



# DRUMBEAT SCHOOL

## Newsletter — Spring Term 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a short but very productive term. Our students have been busy producing art work for our exhibition next term. Watch this space.

There are lots of organisations offering families support, so have a look and see if anything suits.

We are looking forward to next term with lots of visits and events happening.

Have a lovely half term and thank you for all the support you give to your children.

Marie Neave  
Executive Headteacher

### *Dates for the Diary....*

**Friday, 9 February**

**Last day of term**

School will close at normal  
time

**Monday, 19 February**

**First day of term**

**4-8 March**

**Careers Week (all sites)**

**Thursday, 7 March**

**World Book Day (all sites)**

**Thursday, 28 March**

**Last day of term**

School will close at 1pm on  
this day

**Monday, 15 April**

**First day of term**

# TALKING TEENS



Family Thrive Early Help Co-ordinators are running a free course for parents or carers of teenagers and pre-teens who are looking to better understand and communicate with them – It offers an opportunity to understand what’s going on in the adolescent brain and how to understand their feelings and behaviours using an authoritative parenting style. Sessions will focus on relationships within the family, communication, negotiation, decision-making and strategies to reduce conflict.

## The group aims to develop:

- relationships between teenagers and parents/carers
- a calmer home life
- confidence when talking about difficult issues
- an understanding of teenage needs and development

## Who would be eligible to attend this course?

- Parents and carers of pre-teens and teenagers who are currently in years 6 & 7 but there may be availability for years 5 & 8
- There is no physical or extremely challenging behaviour present in or outside of the family home. This course focuses on the importance of empathy and positive discipline
- Family must reside in Lewisham borough or child must attend a Lewisham school

## How long is the course?

- Each group is 4 sessions over the course of 4 weeks
- 2 hours per session (10.00am-12.00pm)

For more information or to register your interest, please email our duty box:  
[EHCFamilyThrive@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:EHCFamilyThrive@lewisham.gov.uk)



## 20th Forest Hill SEN Scout Group

If you're looking for fun, adventure and new experiences we welcome boys and girls aged 10-18.

Come along, meet us and join in.

**When** Thursdays 6.30-7.30pm

**Where:** Rockbourne youth club Rockbourne Road Forest Hill SE23 2DA

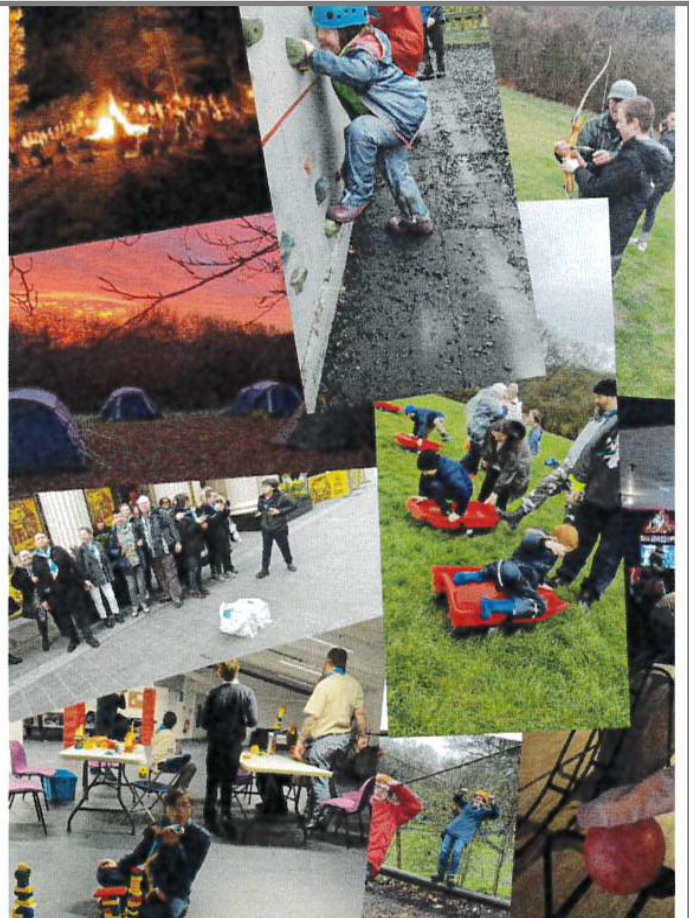
For a free trial

**Contact** Maxine, Group Scout Leader  
[maxinejohnson0510@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:maxinejohnson0510@yahoo.co.uk)



**Scouts**  
20th Forest Hill  
(Scoutlink)

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### Lewisham Parent & Carer Forum

Lewisham Parent and Carer's Forum (LPCF) is a voluntary group of parents and carers of children and young people (0-25) with special/additional needs and disabilities (SEND) living in the London Borough of Lewisham.

