



DRUMBEAT SCHOOL

Newsletter — Autumn Term 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a wonderful term with children and staff enjoying all sorts of fun activities.

We have had two weeks of Christmas events which have been very successful. All the children have had a visit to Santa and contributed to their Christmas show.

Parental attendance at all the shows was excellent and I know you enjoyed them very much. Thank you for your support.

May I wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and happy New Year.

Marie Neave
Executive Headteacher

Dates for the Diary....

Friday, 19 December

Last day of term

School will close at 1pm

Monday, 5 January

First day of term

Monday, 12 January

Year 9 Men ACWY Vaccinations

Friday, 16 January

INSET Day

pupils will not attend school on this day

Wednesday 28 January &

Thursday 29 January

Pupil photographs (Downham)

Friday, 30 January

**Pupil photographs
(Turnham & Brockley)**

Friday, 13 February

Last day of term



Parent Workshops

Monday 26 January 2026 10am	Resources 4 Autism	Turnham	Sheryl and Nicola (Family Liaison Officers) and Bryony
Thursday 26 February 2026 9.30am	Supporting students with restrictive diets at home and school	Downham	Kamaria and Kirsty (OT team) and Alice (Dietician)
Wednesday 11 March 2026 10am	De-escalating behaviour at home	Downham	Natasha and Millie (Learning Mentors)
Tuesday 24 March 2026 9.30am	'Making Connections' Social Coffee Morning	Downham	Sheryl and Nicola (Family Liaison Officers)



**Pease ensure that your contact details and address is
up to date.**

**If you have any changes, please let the office and
your local SEN know.**



FRIENDLY REMINDER



SCHOOL START & FINISH TIMES



START TIME:
8:50–9:00AM



END TIME:
3:00–3:15PM



Doors open at 8:50 AM for drop off and 2:50 PM for collections.



Please ensure you arrive on time.



Late arrivals disrupt learning and routines.



Collect your child promptly at the end of school.

Thank you for helping us keep
things running smoothly!





Presentation Event on November 21st 2025

On November 21st, 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 Morgan from the Lewisham Young Mayor Department.

Some students shared their experiences of college life and what they were doing now. 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!



Taekwondo at Our School

For the last six weeks, our students had a great chance to take part in Taekwondo sessions. The sessions were led by **Aquila Taekwondo** and sponsored by **Access Sport**. The students really enjoyed the sessions and showed great effort, excitement and improvement each week.



To celebrate their hard work, the students gave a Taekwondo demonstration in front of parents and the rest of the school. Everyone was very impressed with what they saw.



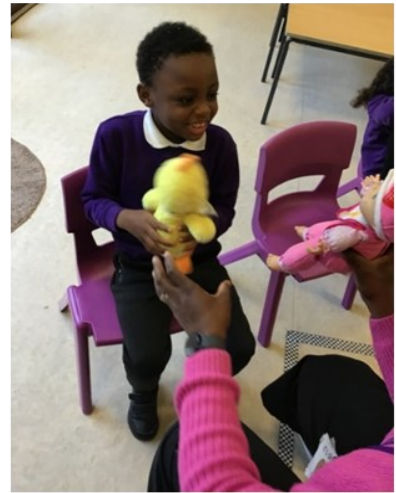
We are very proud of our students and hope to continue Taekwondo sessions in the New Year.



Meerkat Class

What an amazing Autumn term we've had in Meerkat Class! The children have made incredible progress, and we've enjoyed every step of the journey learning and playing together. Throughout the term, we've enjoyed a variety of fun, hands-on activities as a class. Alongside this, every child has been working hard towards their individual learning targets, and we are so proud of the effort and resilience they have shown. As we come to the end of the term, we want to wish all our Meerkats and their families a wonderful Christmas filled with joy and rest. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in January 2026 for another exciting term of learning and discovery.



