

February Parent Newsletter



Thursday 1st February 2024

5-11 February is Children's Mental Health week.

Article 12: UNICEF convention rights of the child states that ... *Children have the right to have a view or opinion about something and that grown-ups should listen to you and take your views and opinions seriously*'.

During this week we will be promoting this right and helping the children to understand their 'Voice Matters'. From an early age we need to encourage the children to talk and share their feelings and emotions.

Did you know that that 1 in 6 children and young people have a diagnosed mental health condition? This is why it is important to make sure that mental health is talked about openly so that early signs can be identified and support offered. We will be sending you some guidance on how to start those conversations with your child/ren via Weduc during Children's Mental Health week. Please use it.

Parental engagement sessions spring term 2024.

I would like to thank you for attending the various parent seminar lessons and workshops that we have hosted during the autumn term. This term we continue our parental engagement sessions based on the feedback you have provided us. Please see below the 24 parental engagement sessions we will be hosting this term which start next week.

Date	Year group	Activity	Time	Arrangements	Venue
Thursday 8 th February	Nursery	Parents workshop focused on communication and language.	9 a.m.	Caterpillar Class	Nursery setting
Thursday 8 th February	Nursery	Parents workshop focused on communication and language.	1 p.m.	Butterfly class	Nursery setting.
		Half	term		

Monday 19 th February	Year 1	Maths seminar lesson.	9 a.m.	Dolphin class	School hall
Tuesday 20 th February	Year 1	Maths seminar lesson.	9 a.m.	Starfish class	School hall
Thursday 22 nd February	Year 1	Maths seminar lesson.	9 a.m.	Sea Turtle class	School hall
Friday 23 rd February	All year groups	Parents meetings	INSET DAY School closed to the children. 12 noon to 7 p.m.	Book appointments via Weduc App	Reception and Year 1 classrooms. Year 2 in the school hall.
Monday 26 th February	Reception	Maths workshop – focused on Numerical patterns	9 a.m.	Flamingo class	School hall
Tuesday 27 th February	Reception	Maths workshop – focused on Numerical patterns	9 a.m.	Penguin class	School hall
Friday 1 st March	Reception	Maths workshop – focused on Numerical patterns	9 a.m.	Peacock class	School hall
Monday 4 th March	Year 2	Maths seminar lesson.	9 a.m.	Lemur class	School hall
Tuesday 5 th March	Year 2	Maths seminar lesson.	9 a.m.	Chameleon class	School hall
Wednesday 6 th March	Nursery	Parents workshop focused on Maths	9 a.m.	Caterpillar class	Nursery setting
Wednesday 6 th March	Nursery	Parents workshop focused on Maths	1 p.m.	Butterfly class	Nursery setting
Thursday 7 th March	Year 2	Maths seminar lesson.	9 a.m.	Jaguar class	School hall

Our Harrow Schools Counselling partnership – Therapeutic Lead Christine.

We hope you are enjoying and finding our Therapeutic lead's newsletters useful.

Sometimes we could all do with someone to talk to. If you would like to meet **Christine** for a confidential and non-judgemental chat about you, your child, or any other worries, she is available on Wednesday at 9-10am. You can call/text **Christine** on 07799-030410 or email her at christine@schoolscounsellingpartnership.co.uk



Safeguarding

Please ensure that you phone and inform the school office staff if you have made an alternative arrangement for someone to collect your child from the school. In line with safeguarding we will not release your child into the care of a minor (anyone under the age of 18 years), so please do not send older high school siblings to collect your child from school.

If you arrange for another adult to collect your child from school – phone ahead and inform the school or inform the class teacher at drop off in the morning, ensure that you provide them with their details (name, gender and relationship to you or the child) and also ensure that they know the password.

We will not release your child to anyone who does not know the password.

Also, if you have changed your mobile number or emergency contact details please make sure they are updated as soon as possible.

Recycling school uniforms.

