



DRUMBEAT SCHOOL

Newsletter — Autumn Term 2

Dear Parents & Carers

We are now at the end of our first full term of the year and what a term it has been!

There are many successes to celebrate for each and every student as well as a number of school projects and events that we have been working on.

It has been wonderful to meet so many of you during the term at our coffee mornings, workshops and school shows.

Our school Ofsted report is now published and is available on our school website. I am incredibly proud of the report and how it has captured and recognised the excellent work that Drumbeat do.

I would like to thank all the staff for their passion and commitment to the students and for the energy, enthusiasm and creativity they bring everyday. Thank you to all parents for your endless support.

Thank you to our Governors for the work they do and of course to our amazing children who make Drumbeat the very special place it is.

Happy Christmas and hope you have a lovely break.

Marie Neave
Executive Headteacher

Dates for the Diary....

Friday, 20 December

Last day of term

School will close at 1pm

Monday, 6 January

Pupils back at school

Thursday, 30 January

Pupil Photos

Drumbeat Downham

Friday, 31 January

Pupil Photos

Turnham & Brockley

Friday, 14 February

Last day of term

School will close at normal time

Monday, 24 February

Pupils back at school

Friday, 21 March

Comic Relief/Red Nose Day





We kindly remind you that using mobile phones within the school building is prohibited.

This policy is in place to ensure the safety and well-being of all our students. Using mobile devices can pose safeguarding risks and distract from the educational environment we strive to maintain.

Please be aware that you may be asked to stop using your phone or to step outside if you are found using it in the building.

We appreciate your understanding and support as we work together to create a safe and focused learning atmosphere.

Thank you for your cooperation.



School Hours

Start time: 8:50 am

End time: 3:00 — 3:15 pm

Doors open at 8:50am for drop off and 2:50pm for collections.

Please ensure you arrive on time.

Presentation Event on November 22nd 2024

On November 22nd, we invited back the students who left in July to attend our presentation event at Drumbeat Brockley. This was an opportunity for them to receive their certificates and celebrate their achievements at Drumbeat. We had special guests to help us present the certificates. These were our chair of Governors, Madeleine Gabriel and the Lewisham Young Mayor, Bilvilyn Asamoah.

The students shared their experiences of college life and what they were doing now. Some reported that they were doing Vocational tasters and making new friends. We were very proud to present them with their certificates and celebrate their achievements. We wish them well with their future endeavours and hope that they will keep in touch with us!

class of
2024





Art Club

Some of our gifted and talented artists have started a very exciting project with the Horniman museum. They had their first visit to the museum the other week to meet some of the team and introduce ourselves. We interviewed Jo and she told us all about what a curator does and were then allowed to touch and draw some of the specimens which are usually on display in the Horniman.



We also had a private tour of the butterfly house which was very hot but very enjoyable. We got to see the butterflies up close, and they even landed on some of us.



Our next trip will be to the Horniman Museum Specimen Central Store where they keep all the animals they have collected over the years. We will learn how to photograph them and look at ways to preserve and store them, including visiting their enormous freezer unit which holds some of their most precious specimens.





Kangaroo Class

Merry Christmas....



and a happy new year!

See you all in 2025!



Zebra Class News

This Autumn Term, Zebra Class has participated in a variety of enriching learning experiences.

English: We've immersed ourselves in storytelling, not only by listening to but also by re-enacting and retelling stories to our peers. Additionally, we've continued to thrive in our Read Write Inc. phonics lessons, making excellent progress in reading, writing, and comprehension.

Maths: We worked on comparing numbers, using greater than and less than signs, and understanding differences. We strengthened our grasp of number bonds and began building a deeper understanding of place value. As part of our work on data interpretation, we sorted, collected, recorded, and interpreted different types of data, using pictograms and tallies to show our findings.

