sessions. We really valued the thoughtful discussions and reflections shared, and hope the sessions provided a useful opportunity to share experiences and ideas.

Jack Petchey Award

The Jack Petchey Award recognises and celebrates pupils who demonstrate exceptional effort and determination, make a positive contribution to their school community, and show support for others.
Congratulations to Haliya and Ali, our two most recent Jack Petchey Award winners. We are very proud of their achievements and the positive contribution they make to our school community. It was lovely seeing them celebrate with friends and family this week.

TfL Transport Museum assembly and workshop

On Friday, the TfL Transport Museum visited Spa Camberwell to deliver an assembly for Key Stage 4 and an interactive workshop for Key Stage 3.

Students took part in a range of engaging and practical activities, learning about ticketing, recognising TfL staff, staying safe when travelling, and making active and sustainable travel choices.

It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to develop important life skills, confidence and independence, helping them to become safer and more confident travellers in their local community.



School Photographer

Wednesday's photography session brought much excitement. Photos will be shared with families as soon as they are ready.

Looking Ahead

Meet the therapists – Brenchley, Burgess and Rye
Tuesday 6th October – 9:30 am

Family Reading Workshops
Reading is a key focus in our school development plan. Families are warmly invited to join us for practical workshops on supporting reading at home:
Thursday, 8th October

- **9:45 am – Primary families**
- **2:15 pm – Secondary families**

Parent Zone LEGO Build and Talk online safety workshop for parents and carers
Parent Zone is hosting a LEGO Build & Talk workshop for parents and carers to explore online safety, gaming and digital wellbeing together. Parents and carers will explore how playing with LEGO with their children can spark positive interactions about screen time, online friendships, kindness, privacy, in-game purchases and staying well when using technology.
The session is relaxed, practical and designed to help adults feel more confident talking with their children about online experiences. No LEGO experience needed
Wednesday, 14th October – 1:30 pm

Online Safety

Supporting Children with Additional Needs When Something Goes Wrong Online
Children with additional needs may not always recognise when an online situation has become unsafe, or they may find it difficult to explain what has happened.
They may also communicate distress differently, become overwhelmed by questions or worry about losing access to a device or online activity that is particularly important to them.
This short video gives parents practical advice on supporting a child calmly when something has gone wrong online and helping them feel able to share what has happened.
Link:
YouTube – Supporting children with additional needs when something goes wrong online

Apple Child Safety Features
If your child uses an iPhone or iPad, Apple's latest software includes a number of new parental-control and safety features.
These include improved Screen Time controls, limits across categories of apps, website controls and additional Communication Safety protections.
The short video below provides a useful overview, while Apple's own guidance explains how parents can set up and manage the controls in more detail.
Links:
YouTube – iOS 27 child safety features
Apple – Child Safety
Apple Support – Screen Time and parental controls

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Flu Vaccinations

The school nursing team will be visiting on Monday, 3rd November to offer flu vaccinations for pupils whose families have completed the online consent form. The vaccine is a quick nasal spray (not an injection).
You can find the online form here:
https://cypcis.kingstonandrichmond.nhs.uk/flu/2025/southwark

