



DRUMBEAT SCHOOL

Newsletter — Autumn Term 1

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a fantastic start to the year, and I am incredibly proud of the hard work, enthusiasm and positive attitude shown by our pupils.

Thank you to our dedicated staff for all their efforts and to our parents and carers for your continued support.

As we head into the half-term break, I would like to wish all our families a lovely, restful holiday. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for another successful term!

Marie Neave
Executive Headteacher

Dates for the Diary...

Wednesday, 21 October

Last day of term for pupils

School will finish normal time

Thursday, 22 Oct & Friday 23 Oct

INSET Days

Pupils will not attend school on these days

Monday, 2 November

First Day of Term

Friday, 4 December

INSET Day

Pupils will not attend school on this day

Tuesday, 8 December

EYFS, Ks1 and Tigers Christmas Show

More details to follow

Thursday, 10 December

Tunrnham Christmas Show

More details to follow

Tuesday, 15 December

KS2 Christmas Show

More details to follow

Thursday, 17 December

KS3 & Lions Christmas Show

More details to follow

Friday, 18 December

Last day of term

School will finish at 1pm on this day

Monday, 4 January

First day of term

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Healthy children, brighter futures!

Good Food
Brighter Learning
♥


**SAVE UP TO
£500
A YEAR**


**FREE
HEALTHY
SCHOOL MEALS**


**EXTRA SUPPORT
FOR YOUR
CHILD'S SCHOOL**

**Fuel
their
potential**
♥

WHY APPLY?

When eligible families apply, schools receive additional Pupil Premium funding to help children succeed. This funding can be used for:



Targeted learning support and booster classes



Educational visits and activities



After-school clubs



Wellbeing and pastoral support

More opportunities
for a brighter
tomorrow
♥

WHO CAN APPLY?

You may be eligible if you receive:

- ✓ Universal Credit
- ✓ Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- ✓ The Guarantee Credit element of State Pension Credit
- ✓ Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ✓ Some families with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) may also be eligible



Check
if you're
eligible
today!
—

PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENTS



All primary school children currently receive free school meals through the Mayor of London's programme until summer 2028.

BUT YOU SHOULD STILL APPLY

if you receive qualifying benefits. Your application helps your child's school receive valuable additional funding to support learning and wellbeing.

★ DID YOU KNOW?

A simple application could help provide:

- ✓ Additional learning resources
- ✓ Intervention and booster sessions
- ✓ Sports and enrichment activities
- ✓ Educational experiences and visits
- ✓ Extra pastoral support

Small
steps
make a big
difference
♥



APPLY TODAY!

It's quick and easy to apply online.



lewisham.gov.uk



Scan the QR code
to apply now

Every
child
deserves
the best
start
♥

Healthy meals
Happier minds
Brighter futures

Need help?

Speak to your school office
or contact Lewisham Council for support.



**Lewisham
Council**

Working for a brighter Lewisham

Parent Coffee Morning

Chat • Share • Learn • Support

Helping your
child communicate
at home



**Tuesday 10th
November 2026**



9.30am



**at the
Drumbeat Downham site**



**Delivered by the Drumbeat
Speech and Language
Therapy Team**



Join us for a parent coffee morning at the **Downham** site where we discuss strategies to support communication at home.

We will talk about intensive interaction, AAC and comic strip conversations.



This coffee morning is open for any parent, even if your child attends the Turnham or Brockley site.



