



DRUMBEAT SCHOOL

Newsletter — Spring Term 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a lovely half term with lots of things to celebrate.

With the weather getting better, pupils have been accessing a variety of fun activities and particularly enjoyed World Book Day last week.

We had Careers Week where we had the police visit the school and a café run by the children.

Please take note of the information meetings run by the LA on the SEND white paper which will change the nature of SEND delivery significantly.

I hope you have a lovely Easter break and thank you for all your commitment and passion for the school.

Marie Neave
Executive Headteacher

Dates for the Diary...

Friday, 27 March

Last day of term

School will close at 1pm on this day

Monday, 13 April

First day of term

Monday, 4 May

Bank Holiday

Monday, 13 April

First day of term

Monday, 20 April

HPV Vaccinations for year 8 pupils

Friday, 15 May

**Toileting Drop-In Clinic
Downham**

Friday, 22 May

Last day of term

School will close at normal time

Drumbeat Outreach is proud to support a photographic exhibition set at Lewisham to mark the beginning of Autism Awareness month created by documentary photographer, Rosie Barnes. The exhibition showcases striking portraits and recorded conversations with artistic women from across diverse communities.

The inspiring collection shines a light on the lived experiences of autistic women and girls exploring the inequality's misunderstandings and barriers they continue to face. Their stories offer a rare and moving insight into perspectives that are too often dismissed, questioned or overlooked and we warmly invite the whole Lewisham community to attend the exhibition. The exhibition not only celebrates the strength and authenticity of autistic voices but also contributes to a more inclusive and understanding borough. It also marks the conclusion of phase two of the partnership in neurodivergence in schools (PINS).

Please come along, be inspired and support a shared commitment to embracing the full spectrum of human experience.

See next page for more information.

The South East Guide for Parent Carers of Children and Young People with SEND, produced by My Family, Our Needs, brings together helpful information on education, health, wellbeing and support services across the region. View the free online guide on their website:

www.myfamilyourneeds.co.uk



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SEARCH



WELCOME TO MY FAMILY, OUR NEEDS
FOR PARENTS AND CARERS OF CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

NEW SOUTH EAST GUIDE





No You're Not, Yes I Am

- a portrait of autistic women.

This exhibition by documentary photographer Rosie Barnes, gives voice to autistic women from a wide range of diverse communities. The moving and powerful portraits and interviews explore and express the inequalities, misunderstandings and barriers experienced by autistic women and girls. These powerful voices advocate for change, paving the way for a society that appreciates and welcomes the full spectrum of human experience.

SET

SET Lewisham Unit 1 Lewisham Retail Park,
London, SE13 7RZ info@setspace.uk

Opening Dates/Times:

Monday March 23rd 6-8pm **Private view**

Tuesday March 24th 2-6pm

Wednesday March 25th 2-6pm

Thursday March 26th 2-6pm

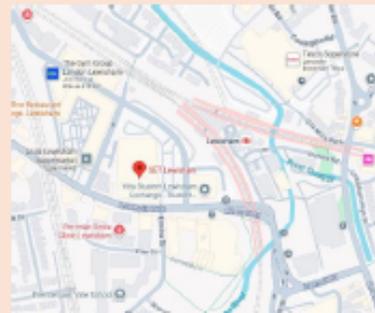
with a Panel discussion 6-8pm

Friday March 27th 2-6pm

Saturday March 28th 2-6pm

Admission FREE

For accessibility visits please contact Drumbeat Outreach:
S.Gannon@drumbeat.lewisham.sch.uk



This exhibition is generously supported by Lewisham Public Health as part of its commitment to the Lewisham All Age Autism Strategy and contributes to the Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS).





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!



**PLEASE UPDATE YOUR
CONTACT DETAILS**

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.

World Book Day 2026

Thank you to all the staff, students and families for making this year's World Book Day so special!



Our very own author Tom visited the Downham site to read his book 'At Sea without Tea: The Great Cutty Sark Adventure'.

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There was a special World Book Day assembly at the Turnham site.



SEND Reforms: White Paper

Meet the Managers – Strategic SEND Meetings

A series of strategic discussions with senior leaders in Lewisham for parents and carers of children and young people with SEND who would like to take part.