They provide an opportunity for parents and carers to express their views and input into the planning and delivery of SEND services. They signpost, support and empower families to obtain the best possible support and services for their children.

Autism Support services available to Lewisham families:

**Lewisham Autism Support,  
The National Autistic Society, Drumbeat ASD Outreach team,  
SIGNAL and Autism is my Superpower**

Visit their website for more information on services and workshops hosted by Drumbeat

**NO PARKING  
DO NOT BLOCK  
DRIVEWAY**

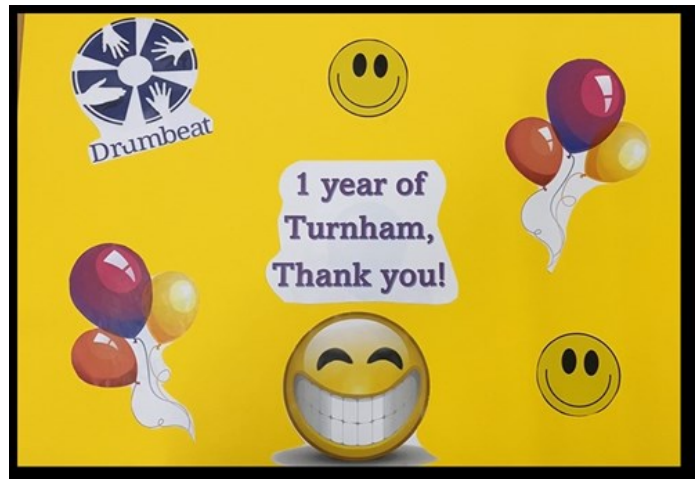
**Please be mindful when parking outside the school.**

**Please ensure that local residents' drives are not blocked and bus entrances are kept clear.**

## Drumbeat Turnham

On January 31<sup>st</sup> we celebrated one year of our Drumbeat Turnham Site being open. It has been an incredible year, and we are so proud of the progress all pupils have made already. We would like to thank all Drumbeat Turnham families and friends for their support in making our newest site such a success.

Bryony (Head of School)



# Life Beyond Drumbeat



On Friday, 26th January, we held our annual Life Beyond Drumbeat information coffee morning aimed at all parents on the Brockley site, but more specifically, for parents of students who will be leaving the Drumbeat family and want to plan for the journey ahead.

The session proved to be a very lively one with lots of discussions and questions from parents. On hand to answer these questions were Emma Chadwick (Lewisham SEN), Doung Tran (Lewisham College), Caprice Cobin (Lewisham Adult Social Care) and Sam Truss (The Autism Project).

We want to equip all our parents and leavers with the appropriate knowledge which will enable them to follow the right pathway, so that every young person leaving us will be independent but more importantly become integrated into their community.

After a very successful morning parents have asked if this session could be offered once a term. This is something we are considering, so watch this space!



# Students First Aid Training



This term pupils across Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 attended a first aid training course.

They were shown first aid boxes and explored the contents and were shown what the items in the boxes were used for. They passed a foil blanket around to see what it felt like and learned that this can keep people warm while they are waiting for an ambulance to arrive.

Pupils learned what they would need to do if someone has fallen or had an accident, including calling 999 and asking for an ambulance and putting the patient into a recovery position. They were shown what kinds of questions the ambulance operator might ask them. Pupils learned the acronym DRSABC and what each letter stands for - Danger, Response, Shout, Airway, Breathing, Circulation.

Pupils were shown a device to take their pulse and then used it to check their own. They took their pulses before and after doing 20 star jumps and found that their pulses were much higher after exercising.

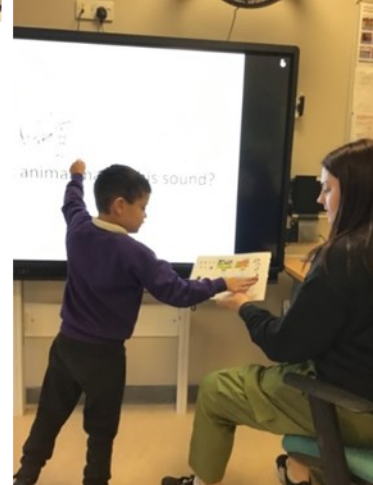
The pupils learned some valuable, lifelong skills in this session and the feedback from them was that they had really enjoyed it and felt much more confident if they were ever needed to help following an accident.





