



DALMAIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter—October 2025



What a fabulous start to the 2025-26 academic year we've had! From the moment our children stepped through the doors, it has been nothing short of joyful to see how confidently they have embraced their new routines and settled into life at Dalmain. I'm incredibly proud of you all!

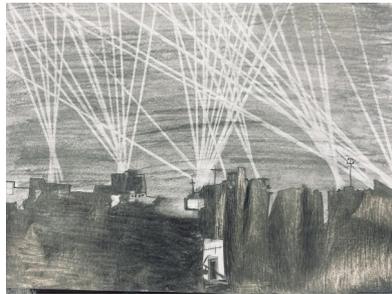
A huge thank-you to our fantastic Staff Team for your dedication, positivity and energy in supporting our learners. Your work day in, day out, is what makes our school a place of belonging, growth and joy. And a very warm welcome to the new families who have joined us this year – you've already added so many smiles and stories.

This term has been brimming with excitement! Standout moments include our vibrant World Food Day celebration, where we embraced the wonderful diversity of our community; the incredible trips to the Horniman Museum, London Transport Museum, Natural History Museum, and Catford Synagogue; the launch of our new Chess Club; and the hugely popular Halloween Disco. And of course, our Year 6s are off on their residential this week – we can't wait to hear all their stories when they return!

Looking ahead, we are buzzing with excitement for our seasonal Winter Performances and can't wait to welcome back Spirit of the Wild after Half Term for more thrilling learning adventures.

Enjoy a well-deserved, restful half-term break, and I look forward to seeing you all in Term 2 for more learning, laughter and growing together.

Best wishes, Ms Eisele - Headteacher



Term 2 Dates

All Key Dates can be found on our website under Current Information

Open Classrooms: Tuesday 4th November
3:30-4:15pm

FOD Winter Fair: Saturday 6th December
12:00-3:00pm

WINTER PERFORMANCES

Wednesday 10th December

9.30am – Years 1 & 2

2:00pm – Years 3 & 4

5:00pm – Years 5 & 6

Thursday 11th December

9:30am – Reception

2:00pm – Years 5 & 6

2:45pm – Nursery Singalong

5:00pm – Years 3 & 4

Friday 12th December

9:30am – Reception

2:00pm – Years 1 & 2

END OF TERM: Thursday 19th December at 1:00pm

HOUSE POINT RESULTS—so far...



Forest House: 891



Grove House: 429

Hawthorne House: 590

Oak House: 670



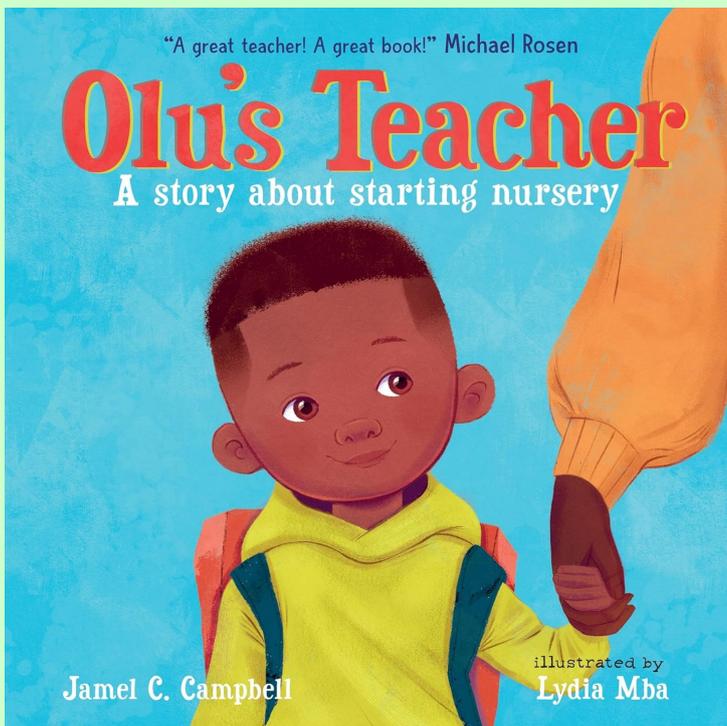
AUTHOR VISIT



A Special Visit from Author Jamel Carly Campbell

We were delighted to welcome Jamel Carly Campbell – a Black British author, Early Years specialist, and proud ex Lewisham resident – into our Nursery and Reception this week.

Jamel shared his book, *Olu's Teacher: A Story about Starting Nursery*, with the children through an engaging and



joyful storytelling session. The afternoon was filled with laughter, singing, and the joy of rhymes and stories, as Jamel connected beautifully with our young learners.

His warm and animated storytelling style, rooted in his many years of experience in Early Years education, helped the children feel seen, heard, and excited about the world of books. Representation matters and it was powerful for the children to meet an author who reflects the rich diversity of our wider community.

Jamel's visit was truly a highlight – an inspiring and worthwhile experience for all involved. We are so grateful he took the time to come and share his talents with us!



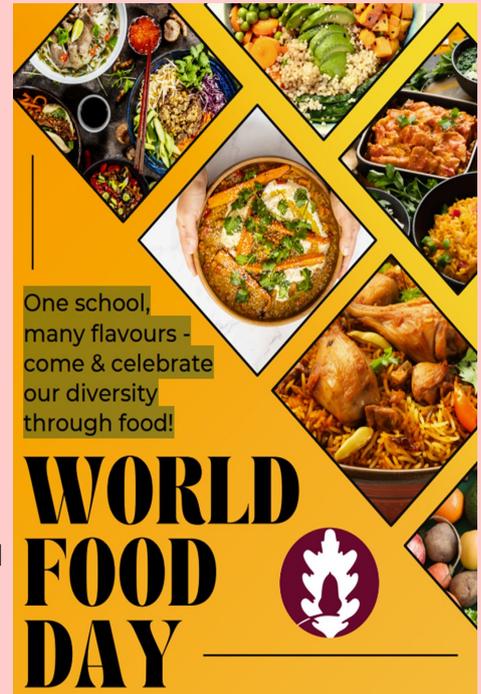
FOOD BRINGING US TOGETHER!

Dalmain Primary School Celebrates World Food Day!

Dalmain Primary School recently came together to celebrate World Food Day, embracing our theme: *“One School, Many Flavours – Come & Celebrate Our Diversity Through Food!”* Families, children, and staff joined in a joyful celebration, sharing dishes from around the world and exploring the rich diversity within our school community.

The event was a wonderful opportunity for everyone to connect, try new foods, and learn about different cultures. Smiles, laughter, and the delicious aromas of home-cooked meals filled the school hall, reminding us of the power of food to bring people together.

Thank you to all families who contributed their favourite dishes and helped make this celebration such a memorable and inclusive experience.



Food Donation Week 2025

Dalmain Primary School proudly took part in Food Donation Week from Monday 6th October to Friday 10th October. We were delighted to welcome representatives from the Lewisham Local Food Cycle, who delivered a special assembly for our KS1 and KS2 pupils. The assembly highlighted the importance of reducing food waste and understanding why food sustainability matters.

**Look what we
collected!**

Throughout the week, we asked our parents and children to donate food items—and you certainly delivered! Our school community came together with incredible generosity, filling boxes with tins, packets, and fresh produce.