— All are welcome —

A Brighter Future
Through Communication

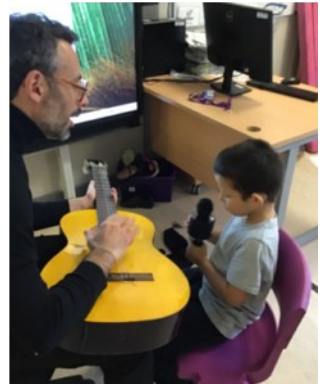
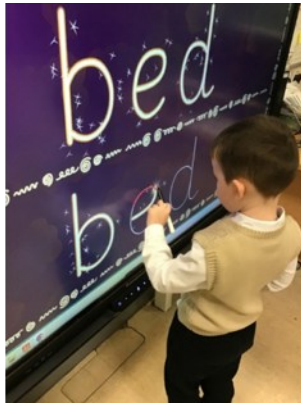
Communication
Connection
Confidence
Together



Meerkat Class

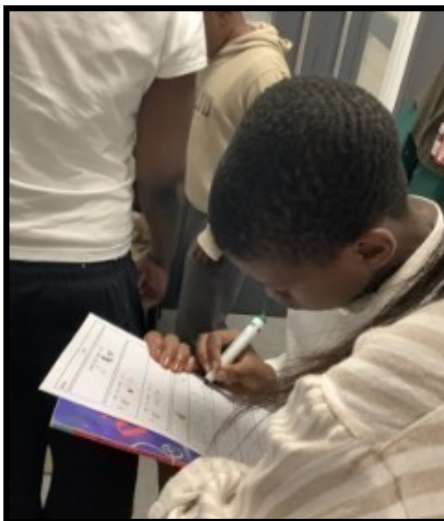
What an amazing start to the year we have had in Meerkat Class! The children have made fantastic progress, and we have loved sharing every step of their learning journey. Throughout the term, we have taken part in a wide range of engaging, hands-on activities that have supported learning through play and exploration. Alongside this, each child has worked hard towards their individual learning targets. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved Well done Meerkat Class.





Lynx Class

The children in Lynx Class have settled into the new school year beautifully. They have had a fantastic start to the new year and are working on building positive relationships with new adults and peers.



Science has been a particular interest for the children in Lynx who have loved exploring ‘cause and effect’ experiments. They have been exceptional scientists, asking really interesting questions, making predictions and recording their results. Oobleck was a class favourite!



We have also been lucky enough to go swimming this half term. We had a great time at the pool, we enjoyed lots of swimming practice and even more splashing!

Dear Parents and carers,

As part of our Rights Respecting School work this term, we have been looking at Article 23: "If I have a disability, I have the right to special care and education".

At Drumbeat school we all learn, communicate and move differently. Some people communicate with their hands, others communicate with their voice and some people use an iPad to communicate. We all need different things to feel comfortable, happy and included.

To learn about this right, classes have been doing fun activities like painting, games and sensory play. Using different communication tools and equipment, all students have been involved, this has made them feel good and part of the community.

Yours Sincerely,
Brockley Student Council

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our work to be a Rights Respecting School, this term the children at Drumbeat Turnham have been learning about **Article 23 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC):**

"If I have a disability, I have the right to special care and education."

Everyone at Drumbeat learns differently and learns to do different things. Sometimes we learn to do things on our own and other times adults support us to take part in school life.

