

Holbeach

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 2nd October 2026

Another busy week of learning at Holbeach...

It has been another exciting and productive week for the children at Holbeach. It was really nice for Mr Morriss to be able to celebrate the children's achievements again in his weekly Celebration Assembly today. In the Nursery, the children have been thinking about the season of Autumn (which officially started this week). Our Year 1 mathematicians have been using 'greater than' and 'less than', we have some skillful artists in Year 2 and Year 4; sketching teddy bears and Viking jewellery and high quality descriptive writing in Year 6. You can find out about what each class gets up to and check on your child's home learning on the [class blogs](#).



IMPORTANT DATES

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 and Play
- Governors Resources Committee meeting (6:30pm)

Tuesday 20th October

- 2F Educational Visit to The Horniman Museum



When it comes to times tables, speed AND accuracy are important – the more facts your child remembers, the easier it is for them to do harder calculations.

Times Table Rock Stars is a fun and challenging online programme designed to help students master times tables!

Little and Often: In order to get the best out of Times Tables Rock Stars children should play regularly for short bursts of time so we would ask you to allow your child to play for 5-10 minutes at a time. If your child cannot remember their login details please ask their class teacher.

Black History Month

Thursday saw the launch of Black History Month at Holbeach.

This year we will be "Honouring Our Communities" by creating work inspired by a local artist (Thulani Shuku), learning about local Black British figures and sharing public artwork and murals by, or inspired by, Black British figures.



Y4 Visit to Fulham Palace

Earlier this week, Year 4 visited Fulham Palace to learn about the Vikings.

They got the opportunity to dress up as Vikings and also to closely observe lots of different Viking artifacts. After the workshop, they also had the chance to visit the Palace's natural playground.

Joe 4A: 'It was great! I especially enjoyed the dressing up.'

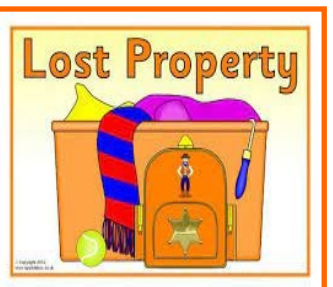
Royan 4A: 'In the library there was even a secret room!'



Lost Property

Please remember to put your child's name on all of their jumpers and coats (and everything else too!) as there are

still a vast number of items ending up on our Lost Property Trolley and only those with names can be easily returned to their owners. The Lost Property Trolley is available for checking at every Drop-off and Collection time (weather permitting). It is placed near to the First Aid shelter in the centre of the playground (do ask a member of staff if you are not sure).



Signposting Parents and Carers



Holbeach
Primary School

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!

NHS

South London Children and
Young People's Community
Immunisation Service

Missed your flu vaccine?

**Do you live or attend school in the
borough of Lewisham? Aged 4 – 16?**

Come down to a flu catch-up clinic and
protect yourself!

Saturday 3 October
10:00 – 14:00
Bellingham Family Hub, SE6 3HB

Saturday 24 October
10:00 – 14:00
Bellingham Family Hub, SE6 3HB

Call 020 3903 3635 or scan
the QR code for more
information or to book an
appointment



September 2026

NHS

South London Children and
Young People's Community
Immunisation Service

Missed your flu vaccine?

**Do you live or attend school in the
borough of Lewisham? Aged 4 – 16?**

Come down to a flu catch-up clinic and
protect yourself!

Tuesday 27 October, 10:00 – 14:00
Downham Health and Leisure Centre

Wednesday 28 October, 10:00 – 14:00
Downham Health and Leisure Centre

Thursday 29 October, 10:00 – 14:00
Downham Health and Leisure Centre

Call 020 3903 3635 or scan
the QR code for more
information or to book an
appointment



September 2026

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

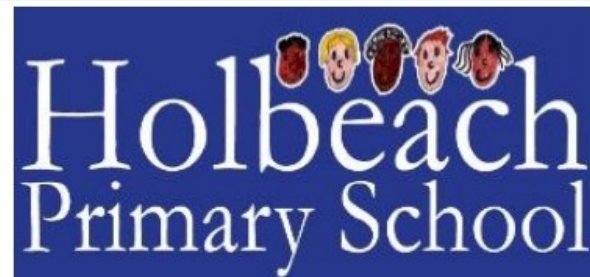
The Friends of Holbeach Committee
friendsofholbeach@gmail.com

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:

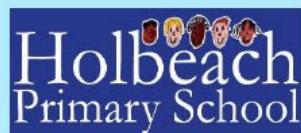
THE SCHOOL OFFICE
HOLBEACH PRIMARY SCHOOL
NELGARDE ROAD
CATFORD
SE6 4TP

Headteacher:
Mr Tom Bulpitt

Deputy Headteacher:
Mr Phil Morriss

Premises Manager:
Mr Derek Holmes

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.

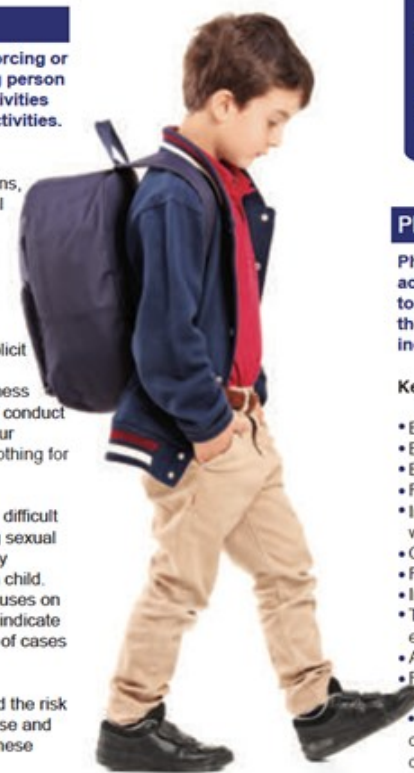
Key features

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.



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

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

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)

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.

To book safeguarding training or consultancy visit our website at: www.safeguardingsinschools.co.uk or telephone 01223 929269

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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.



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 THAN 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 accepted into. Current as of the date of release 07/11/18

Online Safety

Follow the **SMART** rules to help stay safe online.

Safe

S

Stay **safe** online by not sharing your personal information.



Meet

M

Do not **meet** anyone who you have only become friends with online.



Accept

A

Do not **accept** messages and friend requests from people you do not know.



Reliable

R

Not everything online is **reliable**. People online are strangers and you can't always trust everything they say.



Tell

T

Tell an adult you trust if anything happens online that you do not like.



Be careful what you share online!

Stop and think before you share information online. Don't say or do anything that you wouldn't do in the real world!

