

Holbeach

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 25th September 2026

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 28th September

- Extra Curricular Clubs begin for children Key Stage 2 (Year 3 to Year 6) Check your emails for further details
- 4A Educational Visit to Fulham Palace

Tuesday 29th September

- 4P Educational Visit to Fulham Palace

Monday 5th October

- Daily Swimming Lessons (for two-weeks) begin for both classes in Year 5
- Year 5 School Journey to Wick Court Farm Information Meeting (6pm)
- Friends of Holbeach AGM in the School Dining Hall (8pm) see page 3

Wednesday 7th October

- Open morning information meeting for prospective parents (whose children will begin Reception in September 2027) 9:30am

Monday 12th October

- Year 6 School Journey to Isle of Wight Information Meeting (6pm)

Wednesday 14th October

- Year 1 Educational Visit to London Zoo

Thursday 15th October

- Shell and Pebble Classes: Parent Workshop (Early Reading Skills) and Stay an Play
- Governors Resources Committee meeting (6:30pm)

Tuesday 20th October

- 2F Educational Visit to The Horniman Museum

Thursday 22nd October

- 2T Educational Visit to The Horniman Museum

Year 6 Visit to The Horniman Museum

On Tuesday, Year 6 had an incredible day at the Horniman Museum as part of the launch of their Ancient Egypt topic.

They started with a fascinating workshop where they had the amazing opportunity to handle genuine artefacts that had been discovered in tombs and formed part of the Ancient Egyptians' beliefs about the afterlife and the mummification process.

After the workshop, they explored the museum grounds and collected over 100 conkers for our school mud kitchen! With the sun shining, they also enjoyed spending time in the beautiful park near the Horniman Museum.



Year 3 Visit The Ragged School Museum

On Monday, the children in Year 3 travelled back in time to the Victorian era. They visited The Ragged School museum and learned about what it was like to live in a small family home and looked at how Victorians would have washed and cleaned.

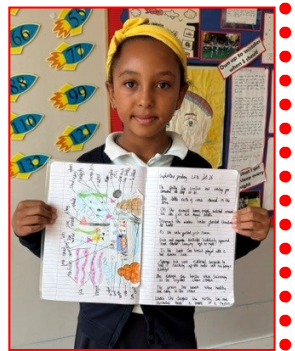
They then experienced what it would be like to attend a Victorian school, writing with a chalk and slate and having to behave impeccably!



Sharing Assembly

Each Friday, Mr Morriss holds an assembly where the children get to share their academic (and other) successes with one another.

This week, there was a really good range of



subjects on show. There was some fabulous Art work some extended writing and some well presented Maths work. You can find more examples of the school's broad and balanced curriculum



(along with information about the weekly home learning) on each of the class blogs.



Full Governing Board Meeting & Parent Governor Election

On Thursday, the Holbeach Governing Board met for their first meeting of the new academic year. At the meeting, a new Governor (Krish Gunnoo who is a Co-Opted Governor) was introduced and the Governors did some planning.

Then, Mr Bulpitt gave a short review of the previous academic year (in terms of pupil attainment, school finances and premises challenges) and then he gave a summary of the school's priorities for the coming year (including details of the new Ofsted framework).

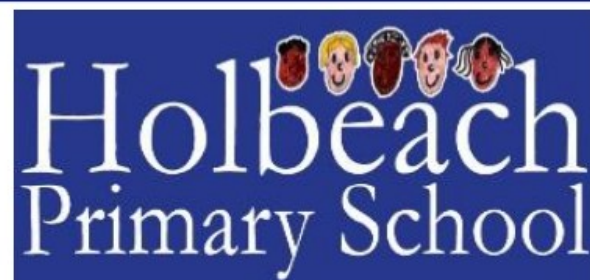
It was also agreed that we will hold a **Parent Governor Election** on Wednesday 14th October. If you would like to nominate yourself for this you can do so by completing page 2 of the newsletter or by emailing in to the school office.