## Tiger Class News

We have had a lovely time settling back into class after our Christmas break! We have enjoyed lots of sensory play and exploring our new topic; 'Come dine with me'. We have enjoyed participating in lots of different cooking lessons and working hard on our learning targets. We are excited to continue our learning this term.





## Giraffe Class News

We have had a busy start after the New Year in Giraffe Class. We have begun exploring our topic 'Come Dine with Me' including the story of the Hungry Caterpillar which we are learning about in both English and Maths.







## Turtle Class News

Wow, what a great start to the spring term, we have had in Turtle class. The children have settled in well and are enjoying playing and learning together. We have gone straight into learning and have enjoyed exploring 2D shapes and making repeated patterns in maths and English we have been looking at our new topic 'Come dine with me' we have enjoyed sensory play with different food. We have also been working on our individual targets for this term.



## Lion Class News



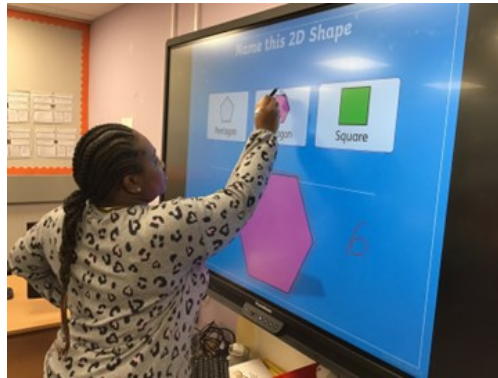
Lion class have started a fantastic new project this term called 'Moving Stories'. It involves bringing stories to life through movement, dance and music. The children start the sessions by saying their names in different ways to the beat of a drum. They then act out going on a journey with the children deciding what obstacles they face, for example, they chose to go under a tunnel, over a bridge and around a puddle until they reached a pizza restaurant. The chef of the restaurant acts out a different problem in each session which the children help him resolve. They have come up with some brilliant ways to console the chef and give him advice about not giving up. At the end of the session, the children use movements to make a giant pizza, taking it turns to decide what they would like on the pizza, pretending to roll out the dough, put the toppings on and then eat it.



## Brockill Class

Half of the spring term has gone by quickly with a lot of new learning and experience taking place in Brockill class.

Students have started working towards their new learning targets, working diligently on recognizing different 2D and 3D shapes in Math and practising writing their home address in English.



A very important unit was introduced in RSE lesson this term where students learnt about functions of different body parts and the differences between female and male bodies.

Students also had a go at making various delicious treats, such as French toast, scones and brownies in cooking lessons. They enjoyed tasting the food they made as their afternoon snack and even shared them with friends in other classes.



Well done, Brockill class and wish everyone a restful holiday!

## Hilly Fields News

In Hilly Fields we have been going on walks to the local park.



We have enjoyed relaxing, chatting, and solo and cooperative play.



Continued on the next page

We have also been participating in interventions ...



... and learning to keep our classroom clean and tidy.



# SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES — 2023/24

## AUTUMN TERM 2023

**Autumn Term 1**      **Monday 4 September – INSET day**  
**Tuesday 5 September – Students first day of term**  
**Friday 20 October - Last day of term**  
Half Term Holiday Monday 23 October – Friday 27 October

**Autumn Term 2**      **Monday 30 October – INSET day**  
**Tuesday 31 October – Students first day of term**  
**Friday 8 December – INSET day**  
**Wednesday 20 December – Last day of term\***  
Christmas Holiday Thursday 21 December – Friday 5 January

## SPRING TERM 2024

**Spring Term 1**      **Monday 8 January – First day of term**  
**Friday 9 February – Last day of term**  
Half Term Holiday Monday 12 February – Friday 16 February

**Spring Term 2**      **Monday 19 February – First day of term**  
**Thursday 28 March – Last day of term\***  
Easter Holiday Friday 29 March – Friday 12 April  
(Easter weekend 29 March – 1 April)

## SUMMER TERM 2024

**Summer Term 1**      **Monday 15 April – First day of term**  
**Friday 24 May — Last day of term**  
(May Day Bank Holiday on 6 May)  
Half Term Holiday Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May  
(Spring Bank Holiday will be taken on 27 May)

**Summer Term 2**      **Monday 3 June – INSET day**  
**Tuesday 4 June - Students first day of term**  
**Friday 5 July – INSET day**  
**Thursday 25 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.*

# 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.*