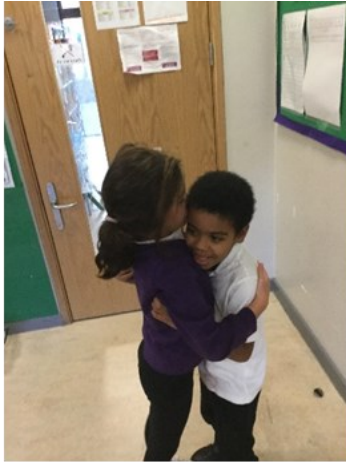




Giraffe Class News

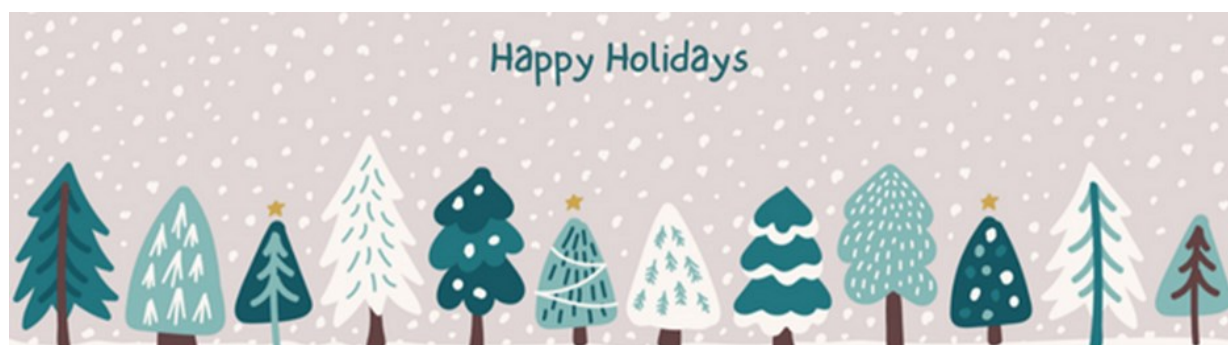


What a start to the year we have had in Giraffes! We have focused on developing relationships with each other, discovering preferences and motivators as well as creating a range of learning opportunities for all pupils. We've been reading, mark making, dancing, painting and more!





More highlights include enjoying intensive interaction sessions, participating in whole group sessions and choosing between photos to make choices! We've had lots to celebrate including Halloween, Children in Need and Black History Month. We were so confident and regulated for our Christmas performance, we really were the best Reindeers in town! Autumn term has really been a joyous time – full of progress, fun and bonding!

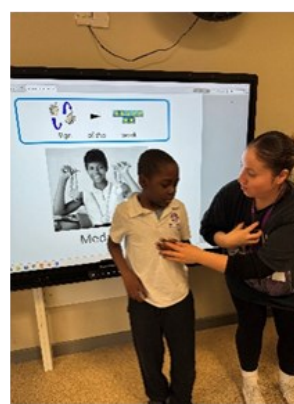


Merry Christmas/ Happy Holidays! We hope you all have a wonderful time celebrating with your families! Roll on 2026!

Autumn term in Pelican Class



We have had an amazing first full term here in Pelican Class! The children have settled in beautifully and shown great enthusiasm in their learning. In maths, we explored concepts such as heavy and light, short and long, big and small, and practiced lots of counting and matching activities. Our cooking sessions were a big hit, with the children creating and enjoying plenty of delicious treats. In Functional English, we brought stories to life by reenacting and retelling the tale of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. We also celebrated Black History Month by learning about Alice Coachman, the first Black woman to win an Olympic gold medal, inspiring us all with her incredible achievement.



We've had a truly magical few weeks celebrating Christmas in Pelican Class! The children worked so hard rehearsing for the Christmas show and their efforts really shone through on stage. They were excited to meet Santa at his grotto and enjoyed creating lots of beautiful Christmas-themed art, filling our classroom with festive cheer.



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

Orion Class

Orion class enjoyed a trip to local Buckthorne Nature reserve. We enjoyed a range of activities, including using magnifying glasses to look for bugs, and stopping to have a hot chocolate whilst watching the trains go by from Brockley station. We had a lovely time at the Nature reserve.



Hilly Fields

It has been a great first term in Hilly Fields with new pupils from Downham joining us at Brockley, we have loved getting to know them.

We have learnt so much! From working on our presentation skills in English and creating beautiful prints and collages in Art, to learning all about light in Science, Hilly Fields has really shown their talents.



Continued on next page

We have some very talented chefs in the class, they've made soup, cakes, sandwiches and hot drinks.



The Christmas show was a blast, Hilly Fields did amazing reading and made some cool props for A Nightmare Before Christmas!





IT'S THE 18TH YEAR!

CUMMIN UP

in conjunction with

**TASTE  SOUL
GOOD**

will offer a

FREE MEAL

this Christmas Day

no booking needed

1pm to 6pm

389 Lewisham High Street SE13 6NZ

Offering Turkey to Jerk Chicken, to
Veg Curry, potatoes to Rice and peas

No booking needed

No judgement

ALL welcome

Tell someone share the LOVE

CHRISTMAS FACTSHEET 2025



*Below is our most up to date list of Christmas opening hours, free Christmas meals and other food support provided during the Christmas season. For further details and support please phone our Community Connections Lewisham phone line on 0330 0583 464, open 9:30am-4:30pm Monday to Friday (*except Thursdays when it is open 2:00pm-4:00pm only).*

GENERAL SUPPORT

Lewisham Council Customer Service Centre

020 8314 6000 automated switchboard- open every day, 24/7.