PE: In gymnastics, we explored balancing, jumping, and landing techniques. We also practiced individual and pair balances, which we had the opportunity to demonstrate to our peers. In dance, we performed short sequences using a variety of stimuli such as ribbons, pompoms firework sounds. We were fortunate enough to participate in trampolining sessions this term. We had a fantastic time learning this new skill and enjoyed every moment of it!

Black History Month: As part of our celebration of Black History Month, we engaged in the vibrant Notting Hill Carnival. We learned about the music, food, and costumes associated with the event, as well as its origins in celebrating Caribbean culture and heritage.

Science (Halloween Experiment): As part of our science lessons, we mixed bicarbonate of soda and vinegar to create a "witches' potion" and described the reactions we observed, including changes in smell, colour, and volume.

Fun with Food: in our fun with food sessions we engaged with a selection of different foods and have all grown in confidence when exploring and trying new foods, textures and smells. Zebra Class has truly demonstrated enthusiasm and growth across all subjects, making this term one to remember. We hope you have a fabulous Christmas break and see you all in the new year.

Continued on the next page



Continued on the next page





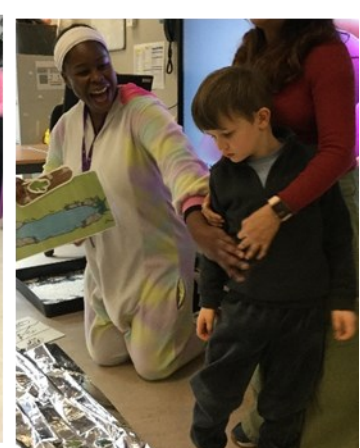
Panda Class



We have had an amazing first full term here in Panda Class. The children have all settled really well and worked hard to reach their individual targets.

Maths is by far their favourite subject. We have been looking at the relationship between numerals and quantities as well exploring how shapes can be used for pictures and prints. For English, Panda class has been enjoying our sensory story sessions and afternoon story times. They also look forward to completing their work activities such as matching and labelling after this.

Panda class has also participated in fun art, science and P.E lessons we're all looking forward to continuing this next term.



We've also had a magical couple of weeks celebrating Christmas this half term. The children decorated our class Christmas tree, Visited Santa at his grotto and made some beautiful Christmas cards.

Continued on the next page



We hope you all have an amazing holiday season and Panda class is looking forward to seeing you next year!

Important Dates

First day of term: Monday 6th January 2025
 School photographs: Thursday 30th January 2025
 Last day of spring half-term: Friday 14th February 2025

Dr. Seuss's **How The GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS!**

A huge congratulations to all the staff and students at our Drumbeat Brockley site for their fantastic production of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas". A select group of 6th Form students

took centre stage as our leading roles for the show. They spent this term rehearsing their lines and exploring the characters from this popular Christmas book.

Their hard work and efforts were evident in their final performance, where they performed with confidence and produced a fun and festive experience for all. Each class took part in the show – singing, dancing and showcasing their artistic talents with props and costumes they had made in class. The cast and classes did a fantastic job and received rave reviews!

Congratulations again to all students and staff who took part and made it a huge success. Merry Christmas everyone!





Peckham Rye Class

Peckham Rye class have been creating lots of artwork in the style of famous artists such as Frida Khalo, Matisse, Kandinsky and Picasso. The students used collage materials, paint and printing techniques. Well done Peckham Rye!



