

Holbeach

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 11th September 2026

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 14th September

- "The Riot Act" - A Road Safety Theatre Workshop for Years 5 & 6

Thursday 17th September

- Drama Workshops for EYFS and KS1

Friday 18th September

- Year 5 Educational Visit to Deptford Creekside (Geography Fieldtrip)

Monday 21st September

- Secondary Transfer Application Information Meeting (6:00pm in the school hall)
- Extra Curricular Clubs begin (for pupils in Y3 to Y6 only)

Tuesday 22nd September

- Year 6 Educational Visit to The Horniman Museum (Ancient Egyptian Artefacts)
- Year 5 Wick Court Farm School Journey Information Meeting (6pm)

Wednesday 23rd September

- Year 3 Educational Visit to The Ragged Museum

The term dates for this academic year (including the INSET days) are on page 2.

Remember to keep an eye on the full calendar of events on the school website.

Welcome Back Everyone!

It has been lovely to see all the children back at Holbeach for the start of the Autumn Term. We hope that you and your families all had a peaceful and recharging Summer Holiday. We are pleased to confirm that the building works that are taking place have not impacted on the children's ability to focus in lessons and have fun at playtimes.



Topic Overviews for the Autumn Term

Along with a copy of this newsletter, you will have also received information about the knowledge and skills that your children will be learning during the Autumn Term. These "Topic Overviews" are relevant to the following topics which are being covered this term:

- **Nursery** - "All about us" and "Light and dark"
- **Reception** - "It's good to be me" and "Up above and down below"
- **Year 1**: "Paws, Claws and Roars"
- **Year 2** - "Toys and Teddies Through Time"
- **Year 3** - "The Victorians"
- **Year 4** - "Warriors of the Waves"
- **Year 5** - "Water, Water Everywhere"
- **Year 6** - "Pharaohs, Pyramids and Power"

In each of the year groups, funding permitting, there is an Educational Visit every term and (towards the end of the term) a Memorable Experience too, which parents and carers are often invited to attend. This is where the children showcase the learning that they have been doing during the term.

Secondary Transfer Meeting

If you are a **parent of a child in Year 6**, you will probably be beginning to think about starting the process of applying for Secondary School places.

The **application form for Secondary Transfer** has to be completed **online** and can be accessed via this website: www.eadmissions.org.uk

These online applications must be completed by **31st October 2026**.

To support you with the process we will be holding an **information meeting** at school on **Monday 21st September** at **6:00pm**.

Alternatively, please telephone the school office if you would like to speak with Ms Lynch about the process.



Olive - Our new catering provider

Our first impressions of the school's new catering company (Olive) have been very positive indeed. The children are really enjoying eating from china plates and at tables that have a tablecloth on and plant decorations.

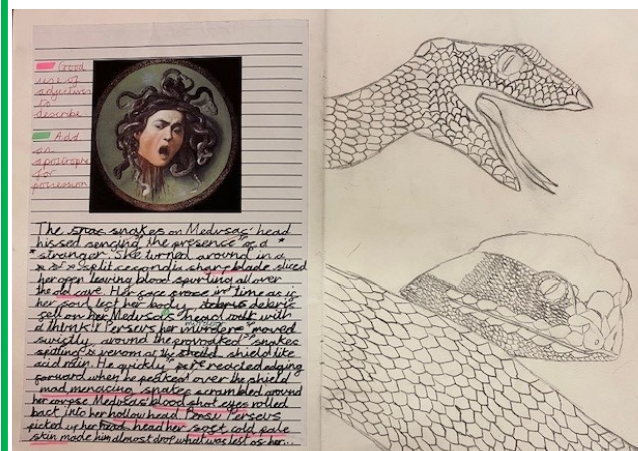
The taste of the food has also improved as have the options that the children are given.

Thank you, also, to all of the parents who have worked with us to ensure that any allergies are understood and well managed.



Celebration Assembly

Mr Morriss held his first celebration assembly of the year today and was very impressed with the writing across the school and the artwork in Year 6. It looks like we have a great year ahead as a school this year!

