## THE HAMLET HERALD



'Outstanding learning, within a glittering curriculum, where everyone matters'

#### ISSUE 5 | 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025

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#### NOTE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Next week sees the end of September and heralds October which means one thing: Black History Month. We are very excited to launch this month of celebration of the contribution of black and global majority individuals to human history.

Our curriculum aims to be representative and we try to make sure that every one of our pupils feels 'seen' through our learning but October is the month where we really come together to celebrate that.

# **B:M2025**

DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER

This year's theme is 'Standing Firm in Power and Pride' and in Monday's assembly we will looking at some of the people who have shown the bravery, coverage and imagination to make lasting change in society.

Then in classes, we will be looking at black figures linked to our curriculum and celebrating them through the medium of portraits. We will share the portraits created in a gallery open to parents and carers.

Finally, on Monday we will launch a portraiture competition for all pupils entitled, "Black History Heroes" and we want to encourage all children to draw their own heroes. There will be a first, second and third prize and any complete pieces will be displayed in the gallery for house points.

#### **KEY DATES**

#### Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September

**School Garden Transformation** 

#### Monday 29th September

09:00-09:45 – 3S Parent/ Carer Café 10:40 – Launch of Black History Month 2025

#### **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September**

09:00-09:45 – 3N Parent/ Carer Café 13:45-15:15 Y4 Football Match v Rosemead

#### Wednesday 1st October

09:00-09:45 - 30 Parent/ Carer Café

#### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

09:00-09:45 – Café: Autism Support All day – Y6 Trip to IWM 12:30-16:00 Y5 Football v Dulwich College 19:00-20:00 PTA AGM, Burbage

#### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October

08:00-08:45 MacMillan Coffee Morning

## THE NOOK

Have you registered? <u>Click here</u> to enable you to book ad hoc wraparound care on Parent Pay.

To contact The Nook Please call the main school number 020 7525 9188 and select option 2 or <a href="mailto:thenook@dulwichhamletjuniorschool.org.uk">thenook@dulwichhamletjuniorschool.org.uk</a>



A giant is taking shape! Children enjoying creating their Nook Giant art.

#### IN SEARCH OF THE WYNNES

On Monday, I met with Anne McClean who contacted the school to research her family history. Her grandmother and her great uncles had attended Dulwich Hamlet School. We are incredibly fortunate to have a long and rich history in the school and, whilst there are always more pressing concerns, our early history will only become more distant unless time is spent uncovering the stories which bring this past to life. So, a couple of hours with Anne seemed like a reasonable investment.

Her grandmother Cassie Wynne attended the school and the photo taken outside the main school building in the admin block shows some of the earliest girls to attend the school. Girls have been educated on the site since 1866 and Anne explained how her grandmother's art and craft skills could be traced back to the school curriculum for girls which focused on 'housewifery skills' such as sewing and baking.



Cassie Wynne is the third from the left in the front row.

But it was her great uncles on whom Anne had uncovered more information with James and Lionel being a couple of early players for Dulwich Hamlet Football Club. Founded in 1893, the local Champions Hill team was originally an old boys' team and Anne had been reliably informed by Roger Deason, local Hamlet Historian, that in order to play for the club in those days one had to be a former pupil of Dulwich Hamlet. It was this fact that led us to be rifling through our archives in the backroom office of upper Turney in search of Wynnes.

Much has been lost in the 140 or so years the school has operated. But still a fascinating collection of artefacts remain. There are photos and mementos, school uniform and signage, children's work and letters to headteachers. Thousands of children must have passed through these classrooms and we only have the faintest glimpse of a few in our archives.

Anne had a photo of her great uncles at Dulwich Hamlet. The dates of birth and ages of the children in the photo almost didn't work. Surely they would have been too early for the school? Dulwich Hamlet School (Boys) was founded in 1884, two years before the Girls' school separated from JAGs. The boys were housed in corrugated iron huts until Turney Hall was finished in 1887 and the boys moved into their new purpose-built premises. If they did come here they must have been some of the earliest pupils we reasoned.



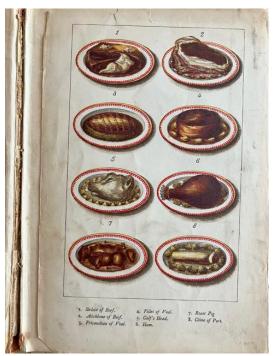
Lionel Wynne is fourth from the left on the back row and James is in front of the gentleman with the top hat, who intriguingly, strikes an uncanny resemblance to the boys' father. Surely this man is a teacher but we can't be sure.