Come along to:

- hear from SEND Services across education, health and social care
- share your views and ask questions about wider SEN strategic matters
- find out more about Lewisham's future plans and support available to learners with SEND
- gain a better understanding of local SEND priorities and connect with other parents and carers

Dates and times

- **Thursday 30 April 2026, 6-8pm**
Supporting Families in Lewisham: Family Help & Care, Family Hubs and Local Support. Find out more about how Lewisham supports families of children and young people with SEND through Family Hubs, Family Help & Care (previously called social care) and wider local services, including what help is available and how to access it.
- **Thursday 18 June 2026, 6-8pm**
Social, Emotional and Mental Wellbeing Support for Children and Young people with SEND. Explore the social, emotional and mental wellbeing support available for children and young people with SEND across our borough, including early help, school based support options and the wider specialist services.
- **Wednesday 30 September 2026, 6-8pm**
Transitions, Independence, and Future Planning for becoming an adult. Find out what transitions support looks like for young people with SEND to prepare for adulthood, including transition planning, careers information, advice & guidance, education and employment, independent living and community inclusion.

Venue: Council Chambers, Civic Suite, Catford Rd, London, SE6 9SE

How to get there

- **buses:** 47, 54, 75, 136, 171, 181, 185, 199, 208, 320, 336, 380
- **nearest stops:** Catford Road / Lewisham Town Hall. 2-3 minutes walk from Catford Bridge and Catford train stations

There is no free parking in the area.

Let the LA know you are coming and reserve a ticket.

Draco Class

This Spring term, Draco Class have been busy working on their individual targets, learning about shapes and money in maths lessons, retelling stories in English lessons, and mixing colours for painting in art lessons. During careers week we learnt about the skills needed for variety of different jobs and hobbies. We enjoyed workshops about musicians, chef skills, first training, and circus skills. Our science topics included animal habitats, which we explored further during trips to the Buckthorne Nature Reserve.



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Kangaroo Class

Kangaroo class have been very busy this term, we have been working hard everyday learning lots of new skills and having lots of fun too!

In Maths we have been exploring shapes and patterns in lots of different ways,



Continued on next page

In Phonics we are beginning to learn our sounds, identify them and mark make.



And of course, we enjoyed being Gardener's during career's week, we looked at some plants and explored them by smelling and feeling them. We also decorated some pots and planted some beautiful daffodils to sell at the careers fair. We also had a visit from a planetarium and we had such an amazing time watching the images change, creating the most wonderful sensory experience!



Leopard Class

In March, it was National Careers week. Leopard class explored the role of the florist and participated in some of the tasks a Florist would do. We made some flower bouquets and did some flower arranging. The pupils enjoyed exploring the colours, smells and textures of the different flowers. They also enjoyed picking the flowers, placing the flowers in the oasis, and wrapping the flowers.



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Lion Class

This term, Lion Class have had a busy and enjoyable time, taking part in a wide range of activities across the curriculum.

A highlight was Careers Week, where pupils explored journalism by taking on roles such as presenter, reporter, interviewer and cameraman. They worked brilliantly as a team, showing confidence, creativity and enthusiasm while interviewing staff and classmates. Keep a look out for Lion News on the website – coming soon!

In Maths, pupils have been developing their understanding of place value, 2D and 3D shapes, and money. They have grown more confident in recognising coins, calculating amounts and finding change.

In English, the class have been learning about fiction and non-fiction texts, building their skills in reading, discussing and identifying key features of each.

Science has been particularly exciting, with hands-on workshops covering aerodynamics, engineering, construction and chemistry. These sessions gave pupils a fun and practical way to explore new ideas.

In PE, pupils have been improving their basketball skills, focusing on dribbling, passing and shooting, while also working well as a team in games.

Overall, it has been a fantastic term full of progress, teamwork and achievement. Well done, Lion Class!