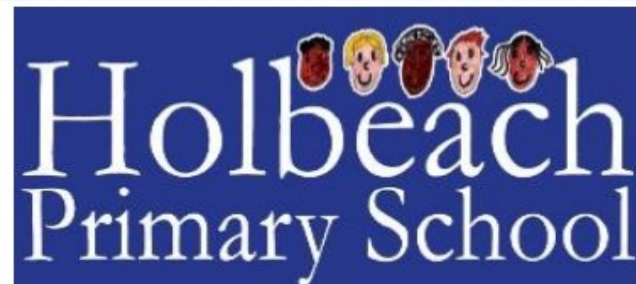


Holbeach Primary School

Nelgarde Road, London SE6 4TP

Tel: 020 8690 4713 Email: admin@holbeach.lewisham.sch.uk

Web: www.holbeach.lewisham.sch.uk



Today's learners are tomorrow's leaders

LEWISHAM SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAY DATES ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-27

(AS AGREED BY THE LEWISHAM MAYOR AND CABINET)

AUTUMN TERM 2026	Wednesday 2 nd September 2026 - Friday 23 rd October 2026
<i>Half Term Break</i>	Monday 26th October 2026 – Friday 30th October 2026
	Monday 2 nd November 2026 - Friday 18 th December 2026
<i>End of Term Holiday</i>	Monday 21st December 2026 – Friday 1st January 2027
SPRING TERM 2027	Monday 4 th January 2027 – Friday 12 th February 2027
<i>Half Term Break</i>	Monday 15th February 2027 – Friday 19th February 2027
	Monday 22 nd February 2027 – Thursday 25 th March 2027
<i>End of Term Holiday</i>	Friday 26th March 2027 – Friday 9th April 2027
SUMMER TERM 2027	Monday 12 th April 2027 – Friday 28 th May 2027
<i>Half Term Break</i>	Monday 31st May 2027 – Friday 4th June 2027
	Monday 7 th June 2027 – Thursday 22 nd July 2027
Public Holidays	• Christmas Day: Friday 25th December 2026 • Boxing Day: Saturday 26th December 2026 • New Year's Day: Friday 1st January 2027 • Good Friday: Friday 26th March 2027 • Easter Monday: Monday 29th March 2027 • Early May Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd May 2027 • Spring Bank Holiday: Monday 31st May 2027 • Summer Bank Holiday: Monday 30th August 2027
INSET Days	This school will be closed to pupils on the following dates: • Wednesday 2nd September 2026 • Thursday 3rd September 2026 • Monday 4th January 2027 • Monday 7th June 2027 • Thursday 22nd July 2027

Headteacher:
Mr Tom Bulpitt

Deputy Headteacher:
Mr Phil Morriss

Premises Manager:
Mr Derek Holmes

Signposting Parental Support

Struggling to afford food?

**You're not alone.
We're here to help.**

Lewisham Foodbank can provide:

- emergency food parcels*
- a listening ear
- free, confidential, face-to-face advice

from our welcome centres across Lewisham



Lewisham Foodbank
Together with Trussell

*talk to the school office who will provide you with a voucher, or visit lewisham.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/foodbank-vouchers/

Parent/Carer - Sensory Workshop

About this course

This workshop is aimed at parents/carers who want to learn about sensory processing abilities and how this may have an impact on their child's regulation. Parents/carers will have an opportunity to reflect on their child's sensory regulation and how this may have an impact on participation in their daily activities. Parents/carers will learn strategies that can support their child's regulation at home.

Who is this course suitable for?

Parents/carers who want to learn about sensory processing abilities and regulation.

Run by: Occupational Therapy Team



Booking information

This is an online (or occasionally face to face) interactive training. Parents/carers will have the opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussion with others.

The course is 1-1.5 hours.

The workshop runs twice a term. Please call or email the occupational therapy team to book onto the workshop. Telephone: 0203 049 1337 email: LH.ChildrensOT@nhs.net

Cost

Free to parents of a child/young person who is a Lewisham resident/has a Lewisham GP.