Hilly Fields

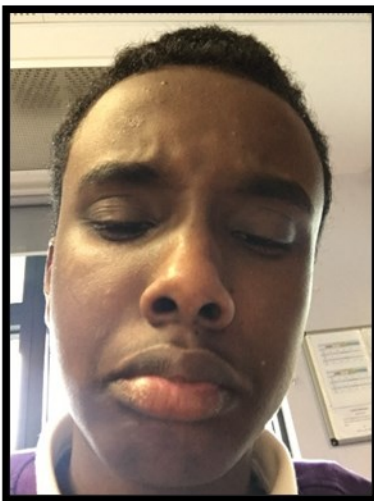
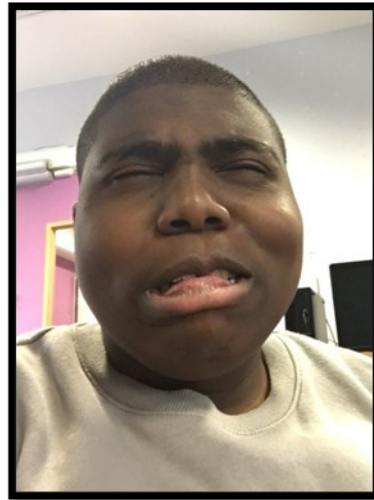
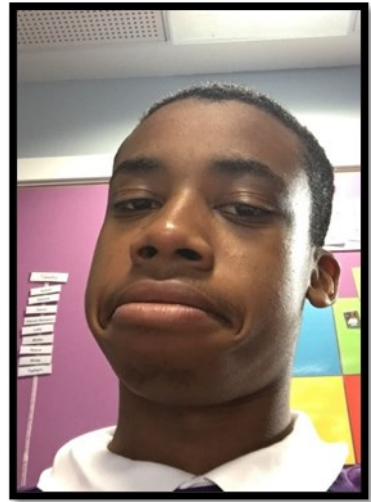
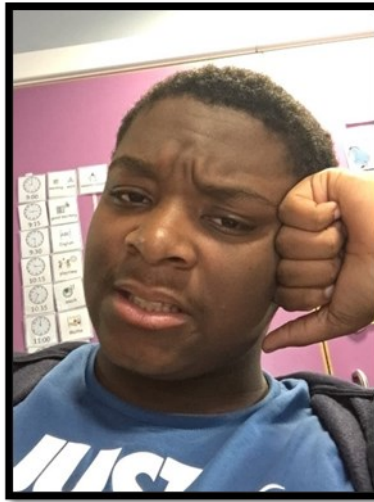
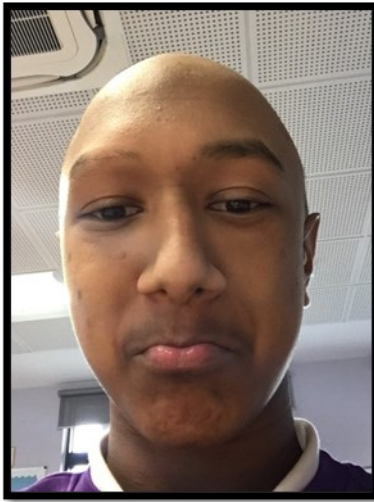
In Hilly Fields we have been learning about emotions.



We took happy selfies.

Continued on the next page

After that we took sad selfies ...

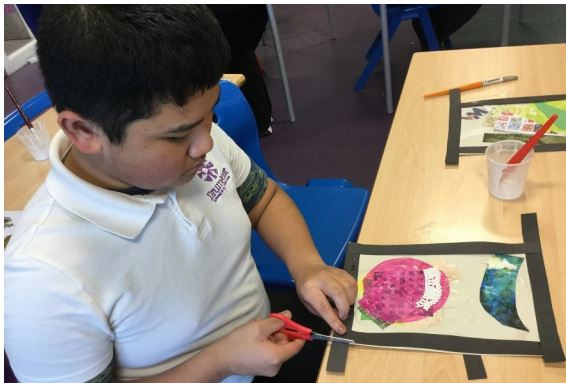


But we were happy really



Manor Park

Manor Park class have had a busy and fun term. In science we have been learning about how our body works and the students were able to name the internal body organs and learn about their functions. During our art sessions we have been looking at famous artists and recreating their work using collage and print techniques. The students also enjoyed taking part in a range of physical activities designed to increase their fitness levels. During the cooking session, the students made a range of meals, showing some good independence skills. They especially enjoyed making a pumpkin pie for Thanksgiving.



Telegraph Hill

Exploring the Wider Curriculum

Art – This term Telegraph Hill class were focusing on making collages, particularly focusing on creating self-portrait collages. They were very creative and experimental!