Please continue to support us by recycling good condition school uniforms as your child grows out of them. Remember it can help another family who may be finding it hard to purchase uniform items at full price. We will keep the container for old uniforms in the playground permanently so please keep decluttering and dropping items into the box as and when you can.

Reminder of the importance of attendance.

Congratulation to the 39 children who were awarded certificates for 100% attendance during the autumn term. They have made a positive start toward earning a Silver award by the end of this term. If a child did not receive a certificate last term, they still have the opportunity to earn a Bronze award this term if they manage to get 100% attendance too.

Please be reminded that every time your child is absent from school they are missing an average of 5 lessons per day. Over a school week that amounts to over 25 lessons missed!

Attendance highlights from the month of January

During the month of **January**, the following classes have received certificates for the best class attendance each week and then for the overall month: **Chameleon Class.**

Week beginning	Class	% attendance
8 – 12 January	Chameleon	100%
15 – 19 January	Butterfly	98.8%
22 – 26 January	Penguin	96.75%
29 – 31 January	Jaguar	100%
January	Chameleon	96.7%

Dates for your diary.

What is coming up?

Date	Year group	Activity	Time	Arrangements	Venue
5 th – 9 th February	All year groups	Children's Mental Health Week		Parent guidance to be emailed out via Weduc week beginning 05.02.24	
Thursday 8 th February	All parents	Kenton East – Local Community Safer Neighbourhood	Drop in session 10 -11 a.m.	Come along and speak to members of your local safer Neighbourhood	Kenmore Park Children's Centre – Warneford

		Team –		Team	Road.
Tuesday 5 th February	Infant & Junior	School Photographer in the Junior School	a.m.	Sibling group photographs to be taken – if requested by parents.	Junior School hall.
Friday 9 th February	All pupils	School Photography		Individual photographs of the children to be taken.	Infant School hall.
Tuesday 20 th February	All year groups	Listening event for parents	9 a.m.	Details to follow	School hall.
Friday 23 rd February	All year groups (except Jaguar class.	INSET DAY – Parents meetings	Appointments to be booked via Weduc. 12 noon to 7 p.m.	Parent meetings with class teachers and mid-year report for pupils in Years 1 & 2.	All meetings in the classrooms except Year 2 – teachers will be in the school hall.
Thursday 28 th February	All year groups	Cake sale	3 p.m.	Parents donate cakes for our termly cake sale	Reception and KS 1 playground.
Thursday 28 th February	All year groups	Tooth brushing Workshop for parents.	9 a.m.	Important session to be delivered by Health Professionals.	School hall
Tuesday 5 th March	All year groups	Maths afternoon	p.m.	Children spend an afternoon devoted to maths activities – promoting maths as fun!	
Tuesday 5 th March	Year 2	Road Safety Talks		Visitors in school delivering sessions to classes.	
Thursday 7 th March	All year groups	World Book Day	All day	Children dress up as their favourite book characters and get involved in reading activities.	
Monday 11 th March	Specific year groups	Science workshops	All day	Company visiting the school to promote science activities with the children.	
Week beginning 11 th March Each day over the week	All year groups	Career Day	2.30 p.m.	Parents invited to volunteer to visit their child's classroom and talk about their occupation and the children to ask questions – Hot	Classrooms.

				seating.	
Tuesday 12 th March		Ramadam begins	12 th March to 12 th April.	Our Muslim community.	

Home Start are looking for Volunteers – please see details below:



As a Home-Start volunteer, you can make a direct difference to a family's life.

By spending time with a family, offering emotional support, or simply listening to the concerns of parents, you will be directly improving the lives of families and children in your borough.



To **donate** and support our work, simply scan the QR code with your phone's camera.

We help families from all communities within our boroughs through their most challenging times.

