Hunters Hall Primary School Snippets

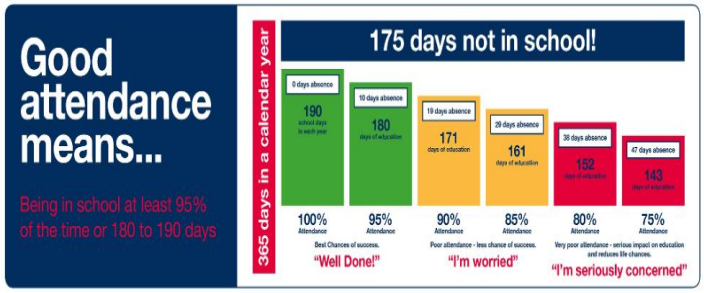
Issue: 20
February 2025

Dates for the Diary

Spring Term

Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th February – Parent/Carer Consultation Evenings (Nursery to Year 5)
Friday 14th February – Coffee Morning 9:00-10:30am
Monday 17th to Sunday 23rd – February Half-term
Monday 24th February – First day back for children 8:30am
Tuesday 25th February – 4LG Vauxhall Farm Visit
Wednesday 26th February – 4DR Vauxhall Farm Visit
Wednesday 26th February – Year 6 Parent/Carer 1:2:1 appointments
Friday 28th February – 4GR Vauxhall Farm Visit
Monday 10th March – Visiting author
Friday 4th April – Last day of term.

Friday 23rd May – Nursery closed for new intake Open Day



Attendance Matters

Congratulations to the classes in green 96%+:

Class	Attendance % Present
1VR	99.0
4LG	97.4
2MR	96.3
5MK	96.2
6JN	95.4
6AM	94.4
3OZ	94.1
2CH	93.5
4DR	92.9
5VE	92.6
6AD	92.5
RGM	91.6
3MA	91.3
3ST	90.1
4GR	90.1
2FK	89.1
5TH	86.3
1DL	85.1
RIM	81.6
1GS	81.3
REL	64.9

Dear Parent/Carer,

There are so many different themed weeks throughout the year – this week has seen settings all over the country celebrate and acknowledge Children's Mental Health. At Hunters Hall, this is a subject that we address on a daily basis for we know that it is only when someone is in the green zone of the Zones of Regulation that they be able to access their thinking brain and be ready for learning.

Therefore, our role is to:

- ensure that they feel good about themselves and know that they matter
- help them increase their sense of security, trust and resilience
- provide opportunities to strengthen their emotional well-being
- teach them how to improve their capacity to be creative and curious
- show them how to develop their self-esteem and confidence to learn through making mistakes
- educate them to learn to recognise and regulate their feelings
- provide time to learn to think before behaving in a certain way and accept consequences for choices

In KS2 assembly today I spoke with the children about Paws.B (Pause Be) which is a mindfulness approach that can be carried out at any point of the day – lining up for lunchtime, waiting for the gate to open... basically when a moment of mindfulness is required. Ask the children about the reason behind the paws.

As you know we love reading at Hunters Hall, starting after school today, we have the book fayre, located in the dining hall. From next week it will based in the upper school hall. And on Wednesday's Parent/Carer Evening it will be open until 6pm! I am also excited to announce that we will have local author Donna Rose visiting the school on Monday 10th March – I have asked Donna to read her latest book, "I Hate Reading." She will also sign copies of her books.

If anyone is visiting the British Museum this weekend – I will see if I spot you.

Michael Kaitell, Headteacher

Team Points

TEAM POINTS		
	Tigers	456
	Bears	378
	Wolves	494
	Sharks	533
	Komodo Dragon	490

Uniform Shop Dates

School uniform can be purchased from 3:00-4:00pm in the dining hall on the following dates:

SCHOOL UNIFORM DIRECT

Wednesday 26th February
Wednesday 12th March
Wednesday 26th March

Gold Award Debit Card Recipients

Each week we publish any recipients of the new Gold Award Debit Card.

