



Hazelbank Road, Catford, London, SE6 1TG

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16th December 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the final newsletter of 2022. This term has whizzed by so quickly and in the last week we have been as busy as ever – with festive assemblies, Christmas jumpers, Christmas lunch and classroom celebrations!

It was fantastic to see so many of you joining us for our Christmas assemblies. We really hope you enjoyed them as much as we did. Judging by the cheers and applause, I think it is safe to say that you did.

I must thank you for your incredible generosity. Even in these challenging times your donations have helped to support over 50 families with Christmas presents through our shoe box appeal. This will make such a difference for those children who will be waking up on Christmas morning with gifts to unwrap thanks to your kindness. Thank you.

For those who are celebrating Christmas, I hope you have a wonderful time with family and friends. I wish you all a safe and happy holiday and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Very best wishes to you all.

Manda George
Headteacher



START OF THE SPRING TERM

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 3rd January.

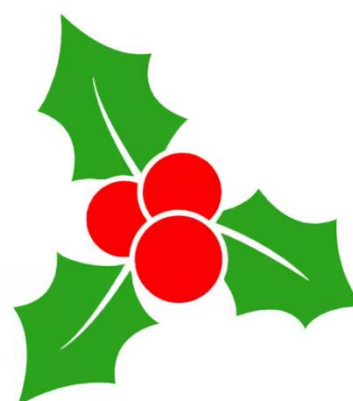
Tell Us What You Think

Thank you to those who have completed the parent and questionnaire already. There is still time for you to do so and it only takes a few minutes to complete. The survey will close on Friday 30th December. Thank you!



[parent and carer questionnaire December 2022](#)

Christmas Assemblies



Happy Hannukah



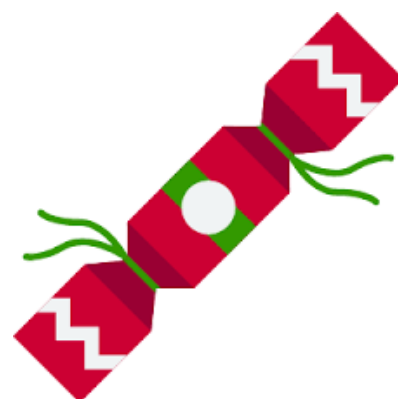
Many Jewish people will be celebrating Hannukah next week. To celebrate the eight nights of Hanukkah people light candles on a branched candlestick called a menorah. They start with one candle and add a new candle each night. In addition to the lighting of the candles, gifts are exchanged and children play holiday games. For everyone celebrating, we wish you a very Happy Hannukah.

Community Connections

Free Xmas dinner

The Constitutional - 108 Rushey Green, SE6 4HW

Free Xmas dinner for Lewisham residents age 50+ 12pm on Monday 19th December. Call Community Connections to book on 0330 058 3464 Monday-Friday 9.30am-4pm



Year 3 Visit To The Natural History Museum



Year 3 had a wonderful day at The Natural History Museum. As part of our science learning, we looked at rocks and fossils. The children were very excited at the return of Dippy and seeing a T-Rex wearing a santa hat! We also found out about the amazing palaeontologist, Mary Anning.



PRESENTS

Come and join us for an
Christmas
Holidays and Food programme

"Santa, Snowman and Snowflakes" themed Performing Arts Art and Crafts and
Outdoor Activities

Plays and Drama Activities | Arts and Crafts |
Singalongs and Dance | Nutrition Education Activities |
Parent Workshops and Families Support | Visit from Santa Claus | Mystery
Pass the Parcel | Stocking Filling Activities | Live Christmas Theatre Show |
Best dressed Christmas Competition

10 am-2 pm

Torridon Primary School, Hazelbank Road,
London, SE6 1TG

Monday 19th December - Thursday 22nd December

For more information and to register please visit the website
<https://www.skipzproductions.org/skipzhaflewisham>

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LEWISHAM COUNCIL



Christmas Hampers

We know that things may be difficult for some families over the Christmas period. Here is some information on 2 events where Christmas Hampers will be given out:

Come out of Hiding

Glass Mill Leisure Centre, 41 Loampit Vale, SE13 7FT

They are doing a Christmas Open House event on Saturday 24th December where families can get Christmas meal hampers including warm clothes, mini gift sets and toys for children.

Welcome to everyone in the Lewisham borough we have a capacity of 150 families and it will be on a first come first serve basis. Sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/wRbwigPpwyUcWH2x5>

World of Life Church, Grove Park

72A Mayeswood Road, SE12 9RP

On 17th December they are providing 100 Christmas Hampers for vulnerable families. This will feed a family of four, includes turkey and all the trimmings. Then close for the Christmas break and re-open in January.



Group A Strep in Children and Young People



What to look out for over the holiday

You may have seen news reports about Group A Strep infections in children and young people. These infections such as Strep Throat and Scarlet Fever are usually mild, with symptoms such as sore throat, mild fever and minor skin infections, and are treated with antibiotics.

