

Note from the Executive Headteacher

A Fresh Perspective on Our Wonderful School

This week, Judith and I had the pleasure of accompanying a professional photographer who came to capture Ivydale at its absolute best. Seeing our school through fresh eyes reminded me just how special our community truly is.

Excellence across the curriculum: We observed brilliant learning in English and Maths, where our teachers and support staff demonstrated their expertise and creativity. However, what particularly stood out to our visitor was the exceptional breadth and quality of our curriculum offer.

Art and music shone especially brightly: From the vibrant displays adorning our halls and classrooms to the beautiful sounds of singing and instrumental performances echoing through the buildings, these subjects brought our school to life. We saw children deeply engaged in their creative work, demonstrating not just technical skill but genuine passion and pride in what they were creating.

Our learning spaces: We visited every corner of the school, including our beautifully refurbished nursery, reception and Year 1 classrooms. Each space reflected the care and thought we put into creating inspiring learning environments for our children.

The heart of our school: It was in the playground where everything truly came together. Here, we witnessed what makes our school special – children playing cooperatively and imaginatively, demonstrating kindness and respect, and embodying the values we hold so dear. The photographer remarked on the positive relationships between children and the palpable sense of community and belonging throughout break time.

Why we do what we do: Moments like these remind us of our purpose. Our children are thriving not just academically, but as well-rounded individuals who are curious, creative and kind. I'm incredibly proud of every member of our school community – staff, children, and families – who contribute to making Ivydale such a special place.

We look forward to sharing the photographs when we relaunch our website later in the school year.

Claire

Spare clothes

We are currently running low on spare clothes for children in case of accidents, especially for ages 7–9 and girls' underwear in particular. If you have any clean, outgrown clothes that your children no longer need, we would be very grateful for your donations.

Toys in school

Thank you for your continued support in encouraging children not to bring toys into school.

This has made a real difference and is helping the children focus on their learning. However, we've recently noticed another issue arising - many children are bringing in key rings and toy accessories attached to their bags and book folders. Unfortunately, several of these items have gone missing, which can cause upset and takes valuable time away from teaching to resolve.

Please could you remind your child that any items brought from home - including toys, key rings, or other personal belongings - are their responsibility. The school cannot be held accountable for any lost or misplaced items.

If an item is precious or they would be upset to lose it, it's best that it stays safely at home.

Black History Month at Ivydale



This October, we are excited to be celebrating **Black History Month** at Ivydale. Throughout the month, children will take part in special assemblies and classroom activities that shine a spotlight on important figures from Black history, past and present.

At Ivydale, we believe it is important that Black history is not only celebrated in October, but taught and valued all year round. We are proud that our diverse and inclusive curriculum reflects the Ivydale community and ensures every child feels represented and respected across all subjects.

As part of our School Development Plan over the next two years, we will also be focusing on further developing equality, diversity and inclusion across our school. To help us with this, we are embarking on a process of listening to all our stakeholders. We have already carried out a survey with staff, and soon we will be sending out a parent questionnaire on diversity to seek your views. Your feedback will help shape our plans and ensure we continue to meet the needs of all our children.

We look forward to sharing our learning and celebrations with you throughout the month!



Scan the QR code to see some of the resources we will be using as part of Black History Month

Goodbye and farewell to Angie Waites!

After an incredible 36 years at Ivydale, we are sad to announce that the wonderful Angie Waites will be retiring this Christmas. Angie has been a dedicated and committed Learning Support Assistant and Lunchtime Supervisor, working with almost every child in the school from Reception to Year 6 over the years.

Her kindness, patience and warmth have left a lasting impact on generations of Ivydale children – and in fact, she has even supported some of our parents and carers when they were pupils here themselves!

Although we will miss seeing her every day, we are delighted that Angie will remain a close neighbour of the school, and we look forward to seeing her regularly as she enjoys a very well-deserved retirement.

Watch this space!

We'll soon be recruiting for a Teaching Assistant and a Lunchtime Supervisor at Ivydale. Keep an eye out for more details on how to apply.



School Photos



Sibling school photos will take place on Tuesday 21st October, between 8:00am and 8:50am in the Inverton Building. Due to the significant amount of lost learning time on photo day in recent years, we have made the decision to trial sibling photos before the start of the school day. If you want your children to have a sibling photo, you will need to bring them to the Inverton building from 8am and remain with them until the photos are taken, then accompany them to their gate at the start of the school day.

This will allow us to prioritise valuable classroom time.