Gold Award Recipients

Name	Class	Name	Class
Dalya Solovastru	1VR	Claire Kong	1VR
Issac Joseph	1VR	Qabilah Eledumo	1VR
Rida Khan	1VR	Alexandru Pralea	1VR
Miguel Fonesca	1VR	Laura Spinu	1VR
Waniya Malik	2MR	Ayzel Laiq	1GS
Mia Bouzas Luaces	1GS	Edward Ciuta	1GS
Aaron Utshudiema	1GS	Sanaya Askarzadah	1GS

Parent/Carer Handbook

Scan the QR code or visit https://sway.cloud.microsoft/BeyF4UlXJ7lWwliv?ref=Link

School Uniform

School uniform can be purchased from 3:00-4:00pm in the dining hall. The dates vary throughout the year.

In a hope to reduce the cost of school uniform, from September, you will have the option to purchase iron-on badges for plain white polo shirts and plain red jumpers. Badges will cost £1.20 and should make uniform more affordable.

Uniform can also be purchased online: www.schooluniformdirect.org.uk/schools/product-category/schools-and-clubs/hunters-hall-primary/

Or Telephone: 01992 763679 / Email: info@schooluniformdirect.org.uk

Parent Hub

We would like all parents/carers to join us on Parent Hub.

Parent Hub is a FREE app that helps keep you up to date with what's going on at school. You'll receive messages, pictures, documents and newsletters, all in one handy place.

1. Download the Parent Hub app from your app store (iPhone or Android).
2. Create yourself an account.
3. Choose "Add a School" and enter:

@HuntersHallPS

How to translate messages in the Parent Hub app (guidance for schools)

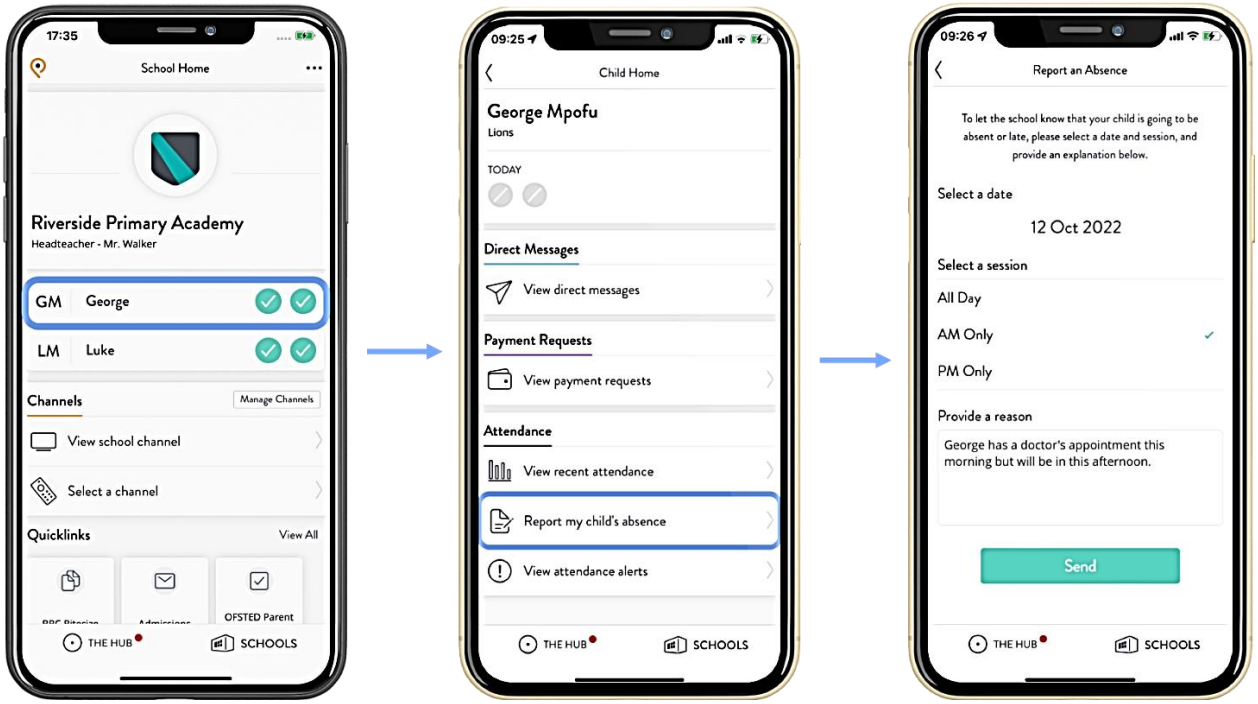
In the app, parents just tap the 'translate' button in the bottom right of a message.

