

Holbeach

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 10th October 2025

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 14th October and Wednesday 15th October

- School Photographer visiting for Individual Portraits and family photos ([click here](#))

Thursday 16th October

- EYFS Parent/Carer Phonological Awareness Workshop and stay and play (see page 2) 9am - 10am

Friday 17th October

- Show Racism the Red Card (everyone is encouraged to wear red to school on this day)
- School Discos (page 3)
 - ◊ Disco 1: Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2 & Year 3 (4pm - 5:15pm)
 - ◊ Disco 2: Years 4, 5 and 6 (5:30pm - 6:45pm)

Monday 20th October

- OPAL playground Stay and Play (page 3)

Tuesday 21st October

- Year 4 and Year 5 Educational Visit to a Battle of Britain Musical Experience

Wednesday 22nd October

- Year 5 & Year 6 Meet the author event.

Thursday 23rd October

- NHS Height / Weight Measurement for Reception & Year 6 ([click here](#))



Year Educational Visit to London Zoo

On Wednesday, Year One had a wonderful day at London Zoo! They were lucky enough to see some sleeping lions and tigers. They also got to see the gorillas and spied a baby gorilla playing

in the enclosure. The penguins gave them a show and were swimming and diving! They saw meerkats, lizards and lots more at the zoo.

Thank you so much to all of the parent volunteers who went along for this visit. We really appreciate all of your help and support. It was a fantastic day that everyone thoroughly enjoyed.



Science in Year 3

In Year 3, the children have been great Scientists. They have been finding out about light sources and what happens when there are no light sources.

They carried out two investigations. One where they had a "feely bag" which needed a light to be shone on it so that the objects inside were illuminated. The other was using a torch as the light source to find out which materials reflected the light and which materials absorbed the light.



Caribbean Living Room

This week, all of the children in Years 4, 5 and 6 were able to step into history by visiting Catford Broadway Theatre to see a "Windrush Front Room" an interactive exhibition that recreates a Caribbean Living Room from the 1940s–1960s.

The children were able to get up close to and handle objects found in a Front Room in the 1940s and 1950s and to learn all about the brave young people who travelled to the UK from the Caribbean in 1948.

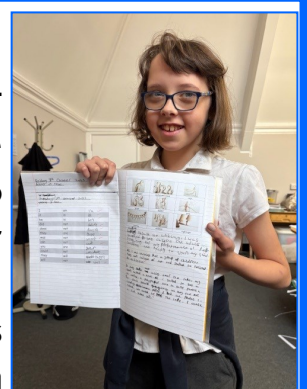


Great Writing

The children at Holbeach are continuing to do really well with their writing.

This week's celebration assembly was filled with examples of children who are thinking about the purpose of the writing task and how to influence their reader through their vocabulary choices.

Lily-Rose in 6W has also been working hard on her handwriting and spelling and it is really paying off!



Black History Month

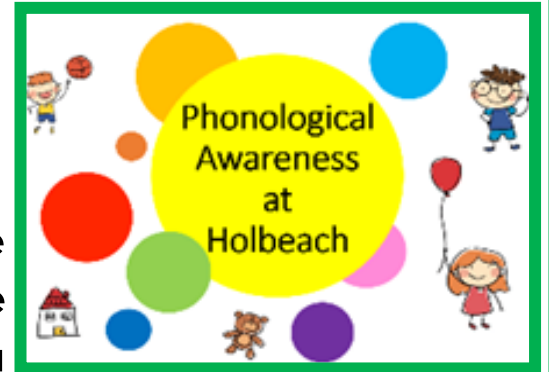
This week, in Reception, the children have been celebrating Black History Month by learning about some inspiring figures from the worlds of art and sport.

They explored the colourful artwork of Alma Thomas and Barbara Walker, looking closely at how they use shape, colour, and pattern to express themselves.



The also learned about Lewis Hamilton, the famous Formula 1 driver. Inspired by his racing success, the children had great fun outdoors building their own racing cars using crates and wheeled trolleys.