Cooking – In cooking, Telegraph Hill focused on the importance of safety in the kitchen, developing an awareness of keeping safe with kitchen equipment such as kettles and hobs.



RSE – One topic that we looked at in RSE was parental responsibilities, about how parents care for them, including roleplaying how parents look after their children.



Continued on the next page

Science – Telegraph Hill worked with Vincenzo looking at the human body and the best ways to look after themselves, including exercise and checking for heart rate.



PE – This term Telegraph Hill engaged in health and fitness sessions as well as exploring netball, including shooting into the hoops.



Overall, Telegraph Hill have had an amazing term and have settled in well. We hope that they have a well-deserved break!



**PLEASE UPDATE YOUR
CONTACT DETAILS**

**Please ensure that your contact details and address is up to date.
If you have any changes, please let the office know.**

**NO PARKING
DO NOT BLOCK
DRIVEWAY**

**Please be mindful when parking outside the school –
do not block residents' drives/cars and keep bus lanes clear.**

Free school meals and extra support for your child

If you get certain welfare benefits, you can apply for free school meals for your child. You could save up to £500 a year if your child gets free school meals and it will mean they get a healthy school lunch every day. All children in primary school, from reception to Year 6 are also entitled to free school meals.

Who can get free school meals

Your child can get free school meals if your combined annual household income is below £16,190 (as assessed by HMRC) and you get one of the following benefits:

- income-based: income support or jobseeker's allowance (not eligible if on contribution based job seeker's allowance)
- income-related: employment support allowance (not eligible if on contribution based employment support allowance)
- universal credit
- income support
- the guaranteed element of state pension credit
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 child tax credit only

If you get working tax credits

If you get working tax credit regardless of your annual household income your family will not be eligible for free school meals.

If your child is in reception or years one and two

Children in reception and years one and two are not affected by the changes.

If you aren't on Universal Credit yet

If you haven't been moved onto Universal Credit yet, you can still apply for free school meals and your application will be based on the old eligibility criteria above.

Please visit <https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/student-pupil-support/free-school-meals-and-extra-support-for-your-child> for more information or to apply.

Easy Eye Care

Every year, you should have an Annual Health Check with your GP (14 plus) and an eye test with your optician.

- You don't have to be able to read or speak to have an eye test.
- Adults with a learning disability are 10x more likely to have a problem with their eyes.
- The eye test is not just about glasses – it detects eye conditions and general health conditions as well.

This is a specialist eye care service for people with learning disabilities and autistic people of all ages, who are registered with a South East London GP. The service provides:

- Longer eye tests or multiple appointments, where needed.
- An easy to understand report about your eyes.
- Local optometrists and dispensing opticians who have had extra training.

The assessment is NHS-funded and there is help towards the cost of glasses if you're eligible.

This service is available in:

- Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark.
- Bexley, Bromley and Greenwich.

Please tell the optician's practice that you want to book an Easy Eye Care appointment.



July 2023

Continued on the next page

5 easy steps to having an eye test



- 1 Choose your optician from the website www.sel-mecs.com/learning-disabilities-and-autism



- 2 When booking the appointment, explain it is for the Easy Eye Care service.



- 3 Ask if you are entitled to a free NHS sight test.



- 4 Fill in SeeAbility's "About Me and My Eyes" form to give to the optometrist. You can request this from your opticians practice or download it from our website: www.seeability.org/myeyes



- 5 Go along for your eye test.

For easy read information about having an eye test, visit
www.seeability.org/EReyetest

For more information, please call **020 3859 2385**



Places providing free, low-cost food and/or

Community Meals in Lewisham

(categorised by area)



A list of community projects offering free or low-cost food. You may be facing financial difficulties and need support or would like to eat with others at a community meal. Perhaps you would like to volunteer. Most projects are staffed by volunteers and rely on donations. Please note a listing is not an endorsement, check with the project directly to see if it's a good fit. Call Community Connections Lewisham (0330 058 3464 Mon - Fri 9.30 am – 4 pm) who can find the best option for you and link you up to other support available. For financial support and advice call Advice Lewisham (0800 231 5453 Mon - Thurs 9 am – 12.30 pm & 1.30 pm – 5 pm) or visit www.worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/lewisham.