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

PARENT/CARER GOVERNOR

NOMINATION FORM

I WOULD LIKE TO NOMINATE THE PERSON LISTED BELOW (EITHER MYSELF OR SOMEONE WHO HAS CONSENTED FOR ME TO NOMINATE THEM) FOR THE ROLE OF PARENT GOVERNOR AT HOLBEACH PRIMARTY SCHOOL:

..... (NAME)
..... (ADDRESS)
..... (ADDRESS)
..... (TEL NO)
..... (EMAIL)

I CAN CONFIRM THAT I AM A PARENT/GUARDIAN OF:

..... (NAME OF CHILD) who is in (NAME OF CLASS)
..... (SIGNATURE)

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:

THE SCHOOL OFFICE
HOLBEACH PRIMARY SCHOOL
NELGARDE ROAD
CATFORD
SE6 4TP

Headteacher:
Mr Tom Bulpitt

Deputy Headteacher:
Mr Phil Morriss

Premises Manager:
Mr Derek Holmes

Friends of Holbeach

Friends of Holbeach (Charity number: 1073532)

Holbeach Primary School, Nelgarde Road
London, SE6 4TP

Friday 25th September 2026

Dear Parents and carers,

With the start of the new academic year, the **Friends of Holbeach** (FOH) annual general meeting will be taking place, where a new committee will be elected.



This will be on **Monday 5th October**, from 8pm - 9pm in the school Dining Hall. Entry will be via the Wrap Around Care (Breakfast/After School Club) gate on Bradgate Road.

A number of current committee members are stepping down, and the role of chairperson/s will need to be filled.

We would love as many attendees as possible and would warmly welcome new members to join and put themselves forward.

You are also welcome to come along to contribute to discussions about future plans without taking on a formal role.

FOH is a wonderful group to be part of, and an integral part of the school community, raising essential funds to subsidise trips and support other school initiatives. We organise the school discos and festive events, as well as bake sales, coffee mornings, running the hub shop and the summer fair. We are always keen on new ideas too.

Each member contributes whatever time they can and there is no pressure to attend all events, as we all have busy family and working lives.

There is also a wonderful group of FOH volunteers who support us in helping out at events without being on the committee. Do ask about joining WhatsApp for this.

We would really love the committee to represent the school community and would encourage people from all backgrounds to join.

We hope to see lots of you on October 2nd!

Warmest regards

The Friends of Holbeach Committee
friendsofholbeach@gmail.com

Useful Signposting for Families



Free SEND Advice for Parents and Carers

- Is your child finding aspects of school challenging?
- Does your child have a Special Educational Need and/or Disability (SEND)?
- Have you wondered what support may be available in a mainstream school without an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)?

Lewisham SEND Advisors offer free advice and guidance to parents and carers who have concerns about their child's learning, development or access to support in school.

Best Start Family Hub - Downham

Drop-in 9.00am to 10.00am | Appointments 10.00am to 12.00pm
7 & 21 October, 4 & 18 November, 2 & 16 December

Best Start Family Hub - Ladywell

Drop-in 1.00pm to 2.00pm | Appointments 2.00pm to 4.00pm
6 & 20 October, 3 & 17 November, 1 & 15 December

Best Start Family Hub - Deptford

Drop-in 9.00am to 10.00am | Appointments 10.00am to 11.00am
7 & 21 October, 4 & 18 November, 16 December

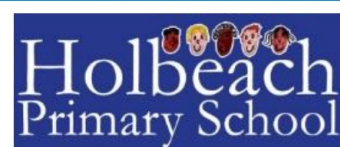
Best Start Family Hub - Bellingham

Drop-in 9.00am to 10.00am | Appointments 10.00am to 12.00pm
6 & 20 October, 3 & 17 November, 1 & 15 December

To book, visit:

<https://lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk/events/support-and-advice>

Parents and carers are welcome to attend a drop-in session or book an appointment to discuss concerns about their child's learning, development and support needs.



Parent & Carer Workshop

Thursday 15th October 2026

9:00am – 10:00am



Theme: Supporting Early Reading Skills!

Dear Parents and Carers of children in 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 15th 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!

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/



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 2026

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 the 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.

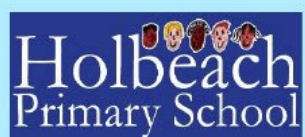


Giving indirect support by advising and consulting with school staff, helping them to put in place the support your child needs in school.

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.”

“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.”

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



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

“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.”

“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