This applies to old messages, as well as new ones.

To find out more, click the link below for a useful guide.

https://support.parenthub.co.uk/hc/en-us/articles/6172951020689-How-to-translate-messages-in-the-Parent-Hub-app

Reporting absence



Uniform Reminder & PE Days 2024-2025

During the course of this academic year, we are phasing out some of our school uniform in an effort to make it more affordable for our parent body.

Our school uniform provider now sells school badges for £1.20 so that you are able to purchase plain white polo shirts/ plain red jumpers/cardigans and iron on the badge. (Our current provider will continue to sell their stock of red and grey uniform items and staff has been informed that it is a gradual phase out)

We have reduced the number of days that children require their school uniform by allowing them to wear their PE kit on two days of the week. (You will be notified if there is a special day such as school photographs so that you can ensure that children are dressed appropriately.)

School Uniform (only 2 branded clothing items necessary & 1 branded book bag)

White Polo Shirt (with logo/ iron-on badge)

Red jumper/ Cardigan (with logo/ iron-on badge)

Grey school trousers/ skirt/ shorts

Summer Dress

Plain black shoes/ trainers

PE Kit

Plain white t-shirt

Red shorts

Red/ Grey jogging bottoms

Red fleece

Black plimsolls

PE Days

Year Group	PE Day 1	PE Day 2
Reception	Thursday	
Year 1	Monday	Tuesday
Year 2	Monday	Wednesday
Year 3	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 4	Wednesday	Thursday
Year 5	Tuesday	Friday
Year 6	Tuesday	Thursday

Swimming is part of the national curriculum. Children in Year 4 & 6 are offered swimming lessons. From time to time, other selected pupils are given this opportunity.

Children must wear suitable and appropriate swimwear and a swimming hat. They must also have a towel, dressing gown and waterproof footwear.

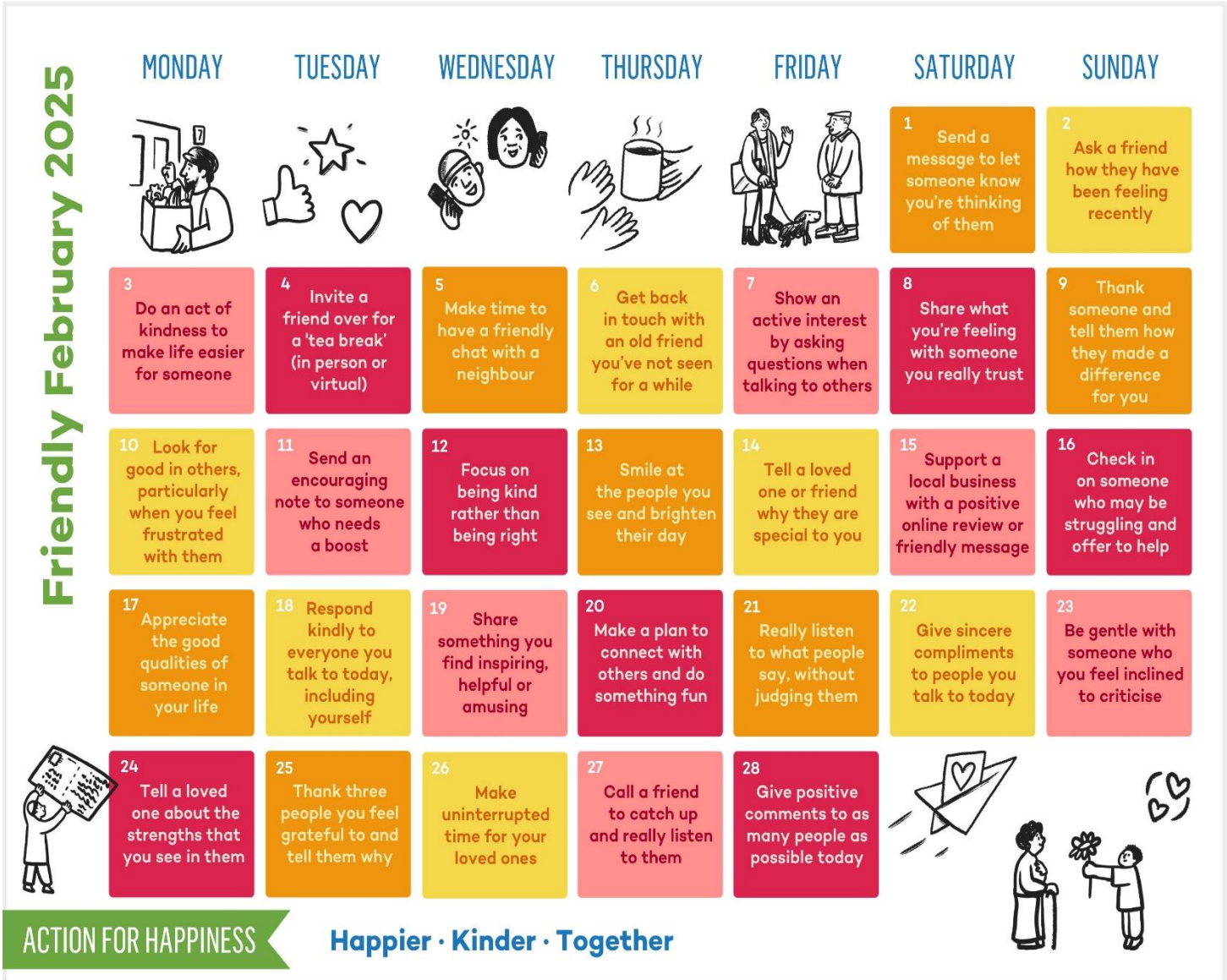
This year, we will operate a mobile swimming pool on the school site.