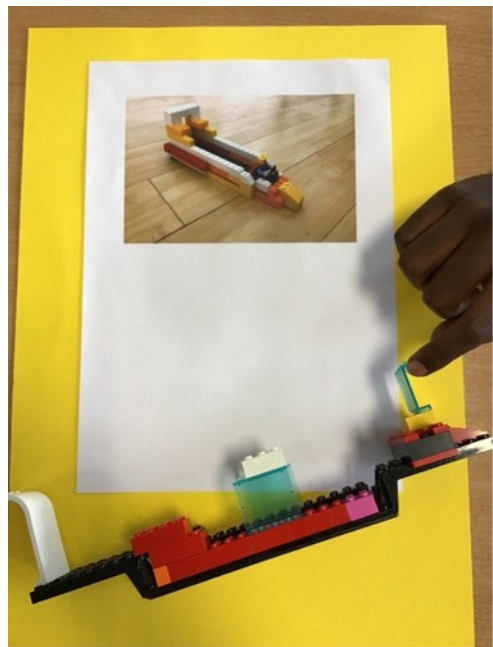
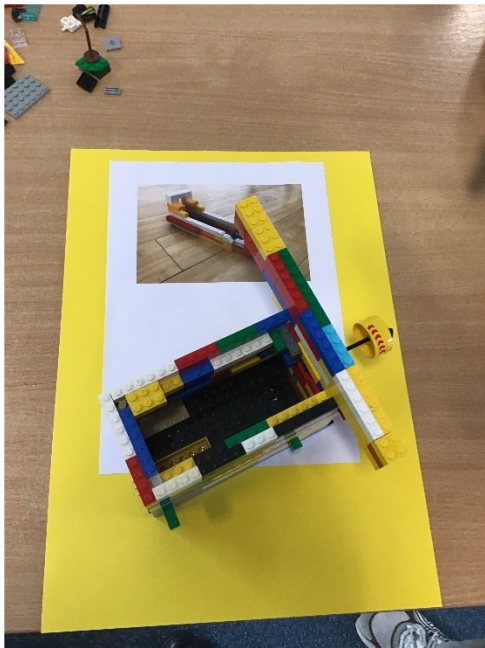
We have been celebrating what makes us special and learning how we can make sure everyone feels included and valued. Each class has done fun activities based on Article 23, these have included making posters, painting, listening to stories and playing games.

Yours sincerely,
Drumbeat Turnham School Council

Finland Class

This term, Finland Class took part in a fun LEGO building challenge during connection week to help develop their teamwork skills and get to know each other better. Working in small groups, pupils collaborated to design and build a variety of creative models, including cars and boats. The activity encouraged students to share ideas, take turns, listen to one another, and solve problems together. It was wonderful to see everyone working cooperatively, showing creativity, and supporting their teammates throughout the challenge.

We are very proud of the fantastic teamwork and enthusiasm shown by Finland Class. Take a look at some of their impressive LEGO creations in the photos below! 🚗 ⚓ 🧱





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& more.



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when you need it.



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support for your family.

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TRUSTED



FLEXIBLE &
RELIABLE



A COMMUNITY
THAT CARES



SCAN TO JOIN
OUR WAITLIST

littlevillagevcgroup.com

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!

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

If you have any changes, please let the office know.



PLEASE UPDATE YOUR
CONTACT DETAILS

SEND Families Session

Sensory Disco. Our Sensory Discos incorporate movement, dance games and music from DJ Honza. These sessions focus on free expression & supporting motor skills and coordination in a fun environment.

Booking in advance helps us with numbers. Drop ins always welcome.

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Saturday 14 November 2026

Downham Library

Please visit the website for more information

[SEND Families Sessions | Lewisham Libraries](#)

School term dates 2026-27

Autumn term 1 (38 days)

- Wednesday 2 September
- Thursday 3 September
- Wednesday 21 October
- Thursday 22 Oct & Friday 23 Oct

INSET Day
First day of term for pupils
Last day of term for pupils
INSET Days

Half Term

Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October

Autumn term 2 (35 days)

- Monday 2 November
- Friday 4 December
- Friday 18 December

First day of term
INSET Day
Last day of term*

Christmas Holiday

Monday 21 December to Friday 1 January

Spring term 1 (30 days)

- Monday 4 January
- Friday 12 February

First day of term
Last day of term

Half term

Monday 15 February to Friday 19 February

Spring term 2 (24 days)

- Monday 22 February
- Thursday 25 March

First day of term
Last day of term*

Easter Holiday

Friday 26 March to Friday 9 April

Summer term 1 (34 days)

- Monday 12 April
- Monday 3 May
- Friday 28 May

First day of term
Bank Holiday
Last day of term

Half term

Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June

Summer term 2 (34 days)

- Monday 7 June
- Friday 9 July
- Thursday 22 July

First day of term
INSET Day
Last day of term*

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