Please note:

- Sibling photos will be completed on a first come, first served basis.
- No sibling photos will be taken during school hours, so please ensure you arrive during the designated time if you wish to have a sibling photo taken.

Head lice

There have been several outbreaks of head lice this term in different year groups.

Head lice are a collective issue – unless everyone checks and treats consistently, they will continue to spread. We all need to work together to check regularly and treat affected children immediately, so we can stop outbreaks spreading.

Keeping long hair tied back at school is one way to avoid catching head lice.

It is important that children are checked weekly for head lice by wet combing with a fine-toothed head lice comb and lots of conditioner.

If you find any lice or nits, you can treat them by regular wet combing. If that is not effective, you may need to use medicated lotions or sprays available from a pharmacy or supermarket.

The latest NHS advice for parents is here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

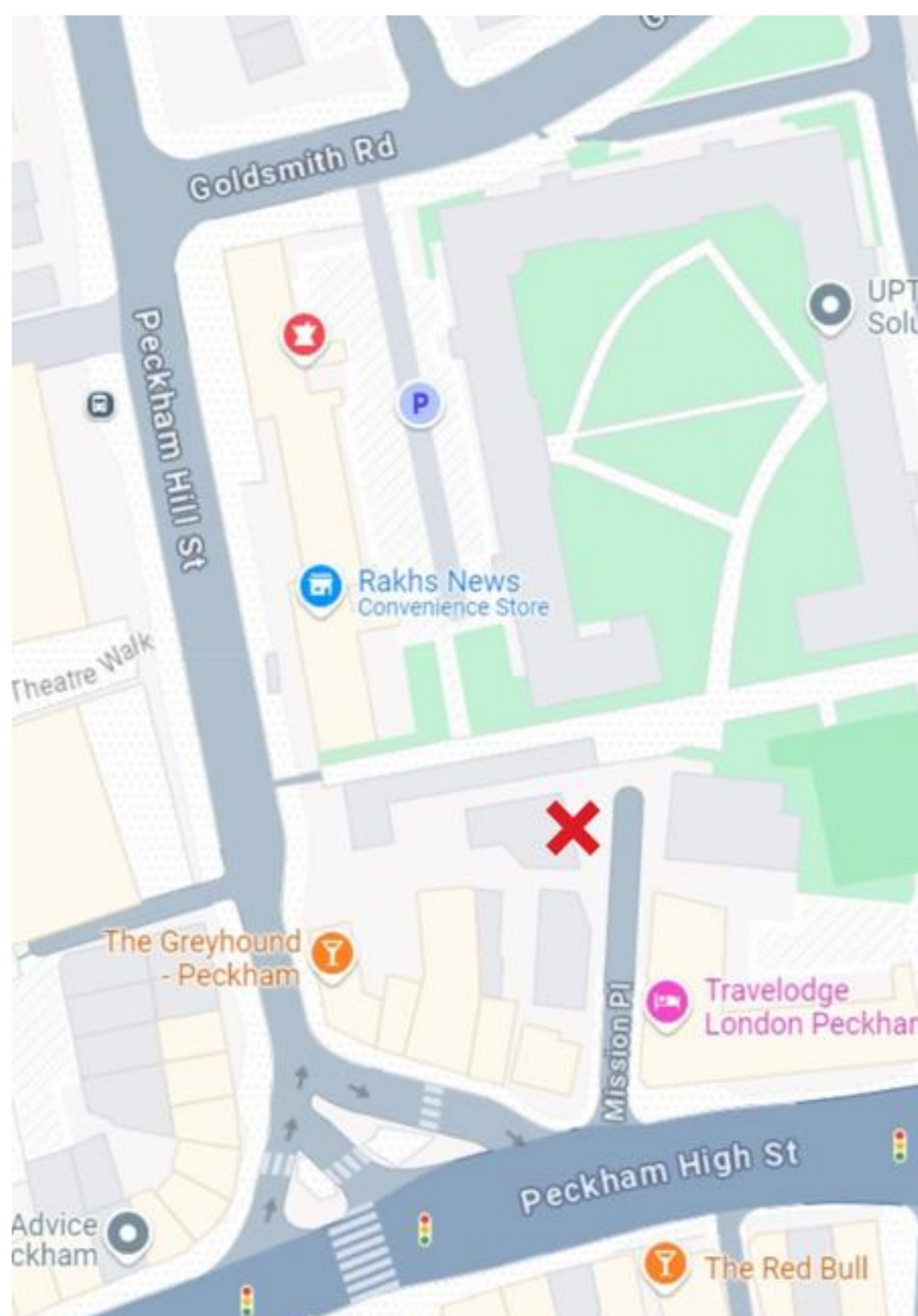


Southwark Foodbank

Shopping List | Harvest 2025

- Biscuits
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Soup (Vegetable or Non-Pork Meat)
- Tinned Vegetables
- UHT Juice (1L)
- Baby Wipes
- UHT Milk (Whole or Semi-skimmed, 1L)
- Tea Bags (Packets of 40 or 80)
- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Jam
- Deodorant (Male or Female)