To find out more about Home-Start Barnet, Brent, Enfield and Harrow visit www.homestartbarnet.org



HOME START
Barnet, Brent, Enfield & Harrow
Charity no. 1109550

Stephens House, 17 East End Road, FINCHLEY, N3 3QE



Volunteer with us

Because childhood can't wait.

HOME START
Barnet, Brent, Enfield & Harrow



We're here for parents when they need us most

Home-Start's volunteers work alongside families to give compassionate and confidential support, tailored to each family.

Our volunteers are trained and given expert support from our Family Services Team.



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Because childhood can't wait

The earliest years make the biggest impact. Home-Start makes sure those years count so that no child's future is limited.

HOME START
Barnet, Brent, Enfield & Harrow



Working alongside families

Life-changing events can happen to anyone. All parents struggle at one time or another. That is why Home-Start Barnet, Brent, Enfield and Harrow is ready to support families through their toughest times.

Home-Start volunteers support families with individual one-to-one home-visiting and a wide range of targeted support for parents and their children.

We work with families experiencing challenges including:

- Poor mental or physical health
- Postnatal depression
- Bereavement
- Financial worries

Just two to three hours a week can make a big difference to a parent and their children.

We work with families to build on their strengths and give them the support they tell us they need.

Local services

We work with families in a range of ways, and use the approach they think will give them the best support. This includes:

- Home-visiting support
- Family groups
- Counselling support
- Financial literacy support

All our services are based around the principle that volunteers offer no judgement, just compassionate, confidential help and support.

"The best part of volunteering and working with families has been the lovely relationships."

Tam, Volunteer with Home-Start
Barnet, Brent, Enfield and Harrow

About you

We are looking for people with a genuine desire to make a difference to a family's life. If you have the following time and skills, we would love for you to join our team:

- A can-do attitude
- Good listening skills
- The ability to have a non-judgmental approach
- The capacity to commit to three hours every week for at least a year

What we offer

- An opportunity to help families
- Comprehensive preparatory training
- Ongoing support throughout, including regular supervision
- A way to build experience for future volunteer or employment opportunities

To apply



Visit our "Volunteer with Us" page at homestartbarnet.org



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How to work with us

If you are working in a professional capacity with a family and would like to refer them to us, please visit the "Refer someone else" page on our website.

If you would like to refer yourself to our services, please visit the "Refer yourself" page on our site. We welcome self-referrals and one of our Family Services Team will be in touch with you to discuss how we can best support you and your family.



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"I would like to say a big thank you for being so open hearted and generous. Your continued support means a lot for me and my family."

Maryam*, mother who worked with Home-Start Barnet, Brent, Enfield and Harrow

To read more and contact us:



homestartbarnet.org

Spring Term 2024

Half term

Back to school

INSET DAY (Children not in school)

[Find all the term dates on the school website.](#)

Monday 12 February– Friday 16 February

Monday 19 February

Friday 23 February

A REMINDER OF OUR COMPULSARY SCHOOL UNIFORM & PE UNIFORM

Please be reminded that the school takes a hard line regarding compliance with the school uniform. It is parents' responsibility to ensure that their child is wearing the school uniform as stipulated in the school prospectus and website. On Wednesday's we require all children in Year 1 and 2 to wear the schools PE uniform which comprises of **Grey joggers (Option of black shorts in the summer) a grey top and black trainers/plimsolls and not their own sportswear.** This uniform can also be worn for PE lessons, in line with their class timetables, on days other than Wednesday. All Uniform orders can be made via the Weduc App at the school shop.



It has been noted since the start of the school term that a number of children are not wearing the appropriate clothing and black shoes. Please respect the school's policy and practice by ensuring your child comes to school in the correct uniform. We thank you in advance for your support and compliance.

Girls may wear Black or Grey Trousers too.

White socks or grey tights

Boys' black or grey socks.



FREE SCHOOL MEAL ELIGIBILITY CHECK

It is important that parents check their eligibility criteria as a number of parents found themselves to be eligible during lockdown. They were then issued with free school meal vouchers which they could use to purchase food at a supermarket of their choice. It is important that you check as it may be helpful in the event of a second spike!

