

# Headteacher's Newsletter

10th October 2025 - Edition 22



Dear Parents/Carers and Families,

We're two thirds through the half term and things are moving at full speed. Classrooms are busy, routines are set, and the calendar seems to get fuller by the day. This newsletter brings together the key updates and reminders for the next couple of weeks.

## EYFS Welcome Wednesday

Reception parents/carers joined us last Wednesday for their first class assembly of the year. The children gave a brilliant glimpse into a day in the life of Reception, sharing a song, routines and learning with real confidence. It was lovely to see so many parents in school and to give you a sense of what daily life in Reception looks like. The children did so well, and it was clear how much they have already grown in confidence. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the event..

## Bikes and Scooters


Please park bikes and scooters outside the internal gates (on the racks near the school office) rather than near the Orchard classroom. This space is used for Orchard playtime, and leaving bikes and scooters there can cause congestion and create safety issues for pupils using the area. By keeping the space clear, we can make sure that pupils in Orchard have a safe and calm environment to enjoy during their playtime. Thank you for supporting us with this.

# EYFS Outdoor Learning Area

A quick reminder that the EYFS outdoor area is part of the learning environment and not a playground before or after school. The space is carefully set up each day to support early learning, and using it at drop off or pick up can make it harder for staff to keep it safe and ready for lessons. Please make sure children stay with you and do not use the equipment at these times. This helps us keep the area clean, secure and ready for the activities planned for the day ahead.

## Please Park Considerately

## Macmillan Cake Sale



A huge thank you to everyone who baked, donated and joined us for the Macmillan Coffee Morning. It was a lovely community event and it was great to see so many people come together to support such an important cause. Together, we raised an incredible **£713**, which will go directly to Macmillan to support families affected by cancer. Your generosity and support made a real difference and we are so grateful.

Unfortunately, despite my last request, we still have some parents parking across our neighbours' driveways. Not only is this inconsiderate, it means the school is receiving regular complaints from (understandably) angry and upset neighbours. **Please park appropriately and safely!**

## Rosh Hashannah



Last week, members of the Jewish community celebrated Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. It was a time for reflection, renewal, and hope for the year ahead. We sent our warmest wishes to everyone in our community who celebrated, especially in what has been a difficult time with recent national events.

# Wraparound Club Updates

## **Places Available:**

We currently have spaces available in Wraparound Club, especially at breakfast club. This is a great way for children to start the day in a calm and structured way, with a chance to have breakfast and settle in before lessons begin. If you are interested in a place or would like to find out more, please get in touch with the school office.

## **Halloween Event at Wraparound Club**

We will be holding a special Halloween themed treat for children in the after school Wraparound Club on **Wednesday 22nd October**. Children will enjoy Halloween themed snacks and will be watching Monsters Inc together to get into the spirit of the season. We may still have some ad hoc places available for families who would like their child to join us, but spaces are limited. Please contact the school office to register your child, or if you are already registered, book online as usual. Prices are £6 for a session until 4.30pm and £8 for a session until 6.00pm.

## **Wrap Club Termly Breakfast Bash!**

We will soon be introducing special breakfast event days once every half term. These will be led by an external provider and will offer children something a little different to start their day. Children who have regular places will automatically be involved in this, at no additional cost. There will be opportunities to win free places through prize raffle tickets, and parents will also be able to book places as usual. Spaces will be limited, so keep an eye out for more information coming soon.

## **Late School Pick Ups**

We have noticed that a number of children are being collected late from school on a regular basis. We understand that occasional delays happen and that is absolutely fine, but we cannot offer free childcare while other families are paying for it. From Monday, any child who is still in school at 3.25pm will need to be collected from Wraparound Club, and parents will be billed for the session. This is also the case for children who are consistently collected late. This ensures a fair and consistent approach for all families.

## Cross Country Success at Newfield Park

Well done to our fantastic Year 5 and 6 Cross Country team who took part in the event at Newfield Park on Tuesday 7th October. All the children showed incredible stamina, determination, and enthusiasm throughout.

We're thrilled to share that the boys' team finished in an impressive 3rd place overall - a brilliant achievement! A special congratulations goes to Ben, who stormed to victory in the boys' race. Ben, despite only being in Year 5, won the race with ease and showed outstanding athleticism.

