

# Holbeach

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 6th March 2026

### World Book Day

At Holbeach, we firmly believe in the importance of Reading for Pleasure. That is why we were so happy to see the children having so much fun with books during this week and especially on World Book Day.

During the week, the children have: dressed up as their favourite character from a book; taken part in a special assembly with author Paterson Joseph; spent time with another class sharing books; visited Moon Lane Book Shop or Waterstones to spend their book voucher and much much more. After school, the Friends of Holbeach continued a memorable World Book day by holding a special event in the Key Stage One Hall.



### IMPORTANT DATES

#### Monday 9th March - Friday 13th March

- Science Week (Theme is "Curiosity: What is your Question?")

#### Monday 9th March

- Year 1 "Living Eggs" project begins.

#### Tuesday 10th March

- Friends of Holbeach Hub Shop open (9am in the School House)

#### Thursday 12th March

- 3B Class Assembly (10:15am - parents and carers welcome to attend)
- Performing Arts Club Educational Visit to see Hercules

#### Friday 13th March

- Lewisham Saxon Crown Swimming Gala

#### Tuesday 17th March

- Friends of Holbeach Hub Shop open (9am in the School House)

#### Wednesday 18th March

- Year 3 Educational Visit to The London Eye
- Year 2 Educational Visit to The Greenwich O2 Cinema
- Parents Evening (4pm - 7pm)

#### Friday 20th March

- Friends of Holbech School Discos (see flyer on page 2)
  - ◇ 4:00pm-5:15pm - Nursery-Year 2
  - ◇ 5:30pm-6:45pm - Year 3-Year 6

### Year 6 Visit Downe House



This week, Year 6 have been lucky enough to supplement their learning about 'Life on Earth' by visiting Downe House (the home of Charles Darwin).

This visit included a scientific workshop and a chance to look at the amazing grounds of this stately home.

The children loved learning about Darwin's life (especially the slide he had built into his home) and about the interesting research that he is so famous for completing

### Year 2 Visit

In Year 2 this week, the children had the wonderful opportunity to visit a local Hindu temple. This trip was a special experience that helped them to learn about other cultures and traditions in a meaningful way.

During the visit, the children observed the beautiful architecture and peaceful atmosphere of the temple. They learned about some specific practices and symbols and they also developed an understanding of the importance of respect in places of worship.

The temple guides answered the children's questions, helping them understand the values and beliefs of this community.

Overall, the trip encouraged curiosity

and respect for diversity. The children listened carefully and showed great interest in learning about a culture that may have been new to some of them.



### Parent Portal and Parent Group

#### Parent Portal & App

Thank you to everyone who has already set up their **Parent Portal** on Arbor. Already, parents and carers have been able to record absences and update contact details. Click [here](#) to join these parents in communicating with the school in a much more time-effective way.

#### Parent Group

We are really looking forward to getting our first **Incredible Years Parent Group** up and running (see flyer on page 4). We urge as many of you as possible to come to the launch coffee morning on **Tuesday 24th March**.

# Friends of Holbeach

## - Spring Disco -

### Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**tickets on sale next week...**

**hot dogs,  
drinks, crisps,  
sweets, glitter  
tattoos and  
tunes!**



**add your  
favourite  
tune to the  
mix here**



<b>Disco 1</b>	<b>(Nursery, reception, Y1, Y2, Y3)</b>	<b>4 - 5.15pm</b>
<b>Disco 2</b>	<b>(Y4, Y5, Y6)</b>	<b>5.30 - 6.45pm</b>

**The disco will be held in the school hall  
(entrance via the main gates on Doggett Road)**

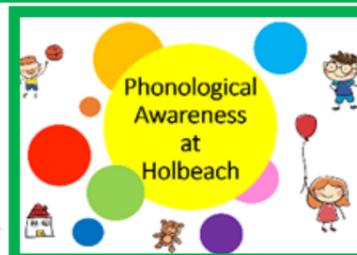
**We need lots of volunteers to help run the disco.**

**Please speak to a committee member, pop into the Hub on Tuesday mornings or email**

**friendsofholbeach@gmail.com to sign up!**

# Supporting Your Child's Learning

## Whole School Development of 'Phonological awareness'



Over the next few weeks we will be: **Recognising rhyme words**. This means being able to hear and notice when two words sound the same in the middle and at the end, like "cat" and "hat." Working on this helps children to notice patterns in words, which then improves their spelling.

