

NEWINGTON GREEN

NEWSLETTER

20/03/26

ADMIN@NEWINGTONGREEN.CO.UK

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, our pupils in Early Years, Years 2 and 4 completed their spring term assessments. They have worked really hard and been incredibly focused and resilient all week. Year 6 will complete their mock SATs next week. Just a reminder that we will share pupil progress data with you at Parents' Evening after Easter. Dates in the calendar below.

Our school governors were in school today for their termly meeting. They visited classes across the school and were impressed by behaviour for learning, consistency of expectations in the phonics and maths lessons that they visited and how teachers used resources to support children's learning. They were particularly impressed with our Nursery pupils who were learning some of their reception sounds! Our Rights Respecting Champions spoke to the Governors about what they have been doing to support the North London Action for Homelessness Charity.

Eid Mubarak to all our families who are celebrating today. May this festive season be filled with blessings, kindness, and renewed hope. We are having a special lunch in school next Tuesday to celebrate Eid.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

EID MUBARAK

COUNCILLOR ADVICE SESSION @ NG

Councillor Jenny Kay, one of our Vice-Chairs of the school's governing body, will be holding a councillor advice surgery at the school on Tuesday 24th March at 9.15am.

This is a great opportunity to seek advice or raise any concerns you may have.

Jenny represents Mildmay Ward in Islington. If you live in another part of Islington or in Hackney, she will still be happy to help, although she may direct you to your local councillors where appropriate.

If you are unable to attend at this time but would like to arrange an alternative appointment, you can contact her by email at Jenny.Kay@islington.gov.uk or by phone on 020 7527 3114.

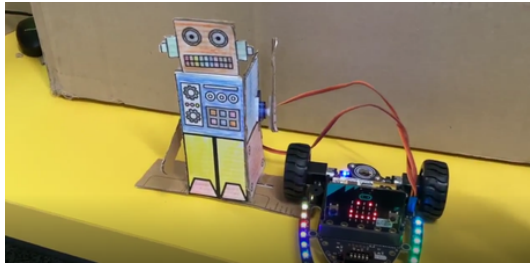
YEAR 5 POETRY RESIDENTIAL – GORSEFIELD

Here are a few photos from the Year 5 poetry residential at Gorsefield. The children had a fantastic time, and it has been wonderful to welcome them back and hear all about their stay.



In STEM club we have been making robots and learning about Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). We learned how Servos can be controlled to move from 0-180 degrees and we learned how motors and gears can be used to make things move. We used a bitbot XL to power our robots and we coded the movement using a microbit. STEM club will be returning to Newington Green in the final summer term.

Here is a video clip of a robot made by some talented engineers in year 4 Abigail, Eleni and Giorgia. [Robot club STEM.mov](#)



Let's celebrate **EID MUBARAK**

With a special lunch for the children

Tuesday, 24th March from 11.45am

MENU

- Eid Spiced Chicken
- Eid Spiced Tofu (veg option)
- Roasted Carrots and Broccoli
- Delicious Samosa
- Rice
- Nut-free Baklava
- Fruits

JOIN US FOR EASTER LUNCH!

Let's Celebrate Easter Together

SPECIAL DESSERT:
VANILLA ICE CREAM AND CHOCOLATE COOKIES + FRUITS

FRIDAY 27th March

TO ALL CHILDREN AT THE DINING HALL FROM 11.45AM

AFTERSCHOOL CLUB EASTER ORNAMENTS



The children have been busy in After School Club creating lovely Easter clay ornaments. They showed great creativity and care while shaping their designs, and it has been wonderful to see their ideas come to life. The ornaments are now drying and will be ready for painting next week, which the children are very excited about.

ISLINGTON HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES



Holiday Activities with Food (HAF) is back this Easter

Close to home around Highbury from Monday 30 March–Friday 10 April, look out for fun and friendly sports and crafts at the Highbury Roundhouse! Enjoy our varied cooking, games and sports sessions at Elizabeth House and much more! All with a healthy lunch.

There are dozens of free activities available for eligible children and young people in Islington, with each one including a healthy lunch – from theatre and museum trips to kayaking, roller skating, cooking, coding and much more.