Wishing you all a restful weekend,



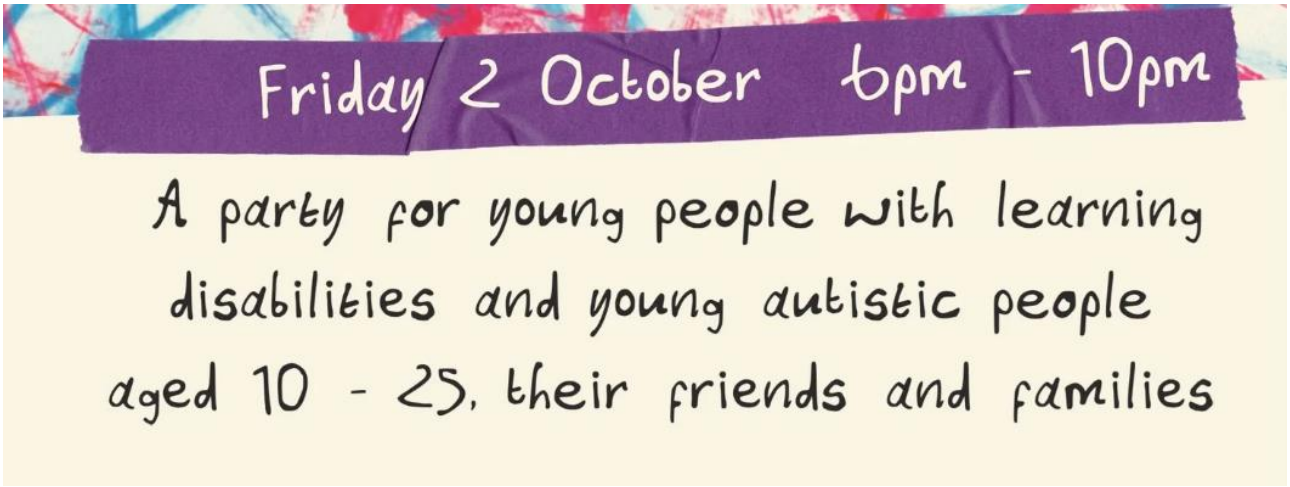
Rian Ehlers
Head of School

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Support and activities for families

Click on the link for a health and attendance-related messages from the Department of Education

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_i5KxggkPTw



Good Chaos Party

Friday 2 October 2026

18:00 – 22:00

The Albany

Douglas Way, London, SE8 4AG

https://www.heartnsoul.co.uk/whatson/goodchaos26

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Best Start Family Hub Activity Timetable
Southwark's Best Start Family Hubs continue to offer a range of activities, groups and support for families. Click on the links below for the Family Hub timetables
Rye Oak Ann Bernadt Best Start Family Hub
Dulwich Wood Best Start Family Hub
South Bermondsey Best Start Family Hub
1st Place Best Start Family Hub

Fathers' Group Friday mornings- Starting 2nd October

Encourage fathers, grandfathers and stepdads to take part in this engaging 10-week parenting course. Participants will gain practical tips on positive parenting, strengthening family relationships, communication and positive role modelling. The programme offers a supportive environment to build confidence and skills that benefit the whole family. Crèche provided.

Fathers can sign up here

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BFI London Film Festival – Free Tickets to Gala screenings – Bookings start today!



The 70th BFI London Film Festival returns from 7-18 October and **we've got a special code for you to attend films in the Gala programme for free**!
Galas are exciting public premieres of some of the most highly anticipated films of the year: think big crowds, red carpets, and a chance to see the filmmakers and actors themselves!

Booking for free tickets opens **this Friday 18th September at 10am.** Your special booking code is **TSDHLFF26** - entitling you to **4 free tickets** across all the Gala screenings. Book quickly to secure your spots!

Guide to booking free Gala tickets

See all Gala screenings here

Please note that **all Gala films are for persons 15 and over** - with the exception of **Wildwood**, which is rated 12A.

A number of screenings are offered with access provisions including:

- Descriptive subtitles: On-screen subtitles that include descriptions of non-dialogue audio.

- Closed Captions: Descriptive subtitles that include descriptions of non-dialogue audio via WatchWord smart glasses.
- Audio description: Audio narration including descriptions of key visual elements of the film.
- Relaxed screenings: Relaxed screenings with house lights on a lower level and reduced volume.
- Specific seating requirements: These are often designated for wheelchair users, restricted mobility and sight view.

See all Gala films with access provision here



CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY

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Resources for Autism are running virtual monthly workshops for parent/carers in Barnet, Lewisham and Southwark, presenting on topics around autism, related conditions and strategies to help autistic people to thrive.

Times: On the last Tuesday of every month, 6-7pm

Price: Free

The next workshop on **Managing Relationships with School** will be on the 29th September from 6-7pm - sign up below.

Sign up for Managing Relationships with School - 29 September

See full timetable here