A heartfelt thank you to all parents and carers for your generous contributions during our Week of Food Donation. The team at Lewisham Food Cycle were truly overwhelmed by the kindness shown by our school community. Your donations will make a real difference to some of the most vulnerable people in our area.

This initiative has not only supported those in need but also provided our children with a valuable lesson in compassion, community spirit, and the importance of helping others.



THANK YOU!

Nursery—Rose Class

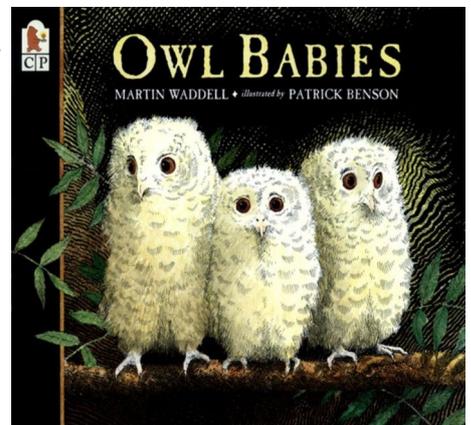
It has been a great start to the year in Rose Class! The children have been settling in well and adjusting to their new environment. They have actively engaged in exploring the various indoor and outdoor spaces, familiarising themselves with the resources available. The children have done an amazing job learning all the new routines, especially during carpet time, demonstrating great participation and enthusiasm.



We've enjoyed reading the story 'Owl Babies', which has helped the children with the transition into nursery. As part of this, each child created their very own Owl Baby—an activity they all thoroughly enjoyed.

We've also been learning about the Zones of Regulation, which has really helped the children talk about and manage their emotions in a positive way.

We were lucky enough to have a visit from the author Laura Henry-Allain, best known for the 'JoJo and Gran-Gran' series. It was a memorable experience as the children love storytelling and reading.



We look forward to continuing to build on their curiosity and love of learning as we move through the term. It has been such a joy getting to know each child and seeing their confidence grow each day.

Learning in the Wildlife Garden

The children have really enjoyed exploring the Wildlife Garden during Forest School. They've had great fun searching for bugs and discovering the different colours of the autumn leaves. We've been talking about the changes that occur during this season and have started to notice these transformations during our visits to the garden.

The Wildlife Garden has quickly become a favourite part of the week for both Reception classes. The children have loved learning how to climb trees, investigate their surroundings, and play hide and seek among the bushes—it's always such fun! One afternoon, we were even lucky enough to spot some tiny frogs!

I wonder if you can spot anyone hiding through the undergrowth?





The Friends of Dalmain



THANK YOU

We've had a great start to the year - our bake sale in September sold out and the spooky spectacular Halloween disco kicked off FOD year of school community events in style. Thank you to everyone who came to support these events, which along with the Halloween bake sale raised almost £1000 for the school. THANK YOU!

We know that there was more demand for Halloween disco tickets than we could meet - it felt like it sold out quicker than Glastonbury and we're sorry to anyone who missed out - so we are working on ways to make sure that everyone who wants to come is able to next time!



CHRISTMAS IS COMING!!

Christmas trees are available to order now - beautiful quality cut trees and trees in pots available in multiple sizes. For more information and to order please see [here](#).

You don't have to be associated with Dalmain to order a Christmas tree from us, so please share the information with street WhatsApp groups, previous nurseries etc.

Christmas tea towel art work has been completed, and we will be printing two tea towels again this year - one including children from nursery to year two and one for years three to six. Order your tea towel [here](#).

Christmas fair planning has started! While it may seem a long way away, we would like to ask for your help with preparations - perhaps you have some time over half term to get creative? PTO for more details!



The Friends of Dalmain



FRIENDS OF DALMAIN

<https://www.pta-events.com/friendsofdalmain/>
[@friends_of_dalmain](https://www.instagram.com/friends_of_dalmain)

MADE FOR DALMAIN STALL

Please help by making items to sell at the Christmas fair (crafty minded friends and grandparents could be helpful here!) This could be Christmas decorations, hair bands, hats, candles or food items such as jams, chutney, Christmas puddings, biscuits.

JOLLY JAR STALL

Please prepare jars of treasures and sweets for one of the stalls at the fair (see right) - the children love them! They could contain raisins, stickers, gems, mini markers, key rings, pom poms, sweets, figurines, temporary tattoos - anything you think the children would like!



EasyFundraising QR code - register as Friends of Dalmain Lewisham

EASY FUNDRAISING

Did you know that you can raise lots of money to support the school when you buy online? The EasyFundraising scheme provides Dalmain with cash donations for purchases you make through their platform. This includes weekly groceries from the big supermarkets, clothing, purchases made on price comparison sites (e.g. money supermarket) and on big purchases like holidays (e.g. via Tui). It's easy to sign up, and one parent we spoke to recently has raised £359 during their time as a Dalmain parent just by clicking through for purchases they would have made anyway. Imagine how much we could raise if everyone did it!

Go to [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) or use the QR code to find out more, and choose Friends of Dalmain Lewisham when you sign up.



FRIENDS OF DALMAIN

20 | 20
25 | 26

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



DECEMBER WINTER FAIR
12-3PM



JANUARY QUIZ NIGHT
7-10PM



MARCH MUSIC NIGHT
7-10PM



JUNE SUMMER FAIR
12-4PM

[friends_of_dalmain](https://www.instagram.com/friends_of_dalmain)

Don't forget!

Sun 7th Dec:

Xmas Tree pickup / delivery

Details on how to order will be shared soon!



Ongoing FoD events throughout the year!

- ★ Uniform Sales
- ★ Bake Sales
- ★ Lost Property Drives
- ★ Frozen Fridays
- ★ FoD Socials

Stay tuned via class **WhatsApp** groups and **ParentMail**



GET IN TOUCH

If you have any questions or suggestions please email:

friendsofdalmain@gmail.com

Reception—Daffodil Class

We have had a wonderful start to the term in Daffodil Class! The children have been busy learning each other's names, exploring our Reception environment, and building new friendships. It has been lovely to see all the children settling in to our routines so quickly.



Daffodil Class were thrilled to welcome one of our wonderful parents, who kindly came in to teach us some ballet positions and movements. We had a fantastic time learning how to get into first and second position. The children loved listening carefully and moving gracefully to classical music.

Autumn leaves are starting to fall, and we have begun collecting all kinds of natural objects, such as acorns and conkers, that can be found on the ground at this time of year. The children have loved using their findings in creative play, exploring textures, colours, and patterns in nature. They also enjoy making all sorts of imaginative concoctions in the mud kitchen — from soups and teas to magical potions! We have been hard at work planting daffodil bulbs and can't wait to watch them blossom when spring arrives. We are so proud of the children's enthusiasm, teamwork, and progress this half term, and we wish everyone a happy, restful half term break as we look forward to more exciting learning ahead!

Reception—Daisy Class

What a wonderful start to the school year we've had in Daisy Class! The children have settled beautifully into their new classroom, & it's been a joy to watch them grow in confidence & curiosity each day.

We began the term with a mystery! Strange footprints appeared in the classroom — could they belong to Wild Things? This sparked fantastic detective work, creative thinking, and even the design of imaginative cages to try and catch these mysterious visitors.