**IMPORTANT!!** Do not ask your child to tell you rhyme words yet... that's our next skill. For now, just focus on them being able to correctly notice when words rhyme. Start by noticing when two words rhyme yourself and drawing their attention to the fact (e.g. "hmmm, sock and clock rhyme").

### **Younger children (e.g. EYFS and KS1)**

**Rhyme Detective:** Say three words—two that rhyme and one that doesn't (e.g., cat, hat, dog). Ask your child, "Which word doesn't belong?" Try with other sets (fox, box, tree / car, star, chair). Remember to model recognising the rhyme yourself first.

### **Older children (e.g. KS2)**

**Rhyme Hunt!** Pick a word (log) and say a list of words, some that rhyme and some that don't (dog, pen, fog, top, jog). Your child claps/ gives a thumbs up when they hear a rhyme! A few minutes of play each day can make a big difference in early literacy skills!

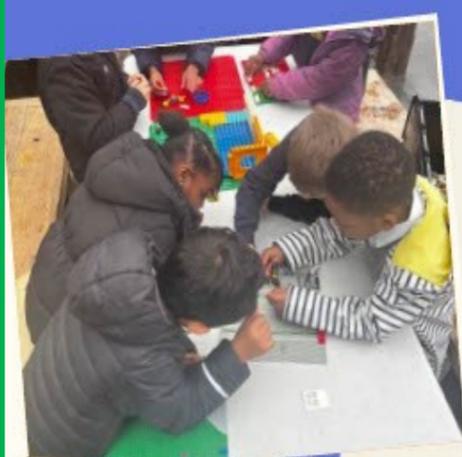
Here are some videos where children can practice saying and recognising rhyming words:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTbO9kjoWDs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCwnyCs4nVY>

**Here is a website with lists of rhyme words:**

<https://www.orchidsinternationalschool.com/blog/rhyming-words-for-kids-in-english>



**We are excited to continue building creative play opportunities for our students, and we would love your support! We are currently looking for donations of new or gently used LEGO bricks and LEGO baseplates to add to our playground Lego area.**

**If you have any extra LEGO pieces or boards at home that you would be willing to donate, we would greatly appreciate it. Thank you for helping us create an engaging and inspiring play space for our children!**



# Signposting Support for Parents and Carers



## The Incredible Years Parenting Group Coffee Morning

Our evidence-based parenting sessions are for parents and carers with a child aged **4 – 11 years** who displays **serious behavioural challenges**. Your child may behave in ways that make places and spaces unsafe to be in, or cause harm to themselves and others.



### HELP IMPROVE...

- Your child's **self-esteem** and **wellbeing**
- **Relationships**
- **Resilience and stress**
- Your **confidence** as a parent

To find out more about the Programme, join us on

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March**  
9-10am  
**Holbeach Primary School**

Nelgarde Rd, London SE6 4TP

Learn alongside other parents about:

- **Child-led play** and its importance
- Creating and enforcing **boundaries**
- Helping your child **calm down**
- Recognising the **positives**
- How incentives can help with **behaviour change**
- **Consequences** and how and when they are helpful

To enquire or book your place please contact us via

[www.lewishamcfc.org.uk/contact-us/](http://www.lewishamcfc.org.uk/contact-us/)  
[www.lewishamcfc.org.uk](http://www.lewishamcfc.org.uk)

## Easter Swimming Crash Course

Week 1: March 30th to April 2th - £48.00  
Week 2: April 7th to April 10th - £48.00

Daily 30 Minute Lessons  
Lessons Between - 8:30am to 10:30am

### BOOK NOW

[swimming@stdunstans.org.uk](mailto:swimming@stdunstans.org.uk) | 02085167205



### BUILDING SAFER RELATIONSHIPS (BSR) PROGRAMME

A 11-week psycho-educational programme for survivors / victims experiencing domestic abuse, delivered as a group for women (and 1:1 basis if English is not your first language)

This programme is interactive and champions the voices of those present.