Cashpot For Schools Update

A big thank you to everyone that shopped at ASDA and nominated Hunters Hall Primary School.

We raised: **£498.82**

Friendly February



Sports Clubs

ERROR ON SPORTS CLUB LETTERS!

Parents / Carers there was an error on the club letters handed out to the children this week. Please see below the updated club days and times.

Gymnastics - **Year 3 & 4, Thursday 3:10pm-4:10pm.**

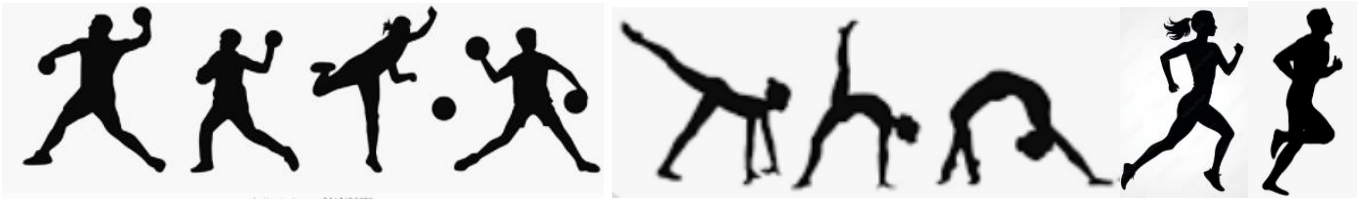
Invasion Games e.g., Basketball/Dodgeball - **Year 1 & 2, Tuesday 3:10-4:10pm**

Dance - **Year 1 & 2, Thursday 3:10-4:10pm**

Athletics - **Year 4, 5 & 6, Wednesday 7:40-8:25am**

NFL Football - **Year 5 & 6, Monday 7:40-8:25am**

Miss Thomas
Year 3 Class Teacher / P.E. Lead



New Dinner Menu Post February Half Term

Hunters Hall Primary

	Monday	Tuesday Pasta King	Go Green Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WEEK ONE	Quorn Burger and Potato Wedges Halal & Non Halal Beef Burger & Potato Wedges Peas & Sweetcorn Pasta & Tomato Sauce Fruity Monday	Vegetable Tagine with Rice Halal & Non Halal Asian Chicken with Rice Cauliflower & Carrots Pasta & Tomato Sauce Berry Mousse	Margherita pizza Spanish Sweet Potato Tortilla with Garlic Bread & Corn on the Cob Pasta & Tomato Sauce Zesty Carrot Cake	Roasted Vegetable Parcel Halal & Non Halal Roast Chicken Roast Potatoes Yorkshire Pudding Broccoli & Carrot Gravy Pasta & Tomato Sauce Fruity Jelly	Vegan Nuggets Cod Fish Fingers Chips & Steamed Peas Pasta & Tomato Sauce Chocolate & Orange Cake
WEEK TWO	Pork Sausages or Halal Chicken Sausages with Mashed Potato Vegetarian Sausage with Mashed Potato Green Beans & Peas Pasta & Tomato Sauce Fruity Monday	Mac & Cheese Halal & Non Halal Italian Chicken Served with Pasta Steamed Carrot & Sweetcorn Pasta & Tomato Sauce Strawberry Jam & Coconut Sponge Cake	Margherita Pizza Sweetcorn Pizza Garlic Bread & Corn on the Cob Pasta & Tomato Sauce Apple Oat Cake	Root Vegetable Tart Halal & Non Halal Roast Chicken Roast Potatoes Yorkshire Pudding Cauliflower & Carrots Gravy Pasta & Tomato Sauce Fruity Jelly	Curried Vegetable Pie Battered Fish Fillet Chips & Steamed Peas Pasta & Tomato Sauce Raisin Biscuit