As part of our focus on celebrating what makes us unique, we've been exploring our differences and similarities. We've looked closely at our skin, hair, and interests, encouraging conversations about what makes us special and how we are all connected. *Hair Love* inspired lots of role play in our class hair salon — though it was occasionally a little painful for the adults involved! These activities led to thoughtful discussions about belonging and kindness. *Our Skin*, a child-friendly book, helped us explore racism and the importance of treating everyone with love and respect. One child reflected, "We all have hearts and feelings, so we need to be kind to each other."

To bring these ideas to life, we carried out an egg experiment. The children noticed that, although the eggs had different coloured shells, they were the same inside — just like us!

We are so proud of all the children's progress and wish everyone a happy, restful half term!



Inclusion Team

Our Inclusion Team

Ms Sewani—Assistant Headteacher & SENCo

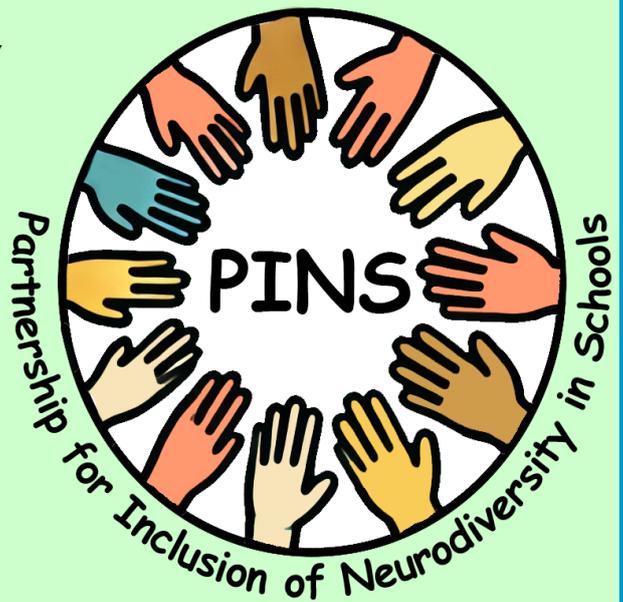
Ms Joyce—SENCo

Ms Wilkinson—Behaviour & Safeguarding Leader

They are always available to offer support to families with any concerns or questions—please get in touch via the School Office or see them in the playground.

We are very excited to be part of the *Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS)* project this year, funded by NHS England in partnership with the Department of Education, Department for Health and Social Care and the National Network of Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF).

The purpose of this project is to improve the experience of mainstream school for children who may have an additional educational need.



The programme aims to:

- **help shape whole-school special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) provision**
 - **provide early interventions at a school level**
 - **upskill school staff**
- **support the strengthening of partnerships between schools and parent carers**

To help us identify what area(s) to focus on, we are asking all our parents of children with SEND to complete a survey using the link on <https://forms.gle/PTZfBs5NMiSJSsRi6>

The information from the survey will be used to help us understand our strengths and potential areas of improvement at Dalmain School.

Our first PINS coffee morning will be held on **Friday 24th October**. We will have three more coffee mornings as part of the programme and we will share the dates with you in due course so please keep an eye out!



Inclusion Team



Dads Stay & Play



all Dads and Male Carers Welcome!



Join your local Family Navigator and Early Years Practitioner for a morning of activities for you and your children.

Refreshments Provided

Saturdays - 10.00am - 12.00pm



Bellingham Family Hub

109 Randlesdown Road

SE6 3HB

18th October

20th December

21st February

18th April

Deptford Family Hub

Alverton Street

SE8 5NH

15th November

17th January

21st March



lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk

Sharing REAL with Parents



This fun 4 week course aims to build your confidence in how you can support early literacy within your home and help your children's learning and development in communication and language.

- Meet other parents and carers.
- Share ideas to support your child's early learning.
- Take home FREE resources each week.



Thursdays
13th November - 4th December

1.00pm - 3.00pm

Ladywell Family Hub

30 Rushey Mead, SE4 1JJ

Thursdays
20th November - 11th December

9.30am - 11.30am

Deptford Family Hub

Alverton Street, SE8 5NH

To book go to:
[lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk/
events/parenting-course](http://lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk/events/parenting-course)
scan the QR code
email [family.hub.bookings
@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:family.hub.bookings@lewisham.gov.uk)
or call 07720 152902



NATIONAL
CHILDREN'S
BUREAU



Raising Early
Achievement
in Literacy

lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk

RAINBOW COURSE



Drumbeat
Autism Outreach Service



A **FREE** course for Lewisham parents of children in Early Years who present with social communication differences.

4-week online course from 6pm–8pm on the following dates:

4th November 2025 11th November 2025
18th November 2025 25th November 2025

SESSIONS:

- 1** Understanding social communication differences
- 2** Understanding and supporting sensory differences
- 3** Communication & supporting and developing interaction
- 4** Understanding and interpreting behaviour & supporting behaviour

To book your place contact:

outreach.admin@drumbeat.lewisham.sch.uk



Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in schools (PINS)**Parent/Carer Survey**

Your child's school needs your help. We want you to share your thoughts and experiences of the inclusive provision for your child at this school!!

This survey is part of the Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) funded by NHS England in partnership with the Department of Education, Department for Health and Social Care and the National Network of Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF). The purpose of the project is to improve the experience of mainstream school for children who may have an additional educational need. The information from the survey will be used to understand the current strengths and potential areas of improvement in a school. The survey is for all parents and carers of children attending schools participating in the project. If you have more than one child attend the school, then you may complete the survey for the number of children you have attending the school.

All information provided will be stored, used and accessed confidentially in accordance with Data Protection legislation. The individual information provided will only be accessible to South East London NHS Integrated Care Board. Your individual survey response will NOT be shared. The only time information will be shared is if it raises a concern for someone's safety. A thematic summary of the survey results will be shared with your participating school and PINS project partners from NHS England, Department of Education and NNPCF.

Due to being anonymous, this survey is not a suitable way to raise any specific concerns you may have about your child(ren) or their school. It is also not suitable for reporting any safeguarding concerns. If you have any safeguarding concerns relating to your child or other children in the school, please contact the school Designated Safeguarding Lead in the first instance, and follow your school or local area protocols.

If received electronically simply click on the link otherwise take a photo with a smart phone, then click and follow the link to complete the survey and let us know how we're doing.

<https://forms.gle/PTZfBs5NMiSJSsRi6>





Year 1—Bluebell Class

What a brilliant start we've had in Bluebell Class! The children have settled in beautifully, embracing Year 1 with curiosity, enthusiasm, and a positive attitude. We're so proud of how well they've adapted to new routines and challenges.

In English, we began with the mischievous *Naughty Bus*, inspiring imaginative storytelling, descriptive writing, and our own mini books. We then journeyed into space with *Astro Girl*, learning about astronauts, rockets, life on the ISS, and creating a class space fact file.



In Maths, we've strengthened our understanding of numbers to 20 using hands-on activities and outdoor learning to make maths fun and meaningful.

Our History and DT learning has explored transport through time. We designed boats, learned about animals that helped pave the way for spaceflight, and built cars with working wheels and axles, showing teamwork and creativity. Science has also been a real hit, as we explored our five senses through exciting investigations, including tasting and smelling different foods.

A huge well done to all of Bluebell Class for a fantastic start to Year 1—we are so proud!

