

Holbeach

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 23rd October 2026

Autumn Term School Disco

A huge thank you to the Friends of Holbeach and the school staff for joining together to help run the school discos this evening.

We hope that everyone who braved the inclement weather had a great time dancing, decorating themselves and spending time with friends.

It was a really nice way to end the first half of the Autumn Term. See you all after the half-term break. Have a peaceful one!



IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 26th to Friday 30th October

- Half Term Break

Monday 2nd November

- INSET DAY (School is closed to children for a staff training day)

Tuesday 3rd November

- Autumn Term begins again
- Year 4 weekly Cricket sessions begin

Wednesday 4th November

- Shakespeare in School Festival Performance (Holbeach Performing Arts Club) 7pm

Tuesday 10th November

- Prospective Parents Open Day (2pm)

Wednesday 11th November

- NHS National Child Measurement Programme (Height & Weight for Reception and Year 6)

Wednesday 18th November & Thursday 26th November

- Autumn Term Parents Evenings (invite and booking form sent separately)

Year 5 and Year 6 visit the Southbank

On Wednesday, Year 5 and 6 visited the London Southbank centre to meet the author, Katherine Rundell.

Each child left with wonderful memories of their day visiting the bright lights of London and their own copy of her book, "Impossible Creatures".



Rasta Roller

On Wednesday, the children in Reception, Year 3 and Year 4 had the amazing opportunity to meet the "Rasta Roller" and learn how he rides his penny farthing bicycle.

The children asked lots of interesting questions and learned how riders get on and off from these amazing bikes. They even had the chance to touch the bike and were

surprised to discover that the tyres are made of solid rubber and don't contain any air at all.

Thank you to the "Rasta Roller" for coming to Holbeach.



Year 2 Visit to The Horniman Museum

To further support their history topic on toys from the past, Year 2 visited the Horniman Museum this week for a toy workshop.

The children got to see and play with toys from countries all around the world. They discussed how the toys moved and the materials they were made from.

They also had a bit of extra time to look around some of the other galleries.



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

‘Phonological Awareness’

the... am-bu-lance (ambulance)... te-le-vi-sion (television)..."

Phonological awareness is the ability to hear and work with the sounds in spoken language, like recognising rhymes or breaking words into syllables/sounds. It helps with literacy development by building the foundation for children to understand how sounds connect to letters when learning to read and write.

This week, at Holbeach, we have been getting the children to practice **Blending Syllables**.

This means sticking syllables together to make a word. Here are some ideas to help children blend syllables to make words:

Younger children

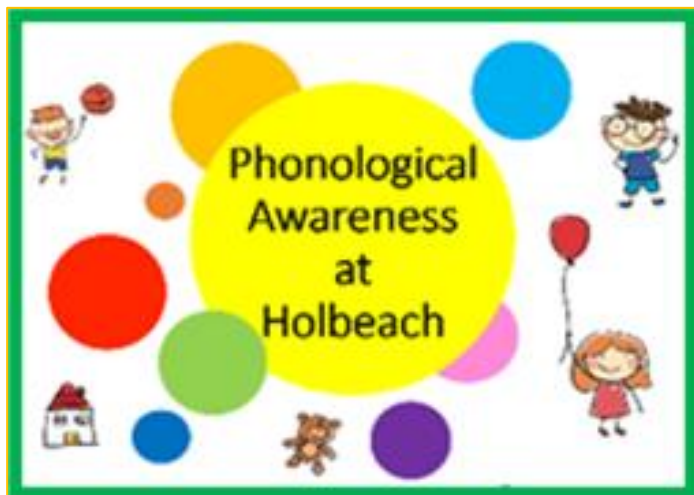
Guess the word: when looking at books / pictures with your child (or when out and about), tell them to guess what word you are saying.

For example, "can you find/point to

Older children

Guess the word (but harder!): Adults can Google 'multi-syllabic words' for ideas, then sit opposite the child and challenge them to guess the word you are saying. The adult should leave a small gap between syllables and allow them time to work on sticking it together. To help, give them a clue, such as "it flies".

If your child WANTS to have a go breaking words into syllables, great! But at the moment we are working on them **STICKING SYLLABLES TOGETHER**



What are Occupational Therapy (OT) Drop-In Clinics?

At our Occupational Therapy (OT) Drop-In Clinics, parents or carers can chat to an Occupational Therapist about any concerns they have about a child's sensory and movement development as well as how to improve self care and functional independence skills needed for home and school tasks. **Regrettably this clinic will not be able to discuss the reasons your child was not accepted. (This should be taken up with the team lead). It is to offer beneficial advice and information to help you and your child.**

Who is the drop in clinic for?