Sandwiches Selection
Jacket Potato Available Everyday
Seasonal Fresh Fruit
Low fat Yoghurts
Locally sourced salad bar

FREE Battersea Power Station Light Festival

The Power Station's FREE annual light show returns, bigger, better and more interactive than ever, to shine some light into the January gloom.
This year's eight installations feature a tornado of light, the Northern Lights and a giant ball of yarn.
It also includes family-friendly workshops, and live performances, like LED drummers, roaming LED stilt walkers, a glowing Cyr Wheel Show, combining dance, acrobatics, and mesmerising spins enhanced by vivid lights, while the LED Optioscopes dancers bring the night to life with their magnificent costumes and stunning routines.

Battersea Power Station, Circus Rd W, Nine Elms, London SW11 8DD. 23 January - 23 February. FREE.

Who's Who? Mrs Dias

Why do you work at Hunters Hall?

When I first started teaching, I was told that when you walk into a school you'll know if it's the school for you. The moment I walked into Hunters Hall and was shown around by Miss Caisey and Mrs Hobday, I knew I was meant to be here.

What's your role?

I am a Year 6 teacher and maths lead.

Favourite things...

My children (the rest of my family aren't bad either).
Books - especially those I can share with friends.
Pyjamas.

Hopes and Dreams

I hope to leave the world better than I found it.
It is my dream to live a long and happy life and to see my children happy and fulfilled too!

How long have you been at Hunters Hall?

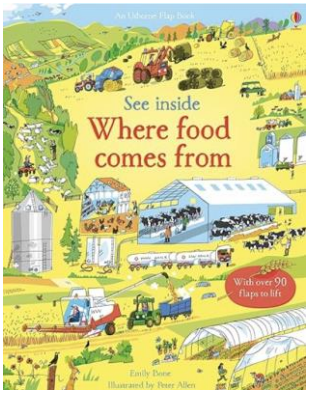
It is almost 12 years since I started working here!

Achievements to date (in order)

Finally passing my driving test (if at first you don't succeed, try and try again!).
Obtaining my joint honours in English Literature and History.
Then my PGCE.
Getting married.
Having my two beautiful children.
Being appointed maths lead.
Passing my NPQLT.
Finishing my NPQLPM (nervously awaiting the results!).

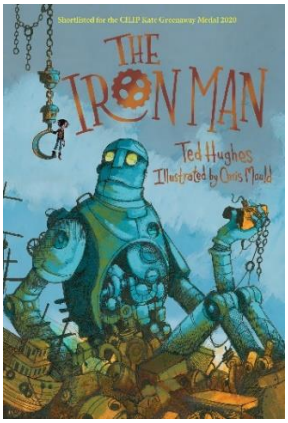
Reading for Pleasure Matters at Hunters Hall

Welcome to 2025! This Spring term promises to ensure that all children are accessing a broad and balanced curriculum based on our carefully considered topics. In every year group, pupils have the opportunity to be historians, geographers, artists, philosophers, empathisers and critical thinkers. Each week we will showcase a different year group, suggesting books that will support and extend current learning. This week, we are focusing on Year 4!



Geography:

In our Geography lessons we are learning about where food comes from. With over 90 flaps, the scenes in this colourful book show children where the food they eat comes from. They can discover food produced on farms, in the sea and in greenhouses, and the importance of wheat, rice and corn around the world. There's a map with flaps showing where the things we love to eat, including chocolate, olives and tea, come from.