Year 1—Foxglove Class

Welcome to Year 1 Foxglove Class! The whole class has transitioned fantastically from Reception and started the year with a great attitude to their learning.



We have been consolidating our number bonds to 10 and 20 over the past few weeks and have especially enjoyed our lessons outdoors. We went on number hunts around the playground, finding bricks, leaves, stones, and more.

This half term we have read *The Naughty Bus* and *Astro Girl*. Everyone was very surprised by the mischief the Naughty Bus got up to and loved writing sensible rules for him to follow. When Astrid from *Astro Girl*'s bag mysteriously appeared in our classroom, it inspired everyone to design rockets, planets, and think about what we would need to bring to space.

One of our favourite subjects so far has been Science. We have explored the senses, going on a hunt for sounds around the school, tasting different fruits, and playing games with our eyes closed.

What a wonderful start to the year—we are so impressed by everyone!



TURN YOUR AUTUMN CLEAR-OUT INTO A DONATION!

Consider donating to Year 1!

Year 1 Learning Environment

We are in the exciting process of developing our Year 1 learning areas to inspire children to become more independent and self-directed learners, following their own interests and curiosity through a range of topics and learning opportunities.

While we plan to purchase new equipment throughout the year, we would be *hugely grateful* for any donations if you happen to be having a clear-out at home and have items that could support our learning spaces.

We are particularly on the look out for games and activities relating to:

- ◇ Space and the Universe
- ◇ Sea, Pirates & Seaside
- ◇ Nature & Minibeasts
- ◇ Dinosaurs
- ◇ Transport



However, any of the following items in good condition would be hugely appreciated!

Art & Craft Supplies

Colouring pencils, felt pens, Sellotape, masking tape, chalks, oil pastels, crayons, whiteboard pens, glue sticks, big rolls of paper, tags and labels, envelopes, sticky notes, blank postcards, clipboards, fabrics (linked to classroom topics), lolly sticks, pompoms, feathers, pipe cleaners, glitter, gems, pasta shapes, paint brushes, water pots, water-based poster paint, playdough cutters and rolling pins, aprons, water measuring vessels, funnels, jugs, pipes, scoopers, and stencils.

Creative & Construction Resources

Small world toys (animals, minibeasts, dinosaurs, vehicles, people, etc.), natural materials, pegs, baking tins, small tools, food colouring, real kitchen utensils (saucepans, frying pans, sieves, baking resources), letter and number stamps or cutters, clay, Magna-Tiles, mini bricks and building materials, construction toys, beanbags, cones, tarpaulins, hula hoops, plastic money, and more!

Larger Items

Cable reels, guttering, ramps, building blocks, large bricks and construction equipment, wheels, all-weather storage units, mini wheelbarrows, etc.

And basically, **anything else you think might be useful or you're looking to pass on!**

Please speak with the **Year 1 team** if you have any questions. **THANK YOU!**



Year 2— Marigold Class

This term has been filled with exciting learning adventures in our class! In Writing, we read *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* by Lauren Child and focused on creating fantastic sentences using capital letters, full stops, and descriptive language. The children especially enjoyed writing their own wanted posters, which were proudly displayed, and performing them in groups.



In Maths, we learned to represent multiples of ten using numerals and words, and used our understanding of facts and unitising to add and subtract multiples of ten. We also explored place value, number bonds, and strategies for working with tens.

In History, we studied the significant figure Frederick Horniman and his contributions to the community. The highlight of the term was our trip to the Horniman Museum, where the children enjoyed exploring his fascinating collection firsthand.



In RE, we learned about Hinduism and its gods. The children had great fun making their own puppets and performing puppet shows in groups, bringing their learning to life. What a term!

Year 2—Snowdrop Class

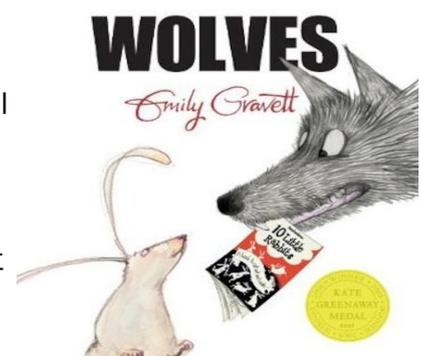


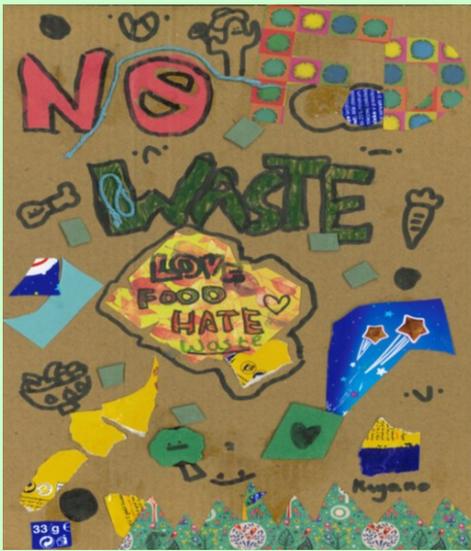
What a wonderful start to Year Two it has been for Snowdrop Class!

We have been very busy: from writing our own exciting sequels to *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* to learning about tens and ones in Maths and classifying animals in Science, the last few weeks have flown by and we have made so much progress already.

Other highlights include making our own Diwali puppet shows in RE for our learning about Hinduism, dancing like penguins in PE and our History trip to the Horniman Museum to consolidate our learning about Frederick Horniman himself.

We are finishing off the term with our wonderful work on *Wolves* in Writing – will we ever find that pesky wolf hiding around Dalmain for the past three weeks?! Read our warning posters scattered around school to find out how to spot him!





Could You Be Dalmain's Next Eco Councillor?

After half term, every KS2 class will elect **two Eco Councillors** – could one of them be you?

What does an Eco Councillor do?

An Eco Councillor is a student leader who takes an active role in making our school more environmentally friendly. They:

- are creative and think of projects that promote sustainability and environmental awareness
- participate in class discussions and Eco Council meetings
- represent the views of their class at Eco Council meetings
- take action to make Dalmain more sustainable
- feed back to their class on what was discussed at Eco Council meetings



What have the Eco Council achieved so far?

In the last few years, our Eco Councils have:

- written Dalmain's Earth Pledge
- organised Dalmain's whole-school Eco Week
- hosted Lewisham's Pupil Climate Network meetings
- presented on environmental issues in assemblies
- redesigned recycling labels around the school
- run projects on reducing food waste

If you have creative ideas for what we could do next, put yourself forward to stand as an Eco Councillor – we'd love to hear your ideas and make a difference together!

Year 3—Tiger Lily Class

Autumn 1 has been a very productive and exciting start to the academic year for Year 3. Firstly, I would like to say a massive well done to Tiger Lily for settling into LKS2 so brilliantly and showing such adaptability and resilience.



We've enjoyed a fun-packed eight weeks of learning across a range of topics, with one highlight being the introduction of Latin. The children explored the origins of the language and discovered its lasting influence on the words we use today.

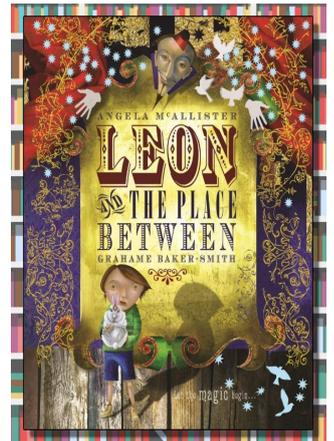


In Maths, the children have been strengthening their understanding of number and place value, developing both their fluency and confidence with numbers.