Some children are not able to access the OT service because their type of needs do not fit our referral criteria or they do not reach the threshold of need that would be sufficient to access the service - coming to the drop in clinic still means they can receive advice from Occupational Therapy

If you have had OT but would like further advice or a reminder on what advice you have been given in the past- come along to the drop in clinic.

Drop-In Clinics offer: 

- Advice
- Information
- Literature

You do not need a referral to come along to this clinic. This clinic is run on a drop in, first come first served basis.

You will have to wait to be seen and you may be asked to try another day if too many people have turned up.



What happens at the Occupational Therapy Drop-In Clinic?

1. When you arrive you will be asked to sign in at reception. Please let reception know you are here for the OT drop in clinic.
2. When it is your time to be seen, the therapist will spend about 30 minutes talking to you and trialling activities including cutlery usage or dressing tasks, and offering advice.
3. It may be helpful for your child to bring their favourite toy or book to the Drop-In Clinic to show the therapist, as this may help them settle. This might also help them with waiting.

What happens after the Occupational Therapy Drop-In Clinic?

The therapist will discuss with you how you can help your child's development. They may for example, give you advice and/or activities that you can do at home with your child.



You will receive a written advice of what was discussed, which may include resources and recommendations.

Where is the Occupational Therapy Drop-In Clinic held?

The drop-in clinic is held at the **Kaleidoscope Centre for Children & Young People** twice monthly. The clinic runs on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month, 9:30am - 12:30pm.



www.holbeach.lewisham.sch.uk

Ambitious

Compassionate

Fearless

Hardworking

Responsible

MEAL TEAM x Smoke & Scotch
GOOD FOOD • GOOD ENERGY • GREAT FUTURES
LEWISHAM

OCTOBER HOLIDAY MEALS
FREE MEALS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN LEWISHAM
AGES 5-16
FOOD SERVED FROM 2-6PM EACH DAY

MONDAY 26 TH OCT	TUESDAY 27 TH OCT	WEDNESDAY 28 TH OCT	THURSDAY 29 TH OCT	FRIDAY 30 TH OCT	SATURDAY 31 ST OCT
CHICKEN OR BEEF WRAPS & CHIPS VEGETARIAN OPTION AVAILABLE	BQ CHICKEN & JOLLOF RICE VEGETARIAN OPTION AVAILABLE	BURGERS & CHIPS VEGETARIAN OPTION AVAILABLE	JERK CHICKEN & RICE VEGETARIAN OPTION AVAILABLE	CHICKEN PASTA VEGETARIAN OPTION AVAILABLE	LAMB OR BEEF KEBABS & RICE VEGETARIAN OPTION AVAILABLE
BELLINGHAM YOUTH CENTRE 185 Brookhouse Rd London SE6 3TY	TNG SYDENHAM TNG Youth & Community Centre 111 Wells Park Rd London SE26 6AD	WOODPECKER ESTATE Woodpecker Youth Club 20 Woodpecker Rd London SE14 6EU	DEPTFORD BLUE CAGE Clyde St. London SE8 5TQ	DOWNHAM Outside St Luke's Church Downham BR1 5JR	HONOR OAK Turnham Rd. London SE4 2JD

FRESH FOOD FRESH SALAD WATER PROVIDED EVERYONE WELCOME SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

PROUDLY SERVING THE LEWISHAM COMMUNITY
GOOD FOOD. GOOD ENERGY. GREAT FUTURES.
FREE MEALS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 5-16

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FAMILY

HALLOWEEN PARTY

31ST OCTOBER 2026
 5 - 8PM

£5 per adult / children free at the Lewisham Irish Centre

5-7 pm Workshops for small kids

6-8 pm Disco with DJ

Party food
 Cash bar only

BOOK TICKETS HERE

Lewisham Irish Community Centre

MOTHER HOUSE STUDIOS

Plan for Lewisham 2026 to 2030

Lewisham Council are developing a new Plan for Lewisham setting out what they want to achieve for Lewisham over the next four years.

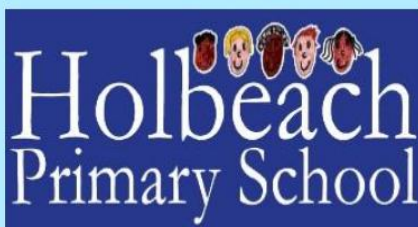
They have developed 18 outcomes that describe the changes that they want to see for Lewisham and now they want to know what you think.

- Are they focusing on the right things?
- What most needs to improve?
- Is anything important missing?



Click on this link to have your say:

[Our Plan for Lewisham 2026 to 2030 - Lewisham Council - Citizen Space](https://www.holbeach.lewisham.sch.uk)



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**.