A huge well done to everyone who took part - you did your school proud!

Mr Tinsley



## Raising Issues or Concerns

We know that sometimes things need to be raised with school, and we are committed to working alongside our families to find solutions, or provide clarification. If you have a concern, the best place to start is with your child's class teacher. They know your child well and are usually able to resolve most issues quickly and effectively. When concerns come straight to me, I often have to go back to the class teacher to gather the information needed, which can slow the process down and limits the chance for things to be addressed at the right level. Starting with the teacher means that if the issue does need to be escalated, there is a clear record of what has already been discussed and done. I ask that all concerns are raised in a respectful and constructive way so that we can work together to find solutions.

# Happy Diwali

We would like to wish a very Happy Diwali to all our Hindu families and members of the school community who will be celebrating. Diwali is a time of light, hope and togetherness. We hope the celebrations bring joy, peace and brightness to you and your families.

## Message from the PTA - Halloween Disco

We have had requests to host another Halloween Disco - and we are pleased to announce the details are as below:

- Thursday 23rd October
- Tickets are £3.00 and can be purchased via scopay

### Times

- Year 1, 2 and 3: 4pm - 5pm
- Year 4, 5 6: 5.15pm - 6.15pm
- Tickets include a pack of crisps and a glow stick (Your child will be offered 1 pack of crisps when entering - please let your child know this - last year some children didn't want the crisps which is fine too!
- Cartons/fruit shoots/sweets and chocolates will be available to be purchased during the disco
- More information will follow shortly

### Disco and Wrap Club

Children attending Wraparound Club, before or after the disco can bring their costumes in and change at school.

## Parent Governor Election Result

Congratulations to Mrs Kelleher on her election as our new Parent Governor. Thank you to all the nominees for putting themselves forward and to everyone who took the time to vote.

We would also like to thank Mr Smith, our outgoing Parent Governor, for his time, commitment and service to the school.



# Black History Month/Library Focus



Our monthly focus in the library is related to Black History Month, which takes place in the UK every October. We will also be focusing on this special month in assembly and as part of our history curriculum. It has been wonderful to see so many children enjoying our new library and choosing books to take home. We hope that you're enjoying looking at the books together!

## Harvest - Reminder

We are looking forward to welcoming families and carers of Year 3 to 6 pupils to our Harvest celebrations on **Friday 17th October** at St Paul's Church, Blackheath. If you would like to join us, please could you be seated by 9:50am. Please leave food donations on the grass at the front of school, by 9am on **Thursday 16th October**.

















## PTA - AGM

Please come to our PTA AGM at 5pm on **Thursday 16th October** at school. We need all of the support we can get, and however much or little you want to be involved, please do join us!

Have a wonderful weekend!  
Miss Wilson



## Attendance 29.09.25 - 10.10.25

 Apple - 97.33%	 Cedar - 97%	 Hawthorn - 94.35%	 Pine - 92.83%
 Apricot - 93.67%	 Cherry - 96.83%	 Hazel - 94.46%	 Poplar - 98.17%
 Beech - 98.5%	 Elder - 95.83%	 Larch - 97.67%	 
 Birch - 96.5%	 Elm - 94.77%	 Lime - 98.1%	

## House Points



2234



1964



2119



2021

### Mentions - Week One (29.09.25)

Apricot - N/A  
 Apple - N/A  
 Beech - Jacob  
 Birch - Amy  
 Cedar - Hana  
 Cherry - Macey  
 Elder - Thomas  
 Elm - Avery  
 Hawthorn - Joanie & Elizabeth  
 Hazel - Mason  
 Larch - Margarita  
 Lime - Renae  
 Pine - Seb  
 Poplar - Harleen

### Mentions - Week Two (06.10.25)

Apricot - N/A  
 Apple - N/A  
 Beech - Daniel  
 Birch - Rudy  
 Cedar - Asmitha  
 Cherry - Adam  
 Elder - Orei  
 Elm - Malia  
 Hawthorn - Chloé  
 Hazel - Chloe  
 Larch - Henry  
 Lime - Cole  
 Pine - Harvey  
 Poplar - Anam