In English, we have been reading *Leon and the Place Between*, studying its literary devices and using them as inspiration for our own magical stories. The children have produced some wonderfully imaginative writing.

Tiger Lily also enjoyed their first school visit of the year – a trip to the Catford and Bromley Synagogue, where they learned about Jewish beliefs, traditions, and the importance of the synagogue within the Jewish community.

It has been a tremendous start to the year, and I am very much looking forward to seeing all that Tiger Lily will achieve in Autumn 2!



Year 3—Snapdragon Class

Snapdragon Class have made a fantastic start to the new academic year! Everyone has settled in beautifully, adapting to new routines with enthusiasm & confidence. Our topic, "Magic and Wonder," has sparked curiosity and creativity across all subjects.

In English, we've been captivated by *Leon and the Place Between*, using it as inspiration to write our own magical stories filled with imagination and descriptive detail. In Science, we explored skeletons, learning how our bones support and protect us, and comparing human skeletons with those of different animals.

A real highlight of the term was our visit to the Catford and Bromley Synagogue, where we learned about the Jewish faith, saw the Torah scrolls, and asked thoughtful questions about Jewish traditions and festivals. In Design and Technology, we created skeleton puppets using levers and linkages, while in PE with Coach Graham, we've been developing new skills in basketball and hockey.

It has been a truly wonderful start to Year 3, and I am so proud of everything Snapdragon Class has achieved this term!





Fun at Top Marks Breakfast & After School Club

DALMAIN PRIMARY SCHOOL BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB



DALMAIN PRIMARY SCHOOL BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB



Year 4—Lily Class



Lily Class have settled brilliantly into Year 4, approaching their learning with enthusiasm and curiosity. Our topic, “Inventions and Innovations,” has inspired creativity across all subjects.

In English, we’ve been moved by *FARThER*, writing our own versions that explore emotion and imagination. We also had great fun with *Until I Met Dudley*, inventing hilarious explanations for how everyday objects work—like mini beavers inside pencil sharpeners!



In Maths, we revised addition and subtraction before mastering place value up to 10,000 and tackling rounding with determination. Times tables are in full swing, with children spotting patterns everywhere.

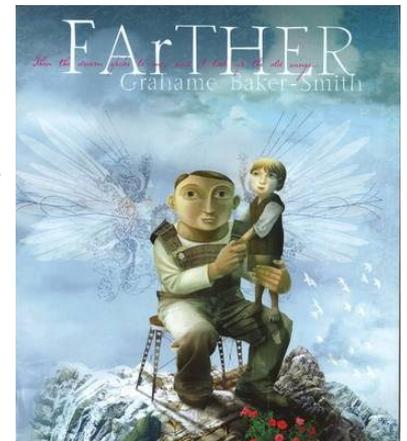
In Science, we became classification detectives, while our History trip to the London Transport Museum brought the railways to life. We’ve explored Sikhism in RE, practised Latin verbs, and started learning songs for our Christmas performance. In PE, we’re creating a secret dance and refining our football skills. What a fantastic start for Lily Class!

Year 4—Jasmine Class



It’s been a fantastic first term in Year 4 for Jasmine Class, full of curiosity, creativity, and growth!

In History, we explored the Industrial Revolution, discovering how inventions and new ideas transformed the way people lived and worked. In English, we read *FARThER* and wrote our own imaginative stories inspired by its themes of family and dreams. In Maths, we strengthened our understanding of column addition & applied it to real-world problems.



In PSHE, we learned about the Zones of Regulation, helping us recognise and manage our emotions effectively. In RE, we explored Sikhism, discussing key beliefs and values such as equality & kindness.

The children have worked incredibly hard this term, and I am so proud of their enthusiasm for learning and the wonderful progress they have made.

‘I really enjoyed learning Latin and making my mythical creature’ – Zoe

‘I enjoyed everything this term, I love Year 4!’ – Sorefunmi

‘I liked learning about column addition and solving word problems’ – Kyron

‘I liked learning about railways in History and drawing pictures of locomotives’ – Leo

‘In DT I enjoyed making the lighthouses in DT’ – Ethan

‘I loved learning about Zones of Regulation in PSHE’ - Bruno



Year 5—Sunflower Class

Sunflower Class have settled into the rhythm of the Year 5 curriculum with great determination and resilience and have enjoyed a busy start to the school year.



The theme for this half-term has been 'Earth and Beyond' and the children have had a 'stellar' time in Reading and Writing lessons, exploring this theme!

In Reading, Year 5 have read and dived into 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell-Boyce and have made wonderful inferences, summaries, predictions and asked thought-provoking questions.

In Writing, the children have explored social issues in the book 'Hidden Figures' and space exploration of Mars in 'Curiosity'. Both texts served as stimuli for some exceptional pieces of writing such as persuasive letters, memoirs and explanation texts.



In Science, they have explored the depths of space & the Solar System, learning about key physics concepts, such as gravity, orbits and planetary movement.

In Maths, the children have been exploring decimal place value and the composition of integers using parts. It has helped them in their understanding of the value of digits less than a whole.

Sunflower look forward to learning about forces, Hinduism and Ancient Greece in the next half-term. Have a super holiday all!

Year 5—Poppy Class

This half term in Poppy Class has been amazing, inspiring, and full of hard work! We began the year as NASA recruits, exploring all things space.



In Writing, we started with *Hidden Figures*, an inspiring story about four women who overcame adversity to achieve their goals. We wrote letters to our future selves, sharing our hopes and aspirations, and created memoirs about Mary Jackson. We then explored *Curiosity: The Story of a Mars Rover* by Markus Motum, learning about NASA's incredible Mars rover and its mission to explore the Red Planet.

In Reading, we have enjoyed *Cosmic* by Frank Cottrell-Boyce, a story about Liam, a twelve-year-old so tall that people mistake him for an adult — who somehow ends up lost in space!

In Maths, we have explored tenths and hundredths, representing them in different ways, and applied column addition and subtraction to solve decimal problems. In Science, we studied the Solar System, learning about planets, day and night, and the moon.



We also enjoyed Philosophy lessons and a Lewisham Youth Theatre workshop, creating and performing our own stories.

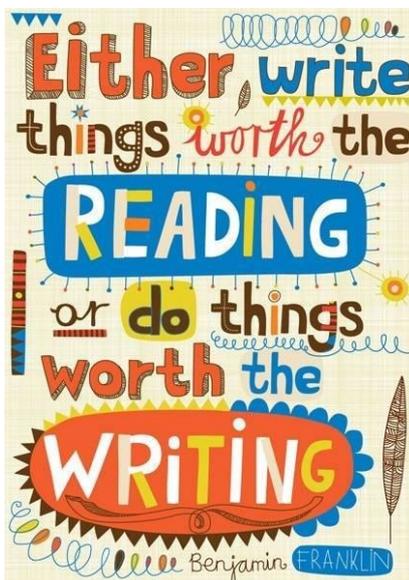
We hope everyone has a lovely half-term break!



