

Friday 22nd May 2026

### School Journey to Wick Court Farm

For a group of fantastic farming adventurers in Year 5, this may well have been one of the most memorable weeks of their lives. Thirty-three of our children went with Miss Felton, Mr Greaves, Ms Davidson and Mrs Gibbs to live on Wick Court Farm for a week.

Whilst on the farm, their activities have included: mucking out the animals (horses, pigs and chickens); grooming the animals; gardening on the farm; enjoying some wild play; trying out bee-keeping and telling stories round a camp-fire.

Thank you to the staff who took them and to the parents/carers who enabled them to go.



### IMPORTANT DATES

---- Half Term Holiday ----  
 ----- 25th - 29th May -----

#### Monday 1st June

- INSET Day (school is closed to the children on this day)

#### Tuesday 2nd June

- Summer Term begins again (9am)
- Year 4 Educational Visit to The British Museum (Mayan Exhibits)
- EYFS and Year 1 Theatre Workshops with "Drama for All".
- Holbeach Hub Shop (9am in the school house)

#### Thursday 4th June

- 1S Educational Visit to Surrey Docks Farm

#### Tuesday 9th June

- 1T Educational Visit to Surrey Docks Farm

### Shell Class Assembly

Congratulations to the children in Shell Class on the amazing job they did with their first ever class assembly.

During their performance, the children explored lots of wonderful ideas about growth. They spoke so clearly and proudly and it was lovely to see their newly-gained confidence shining through.

A highlight of the assembly was when they shared what they have learned about the life cycle of a caterpillar. It was clear that they have all really enjoyed watching their own caterpillars grow and change over time. The children were fascinated to see how a tiny caterpillar transforms into a beautiful butterfly, and they did a brilliant job explaining this process to everyone in the audience. Every child said their lines beautifully and sang their hearts out during the songs.



### Harry Potter Lunch!

On Thursday, the children really enjoyed the Harry Potter themed lunch that was provided by our catering team from Nourish.

The children's favourite dish was the "Slytherin Chicken Meatball Sub" with chef Stephen's special homemade sauce!



### Trees on the Green



Well done to the children in 5F who are the latest group of Holbeach children to have their work displayed on the "Tree on the Green" installation.

Artist Giuseppe Grossi works with local schools and services to keep producing fresh presentations on the trees in Rushey Green.

The latest work was inspired by Sir David Attenborough who recently turned 100 years old.

Thank you to Mrs Carnell for maintaining our connection with Giuseppe.

### Year 6 Visit to The Transport Museum

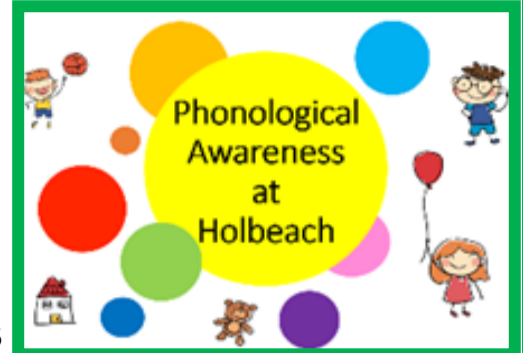
On Monday, Year 6 had a fantastic time at the London Transport Museum, where they had an engaging tour exploring the history of London's transport system and enjoyed a range of interactive exhibits and historic vehicles, including a stamp trail!

A highlight of their visit was taking part in the Caribbean Journeys workshop, where they explored the experiences and contributions of Caribbean communities to London's transport network and wider culture, prompting thoughtful discussion and reflection. After lunch, they headed outside into Covent Garden to enjoy the street art.



# Supporting Learning

## Whole School Development of 'Phonological awareness'



This week, we have started to focus on “**Segmenting Sounds**”. Segmenting sounds in words means breaking a word down into its individual sounds, like taking the word "dog" and separating it into "d," "o," and "g." Working on this will help your child to be able spell much more accurately.

### All children would benefit from...

Playing 'I Spy' with a twist: Play I Spy with your child but start with “I spy something with these sounds... t...r...ee... (tree)” In the beginning, leave a very small gap between sounds so it is easy for them to hear the word 'tree'

Once a child can break a word into individual sounds, then they can start to connect each sound to a letter. This skill helps children understand how sounds work together to form words, which is important for reading and writing.

### Helpful Videos

Video 1: [click here](#)

Video 2: [click here](#)

Video 3: [click here](#)

## HOLBEACH FUN RUN 2026



**SATURDAY 13TH JUNE**  
**10AM**  
**LADYWELL FIELDS**

Holbeach children (and their grown-ups!) are all welcome to join our annual Fun Run. There is no cost but we do ask children to help fundraise if possible. Please look out for letters in book bags and hand in permission slips via the class teachers by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

If you have any questions, email [friendsofholbeach@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofholbeach@gmail.com)

## HELP US CREATE A SENSORY GARDEN!

### DONATIONS NEEDED

We are excited to begin developing a sensory garden for our Year 1 pupils – a calm, creative space to explore textures, sounds and nature.

To bring this project to life, we are kindly asking for your help!



### WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

- Old keys
- Unwanted cutlery (spoons, forks, etc.)
- Children's tights (clean & no longer needed)



### HOW THESE WILL BE USED

Keys & cutlery will be transformed into musical and tactile features in the garden.

Tights will be used in creative gardening projects.

### THANK YOU

If you have any of these items at home, please give them to a Year 1 member of staff.



We really appreciate your support – helping us create a beautiful and engaging outdoor space

# Signposting to Local Services

## Montage Theatre Arts

Montage Theatre Arts is a Lewisham-based performing arts charity, providing affordable and accessible performing arts classes for children in the borough.