For young people who are not eligible, there are lots of activities that are either free for everyone or require a small payment. [Find out if you're eligible.](#)

Booking is now open

EASTER BONNET COMPETITION

EASTER BONNET COMPETITION

Newington Green Primary School

Get creative & design your own Easter Bonnet!

Flowers Chicks Easter Eggs

Ribbons Bunnies

Submit by: Thursday 26th March 2026.

Winners Announced: Friday 27th March 2026

One winner from each class!



Keeping children safe online

When Something Goes Wrong Online

— A Simple Action Plan for Parents

- 1. Stay Calm First**
If your child tells you something worrying:
 - Thank them for telling you
 - Avoid blaming or panicking
 - Reassure them: "We'll deal with this together."
- 2. Keep the Evidence**
 - Take screenshots (include usernames and dates)
 - Save messages
 - Keep profile links
- 3. Use Official Reporting Routes**
Grooming or exploitation – CEOP: www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre
Illegal images – Internet Watch Foundation: www.iwf.org.uk/report
Nude images shared (under 18s) – Report Remove: www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/report-remove
If in immediate danger, call 999.
- 4. If You Feel Overwhelmed - Use Structured Support**
You can use free ChatGPT to help structure next steps. 
Free access: <https://chat.openai.com> Example prompts:
 - My child received inappropriate messages. What steps should I take in the UK?
 - How do I report online grooming?
 - What should I say to my child after cyberbullying?
 Important: ChatGPT is a support tool and does NOT replace official reporting or police action.
- 5. Ongoing Protection at Home**
 - Keep regular, calm conversations
 - Review privacy settings together
 - Monitor gaming contacts
 - Encourage early disclosure
 Children will make mistakes online, just as they do offline. Trust and communication protect them more than punishment.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Skips www.skipssafetynet.org

Developed in partnership with:









NEW Drama & Public Speaking Club Launching at Newington Green Primary! Children who can communicate clearly, share their ideas, and speak with confidence don't just thrive in school, they carry those skills for life. Public speaking is no longer a "nice to have"... it's a superpower!

That's why we are beyond excited to launch our NEW Drama & Public Speaking Club for ages 6–12 at Newington Green, starting after the Easter break. A high-energy, confidence-building experience designed to help children find their voice.

Whether your child loves the spotlight or is quietly building their confidence, this club gives them the tools to stand tall, speak clearly and believe in themselves.

Priority discounted booking is now open for just £17 per month!

Book your child's place here: <https://pbbl.uk/4shdCrH>
Email lauren@thedramacentre.co.uk with any questions



www.thedramacentre.co.uk

NEW DRAMA AND PUBLIC SPEAKING CLUB

THE DRAMA CENTRE
Public Speaking and Acting

NEWINGTON GREEN PRIMARY
WEDNESDAYS 3:30–4:30PM

AFTERSCHOOL CLUB REMINDER



Please note that there will be no enrichment clubs running next week. Clubs will resume after the Easter holidays.

BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Books Worth Sharing

This week **Agnes**, Sycamore Tree's class teacher, is giving us her book recommendation.

Title: The Wonky Donkey by Craig Smith



Recommended for children aged: 3 - 5 year olds & 5 - 7 year olds

Agnes thinks everyone should read this book because... the Wonky Donkey is a hilarious and engaging book, that is nice and easy to read. It features playful rhymes and fun and vibrant illustrations.

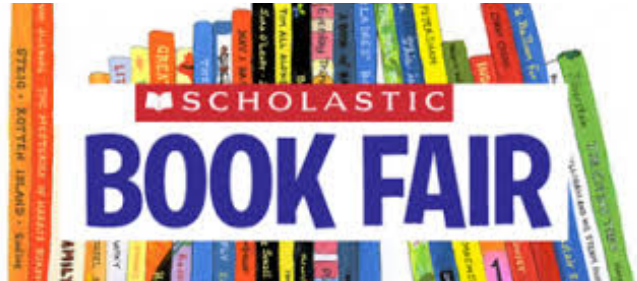
You will enjoy this book if you are ... a reader who enjoys humour and funny stories, enjoys books with repetition and rhyme and books with bright, colourful and engaging illustrations.