However in rare cases they can be more serious. Signs of a more serious Group A Strep infection mean that you should get an urgent GP appointment or help from NHS 111 – these include high fever, severe muscle ache, localised muscle pain and unexplained diarrhoea or vomiting.

If your child is having difficulty breathing, their skin, tongue or lips are turning blue, or if they will not wake up or stay awake you should call 999 or go to A and E.

More information and advice is available from the NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/strep-a/>

Winter advice



We're all feeling the impact of the cost of living crisis at the moment. The Council and organisations across Lewisham are offering help and advice including:

Financial support

Warm Home Discount Scheme

You could get £150 off your electricity bill for winter 2022–23.
Find out more at gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme.

Cold weather payments

If you are receiving certain benefits, you may qualify to get a payment when the average temperature in your area gets to zero degrees or lower for seven consecutive days. You'll get £25 for each day of very cold weather.

Grants from energy suppliers

Some energy suppliers are offering grants to their customers to help them pay off their bills. Contact your supplier if you are struggling to pay – they may be able to help.

Useful websites

Visit turn2us.org.uk to find out about charitable grants that you might be eligible for.

Are you claiming everything you're entitled to? Check the benefits calculators on gov.uk/benefits-calculators.

For more local financial support visit worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/lewisham.

Check your contracts!

If you've not renewed your contracts for things like broadband, mobile phones or insurance for over a year, you may be able to save a significant amount! Speak to your provider.

Coping with debt

Contact Advice Lewisham for enquiries about benefits, housing, debt, employment, immigration, family and consumer issues. They can be reached on 0800 231 5453 or advicelewisham.org.uk.

You can also speak to the independent organisation MoneyHelper for free, confidential advice. Call 0800 138 7777 or visit moneyhelper.org.uk.

Foodbanks

If you are struggling to buy food you can find a list of community projects offering free or low-cost food on lewisham.gov.uk/foodsupportservices or call 0330 058 3464 for more information. You may need a referral from a support service, your children's school or a charity, but some offer a drop-in service.

Mental health and wellbeing advice

Community Connections Lewisham provide options for help and can link you up to support services. Call 0330 058 3464 (9.30am-4pm Monday to Friday), or visit communityconnectionslewisham.org.

Help with employment and training

See if you're entitled to reduced fees on Lewisham's Adult Education courses by visiting lewisham.gov.uk/adultlearning.

Lewisham Works is a free service to support unemployed residents into good jobs. Speak to them by emailing JobsAndSkills@lewisham.gov.uk and find out more at lewisham.gov.uk/lewishamworks.



Warm community spaces for all the family

We want to extend a warm welcome to anyone who needs a warm, inviting space this winter. This includes our libraries – for opening times and more info about our libraries go to lewisham.gov.uk/libraries.

All spaces are currently different, some may be providing hot drinks, others may be providing hot food, others may be providing social activities and additional support. Please check each listing for an overview of opening times and services provided.

lewishamlocal.com/lewisham-warm-spaces.

Visit lewisham.gov.uk/support or call our helpline 020 8314 6000 if you need further support.



Rights Respecting School



REST, PLAY,
CULTURE, ARTS

Article 31 ~ Leisure, Play and Culture

‘Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.’

During our rights respecting assemblies this week, we discussed the different ways which we have enjoyed Article 31 during our first term back at school this year.

Christmas Lunch



London Borough of Culture



LIT!

Beckenham Place Park, Bellingham

15 December - 8 January

Join us as we come together for a spectacular finale to celebrate our year as London Borough of Culture 2022.

Fantastic festive events for all ages will bring light to Beckenham Place Park at the darkest point of the year.

Visit to explore free, magical **illuminations**, 20-22 December and discover the hidden beauty of the park at night. Make an evening of it with a programme of music and winter food and drink.

Join **The Revel Puck Circus** for a joyous, alternative festive experience in the heated big top. Performances of their five star show, *The Wing Scuffle Spectacular* will run 15 December – 8 January with acrobatics and incredible feats.

Young visitors can enjoy a **family fun fair** 17 December – 8 January, with rides and festive treats.

Click here for more information
[Plan Your Visit Page](#)

Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday 3 rd January	FIRST DAY OF THE SPRING TERM
Tuesday 10 th January	9.00am Year 5 and 6 parent and carer maths session
Tuesday 17 th January	9.00am Year 3 and 4 parent and carer maths session
Friday 20 th January	INSET DAY
Tuesday 24 th January	9.00am Year 1 and 2 parent and carer maths session
Tuesday 31 st January	9.00am Nursery and reception parent and carer maths session
Tuesday 7 th February	9.00am Parent and carer workshop – supporting children learning English as an Additional Language
Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th February	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Wednesday 22 nd February	SEND partnership – coffee morning for parents and carers
Monday 8 th May 2023	ADDITIONAL BANK HOLIDAY FOR THE CORONATION OF HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III

Amazon Wish List

To promote reading for pleasure amongst the children at Torridon, we have created an Amazon wish list. The books will allow us to expand our reading book corners to include more of a range of captivating and inclusive stories by creators of colour and provide children with more stories that reflect and celebrate a wide range of heritages. Please follow the link below, if you would like to buy a book from our amazon wish list: <https://tinyurl.com/2p97s9m7>



Thank you very much for the book donations so far.