Crisis Mental Health Line

(South London and Maudsley mental health support line)

0800 731 2864 – open every day 24/7.

Advice Lewisham

Closed from 24th December.

Reopens 5th of January.

Community Connections Lewisham

Phoneline will be closed from 4:00pm 23rd December and reopen 9:30am on the 2nd January.

Drop-in is closed 25th December and 1st January and re-opens on 8th January.

Rushey Green Pharmacy

Primary Care Centre, Hawstead Road, SE6 4JH.

Telephone: 020 8690 8917

Christmas Opening: 25th December, 10:00am-6:00pm, 26th December, 10:00am-2:00pm

New Year Opening: 31st December, 10:00am-9:00pm, 1st January 2025, 10:00am-2:00pm

All other days normal opening hours.

Forest Hill Jobcentre

32-34 Dartmouth Road, London, SE23 3XU

Week commencing 22nd December:

Closed 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th December

Week commencing 29th December:

Open 29 - 31st December,

Closed Thursday 1st January, reopens from Friday January 2nd as normal.

Good Gym

Please submit referrals as early as possible.

Christmas: The referral portal will close at 3:00pm on 24th December. Referrals re-open on 27th December at 9:30am.

New Year: The referrer portal will close on 31st December at 3:00pm and reopen on 2nd January at 9:30am.

Lewisham Mencap

Final evenings with Christmas Parties:

Monday Club - 15th December, reopens 5th of January.

Tuesday Club - 16th December, reopens 6th of January.

Thursday Club - 18th December, reopens 8th of January.

Day out in the city to see the Christmas lights: 20th of December, timings to be confirmed.

Call 07932 001217 to join.

FOOD SERVICES BEFORE AND AFTER CHRISTMAS

Note: also see this link for **Good Food Lewisham's** list of free and cheap food, which will continue to be updated during December 2025:

<https://www.goodfoodlewisham.org/christmasmealslewisham>

The Bear Church at Evelyn Community Centre

Evelyn Community Centre, 9 Wotton Road, SE8 5TQ

A free hot freshly made meal, all welcome, 6:00pm-7:00pm on 7th December.
Christmas meal on the 21st December, 6-7pm with carols.
Reopening Sunday 11th January.

Food Cycle Lewisham

The Lewisham Irish Community Centre, 2a Davenport Road, Rushey Green, SE6 2AZ

Last meal before Christmas: 21st December 1:15pm.
Three course vegetarian community meal.
Reopens 3rd January.

Food Cycle New Cross

All Saints Hatcham Community Centre, 105 New Cross Road, London, SE14 5DJ

Last meal before Christmas: 18th December 1:15pm
Three course vegetarian meal. Free to everyone.
Reopens 8th January.

The Feast at King's Church Catford

Catford Hill, SE6 4PS

Dinner every Wednesday, up to Wednesday 17th December at 7:00pm, with Christmas meal on the 10th December.

Rehoboth Community Outreach Club

Ray Champion Meeting Room, 1-18 Allwood Close, SE26 4JP

Telephone: 07487738908 / 07946354617 for additional information.

Children 0 - 16 yrs winter jacket give away
Monday December 15th, 11:00am - 3:00pm

Community Christmas Dinner
Monday December 22nd, 11:00am - 5:00pm

Christmas Eve - December 24th, 6:00pm - 10:00pm
New Years Eve - December 31st, 6:00pm - 10:00pm

Soup Kitchen/ Food Bank Opening Days:
Monday 11:00am - 2:00pm (Free Hot Meals)
Wednesday 2:30pm - 4:00pm (Food Parcels)
Thursday 11:00am - 2:00pm (Food Parcels)

Saturday 3:00pm – 9:00pm (Fundraising Saturday - All donations gratefully appreciated).

Catford Soup Kitchen

1 Bromley Road, Catford SE6 1JX

25th December, 12:00pm – 2:00pm.

Christmas Dinner.

Also open over the Christmas and New Year period every Saturday, 11:00am – 1:00pm.

Contact outreach@uckg.org

Community Connections Lewisham / Lewisham Salvation Army

Meals on Wheels. Tuesday 23rd December.

Freshly made meals for Lewisham residents isolated over Christmas. Delivered in the morning by volunteers. First come, first served booking. Limited number of meals, refer early to avoid disappointment.