This book is best... for both shared or independent reading.



BOOK FAIR

Next week, the Scholastic Book Fair will be in school, every afternoon from 3.30 3.45pm, Monday to Friday. Payment by QR code only so please bring your phone and your bank card!



IMPORTANT DATES

- **Travelling Book Fair** Monday 23rd to 27th of March
- **Councillor Session @ NG** Tuesday 24th of March @ 9.15am
- **Last day of term** Friday 27th of March
- **Easter holidays** Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April
- **Children return to school** Monday 13th of April
- **Parents' Evening** Monday 20th April & Tuesday 21st April
- **KS2 SATs Week** Monday 11th - Friday 15th May

Educational Experiences in 2025-26

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Freightliner's City Farm London Bus Tour Florence Nightingale Museum V&A Childhood Museum King Henry's Walk Garden	Tate Modern The Monument Horniman Museum London Zoo Hampstead Heath Museum of Docklands	British Museum Science Museum Pantomime Westminster Walk London Aquarium Kew Gardens Mosque Visit	Science Museum Chocolate Museum Church Visit Ragged School Museum River Lea Highgate Wood
Year 5	Year 6		
Olympic Park Science Museum British Museum Synagogue Visit London Zoo Southbank	HMS Belfast Jewish Museum Ben Kinsella Workshop Theatre Trips National Portrait Gallery		

A voluntary donation of £24 via Arbor helps fund all the educational visits we offer over the year

Your generous donations help makes trips like these possible, and mean we can offer a range of fantastic learning opportunities!

For more details, or if you have any questions, please speak to us in the office!

STARS OF THE WEEK

- Year 1** - Robert and whole class of Holly
- Year 2** - Bella Rose and Dion
- Year 3** - Bella and Jayce
- Year 4** - Fidele and Noelle
- Year 5** - Berkin and Luna Rose
- Year 6** - Josh and Amanda



ATTENDANCE STATS

Whole school attendance this year: **95.6%**

Statutory school attendance: **95.1%**

This week's average: **92.1%**

National average this year: **94.6%**

Maple	97.90%
Palm	97.30%
Mulberry	97.20%
Cedar	96.40%
Silver birch	94.50%
Holly	94.00%
Rowan	94.00%
Ash	93.80%
Pine	93.80%
Elm	91.70%
Apple	87.90%
Oak	87.10%
Sycamore	86.60%
Willow	86.20%
Beech	85.90%
Cherry	82.20%

BREAKFAST CLUB

Newington Green Primary School Breakfast Club Plan for week beginning 23.03.2024

Staff who we know will be working at Breakfast Club: Lead: Lisa B Playworkers: Asmie & Syrus

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!	Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!	Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!	Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!	Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!
Maths Activities Code Breaker Activity	Arts and Craft Handprint Bunny Craft	Literacy activities Adjectives Wordsearch	Free choice artistry area, colouring, sticking, crafting, etc.	EYFS Focus Ladybird Hotels Matching Numerals and Quantity Activity
Legal Board games Giant Jiggle Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts	Legal Board games Giant Jiggle Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts	Legal Board games Giant Jiggle Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts	Legal Board games Giant Jiggle Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts	Legal Board games Giant Jiggle Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts

Adaptations
Small groups of children will participate in activities with adult supervision to gain access and support where needed

Menu
Weetabix, Rice Krispies, and Cornflakes. Hot food will be one of the following: Pancakes with syrup, toast with scrambled eggs, beans on toast or toast with butter & jam.