Please ensure donated food has a long shelf life and is well within its Best Before End date. Thank you! Updated September 2025



Southwark Foodbank Warehouse Information

Important: Mission Place is part of a red route, so parking is not permitted. To avoid receiving a parking ticket, please call us before leaving to drop off your donation and again once you've arrived at the warehouse. We will assist you with access to the gate.

Warehouse Drop-off Address:
(Formerly the Old Peckham Library)
2 Mission Place, London SE15 5SH
(Enter this address into Google Maps for directions)

Our warehouse is located just off Peckham High Street. You can find the entrance on Mission Place.

Warehouse Opening Hours:
Monday to Friday: 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Office Address:
121a Peckham High Street, London SE15 5SE

Thank you for your generous donation!
Please feel free to reach out if you need further assistance.

Contact us:
Emily: 07956 918776
foodbank.support@pecan.org.uk



Host of Southwark Foodbank

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 Southwark Immunisation team on 020 8614 5496



September 2025

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

Join us for our Children's Flu information webinar

Learn more about the children's flu vaccine, and how you can protect your child from flu this winter.



Scan the QR code to register



 Wednesday 10 September  14:00 - 14:45

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


Children with underlying health conditions are more at risk from flu

- Serious lung problems (including asthma needing steroids)
- Heart conditions
- Kidney or liver disease
- Diabetes
- Weakened immune systems due to disease or treatment
- Spleen problems (like sickle cell disease)
- Neurological conditions (like cerebral palsy)

Protect them this winter Make sure they have their flu vaccine



Scan the QR code to complete the consent form



September 2025

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 Monday 15 September  18:00 - 18:45

Please see letter attached to this newsletter with more information about the Flu Vaccine. The Immunisation Team are visiting Ivydale on 10th November

DIARY DATES

Please note: - dates added for the first time will appear in red

Date	Time	Class	Event	Location
Thursday 2nd October	All day	Y5 footballers	U10 football tournament	Dulwich College
Tuesday 7th October	All day	France	Visit	Surrey Docks Farm
Thursday 9th October	9am	Y2 parents	Multiplication workshop for parents	Bellwood Top Hall
Wb Monday 13th October	All week	Y6	School Journey	Wales
Tuesday 14th October	All day	India	Visit	Surrey Docks Farm
Tuesday 14th October	9am	Austria parents	Phonics workshop for parents	Bellwood Bottom Hall
Wednesday 15th October	9am	Botswana parents	Phonics workshop for parents	Bellwood Bottom Hall
Tuesday 21st October	3.30-6.30pm	Inverton parents	Parents' Evening	Inverton
Tuesday 21st October	am	Inverton children plus Bellwood siblings and Denmark	Individual and sibling photos – sibling photos to start at 8am – please see note in newsletter	Inverton
Wednesday 22nd October	am	Bellwood children (not Denmark)	Individual photos	Bellwood
Wednesday 22nd October	All day	Denmark	Visit	London Transport Museum
Thursday 23rd October	3.30-7.30pm	Bellwood parents	Parents' Evening	Bellwood
Friday 24 October	9am	Y6 parents	Assembly for parents	Inverton Hall
Monday 27th-Friday 31st October	All week	All	Half term holiday	
Tuesday 4th November	3.30-6.30pm	Bellwood parents	Parents' Evening	Bellwood
Wednesday 5th November	All day	Egypt	Visit	London Transport Museum
Thursday 6th November	10am	Prospective parents	Open morning	Bellwood top hall
Thursday 6th November	3.30-7.30pm	Inverton parents	Parents' Evening	Inverton
Monday 10th November	All day	All	Flu Immunisations	Bellwood and Inverton
Friday 21st November	3.45-7pm	All – ticket holders	Disco - tbc	Inverton Main Hall
Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th November	All day	Y1-6	Mental Health Workshops	Bellwood and Inverton
Tuesday 25th November	9am	N parents	Parent event	Nursery
Wednesday 26th November	9am	Y3 parents	Spelling workshop for parents	Bellwood
Thursday 27th November	9am	N parents	Parent event	Nursery