Our Key Text in literacy:

'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes is our key text in Literacy. Part modern fairy tale, part science-fiction myth, *The Iron Man* describes the unexpected arrival in England of a mysterious giant "metal man" who wreaks havoc on the countryside by attacking the neighbouring farms and eating all their machinery… If you are enjoying this book, then why not try 'How the whale came and other stories' by the same author. This collection of eleven evocative, accessible and funny stories for children of 5+ tells how a particular animal came to be as it is now.

Storytime:

In story time we are enjoying 'The Last Bear' By Hannah Gold. There are no polar bears left on Bear Island. At least, that's what April's father tells her when his scientific research takes them to this remote Arctic outpost for six months. But one endless summer night, April meets one. He is starving, lonely and a long way from home. Determined to save him, April begins the most important journey of her life …

Valentine's Day Special

Coffee Morning

Dear Parents/Carers

Come join me for a
coffee/tea and a chat
on
Friday 14th February 2025
from
9:00-10:30 am
in our Dining Hall

There will be games and prizes.
Don't forget to wear something red.

Look forward to seeing you there.

Patrick Bellevue
Family Support Worker

Mental Health Week

If you are concerned about your child's mental health please speak to someone at school as there are lots of places to get support?

TIPS FOR FAMILIES

Place2Be's CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

1 Encourage journalling
Just like Riley, encourage your older children and young people to express their emotions and thoughts through journalling. It can be less confronting than speaking out loud and is a helpful way to process what is going on.

2 Make space for reflection
When children and young people reflect on their different emotions, it can help them better understand themselves and what they need.
Go for a walk, drive, or try some mindful colouring or baking together.

3 Be visual
Use imagery, such as emojis or flashcards to help children and young people recognise and label their feelings.

4 Practice mindfulness
Try mindful activities, and quiet family time, to enjoy being in the present moment. This can help children and young people be aware of their thoughts and emotions and learn a useful new coping technique.

5 Communicate
Feedback is crucial for helping us see our blind spots and gain greater insight. Children and young people are no different. Creating safe and supportive ways to share your own experience with your child can help them understand themselves and their impact on the world around them.

If you're a parent or teacher, you'll find loads of useful advice to help you support the brilliant young people in your lives – from FAQs to downloadable packs. Here4You.co.uk

NHS
Providing NHS services

Most pharmacies can help you with seven common conditions without needing a GP appointment

- **Sinusitis**
  (adults and children aged 12 years and over)
- **Sore throat**
  (adults and children aged 5 years and over)
- **Earache**
  (children and young adults aged 1 year to 17 years)
- **Infected insect bite**
  (adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- **Impetigo**
  (adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- **Shingles**
  (adults aged 18 years and over)
- **Urinary tract infection**
  (women, aged 16 to 64 years)

Ask your pharmacy for more information about this free* NHS service

Visit your Pharmacy First!

*NHS prescription charge rules apply where a medicine is supplied

New After School Club from September 3pm-6pm

https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/4077/?location=dagenham&distance=1.0&distance=1.0&type%5b%5d=WAC

Flu Catch-Up Community Clinics

FLU CATCH-UP COMMUNITY CLINICS

Vaccination UK
Immunisation Provider for NHS

Winter season is upon us, and with cold weather keeping us indoors and in close contact, it's easier than ever for the flu to spread. Protect yourself, your loved ones, and your community by getting your flu jab today.

The flu vaccine is your best defense against severe illness, hospitalisation, and missed work or school. Let's work together to keep everyone well this winter.

Stay Well: Avoid the misery of flu this winter.

Stop the Spread: Help prevent flu outbreaks in your community.

Protect Others: Especially children, the elderly, and those more vulnerable.

You can book your child an appointment for their flu vaccination at one of our community clinics.

For our clinic locations and contact details for the Vaccination UK team please follow one of these links:

https://www.schoolvaccination.uk/catch-up-clinics

February Half Term Holiday Camps

Premier Camps Near You

February Half Term Multi Activity Camps

17th - 21st February 2025

Manor Junior School - Barking 9am - 3pm

Hallsville Primary School - Newham 9am - 3.30pm

Sacred Heart of Marys School - Upminster 9am - 4pm

- **Rose Lane Primary School - Romford 9am - 3pm**

Mix it up this half-term with our multi-activity holiday camps!