Writing Laureate Award

Since the start of this school term, we have been absolutely astounded by the standard of writing that our pupils have produced. The following children have been chosen to receive our Dalmain Laureate Award for their exceptional progress, use of high-quality vocabulary and application of literary skills across the curriculum. We are so impressed to see what they have achieved and are looking forward to their writing being displayed in school.

Look out for these future authors!



Reception: Iysaac & Mila

Year 1: Rowan & Nola

Year 2: Athena & Travis

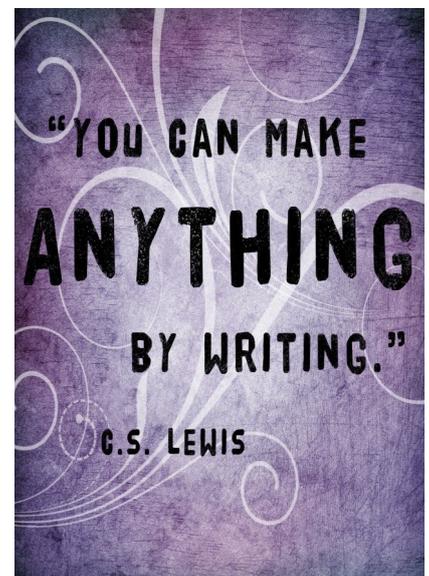
Year 3: Adam & Etta

Year 4: Keanu & Rita

Year 5: Francesca & Leyla

Year 6: Chiana & Adekoya

CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE!



General school email: admin@dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk

Other Contacts

For specific queries, please use the below contacts:

Admissions incl. Nursery & Reception intakes, attendance, meal choices, breakfast or after school

clubs: attendance@dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk

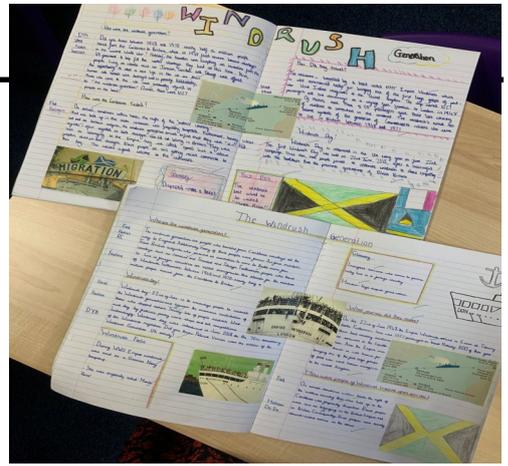
Finance, curriculum clubs, instrumental lessons, trips, medicines or allergies: office@dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk

Afterschool club: please contact Top Marks Coaching at info@topmarksportscoaching.co.uk

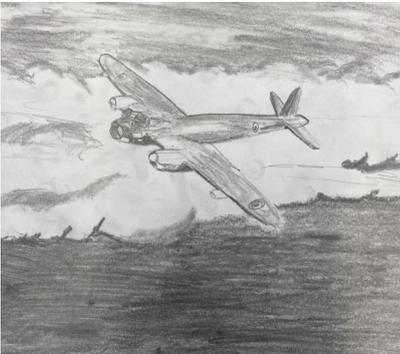
Year 6—Iris Class

What a fantastic and busy start to Year 6 it has been! Iris Class have worked hard across all areas of learning, taking pride in being the oldest pupils – and role models – in the school.

In English and Topic, our learning has centred on Migration and the Windrush Pioneers. We explored *Windrush Child* by John Agard, capturing the hopes and challenges faced by Caribbean families who travelled to Britain. Inspired by Agard and Benjamin Zephaniah's novel, we wrote our own poems in role as Leonard, a young boy leaving Maroon Town to join his father in Manchester in the 1950s.



Our Laban (Trinity Dance) sessions have been full of energy and creativity! We composed dance routines exploring dynamics, pathways, and transitions, inspired by themes ranging from *uni* to *pasta*!



In Science, we built on our classification learning, studying how living things can be grouped by characteristics. A highlight was exploring the wildlife garden to collect and classify natural items.

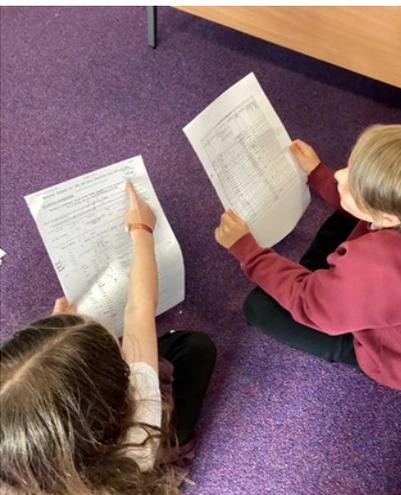
As Year 6 leaders, we've embraced new responsibilities, applying for Young Leader, School Council, and Eco Council roles. It's been a wonderful start to the year – full of creativity, curiosity, and leadership!



Year 6—Cosmos Class

Cosmos Class have started the year with great enthusiasm and curiosity in their learning. As a class, we have been exploring the theme of 'Journey and Migration' across our subjects.

Through Michael Rosen's poetry, we have learnt about the migration of his family from Eastern Europe to the UK. In History and Writing, we have been delving into the stories of the Windrush Generation. One area we found particularly fascinating was exploring the passengers who travelled on the *Empire Windrush*. We examined original documents showing where the passengers were travelling from and to, as well as their jobs and ages. It was



amazing to learn about the real people who have helped shape our country as we know it today – we even discovered some passengers who were heading to South East London!

In Maths, we have been working on rounding numbers up to 1,000,000. The children have loved challenging themselves and playing a competitive maths game with their learning partners – there was plenty of excitement (and a bit of friendly rivalry!) as they battled to win!



A-Z OF MENTAL HEALTH

Positive mental health and wellbeing makes us feel content, peaceful and valued. Use these tips to improve your mental health one letter at a time.

 <p>ASK FOR HELP You are not alone, so reach out and ask for help</p>	 <p>BREATHE Focus on your breath to find a sense of calm</p>	 <p>CONNECT Connect with friends, family and trusted adults</p>	 <p>DETOX Unplug from social media and other distractions</p>	 <p>EMOTIONS Observe how you feel and label your emotions</p>	 <p>FIND SAFE PLACE Go to a place where you feel safe and at ease</p>
 <p>GRATITUDE Focus on the things you're grateful for</p>	 <p>HEALTHY HABITS Create a balanced routine with healthy habits</p>	 <p>INQUIRE Pause and ask yourself, 'how do I feel right now?'</p>	 <p>JOURNAL Use a journal to express your thoughts and feelings</p>	 <p>KINDNESS Be kind and compassionate to yourself and others</p>	 <p>LET GO! Feel more energised, by moving your body</p>
 <p>MEMORIES Visualise three things you are proud of</p>	 <p>NATURE Improve your mood by exploring the great outdoors</p>	 <p>OPENNESS Be open to new activities and notice what happens</p>	 <p>PATIENCE It's okay to not be okay, so give yourself time</p>	 <p>QUIET Take quiet moments every day to reflect</p>	 <p>REST Be mindful, rest often and get plenty of sleep</p>
 <p>SUPERHERO Stand in the Superhero Pose for two minutes every day</p>	 <p>THOUGHTS Track your thoughts in a journal, and notice any themes</p>	 <p>UNIQUE You are unique, and so is your mental health</p>	 <p>VOLUNTEER Boost your self-esteem by giving back to others</p>	 <p>WORRY TIME Schedule 'worry time' to help solve practical worries</p>	 <p>EXCITEMENT Do more of the things that bring you joy and excitement</p>
 <p>YOU MATTER! You are important and your feelings matter</p>	 <p>ZEN Practise calming activities like yoga and meditation</p>				