Whole School Development of 'Phonological Awareness'



As you are no doubt already aware, for the next two weeks we will be devoting time to: **"Syllable Awareness"**, which is the ability to hear and identify the separate parts (syllables) in a word.

Here are some ideas to help children hear (and become aware of) the syllables in words:

EYFS & KS1 Children

- Clap the syllables: Clap and tap the beats in everyday words, such as rainbow (rain-bow), tiger (ti-ger), banana (ba-na-na) and caterpillar (cat-er-pil-lar). The more you do it, the more aware your child becomes of the parts of the words.
- Syllable Treasure Hunt: Hide objects around the house or garden, and give your child clues based on the number of syllables in the object's name. For example, say, "Find something with three syllables," and they might find a ba-na-na.

KS2 Children

- When reading with your child, if they come across a long word which is tricky for them to say, read it for them and also break the word into syllables. Not only does this demonstrate how adults read new/complex words, but it also lets them hear all the different sounds!
- If you are helping your child spell a word, spell it for them in syllable 'chunks' – again, this is a great strategy to show how adults spell long word. For example 'organisation' can be spelled in the chunks 'or + gan + i + sa + tion'. R

Remember... If your child WANTS to have a go clapping syllables, great! But at the moment we are working on **SHOWING** them how to do it ourselves (this is called modelling)

Holbeach
Primary School

Parent & Carer Workshop

Thursday 16th October 2025
9:00am – 10:00am



Theme: Supporting Early Reading Skills!

Dear Parents and Carers of children in Nursery and Reception,

We are pleased to announce that **each half term**, we will be holding a parent and carer workshop for you to be able to attend.

The first one of these workshops is taking place on **Thursday 16th October between 9am and 10am** at Holbeach Primary School.

This workshop will be run by our English Subject Leader (Chloe Spicer) and our Speech and Language Therapist (Bryony Langmaid).

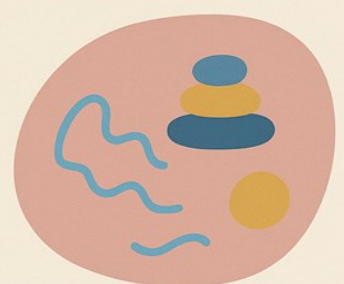
Following the workshop, you will all be invited into your child's class for a quick '**stay-and-play**' to try out some of the ideas discussed in the workshop.

We encourage you all to attend and look forward to welcoming you on the day!



CALM AND CONNECT
THERAPY

COME AND ENJOY A SENSORY CIRCUIT FOR MOTHERS



27 SEPTEMBER
KALIMERA CAFE
247A LEWISHAM WAY
LONDON SE4 1XF

6-8PM 07401317575

Signposting to Events

Friends of Holbeach **AUTUMN DISCO**



HOT DOGS, DRINKS, SWEETS, CRISPS +
GLITTER TATTOOS WILL BE AVAILABLE
TO BUY, AND FANCY DRESS IS WELCOME!

Friday 17th October
Disco 1 (Nursery, Reception, Y1, 2, 3): 4-5.15pm
Disco 2 (Y4, 5, 6): 5.30-6.45pm

In the hall (entrance via the main gates on Doggett Rd)
Check the newsletter and FoH WhatsApp for ticket info

Catford Arts Trail
11/12 October 2025
11am - 5pm

Some venues have adjusted opening hours check app/website

www.catfordarts.org
@catford_arts #catfordartstrail
www.facebook.com/catfordarts

Lewisham Stanfords sales & lettings



OPAL Stay & Play

We are excited to invite you to a Stay and Play session in our school playground! Come along and enjoy some fun outdoor activities with your child, meet other families, and see how we support learning through play. It's a great opportunity to explore our wonderful outdoor space. We look forward to seeing you there!

MONDAY 20TH OCTOBER
3:30-4:30

Protect your child from flu this winter!



Scan the QR code to
complete the Flu
consent form

For more information
on the Children's Flu
vaccine, search
"NHS Children's Flu"

Contact the Lewisham
Immunisation team on
020 3903 3635



September 2025