These camps are a perfect blend of activities for all ages, combining different sports with a variety of team games.

Everyday is different, with a mix of fun activities that children may not have tried before - from gymnastics to fencing, lacrosse to archery.

PLEASE BRING
Pack lunch
Plenty of water
Suitable clothing
Loads of energy!

Book now for a half term full of fun!

Scan here for more information

Trustpilot
Based on over 20,000 reviews

Mental Health Support Team

Who are we?

We are four Education Mental Health Practitioner (EMHP), offering early intervention for young people with mild to moderate difficulties.
Our team work closely with young people, parents, and school staff to think together about ways to improve mental wellbeing within your school environment

Who do we work with?

Parents or Carers of pupils from reception to year 6 with mild-moderate levels of:

- Anxiety (e.g. fears, phobias, feeling panicky)
- Challenging behaviour (e.g. struggling to follow rules, temper tantrums, difficulty following requests)

Whole classes or year groups (delivering assembles and workshops)

Aims of our Team

- Provide early psychological support
- Support the school's whole-school approach to wellbeing
- Signposting to specialist service

For more information please speak to your mental health lead or get in touch MHST.BD@nelft.nhs.uk

Barking and Dagenham Primary school Staff

Breakfast Club

BREAKFAST CLUB

Our breakfast club is open term time only Monday to Friday, 7:45 to 8:30am.

No booking is required, you can turn up on the day and pay.

The charge is **£3** per day, you are required to accompany your child into our breakfast club and stay with them until they have been marked in on our daily register.

You are required to have the correct money for payment.

Please note that payments in advance are non-refundable and non-transferable therefore if you choose to pay in advance and your child does not attend you lose that money.

Donations Wanted

WANTED

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM

DONATIONS NEEDED

A big thank you to everyone who has previously donated. We always need more good quality pre-loved uniform items. Has your child grown out of theirs? Please donate to the school and come along to one of our sales for bargain replacements!

Winter coats and shoes also welcome.

Please bring any donations in a bag to the school office.

Thank you

DHP Scheme

Are you struggling to afford your rent payments?

Do you have rent arrears?

Do you need help with a deposit?

Help is available through the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham's Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP) scheme

Visit https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/discretionary-hardship-support/discretionary-housing-payments-dhp

To find out more and apply online

You must be in receipt of Housing Benefit or Universal Credit housing costs to qualify for a DHP

Barking & Dagenham

Household Support Fund

Are you struggling with the rising cost of living?

Do you have utility debts?

Help is available to support the rising cost of living for energy & utility costs, food and other emergency need through the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham's Hardship schemes

Visit https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/discretionary-hardship-support/hardship-payment-schemes/household-support-fund to find out more and apply online

Barking & Dagenham

RockSteady

MINI ROCKERS

FOR RECEPTION TO YEAR 2

Fun and inclusive in-school rock and pop band lessons, for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. No experience or instrument required.

ROCK HEROES

FOR YEARS 3 AND 4

Fun and inclusive in-school rock and pop band lessons, for Years 3 and 4. No experience or instrument required.

ROCK ICONS

FOR YEARS 5 AND 6

Fun and inclusive in-school rock and pop band lessons, for Years 5 and 6. No experience or instrument required.

https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/info-for-parents

Learn to play in a band

Learning an instrument should be fun. Your child can choose from the electric guitar, keyboard, drums or vocals and enjoy playing in a happy, supportive environment with their friends.

Lead by real musicians

Your child's music teacher should also be their role model. Which is why all Rocksteady Band Leaders are carefully chosen, extensively trained musicians who know how to inspire a life-long love of playing music.

In school time

Lessons are 30 minutes long and take place in school time with all instruments provided, making it hassle-free for parents.

From first notes to favourite songs

The Rocksteady Programme is for all children aged 4-11 and is proven to progress musicianship, confidence and teamwork skills with no prior experience necessary.

With regular live performances

Playing on stage is a huge confidence booster. With termly concerts at school assemblies, your child will be able to show off their progress to friends, teachers and parents with the rest of their band.

And happily affordable

Rocksteady is one of the most hassle-free ways to learn an instrument on a rolling subscription that you can cancel at any time. It's risk free too – cancel in the first month and you'll get a full refund.

Call 0330 113 0330