BOROUGH WIDE

Lewisham Foodbank

Monday – Friday (different times at different locations) Clients must have an e-voucher which can be obtained from a professional, or by calling Help Through Hardship (0808 208 2138) or Advice Lewisham (0800 231 5453). Vouchers can be fulfilled at any of these centres:

Deptford Salvation Army	Mary Ann Gardens, SE8 3DP	Mondays Midday – 2 pm
Lewisham Salvation Army	4 Albion Way, SE13 6BT	Tuesdays 10 am – Midday
St John the Baptist Church (Downham)	353 Bromley Road, SE6 2RP	Wednesdays Midday – 2 pm
Perry Rise Baptist Church	Perry Rise, SE23 2QL	Thursdays Midday – 2 pm
Catford Salvation Army	23–25 Brownhill Road, SE6 2HE	Fridays 10 am – Midday

Dietary needs catered for where available. Advice in Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, and fuel vouchers. Employment Plus and Thames Reach (homelessness) services. Contact: 07938 071854 info@lewisham.foodbank.org.uk
Visit: www.lewisham.foodbank.org.uk

BR1

Front Room Club

Monday, Tuesday & Friday 9.30 am – 2.30 pm

St Lukes Church, Northover, BR1 5JR

Cafe style drop in, providing a safe, welcoming and supportive place to grow. Lunch Club on Monday and Friday with a two course lunch for £3. Contact: Sandra 079571 06853. Visit: <http://stlukesdownham.org.uk/front-room-club/>

Whitefoot and Downham Food Project Plus

Thursday 7 – 8.30 pm

Hope Church, 480 Whitefoot Lane, BR1 5SF

For those living in the Whitefoot and Downham area. Membership is £4. Members must register with a proof of identification and address, and able to prove receipt of benefits (excluding Child Benefit). Contact: wdfplus@gmail.com

SE2

World of Hope

Bostall Gardens, Viola Avenue, SE2 0TQ

Based in Greenwich, with some distribution in Lewisham. Offers food, baby food, nappies and cosmetics. Also supports African, refugee and migrant communities across SE London with culturally specific food.

Registration required and there is a waiting list. Contact: info@worldofhope.org.uk or 07776 992138

SE4

St Peter's Church

Wednesday Midday – 2 pm

Wickham Road, Brockley SE4 1LT

A social supermarket for people in SE4. £3 membership weekly fee and choose enough groceries for a week. Dietary needs catered for. Request food via the website link to get a shopping appointment. Can deliver in some circumstances. www.stpetersbrockley.org.uk/feedback-food-request.

Living Water Christian Centre Food Service

Wednesday 5.30 – 7.15 pm

Honor Oak Community Centre, 50 Turnham Road SE4 2JD

Dietary needs catered for. Closed August and some of January. Contact: Lwccfoodservice@gmail.com

Continued on the next page

SE6**UCKG Catford Soup Kitchen**

UCKG Help Centre, 1 Bromley Road, Catford, SE6 2TS

Home cooked soup, meals, and surplus food e.g. sandwiches, bread and milk to take away. Meat & vegetarian options.
Contact: 020 7686 6000 or 020 7686 6049

Saturday 11 am – 2 pm

The Feast

King's Church, Catford Hill, SE6 4PS

Free three course meal along with signposting and support. Particular focus on rough sleepers and homeless people.

Wednesday 7 – 9 pm

Food Cycle Lewisham

Lewisham Irish Community Centre, 2a Davenport Road SE6 2AZ

Free sit down three course vegetarian community meal. Just turn up. Contact: lewisham@foodcycle.org.uk.

Visit: <https://foodcycle.org.uk/location/foodcycle-lewisham/>.