For more information email LH.ChildrensOT@nhs.net

NHS
South London Children and
Young People's Community
Immunisation Service

**Protect your child from
flu this winter!**



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

Scan the QR code to
complete the Flu
consent form

Contact the Lewisham
Immunisation team on
020 3903 3635



August 2025

braidedbychristiana FATHERS AND MALE CARERS BRAIDING WORKSHOP

Learn. Create. Empower.

A hands-on braiding workshop
designed for **Fathers and Male Carers**
who want to learn how to braid and
care for children's hair.



EVENT DETAILS



DAYTIME SESSION

Honor Oak Youth & Family Hub
50 Turnham Road,
Honor Oak, London, SE4 2JD
Every Wednesday
starting 2nd September – 7th October
(Six-Week Programme)



11:00 AM – 1:00 PM



EVENING SESSION

Bellingham Family Hub
109 Randlesdown Road,
London, SE6 3HB
Every Wednesday
starting 2nd September – 7th October
(Six-Week Programme)

5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN:

- Basic braiding techniques
- Cornrows & styles
- Tips for healthy hair
- Working on mannequin heads
- Building confidence & creativity

WHO IT'S FOR:

Fathers and Male Carers
who want to learn a
new skill, build
confidence and
better support the
children in their care.

EVENT PLAN INCLUDES:

- Welcome & Introduction
- Braiding Demonstration
- Hands-On Practice
- Q&A Session
- Takeaway Tips & Resources

LIMITED SPACES – REGISTER NOW!

TO REGISTER OR FIND OUT MORE
07575249785
@braidedbychristiana

SCAN NOW: →



**FREE
TO ATTEND!**



WORKING TOGETHER TO EMPOWER OUR COMMUNITY

The CAMHs Mental Health Support Team

Holbeach Primary School was one of the first schools in Lewisham to develop a close partnership with the CAMHs Mental Health Support Teams (MHST) to support the mental health and emotional wellbeing of our pupils.

The MHST focus is on early intervention, prevention and promotion; for young people who are thriving, coping or would benefit from getting help.

They work with the whole school; for example, delivering workshops and coffee mornings for parents and carers, holding assemblies and pupil voice groups for young people and training and consultation for staff.

They also work directly with individuals and group of parents, carers and young people. Some of the things they can help with are:

- Low mood: sadness, low motivation
- Mild to moderate anxiety: worries, irrational fears and concerns
- Behaviours that challenge
- Family and peer relationship difficulties
- Difficulty adjusting to change and transition
- Difficulty regulating emotions
- School absences or at risk of exclusions

The MHST aims to bring education, health and families together. Working jointly to support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people based on their own life experiences and the uniqueness of their school community.



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
- Call 020 7138 1250 or 020 7138 1230 and ask for the MHST
- Go to 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.

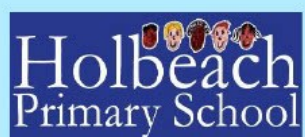


Giving indirect support by advising and consulting with school staff, helping them to put in place the support your child needs in school.

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.

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.

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

National Online Safety

7 questions to help you start a conversation with your child about online safety

#WakeUpWednesday

Publish date: 07/11/18

- Which apps/games are you using at the moment?**

THIS WILL GIVE YOU A GOOD OVERVIEW OF THE TYPES OF THINGS YOUR CHILDREN ARE DOING ON THEIR DEVICES, ALONG WITH THEIR INTERESTS. REMEMBER THAT THEY MIGHT NOT TELL YOU EVERYTHING THEY ARE USING, SO IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO ASK THEM TO SHOW YOU THEIR DEVICE, BECAUSE NEW APPS AND GAMES ARE RELEASED REGULARLY. IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE THIS CONVERSATION OFTEN TO ENSURE YOU ARE UP TO DATE WITH WHAT THEY ARE DOING.
- Which websites do you enjoy using and why?**

AS IN THE TIP ABOVE, ASKING THIS QUESTION WILL ALLOW YOU TO FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD IS DOING ONLINE, AND ENCOURAGE POSITIVE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THEIR ONLINE ACTIVITY. ASK THEM HOW THEY USE THE WEBSITES, AND TAKE AN INTEREST IN HOW THEY CAN USE THEM IN A POSITIVE WAY, ALSO ASKING THEM TO SHOW YOU IF POSSIBLE.
- How does this game/app work? Can I play?**