Find out more about how Optimus Education can help boost your wellbeing at [healthinschoolsuk.com](https://www.healthinschoolsuk.com)



Autumn Term 2025

Club	Day	Time	Year Group	Location	Teacher
Netball	Monday	3:30 – 4:30	3,4,5 & 6	PEN	Ms Allsopp
Arts & Crafts	Monday	3:30 – 4:30	1,2 & 3	Room	Live from London
Cosmic Yoga	Monday	3:30 – 4:30	1 & 2 & 3	Room 4	Miss Cuddy
Beyblade Club	Tuesday	3:30 – 4:30	1,2 & 3	Room 15	Miss Sara
Football	Tuesday	4:30-5:30	REC	PEN	Mr Graham
		5:30 – 6:30	1 & 2	PEN	Mr Graham
Karate	Tuesday	8:00 – 8:45	Yellow Belts	Top Hall	Sensei Bethany McCloskey
Tennis	Wednesday	3:30- 4:30	3,4,5 & 6	PEN	Mr Graham
Mindfulness	Wednesday	3:30 – 4:30	1 & 2	Room 4	Miss Sara
Drawing	Wednesday	3:30-4:30	3,4,5 & 6	Art Room	Mr Roberts
Basketball	Wednesday	3:30-4:30	4,5 & 6	PEN	Mr Graham
Football	Wednesday	5:00-6:00	3 & 4	PEN	Miss CJ
		6:00- 7:00	5 & 6	PEN	Miss CJ
Karate	Thursday	8:00-8:45	White & Red Belts	Top Hall	Sensei Bethany McCloskey
Yo Ballet	Thursday	3:30-4:30	Rec, 1 & 2	Top Hall	The London Ballet Company
Movie Club	Thursday	3:30 – 4:30	Rec, 1, 2 & 3	Room 4	Miss Cuddy
Multi-skills	Friday	8:00 – 8:45	3, 4, 5 & 6	PEN	Mr Graham
Cricket	Friday	3:30-4:30	4,5,6	Pen	Mr Graham
Forest School	Friday	3:30 – 4:30	3, 4, 5 & 6	Wildlife Garden	Secret Adventurers' Club





Lewisham Parent and Carer Champions Network



Supporting families with young people aged 10 - 25* years

**Aged 16+: young people with special education needs/disabilities*



We work with parents:

- Navigating the education, criminal justice or social care system(s)
- Struggling with their teen's behaviour
- With a child in Year 5 or 6 and preparing for secondary school (including those vulnerable to risk during secondary transition (SEN))
- Interested in learning about keeping their children safe from harm
- Looking to get more involved in the community

Our Volunteer Parent Champions provide:

A listening ear, non-judgemental support and empathy

Parenting information and signposting

One to one support and group workshops

Info about trips and activities for families

Support to fathers

Parent Champions are ordinary parents who help families to find their own strengths, build confidence and skills through sharing experiences, signposting and empowering them to access support services.

If you have a family in mind who could benefit from the programme or want to find out more, please call **Aisha** on **07872 507016** or email **aishab@familylives.org.uk**. You can also **scan the QR code** to make a referral.



We build better family lives together

www.familylives.org.uk

 @FamilyLivesLewisham





Family Hubs



Ladywell Family Hub

30 Rushey Mead, SE4 1JJ

Monday 8th September to Friday 19th December (half term 27th – 31st October)
To book go to lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk/events or call 07720 152904

lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk



Updated 25/09/25

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Child Development Checks 9.00am-4.00pm Health Visitors run regular health and development reviews for your child by appointment only. Contact your Health Visitor to book.</p> <p>Lunch Break - Reception Closed 11.30pm - 12.30pm</p> <p>Mindful Mums Extra A welcoming, supportive space for you to look after your emotions and mental wellbeing, make new friends and connections. Booking is essential Visit blgmind.org.uk/lewisham/mindful-mums/</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">  <p>FREE Vitamin D Come and register and collect your free Vitamin D at the Family Hubs</p> <p>What is Vitamin D? Find out more by searching 'Vitamin D' on our website lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk</p> </div>	<p>Baby Stay & Play 10.00am - 11.30am Based on Five to Thrive key activities: Respond, Cuddle, Relax, Play, Talk Understand how playing with your baby helps grow their brain! Age group: Birth to 18 mths</p> <p>Lunch Break - Reception Closed 11.30pm - 12.30pm</p> <p>Stay & Play 1.15pm - 2.45pm Help your child learn through play and experience messy play, craft activities, singing and much more! Bring a change of clothes if possible - it might get messy! Age group: 0 - 5 years</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>Family Navigators</p> <p>Family Navigators are based within Family Hubs and offer free, confidential, and non-judgmental support by connecting you with on site and local support services, led by you.</p> <p>Sign up via this form, the QR code, call or speak to someone at the Family Hub.</p>  </div>	<p>Triple P for Baby Course 10.00am - 12noon 5th - 26th November This 6 week course supports your transition into Parenthood. Suitable for expectant parents and with babies under 1. Email lg.pairslewisham@nhs.net</p> <p>Lunch Break - Reception Closed 11.30pm - 12.30pm</p> <p>Fussy Eating Workshop 1.00pm - 2.00pm 12th Nov Our workshops help with techniques to make mealtimes less stressful and encourage a balanced diet. See details above to book.</p> <p>Introducing Solids 1.00pm - 2.00pm 10th Dec Get your baby off to a great start when starting solids. See details above to book.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p>Incredible Years Autism 9.15am - 11.15am 18th Sept - 18 Dec Evidenced based parenting sessions for parents and carers of children with ASD who display serious behavioural challenges. Age Group: 2-6yrs For more in and to book go to lewishamcfc.org.uk/contact-us/</p> <p>Baby Messy Play 10.00am - 11.30am Sensory, fun & mess play. Bring a change of clothes if possible - it will get messy! Age group: Birth - 18mths See details above to book</p> <p>Feel Positive about Parenting 10.00am - 12.00pm 11th Dec Being a parent can be difficult, these 1:1 sessions can help. Age Group: 18mths - 10yrs See details above to book.</p> <p>Lunch Break - Reception Closed 11.30pm - 12.30pm</p> <p>Family Navigator at Kaleidoscope 32 Rushey Green, SE6 4JF 9.30am - 4.30pm Join Mari at this weekly drop-in for free, confidential, and non-judgmental support by connecting you to Family Hub and local support Services</p>	<p>Breastfeeding Hub 10.00am - 12.00noon Get support and discuss any breastfeeding issues that you may be having.</p> <p>Lunch Break - Reception Closed 11.30pm - 12.30pm</p> <p>Young Mums Creativity Space 1.00pm - 2.30pm 12th Sept - 31st Oct This is a supportive, five week course for mothers aged 16-22 who have babies 0-12 months old. Led by trained volunteers with their own lived experience of being a young mum, the group offers emotional and wellbeing support, as well as the opportunity to connect with other new mums in your area. Visit blgmind.org.uk/lewisham/mindful-mums/</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>