Wednesdays 1.30pm Saturday 1.30pm

Catford Fridge Station

Lewisham Irish Community Centre, 2a Davenport Road SE6 2AZ

Gives out solidarity bags of surplus food and a few staples. First come first served. Contact: catfordfridge@hotmail.com

Saturday 12.45pm

SE8**The Life Giving Project**

Pepys Resource Centre, Deptford Strand, SE8 3BA

For anyone in need in the local area. A choice of foods available. Run by the Christ Embassy Church. Contact: 07845 286438

Saturday 11.30 am – 1 pm

SE9**Eltham Community Foodbank**

C/O Central Eltham Youth Project 4 Place, SE9 5DN

Project is in Greenwich but free weekly food parcel for any Lewisham resident in need. No voucher required (proof of income taken on first visit). Appointments to collect must be booked in advance. Contact 020 88596644 or info@ceyp.org

Monday – Friday 10am – 6pm

SE12**Ichthus Church Community Table**

Ichthus Lee Green, 23 Lampmead Road, SE12 8QJ

A free main meal with dessert for anyone in the community. Signposting and support too. Contact: 07950 255630

Friday 1.30 – 3.30 pm

Grove Park Food Bank and Community Resource Centre F

Word of Life Church, Rehoboth Building, 72A Mayeswood Road SE12 9RP (Lower Floor)

Providing food and other support including signposting for people of Grove Park and the surrounding area in financial crisis/hardship. Bring one form of ID and one proof of address. Contact: 07930 958097 or email info@wordoflife-lcc.org

Friday 12 noon – 2 pm

SE13**Seventh-day Adventist Church**

434 Lewisham High Street, SE13 6LJ. Free hot meal and groceries.

Thursday 5 – 6.30 pm

Greater Faith Ministries Community Meal

Leemore Centre, 29 - 31 Clarendon Rise, SE13 5EY (Bonfield Road entrance)

Free community meal, first come, first served. Aiming to serve 30-40 people. Vegetarian options available.

Contact: info.greaterfaith@gmail.com or 020 8314 1720

2nd Friday of the month 5 – 7 pm

Victory Care Food Bank

157 - 159 Lewisham High Street, Lewisham SE13 6AA

After the church service they provide surplus bags of groceries. Contact Details required. Contact: Maxine on 07368 586898

Sunday 1 – 3.30 pm

Seventh-day Adventist Church

434 Lewisham High Street SE13 6LJ

Mondays: Only groceries, Thursdays: Free hot meal and groceries.

Mondays 8 - 9am + Thursday 5 – 6.30 pm

Lewisham Donation Hub

Unit D, PLACE/Ladywell, 261 Lewisham High Street, SE13 6AY

Emergency food service with support tickets shared from 9 am. Food, clothing, home essentials. Offering a range of fresh and frozen foods, and a more limited selection of non-perishables, toiletries, women's essentials and incontinence pads.

Support provided a maximum of once per week. No booking required but check the website before visiting for important service information. All services are weather/volunteer dependent and are subject to change.

Visit: www.lewishamdonationhub.org

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 11 am – 2 pm

Continued on the next page

CC Foundation Food Bank

Thursdays 10am to 12pm

TEMPORARY LOCATION: Lochaber Hall Community Centre, Manor Ln Terrace SE13 5QL

No Booking or Referral Required: - Anyone is welcome. Offering a range of fresh and frozen foods - (African and Caribbean Foods included.) Home Essentials and Toiletries all included. Visit: www.ccfoundationorg.comContact: info@ccfoundationorg.com**SE14****The Field / Pie n Mash**

Fridays 6 - 9pm

385 Queens Road Peckham, SE14 5HD

Free community meal. Pay what you can afford. Come and help set up, cook and tidy up if you want.

Contact: thefieldnewcross@gmail.com**Victory Centre Charity**

Saturday 2 – 5pm

St Michael Centre, 2 Desmond Street, New Cross London, SE14 6JF

Victory Centre is part of Christ Apostolic Church who provide a choice of staple dried groceries for people in need in the local community. Contact Details required.