Parents can check to see if they meet the eligibility criteria by following the instructions below:

Step 1: Login to the following website: <https://pps.lgfl.org.uk> (Free School Meal Eligibility Checker)

Step 2: Click – **Check eligibility**

Step 3: Click – **create an account** (Unless you already have an account in which case you go to return to your account and enter your password)

Step 4: **Create an account**

Step 5: On the drop down menu:

Local authority – select - **Harrow**

School – select – **Kenmore Park Infant & Nursery School.HA3 9JA**

Step 6: Read and accept the privacy notice **by ticking the box at the bottom of the page.**

Step 7: **Enter your details:**

First name

Last name

Your date of birth

Your National Insurance number

Email address

Mobile number

Postcode

Get address: click on your address; house number etc

SUBMIT

Once you have submitted the form you will receive a response in a couple of days confirming your status. If you are eligible, please forward the email to the school on the following email address: office@kpins.harrow.sch.uk

School Travel

At Kenmore Park Infant and Nursery as a Gold Award Healthy School, we feel very strongly about how children travel to school and encourage all pupils to walk or scoot to school rather than travelling by car. This is good for their health and also for the environment – helping to reduce carbon dioxide and pollutions which contributes to the increase in the number of pupils suffering from Asthma!

We have designated pods for parking bikes & scooters in different areas of the school for the convenience of parents. We realise that some children live some distance away from the school and may need to come by car however, we would ask that parents park a little distance away from school and walk the rest of the route to school.

As an incentive for children who walk we promote Walk on Wednesdays – ‘WOW’. Children who walk to school every Wednesday of each month and we reward the class with the most children walking on a Wednesday at the end of the month. We look forward to your support with this initiative. Congratulation to **Lemur**



Class for getting the most WOW's during the month of **January**, they receive the trophy and have earned themselves a movie and popcorn afternoon.

JOB VACANCIES

We are still in need of As and when staff for the following posts:



Cleaners: working hours 3.30 – 6 p.m. week days only (**no qualifications** required but experience of cleaning employment desirable).

As and When Lunch time leaders (1 hour 10 minutes per day) – are you able to work flexibly between the hours of 11.30 – 1 p.m.

As and When SEN Teaching Assistants: Hours are based on the needs of the child.



Please visit the school website (complete the non-teaching application) or school office and request a paper version of the application form. Clearly indicate the post you are applying for and demonstrate in your supporting statement how you are able to meet the person specification.

Take part in Fizz Free February

Going Fizz Free is a great way to reduce sugar intake by cutting out fizzy drinks and by committing to going fizz free it will make it easier for our pupils to cut down on fizzy drinks.

We know it's a big ask but we have signed the pledge and joined the campaign to go sugar free which means that we have agreed that no fizzy or carbonated drinks consumed in school/nursery grounds.

It's a big change, we know, but it's really important if we want to save both the dental health and the general health

We think the campaign will highlight to young people the serious risk fizzy and sugary drinks pose on their oral health and maybe, save some teeth so we hope you will help support it.



Parking

We ask parent/carer to respect our local residence and not park in or block their drive ways.

A number of residents of Warneford and Moorhouse Road have contact the school to complain.

Residents report they have not given permission to any parents to park in front of their drive ways. A number of the residence have shared they have life threatening medical conditions which require them to have immediate, emergency access to their drive ways – so please respect their wishes and if no spaces near the school are available – park and walk, the exercise is good for everyone.



The local neighbourhood police have advised residents to report any such parking violations to Harrow Council and Traffic Enforcement and also to email a picture of the obstructing vehicle, showing the registration, so they can issue penalty notices.

The rise in the number of complaints is resulting in more surveillance by traffic enforcement during drop off and collection time and potentially more fines to you!