As we piled through the documents, we struggled to find anything which pre-dated the turn of the century. The 1903 school newsletter was then sold for 9d and picked up by alumni and current pupils, with one issue boasting they had sold over 300 copies. The Dulwich Hamlet Football Team featured regularly in these early issues, casting club and school as close bedfellows. But no mention of a Wynne.

Anne asked into records of choirs and showed me several articles detailing her uncle's fantastic

musical achievements. Music also featured heavily in the school magazine and I boasted about our musical and sporting prowess in the here and now. We couldn't prove it but it sounded like Lionel was a true Hamleteer. We found a handwritten journal entitled 'Log Book' with Dulwich Hamlet (Boys) inscribed underneath. Surely this was the missing clue we were looking for? It was locked. Anne squealed with frustration.

The sight of the book prompted her to share her own artefact: an 1880 booklet given to Cassie by her mother which was a teachers' curriculum – a scheme of work written by the School Board for London for a cookery teacher – raising the intriguing possibility that either one or both of them may have been teachers.



A page from the 'Instruction of Cookery: A book of receipts and axioms' given by her great grandmother to her grandmother, published in 1890 by the School Board of London.

Time was ticking on and despite two hours of searching and conversation, we hadn't quite joined the narratives. We both had a little more understanding of context: mine of the school and Anne of her relations and perhaps that would have to do. But one thing bugged me. At the 100-year anniversary of the end of the Great War, I researched the boys who had died in that conflict and could still remember a register book. I dug around again in the cupboard and

retrieved it. The register was started in 1884: the year the school began. This register must have lived in the corrugated iron sheds which served as the pre-cursor to the building we were standing in.

The book was organised in two tables. Our eyes were drawn to the first alphabetical part of the book listing 2313 names in total. The first 2313 boys through the school. There in the distinctive Victorian cursive script was the surname Wynne. Anne realised that the alphabetical table linked numerically to the admission numbers on the second table which listed, in order, the names of the students who had been registered at the school. Her male family members took places 5, 6 and 138.

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The very first page of the first admission register at Dulwich Hamlet. The Wynnes are 5 and 6.

This startling discovery rewarded our afternoon's efforts. By uncovering the story of Anne's relations, we had taken a look right back to the beginning. It felt a little like getting to know some of our earliest 'Hamleteers' and judging by their musical, sporting and artistic prowess, they would fit right in today.

Work like this on our heritage can support a strong future for the school. If you are aware of any interesting stories, are in possession of artefacts or know of any former pupils and their stories, please do email <a href="mailto:office@dulwichhamletjuniorschool.org.uk">office@dulwichhamletjuniorschool.org.uk</a> and share with the team

Tom Salomonson, Head of School.



# SCHOOL GARDEN TRANSFORMATION

### **EVERYONE WELCOME!!**

Over the coming school year, the PTA are planning to work with local community gardeners Urban Canopy to refresh the school's front garden and bring it back into use as an educational wildlife garden

To begin the project, we are planning a blitz of the garden this month, to tidy up the space, cut back some of the over growth, and plant wildflower seeds and bulbs for next year.

# JOIN US ON SATURDAY SEPT 27TH DROP IN ANYTIME BETWEEN 11AM AND 3PM

No gardening experience is needed and all tools will be provided





# PTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Come along to the PTA AGM to hear about the activities from the past year, share your ideas, and be part of the plans for the year ahead.

The AGM is a chance to:

- Learn about upcoming events
- Hear how we're raising funds and what for
  - Find out how you can get involved

## THURSDAY 2nd OCTOBER - 7PM In Turney Hall

All parents, carers and teachers are welcome - we'd love to see you there!





## **GIRLS' ACTIVITY DAY**

OLD ALLEYNIANS SPORTS CLUB DULWICH COMMON, SE21 7HA 12 NOON until 3:00PM - SUNDAY 5TH OCTOBER PLEASE USE THIS QR CODE TO JOIN US!



#### National Autistic Society coffee mornings



Our guest speakers this month: **Anita Bey** and **Chris White** from **Lambeth Information and Advisory Service (LIAS)** will talk about the free services they offer to support parents of children with SEND such as support in applying for an EHCP & support for transitioning to secondary school & post-16 yrs education options with or without an EHCP.

For parents & carers of autistic children on:

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 9:30am Carnegie Library Hub Herne Hill, SE24 0AG

And the first Friday of every month FREE of charge
Open to parents/carers of autistic people of all ages in Lambeth & neighbouring boroughs