Honor Oak Youth & Family Hub

50 Turnham Road, Honor Oak, SE4 2JD

Monday 8th September to Friday 19th December (half term 27th – 31st October)

For Family Hub email family.hubs@lewisham.gov.uk

For Youth Service email Linda.Quarcoo@lewisham.gov.uk



Updated 25/09/25

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Baby Stay & Play 10.00am - 11.30am Based on Five to Thrive key activities: Respond, Cuddle, Relax, Play, Talk Understand how playing with your baby helps grow their brain! Age group: Birth to 18 mths</p> <p>DWP Employment and Benefits Advice 10.30am-2.30pm FREE drop-in session offering employment and benefits advice. Get help looking for employment, writing your CV, Cover Letters and more!</p> <p>Lunch Break - Reception Closed 12.00pm - 1.00pm</p> <p>Melodies for Mums 2.00pm - 3.30pm 6th Oct - 8th Dec Free weekly group singing sessions for new mothers (and their babies) to boost emotional and mental wellbeing. Programme open to London Borough of Lewisham residents with babies aged 0-9 months. To book go to breatheahr.org/programmes/melodies-for-mums/</p>	<p>Being Dad Zoom Drop-in 8.00pm - 9.15pm Our drop-in sessions are there to help men learn more about looking after themselves, managing the changes and challenges of parenthood, all while meeting other dads! Visit blgmind.org.uk/bromleymentalhealth/being-dad/ For more information email: beingdad@blgmind.org.uk</p> <p>Lunch Break - Reception Closed 12.00pm - 1.00pm</p> <p>Starting Solids - Online 1.00pm - 2.30pm 11th Nov & 9th Dec Get your baby off to a great start when starting solids. See details above to book.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p>Introducing Solids 1.00pm - 2.00pm 1st Oct Get your baby off to a great start when starting solids. See details above to book.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Honor Oak Youth Club has a wide variety of activities, ranging from sports and games to creative media and training workshops.</p> <p>3.15pm-5.45pm For ages 8-12, or up to 13 for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities)</p> <p>6.15pm-8.45pm For ages 13-19, or up to 25 for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities)</p>	<p>Family Navigator at Kaleidoscope 32 Rushey Green, SE6 4JF 9.30am - 4.30pm Join Mari at this weekly drop-in for free, confidential, and non-judgmental support by connecting you to Family Hub and local support services.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p>Honor Oak Youth Club has a wide variety of activities, ranging from sports and games to creative media and training workshops.</p> <p>6.15pm-8.45pm For ages 13-19, or up to 25 for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities)</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>



Follow us online!

Scan QR code for website

[@lewishamfamilyhubs](https://www.facebook.com/lewishamfamilyhubs)
[@lewishamfamilyhubs](https://www.instagram.com/lewishamfamilyhubs)

lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk



Attendance & Punctuality

Why Attendance Matters

We are ambitious for all children and our aim is for them to:

- ◆ enjoy their experience at school
- ◆ succeed
- ◆ have the best possible start to their adult life.

By attending school regularly, children can:

- ◆ reach their full academic potential
- ◆ develop and sustain relationships
- ◆ demonstrate to future employers they are reliable
- ◆ reduce their risk of becoming a victim of crime or abuse
- ◆ reduce their risk of becoming involved in antisocial or criminal behaviour.



The link between irregular school attendance and poor academic achievement and limited life outcomes have been well researched.

How to Improve Your Child's Attendance

We expect your child to attend school every day and to be on time, but we understand there may be exceptional reasons for them to miss school.

You can support your child's regular attendance at school by making sure:

- ◆ medical and dental appointments are outside school hours, such as during school holidays
- ◆ your child is organised for school the night before by having their bag packed, PE kit ready, homework completed and lunch packed
- ◆ your alarm clocks are set in good time.

How Schools Calculate Attendance

Schools count each school day as two sessions, one morning and one afternoon, making a total of 10 sessions over a full school week. Children must attend all 10 sessions each week to achieve 100%.

If a child does not attend school their attendance is reduced by 10% for each session missed. For example, if a child has a half-day absence in a full school week they will have attended nine sessions out of 10. This means they will achieve 90% attendance. If a child is absent for a whole week, their attendance is 0%. Schools will then calculate each child's attendance over a whole term.

Children who attend school for less than 90% are considered to be 'persistently absent'.

Thank YOU For Your Support

We know that you, as your child's parent/carer, want your child to get on well in life. Children only get one chance at school, and your child's chances of a successful future may be affected by not attending school every day on time, so we thank you in advance for your support with this matter.

Please email attendance@dalmain.lewisham.sch.uk if you have any questions or we can help in any way.



Term 2	Term 2 Starts	Monday 3 rd November - 8:45am
	FOD Winter Fair	Saturday 6 th December 2025 - 12:00-3:00pm
	Winter Performances	<p>Wednesday 10th December</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9.30am – Years 1 & 2 - 2:00pm – Years 3 & 4 - 5:00pm - Years 5 & 6 <p>Thursday 11th December</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9:30am - Reception - 2:00pm - Years 5 & 6 - 2:45pm – Nursery Singalong - 5:00pm - Years 3 & 4 <p>Friday 12th December</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9:30am - Reception - 2:00pm – Years 1 & 2
	END OF TERM	Thursday 18th December - 1:00pm

Term 3	Term 3 Starts	Tuesday 6 th January 2026 - 8:45am
	Parent Teacher Meetings	<p>Wednesday 28th January 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1:30pm-6:45pm <p>Friday 30th January 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 8:00am-11:00am
	Writing Week	Monday 9 th – Friday 13 th February
	HALF TERM	Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February

Term 4	Writing Exhibition in the Playground	Friday 27 th February - 3:00pm – 3:45pm
	Class Photos	Monday 2 nd March
	Reading Week	Monday 2 nd – Friday 6 th March
	World Book Day	Thursday 5 th March
	FOD Music Night	Friday 20 th March 2026 - 7:00-10:00pm
	END OF TERM	Friday 27 th March - 1:00pm



Term 5	Sports Days	Nursery	Friday 8 th May - 9:30-10:30am
		Reception	Friday 8 th May - 2:00-3:00pm
		Key Stage 2	Friday 15 th May - 9:00am-12:00pm
		Key Stage 1	Friday 22 nd May - 9:00am-12:00pm
HALF TERM		Monday 25 th May - Friday 29 th May	



Term 6	Eco Week	Monday 8 th June – Friday 12 th June
	Year 4 Residential to Naturesbase	Monday 22 nd June – Friday 26 th June 2026
	FOD Summer Fair	Saturday TBC - 12:00-4:00pm
	Music Progress Concert	Wednesday 1 st July - 10:00-11:00am (TBC piano, brass, woodwind, voice) - 2:00-3:00pm (TBC djembe, piano, guitars, ukuleles, strings, recorders)
	Year 6 Production	Thursday 9 th July - 5:00pm
	Transition Day – Meet the New Teacher & Collect Reports	Monday 13 th July - 3:30-4:30pm
	END OF TERM	Friday 17 th July - 1:00pm



**WISHING
YOU ALL
A HAPPY
OCTOBER
HALF TERM**



**See you on Monday 3rd
November at 8:45am!**