This May Half Term, we're running a 3-day course inspired by K-pop Demon Hunters at Prendergast School in Hilly Fields. Students aged 5-12 will sing and dance to some of the movie's hits as well as some other K-pop bops!

The children will work together, make new friends, build their confidence, and put on a show for friends and family on the Friday. It's a great opportunity to try something new in a supportive, inclusive environment.

We have free and reduced-rate places available, and we accept tax-free childcare vouchers.

You can book your place here: <https://www.montagetheatre.com/shop/brockley-upside-down-80s-wednesday-27th-friday-29th-may/>



## Holiday Activities & Food

Did you know that Lewisham Council offers free activities and lunches for children and young people aged 4 to 16 (in receipt of benefit-related Free School Meals).

Click on this link: [Lewisham Council - Holiday activities and food programme](#) to find out more information about the fact that the council has been awarded funding to continue delivering the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme for another 3 years.

This continued investment from the Department for Education is fantastic news and testament to the impact HAF has had in supporting children, young people, and families during school holidays.

As part of our wider Youth Offer, HAF plays a vital role in our commitment to providing more opportunities for children and young people to thrive, through a diverse range of fun-packed activities including arts, crafts, sport and trips that will run throughout the School Easter, summer and Christmas holidays.

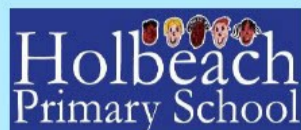
There will be free activities and lunches for children and young people who are:

- aged 4 to 16 years (reception to year 11)
- in receipt of benefit-related Free School Meals
- 

Each club will provide:

- a wide range of exciting activities to suit different ages and personalities
- fun physical activity sessions
- free, nutritious, tasty food

# 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.

### Signs of child abuse and neglect

#### Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities including non-contact activities.

#### Key features

There are few physical signs, more likely to be emotional and behavioural factors.

- Aggression
- Withdrawn
- Self harming, including eating disorders
- Drawings of sexually explicit behaviours
- Promiscuity/ precociousness
- Inappropriate sexualised conduct
- Sexually explicit behaviour
- Reluctance to remove clothing for swimming or PE

Sexual abuse can be very difficult to recognise and reporting sexual abuse can be an extremely traumatic experience for a child. Whilst the media often focuses on 'stranger danger', studies indicate that between 80 and 90% of cases involve a known adult.

The internet has increased the risk of non-contact sexual abuse and children must be alert to these dangers when online.

#### Neglect

Neglect is the failure to meet a child's physical and or psychological needs.

#### Key features

- Inadequate clothing for the child's size, weather or time of year
- Underweight for age
- Frequent school absences
- Poor health
- Emotionally needy
- Persistently dirty with a body odour



#### High Risk Factors

- Families with complex needs
- Parental substance use
- Poor parental mental health
- Parents with learning difficulties
- Children with disabilities
- Families with past history of childhood abuse

#### Physical Abuse

Physical abuse involves any action that causes physical harm to a child including fabricating the symptoms of or deliberately inducing illnesses.

#### Key features

- Bruising of various ages
- Bite marks
- Burns and scalds
- Fractures in non-mobile children
- Injuries in unusual areas or with well-defined edges
- Old injuries or scars
- Refusal to discuss injuries
- Inconsistent explanations
- Talk of punishment which seems excessive
- Arms and legs kept covered
- Reluctance to remove clothing for swimming or PE
- The parents are uninterested or undisturbed by an accident or injury

#### Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child.

#### Key features

- Development delay.
- Abnormal attachment to parent/ carer.
- Low self-esteem.
- Lack of confidence.
- Inappropriate emotional response.

#### Further Information

The statutory guidance for schools is set out in the following documents:

Keeping Children Safe in Education (2016)

What to do if you're worried a child is being abused (2015) (non-statutory)

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015)

To book safeguarding training or consultancy visit our website at: [www.safeguardingsinschools.co.uk](http://www.safeguardingsinschools.co.uk) or telephone 01223 929269

©2017 Andrew Hall | Success In Schools



## Who are Lewisham Mental Health Support Team?

We are working in your child's school to support emotional wellbeing. We work with the whole school community; for example, workshops and coffee mornings for parents and carers, assemblies and pupil voice groups for young people, and training and consultation for staff. We work individually and in groups with parents and carers too (turn the page for more information).

Our focus is on early intervention - noticing and addressing difficulties as soon as possible. Some of the things we help with are:

- Behaviour that challenges
- Friendship difficulties
- Low mood
- Managing emotions
- Dealing with change
- Anxiety

Find out more or make a request for support:

- Speak with your school's Senior Mental Health Lead (usually the SENCo or Inclusion Lead)
- Email [LewishamMHST@slam.nhs.uk](mailto:LewishamMHST@slam.nhs.uk)
- Call 020 7138 1250 or 020 7138 1230 and ask for the MHST
- Go to [www.slam.nhs.uk/mhst](http://www.slam.nhs.uk/mhst)

Get in touch

## We've requested support, what next?

We look at requests for support as a team and decide what type of support is likely to be helpful. This might be:



Contacting you to arrange an assessment so we can find out more. After the assessment, we will offer an intervention or help you to find support elsewhere.



Working with you and school to find and contact the best service to meet your goals, for example if you're looking for a specialist service that we don't provide.



Giving indirect support by advising and consulting with school staff, helping them to put in place the support your child needs in school.

## What are your interventions?

- Our guided self-help interventions are for anxiety or behaviour that challenges, and are based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy.
- We work with you - parents and carers - rather than directly with the child. Research tells us that this is more effective as you know your child best!
- We will meet with you for 6-8 sessions, with some 'homework' (reading or activities) between sessions. We run both 1-to-1 and group sessions.
- Our aim is to understand together what's going on for your child and to practice strategies that will help you towards your goals.