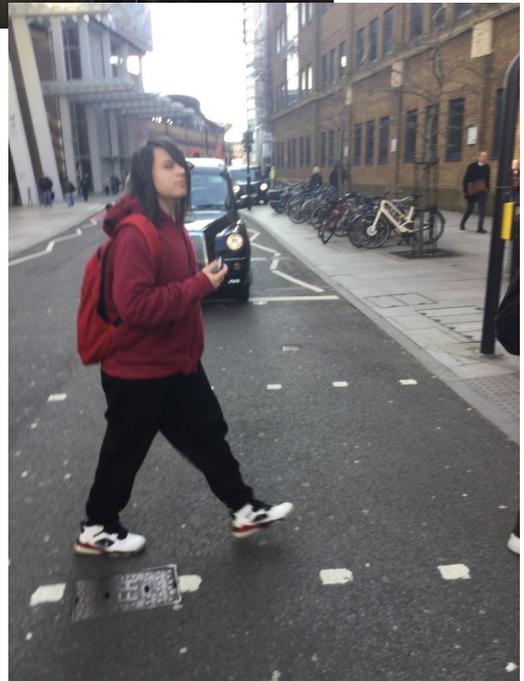
Manor Park Class

Manor Park class have had a fun and productive half term. The students particularly enjoyed taking part in our Careers Week activities. They had the opportunity to explore a range of different jobs and career paths through practical activities, as well as listening to and interviewing visitors from a variety of professional sectors.

In class, we also had a great time getting creative by exploring abstract art and taking part in cooking activities. These sessions allowed students to express themselves, try new skills, and work collaboratively.

Students also had lots of fun celebrating the Holi festival and getting messy by throwing powder paint. Some students also had the opportunity to take part in online science sessions, visit a local radio station, and join the Future Gardeners Club. These experiences gave them a chance to learn in new environments and develop their interests beyond the classroom. Overall, it has been a busy and enjoyable half term, and we are very proud of the students' enthusiasm and participation in all the activities.





TRINITY LABAN

Dance Ability

for disabled dancers



Classes for disabled children & young people

Saturdays

Laban Building
Creekside
SE8 3DZ

A fun and creative weekly class, for young dancers with cognitive and/or physical disabilities, or who identify as neurodivergent.

Led by an experienced inclusive dance artist, we use props, music and movement to boost confidence, physicality and social interaction skills.

Recommended for 5 – 8 yr olds (school yrs 1 – 3)



Visit our website to find out more: trinitylaban.ac.uk
Contact: childrensprogramme@trinitylaban.ac.uk
020 8305 9390

INCLUSIVE CREATIVE DANCE

DANDELION
COLLECTIVE

Inclusive creative dance sessions in Southwark, delivered by Dandelion Collective, for D/deaf, disabled, and neurodivergent children and young people!

- Thursdays 5.30 - 6.30 pm
- The Green, Nunhead Community Centre, SE15 3QQ
- SEND children aged 8 - 16 years old
- First session FREE / Subsequent sessions £7.34 per week



Sign up via the link
[SENDDanceSouthwark](https://www.senddance.org.uk)
or scan the QR code below:



If you have any questions please contact:



020 7993 9883



Noah.Tilling@AccessSport.org.uk

Supported by



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BIG TENNIS WIEEKEND

INCLUSIVE FAMILY TIME

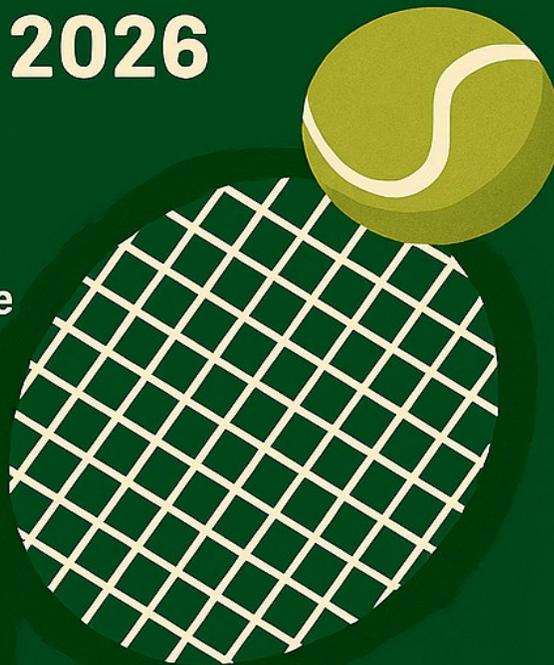
SAT 11 APRIL 2026

1PM – 3PM

Join us on Sat, 11 Apr 2026
for an Inclusive Family Time
session at the Big Tennis
Weekend at Belair Park.