St James Hatcham Foodbank

Wednesdays 11am - 1pm

St James Church Hall, St James's, New Cross Gate, SE14 6AD

New food bank providing a diverse array of fresh, canned, and non-perishable food items and toiletries. Anyone is welcome.

Contact: 07939812253, revd.yeboah@gmail.com, stjamesandstmichaelshatcham.org**Feed the Hill**

Wednesday 10 am - Midday

367 New Cross Road SE14 6AT

Deliveries of food boxes to housebound people in SE4, SE8 & SE14. Free to those self-isolating or experiencing food poverty. Boxes are nutritionally balanced, dietary needs catered for. Small social supermarket for people on low incomes (£2 per shop), no membership required, bring proof of address. For food box deliveries text 07748 713212 by the end of Saturday for the next week

The Field / Pie n Mash

Thursdays 1 - 3pm

385 Queens Road Peckham, SE14 5HD

Hot food and free groceries. Open to all. Contact: thefieldnewcross@gmail.com**House of Bread Church of God**

2nd Saturday of the month 9 – 11 am

39 Kitto Road SE14 5TW

Food bank opening in partnership with Looprun. Contact: houseofbreadclerk@cogop.org.uk or 0207 732 4970**SE16****Lewington Food Project**

Friday 1 – 3 pm

Lewington Community Centre, 9 Eugenia Road, SE16 2RU

L&Q are running a food bank for local residents. It's first come first served but they can take referrals and deliver on some occasions. Dietary requirements catered for. Contact: 07940 393291

SE26**Rehoboth Community Outreach**

Monday 11 am – 2pm

Ray Champion Meeting Room, 1 - 18 Allwood Close, SE26 4JP (Hazel Grove Estate)

They can arrange deliveries for over 60s and families who would struggle to attend. Contact: 07487 738908

Sydenham Community Supermarket

Thursday 9am – 12 (term time) 1 – 3 pm (holiday)

Kelvin Grove Children Centre, Kelvin Grove, Sydenham SE26 6BB

Offering members low cost, healthy groceries for £4 a week or £4.50 card. Run by residents for residents. People can turn up and register on the day. Signposting and support available. They accept Healthy Start Vouchers.

Contact: 020 8613 0172 or 074438 88181.

Helping Hands Food Bank (Sydenham)1st and 4th Wednesdays 12 – 3pm

Sydenham SDA Church + St Michael's Church, Champion Crescent, SE26 4HH

Services are likely to change, please check with the project directly for most up-to-date details and that the offer is suitable for you.

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES—2024/25

AUTUMN TERM 2024

Autumn Term 1 **Monday 2 September – INSET DAY**
Tuesday 3 September – Pupils first day of term
Friday 4 October – INSET DAY
Friday 25 October – Last day of term

Half Term Holiday Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November

Autumn Term 2 **Monday 4 November – First day of term**
Friday 6 December – INSET DAY
Friday 20 December – Last day of term*

Christmas Holiday Monday 23 December – Friday 3 January

SPRING TERM 2025

Spring Term 1 **Monday 6 January – First day of term**
Friday 14 February – Last day of term

Half Term Holiday Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February

Spring Term 2 **Monday 24 February – First day of term**
Friday 14 March – INSET DAY
Friday 4 April – Last day of term*

Easter Holiday Monday 7 April to Monday 21 April
(Easter weekend 18 – 21 April)

SUMMER TERM 2025

Summer Term 1 **Tuesday 22 April – First day of term**
Monday 5 May – Early May Bank Holiday
Friday 23 May – Last day of term

Half Term Holiday Monday 26 May – Friday 30 May
(Spring Bank Holiday will be taken on 26 May)

Summer Term 2 **Monday 2 June – First day of term**
Friday 4 July – INSET DAY
Tuesday 22 July – Last day of term*

**School will close at 1pm on the last day of the full term.*

INSET days = Staff Training days. Pupils do not attend school on these days.