SHOW A GENUINE INTEREST IN WHAT THEY ARE DOING. WHILST YOU ARE PLAYING A GAME OR USING AN APP WITH THEM, IT MIGHT HIGHLIGHT SOMETHING THAT THEY DON'T NECESSARILY THINK IS A DANGER TO THEM. IF THEY ACT LIKE THEY DON'T WANT TO SHARE THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH YOU, QUESTION WHY.
- Do you have any online friends?**

CHILDREN CAN FORM POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE ONLINE, AND THIS HAS BECOME MORE COMMON THANKS TO ONLINE MULTI-PLAYER OPTIONS, BUT THEY MAY NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FRIEND AND A STRANGER. YOU COULD MAKE THE QUESTION MORE SPECIFIC TO YOUR CHILD, FOR EXAMPLE, "HAVE YOU MET ANYONE ONLINE THAT YOU LIKE TO PLAY GAMES WITH?" THEY MAY NOT WANT TO SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOU, SO ENSURE YOU TEACH THEM ABOUT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.
- Do you know where to go for help?**

ALTHOUGH YOU MAY BE THE ADULT THEY TRUST THE MOST, SOME CHILDREN STRUGGLE TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS ONLINE DUE TO CONFUSION OR EMBARRASSMENT. BECAUSE OF THIS THEY MAY STRUGGLE TO APPROACH THE NORMAL PEOPLE WHO WOULD HELP, SUCH AS YOURSELF OR A TEACHER. HAVE A CHAT TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT EXACTLY WHERE THEY CAN GO FOR HELP, AND HOW THEY CAN REPORT ANY ACTIVITY THAT THEY BELIEVE IS INAPPROPRIATE ONLINE.
- Do you know what your personal information is?**

YOUR CHILD MAY ALREADY KNOW WHAT THEIR PERSONAL INFORMATION IS BUT THEY MIGHT NOT THINK ABOUT HOW IT CAN BE SHARED. HAVE A CONVERSATION ABOUT WHAT PERSONAL INFORMATION IS AND HOW THIS CAN AFFECT THEM IF IT IS SHARED BEYOND THE INTENDED RECIPIENT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR CHILD UNDERSTANDS THE DANGERS OF SHARING CONTACT DETAILS OR PHOTOS, AS INFORMATION SUCH AS THIS CAN SPREAD QUICKLY ONLINE.
- Do you know your limits?**

CHILDREN MAY NOT UNDERSTAND THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF DEVICE OR GAME ADDICTION. TALK TO THEM OPENLY ABOUT HEALTHY HABITS AND ASK WHETHER OR NOT THEM SPENDING TIME ONLINE OR PLAYING A GAME IS AFFECTING THEIR SLEEP, PERFORMANCE AT SCHOOL, OR IF THEY ARE GENERALLY LOSING INTEREST IN OTHER ACTIVITIES. YOU MAY LEAD ON TO ENCOURAGING ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSING THE INTRODUCTION OF TIME LIMITS WHEN AT HOME.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release 07/11/18

OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Operation Encompass is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and all police forces.

Children who live in homes where there is domestic abuse, or who experience domestic abuse in their own teenage relationships, can be negatively impacted by this experience.

Children who experience domestic abuse are recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right¹.

We have ensured that a member of our staff, (Designated Safeguarding Lead) known as a Key Adult, has been trained about Operation Encompass procedures. This allows us to use the information that has been confidentially shared with us by the police, to understand how a child may be impacted by domestic abuse and to then offer support to the child/ren in our care.

Operation Encompass means that our school will be told, prior to the start of the next school day, when police have attended an incident of domestic abuse where there is a child or young person who attends our school who is related to any of those involved in the incident.

This information means that we can understand a child's behaviour and support that child in whatever way they may need or want.

We are keen to offer the very best support possible to all our pupils and we believe that being part of Operation Encompass helps us to do this.

¹Domestic Abuse Act 2021

www.operationencompass.org