AFTERSCHOOL CLUB

Newington Green Primary School After School Club Plan for week beginning 23.03.24

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Board and/or card Games	Board and/or card Games	Board and/or card Games	Board and/or card Games	Board and/or card Games
Communication and construction	Construction area - Giant Jenga	Giant Floor Puzzles	Construction, Lego	Construction area - Doll Houses
Literacy & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles	Literacy & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles	Literacy & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles	Literacy & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles	Literacy & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles
Self Expression with Marica Easter Shrink Art	Painting with Sarah Fine Motor Skills	Homo Beads with Sujat Fine Motor Skills	Fine Motor Skills Painting with Asmie	Card Making with Sujat Fine Motor Skills
Free choice artistry area, including colouring, sticking, crafting, collage etc.	Free choice artistry area, including colouring, sticking, crafting, collage etc.	Free choice artistry area, including colouring, sticking, crafting, collage etc.	Free choice artistry area, including colouring, sticking, crafting, collage etc.	Free choice artistry area, including colouring, sticking, crafting, collage etc.

FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
Do you qualify for free school meals (FSM) status. Anyone who hasn't applied or whose circumstances may have changed please apply on Birmingham's Citizen portal to see if you are eligible.
[Free school meals | Birmingham Council](#)

SUPPORT WITH CHILDCARE

If you are a working parent and require help with Childcare please use the links to see what help is available.

[Eligibility checker | Best Start in Life](#)

[Tax-Free Childcare - GOV.UK](#)

[Free Childcare for Working Parents: Overview - GOV.UK](#)

Congrats to Maple for highest attendance!
Popcorn party next Friday.

Newington Green Primary School

Mathias Road, London N16 8NP

Tel: 020 7254 3092 Fax: 020 7275 9061

Email: admin@newingtongreen.co.uk / Website: www.newingtongreen.co.uk

Executive Headteacher: Paul Thomas

Head of School: Mairead McDonnell



Important Notice for Parents and Carers **RE: TERM TIME LEAVE,**

UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE AND MEDICAL ABSENCE

Dear Parent/Carer,

Along with all Islington schools, Newington Green Primary has a legal duty to ensure that pupils' attendance is as good as possible, and to investigate all absence so that the reasons are fully understood. Regular attendance is essential in ensuring that every child receives the education and care they are entitled to.

We are pleased to see that attendance at Newington Green Primary has been improving, and we are grateful to the many parents and carers who consistently support the school by ensuring their children are present and punctual every day.

As a Rights Respecting School, we recognise that regular school attendance is essential to upholding children's right to education under Article 28 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Persistent absence also conflicts with Article 3 of the UNCRC, which states that all decisions concerning children should prioritise their best interests, including ensuring consistent access to learning and development. However, one of the most frequent causes of absence continues to be unauthorised holidays and leave during term time, including travel abroad. These absences most commonly occur at the beginning or end of each term, and they significantly disrupt children's learning.

Please be reminded that it is against the law for parents or carers to take children out of school for holidays or other unauthorised leave during term time. Leave can only be granted in exceptional circumstances, in line with Islington guidance. Please note that exceptional circumstances do not typically include travelling abroad to visit sick relatives. Any requests for leave must be made in advance and will be considered on an individual basis.

We strongly advise parents not to book holidays, travel, or flights during term time under any circumstances. The school will closely review all absence requests, and where applicable, consider any evidence submitted regarding exceptional circumstances. Parents who choose to take unauthorised leave, including overseas travel, may be issued with a warning and a penalty notice by the Local Authority of £80 (rising to £160 if unpaid on time) per parent per student.

In addition, please be aware of our strengthened procedures regarding illness. The school will not authorise illness-related absences lasting more than three days unless medical evidence is provided by a healthcare professional. Acceptable forms of evidence include:

- A medical certificate or sick note (if issued), or
- A printout from the clinic or GP reception confirming the date of your child's appointment or visit.

If you are unable to secure a medical appointment or leave your property, please inform the school. In these cases, we can arrange a home visit from our safeguarding team to support you and verify your child's wellbeing.

Our aim is to avoid any parent or carer being placed in a position where penalty notices or attendance actions become necessary. This letter is to ensure that all families are fully aware of the rules and expectations around attendance, term-time leave, and illness evidence requirements.

If you have any questions, or if you would like to discuss any part of this letter with a member of staff, please contact the school office or email the school and a member of staff will contact you back at a mutually agreeable time.

Yours sincerely,

Newington Green Primary School