Please signpost to the Community Connections Lewisham phoneline or ring yourself on 0330 058 3464 to provide details, dietary requirements, and anything else we should know about the delivery.

Lewisham Foodbank

Last session before Christmas: Monday 22nd December, 12:00pm - 2:00pm at Deptford Salvation Army, Mary Ann Gardens SE8 3DP

Closed Tuesday 23rd December until Thursday 1st January inclusive

Reopens: Fri 2nd January 10:00am -12:00pm at Catford Salvation Army, 23 - 25 Brownhill Road, SE6 2HE

Mye Green Mango

1a Station Approach, Catford, SE6 4RE (near Catford Bridge Tavern)

24th December 12:00-4:00pm. Christmas Dinner with trimmings.

Lewisham Donation Hub

Unit D, Place Ladywell, 261 Lewisham High Street, London, SE13 6AY

Please ALWAYS check the website before visiting:

www.lewishamdonationhub.org

Weather/limited volunteer numbers can close certain parts of the service.

Planned opening and service times as follows:

28th November- 18th December.

Food support: Tickets shared at 9:00am - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

General support: Please check the website

Donations: Please check the website

Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th December

Open for Food support - tickets shared at 9:00am

Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 31st December

Open for Food support - Tickets shared at 9am

25th December (Christmas Day) and 1st January (New Year's Day): Fully closed

6th, 7th, 8th January

Food support: Tickets shared at 9:00am - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

General support: Please check the website

Donations: Please check the website

13th, 14th, 15th January

Food support: Tickets shared at 9:00am - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

General support: Please check the website.

SEND TAEKWONDO INCLUSIVE

Taekwondo for all! Come along and try our SEND Inclusive sessions.

MONDAY

6:00 - 7:00

PM

PM

Prendergast School Adelaide Hall
Adelaide Avenue
Ladywell
SE4 1LE

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW

www.aquilataekwondo.com

info@aquilataekwondo.com

07428149082



Being a Parent

Parenting programme for parents of children aged 2-11

Delivered by trained Parent Group Leaders from Empowering Parents Empowering Communities (EPEC), part of South London & Maudsley NHS Trust, in partnership with Lewisham



A FREE 9-week course to help parents learn practical skills for everyday life such as:

- Looking after yourself as a parent
- Recognising and managing your child's emotions
- Learning positive parenting strategies

Downham Family Hub

Shroffold Road, BR1 5PD

Friday 10.00 - 12.00

23rd January - 27th March 2026

(no session 20th Feb - half term)

To sign up and find out more click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code:

Or Contact **07860 371868**



Feedback from Lewisham Parents

"I absolutely loved this course. I would recommend it to anyone. It has helped me out so much as a parent"

"The leaders were amazing, made me feel so much more confident and feel like people actually do care."



EMPOWERING
PARENTS
EMPOWERING
COMMUNITIES

NHS
South London
and Maudsley
NHS Foundation Trust





Community Sports Club

Bromley

For D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent young people aged 8 to 17

Weekly Sessions
Tuesday Evenings
(Term time only)
5:00pm - 6:00pm



ENQUIRE NOW!



Make Friends



Inclusive Games



Enjoyable Activities

Register Today!

Bromley Methodist Church, College Road, Bromley, BR1 3NS

 **0208 191 8507**  **07375 594 559**

 **info@pulsesocial.co.uk**



www.pulsesocial.co.uk

School term dates 2025-26

Autumn term 1

Monday 1 September	INSET DAY
Tuesday 2 September	First day of term
Friday 10 October	INSET DAY
Friday 24 October	Last day of term

Half Term

Monday 27 October to Friday 31 October

Autumn term 2

Monday 3 November	First day of term
Friday 5 December	INSET DAY
Friday 19 December	Last day of term*

Christmas Holiday

Monday 22 December to Friday 2 January

Spring term 1

Monday 5 January	First day of term
Friday 16 January	INSET DAY
Friday 13 February	Last day of term

Half term

Monday 16 February to Friday 20 February

Spring term 2

Monday 23 February	First day of term
Friday 27 March	Last day of term*

Easter Holiday

Monday 30 March to Friday 10 April

Summer term 1

Monday 13 April	First day of term
Monday 4 May	Bank Holiday
Friday 22 May	Last day of term

Half term

Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May

Summer term 2

Monday 1 June	First day of term
Monday 25 May	Bank Holiday
Friday 12 June	INSET DAY
Monday 20 July	Last day of term*

Pupils will not attend school on INSET days
***School will close at 1pm on last day of term 2**