No matter what your
ability there is fun to be
had on court. There are
modified forms of tennis
to meet all needs.

These sessions are
inclusive to disabled,
d/Deaf and/or
neurodivergent
children and adults.



**BOOK YOUR
FREE SPOT HERE**

<https://clubspark.ita.org.uk/VamosTemis/EventsV2/Summary/aobeff0-a26e-4401-acea-b94755c386966>

BIG TENNIS WEEKEND

Lewisham Inclusive Sports Easter Activity

30th March and 1st, 7th & 9th April
10 am - 12 pm

Alex Yee Ladywell Arena,
Silvermere Rd, London SE6 4QX

Free activity, accessible for all
abilities, disabled young people and
their families, aged 5-25.

Registration below or Scan QR
code:

<https://tinyurl.com/LewishamInclusiveEaster>



Delivered by the Lewisham Disability Sport
Network.



Kevin.Watts@AccessSport.org.uk

020 7993 9883



Dear Parents/Carers,

Families visiting any Morrisons' 343 Cafes across the country during school holidays will be able to request a free 'Kellogg's Breakfast'. This includes a bowl of Kellogg's cereal (Rice Krispies or Corn Flakes), milk or a milk alternative, and an apple or banana.

This is available at Morrisons, during school holidays for the 2026/2027 school holiday periods.

The offer is universally accessible, requires no signup, and meets school food standards.

Lewisham Autism Hub



WHO IS IT FOR?

- Autistic people
- Parent/Carers

WHAT WE OFFER:

- Information and advice
- Drop in sessions
- 1:1 autism family support sessions
- Workshops
- Social groups
- Training for professionals
- Drop-in advice sessions
- Friendly Hub Coordinators

HOW TO CONTACT US:

- 🌐 resourcesforautism.org.uk/lewishamautismhub
- ☎ 07791 149874
- ✉ Lewisham@resourcesforautism.org.uk

WHERE WE ARE:

Second Floor, The Fellowship Inn, Randlesdown Rd
Bellingham, SE6 3BT

resources for
autism

Artism Mothership Online social group

A peer-supported creative space space for Autistic girls and gender non-conforming young people

Facilltated by Silvia and Tiffany



Event Details:

When: Thursday fortnightly 5 pm to 6:30 pm

Where: Online (link will be sent to people signing up)

For: Neurodivergent girls and non binary people 12-17 years old

To Register, scan the QR code below or click [this link](#).
To find out more contact srinaldi@resourcesforautism.org.uk

What is the Artism Mothership social group?

- A peer-supported creative safe space for Autistic Neurodivergent Girls and non-binary young people assigned female at birth
- Co-produced by you, the members!
- Facilitated by Autism-Specialist staff
- Online fortnightly sessions
- Free of charge



resources for
autism

Resources for Autism's Making Music Group

A peer-supported, creative safe space for Adult Autistic musicians in Lewisham
Co-produced with our Resident Artist Dee



Event Details:

- When:** The first Tuesday of each month, 6:45 - 8:45 PM
Where: Second Floor, The Fellowship Inn, Randlesdown Rd SE6 3BT
What: In-person sessions, monthly
For: Neurodivergent musicians based in Lewisham age 18+

To register, scan the QR code below or follow [this link](#)
For info, email srinaldi@resourcesforautism.org.uk

What is the Making Music Group?

- A peer-supported creative safe space for Adult Autistic musicians in Lewisham (or passionate about music!).
- Co-produced by the members and our Resident Artist. Facilitated by Autism-Specialist staff
- Monthly face to-face sessions
- Free of charge.
- Bring your own instrument or use the ones available in our premises.

resources for
autism



Autistic Adults Social

Lewisham Autism Hub is running a monthly social group for autistic adults who are looking for an informal social space.

The group is a space to meet others, do activities and discuss issues relating to your experiences.

Members will shape discussion and the structure of the group so come down and have your voice heard!

**6-7pm on the Third Monday of the month
Peter Every House, 4 Crantock Road, Catford,
SE6 2QT.**

Please use the QR code to the right to register for the group.

If you have any queries please contact lewisham@resourcesforautism.org.uk



resources for
autism

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**