This is a safe and confidential space. Practitioners will only share outside of this group if there is a safeguarding concern.

The programme explores:

**What is domestic abuse: definition, facts & figures**

**The different types of abusive behaviours you may experience at different stages of your relationship including post separation.**

**Indicators and behaviours that lead to very serious harm.**

**How to create safety for you and your children both online, at home and in the community.**

**The experiences and voices of victims and survivors and encouraged in each session.**

WEEKLY ON A TUESDAY 10:00 – 12:00  
5<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026 TO 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2026

This programme runs over **11 weeks**, and to complete it you will need to:

- **Be referred by your child's social worker** (via the MACPT Intervention referral form).
- **Attend in-person** – this will be a closed group (after 3<sup>rd</sup> session)
- We also encourage participants to come along to our **Introductory Session**, which is a relaxed opportunity to ask questions and meet the facilitators and other group members before the programme begins.

#### Key Dates

**Introductory Session:** 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
**Programme:** 12<sup>th</sup> May, 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 9<sup>th</sup> June, 16<sup>th</sup> June, 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 30<sup>th</sup> June, 7<sup>th</sup> July, 14<sup>th</sup> July and 21<sup>st</sup> July 2026

All from 10 am – 12pm at:

Civic Suit, Catford Road, London. SE4 4RU

We are committed to ensuring our programme is inclusive and accessible to all families. Please inform us of any access requirements, physical, sensory, communication or learning needs so we can make suitable arrangements and ensure your comfort throughout the programme.



## Holbeach Summer Camp

We are excited to announce that the Holbeach Summer Camp is set to return for another year. The camp will once again be run for 2 weeks by the Holbeach Wrap Around Team.

**Week 1: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July**  
**Week 2: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July.**

Cost: £35 a day or £150 per week.  
Breakfast and snacks included.

**Fun Activities**      **Water Fun**

**Sports & Team Games**      **Park Days & Playground Games**

If you would like an Application Form visit the School Website or collect a paper copy from the Main Office.

# Safeguarding Update



## Safeguarding Notice

Safeguarding children at Holbeach is **everyone's** responsibility

If you have any concerns regarding the safety and welfare of any child within our school, then please ask to speak with one of the following people:

**Designated Safeguarding Lead**  
Tom Bulpitt (Headteacher)



**Deputy Safeguarding Leads**  
Phil Morriss (Deputy Headteacher)  
Annette Howes (Learning Mentor)



You can also share your concerns directly by contacting the Lewisham Families First Contact Point (FFCP) team on 020 8314 6660.

Alternatively, you can call **Childline** on 0800 1111.

However, if you believe a child is in imminent danger, you should contact the **police** immediately by calling **999**.



Did you know that Holbeach is an **Operation Encompass** school?

Operation Encompass directly connects the police with schools to secure better outcomes for **children who are subject to or witness to police-attended incidents of domestic abuse**. Rapid provision of support within the school environment means children are better safeguarded against the short-, medium- and long-term effects of domestic abuse.

Operation Encompass provides an efficient, confidential channel of communication between police forces and Key Adults within schools. This enables the immediate and discrete recognition of the child's situation by the Key Adult, ensuring a secure and sympathetic environment is provided and the broader effects of abuse are addressed.

**If you are experiencing domestic abuse, please do not be afraid. Come and talk to us. We can help you to access the relevant local services.**

## Family Help Continuum of Need

In Lewisham we know that the majority of our children, young people and their families can be supported through a range of **universal** services. These services include education, early years, health and housing. These services include education, early years, health, housing, and services provided by voluntary organisations.

However, some children have more complex needs and may require access to **Family Help** to support them. We want to ensure that we provide the right help and support for these families. **The image below shows the different stages that Lewisham Families can be supported at.** If you are experiencing any kind of difficulty, **please do come and talk to us.** We can help you to access the relevant local services.