Warm Spaces



We are here for you this winter- all are welcome!

We are providing:

Workspace

Homework Help

Baby/ Toddler play space

Free Lunch

Discounted Dinner (£1 for individual £2 Family)

Hot and Cold Refreshments

Crafts

Movie Club

27-29 Brook Lane BR1 4PX



Dance Ability

[Dance Ability, Spring 2023](#)



Join Dance Ability: New Saturday class for Spring Term 2023!

Trinity Laban's Dance Ability class is now available on Saturday afternoons, starting in January 2023.

A fun and creative weekly class, Dance Ability is specifically designed for young dancers between learning ages 5-12 years with cognitive and/or physical disabilities, or who identify as neurodivergent.

Led by experienced inclusive dance artist, Vicki Busfield, Dance Ability uses props, music and movement to boost confidence, physicality and social interaction skills.



When **Saturdays, 13:15-14:00**

Spring Term Dates **7 January - 18 March 2023**

Per session **£7 | £3.50 concession**

Laban Building,
Creekside,
SE8 3DZ

Limited spaces available.

[Click here to find out more and book now!](#)



Stars of the Week

Class	Name	Reason
Nursery FT	Whole class	For all their amazing learning this term! Well done, Nursery!
Red Class	Kayden	For always trying his best and for sharing his amazing knowledge with the class!
Blue Class	Lucia	For her exceptional performance in our Wiggly Nativity and for working so well in a team! Well done
Yellow Class	Hetty	For growing in confidence and always listening and trying her best. Well done!
1G	Whole class	For an absolutely fantastic first term and a brilliant Christmas performance, well done! You made us very proud.
1M	Cedar	For always being so kind and caring. Cedar always comes in with a smile and does a fantastic job at sharing her positivity with everyone around her. Thank you and well done Cedar!
1N	Whole class	For being superstars and making our first term so special with all your dedication and humour!
2G	Havana	For her amazing dance moves during our winter performance. Well done Superstar! 😊
2S	Nova	For being such a pleasure to have as part of 2S 😊 You are such a good role model and your performance in our winter assembly was fabulous! Well Done, Nova!
2SW	Rohan	For his bravery and courage when performing in front of parents and carers. Well done Rohan!
3A	Lenny	For writing an amazing paragraph about Christmas all over the world. Well done!
3L	Izza	For reading every day, adding comments in her reading record and demonstrating how to be an excellent reader. Well done!
3S	Sukhpal	You have been working really hard in English. Thank you for being amazing in school this week.
4C	Arthur	Arthur for his effort in his dance for assembly and his determination with his work.
4V	Angell	For being a good friend, who supports her friends with their learning.
4W	Meyshia	Meyshia for working on her English and learning the routines at school .Keep it up.
5L	Whole class	For consistently demonstrating our core values daily, showing great resilience in learning. Your growth as individuals, as well as peers has also been fantastic! Well done 5L!
5R	Sofia	For always demonstrating the Torridon values and giving 100% to all her leaning. Well done.
5S	Skye-Harper	For producing a great piece of learning in writing. For always being attentive and putting in 100% effort into her learning. Well done!
6A	Whole class	For your resilience in all your learning leading to a great end to the Autumn term, and also for being kind and respectful to one another. Have a very merry Christmas 6A!
6C	Adam	For always trying your best and being an excellent role model to others. Your learning is always presented to a good standard – well done!
6L	Whole class	For your excellent effort with your learning this term and making good progress. Keep up the good work next term.
Blue Pathway	Kenny	Well done for being a brilliant student and always making good choices!
Green Pathway	Gabriel	Well done for trying to build friendships with other children and being so gentle.

SEND Coffee Morning

Join the Lewisham
Children with Complex
Needs Service to



HAVE YOUR SAY!

We would like to ensure that young people and families have their voices heard with regards to what they feel is going well / not so well within the SEND Partnership Strategy 2020-2023.



If you have any questions or would like to attend a virtual session please email local.offer@lewisham.gov.uk

We will be hosting a coffee morning on

Wednesday 22nd February 2022

9.15 – 10.15am.

The Lewisham SEND team are very keen to hear what you have to say. We hope you will be able to join us.

Downderry Children's and Family Centre

English for Speakers of Other Languages



Are you new to English?
Free courses available for
parents with children under 19.



Downderry Children's and Family Centre
Shroffold Road
Bromley BR1 5PD
Phone: 020 8695 5915



FUTURE DADS

New and
expectant
Fathers courses



FUTURE
men

Future Men offer
one-day Fathers
courses at:

Your local hospital and
children centres
Saturdays 10am-4pm

For more information
on venues and how to
book go to our website:
www.futuremen.org

Call on:
0207 237 5353

Email:
efp@futuremen.org

Registered Charity Number: 1102451
Registered Company Number: 03443520