



# Newsletter

## Friday 9th January 2026



To Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school and happy new year for 2026. I hope you all had a restful break and enjoyed the holidays, either celebrating Christmas with your families or just enjoying the time away from school and being together.

The week got off to a great start with a super start day, Reception launched their new topic with a dress up day, Year 1 immersed themselves in the life of a 'Londoner'. Year 2 created their own tudor houses, Year 3 were hooked into their topic through orienteering, Year 4 went back in time to the Viking era, Year 5 created their own landscapes based on the rainforest and Year 6 created their own Anderson shelters. There was lots of fun to be had across the school with children excited about their new topics.

This term we are delighted to share that our music offer has been extended. Children in years 1-4 now have an extended music lesson from our music specialist teacher and year 5 are joining year 6 in learning the violin.

We also have an exciting opportunity coming up for all the children. We have been selected to take part in an oracy competition with **Charlton Athletic Community Trust**. The prizes are **3rd Place:** Charlton TV Production Day - behind-the-scenes experience in sports media. **2nd Place:** Charlton Press Conference Experience - meet players and ask questions alongside journalists. **1st Place:** Matchday Experience - join commentators live in the commentary box at Charlton vs Norwich City (21 March 2026). Details of how your child can enter will be sent via the school office. Please look out for these as this is an exciting opportunity.

We also have a number of year 5 and 6 children this term working with Greenwich University as part of our 'Brilliant Club'. These children will write their own essays and graduate at the university later this year. This is another brilliant opportunity for children to be inspired and dream big about their futures.

Following a very wet and cold week, I wish you all a good weekend and look forward to seeing you all next week.

Kind Regards,

*Miss Took*

# Term Dates



Monday 12th January 2026	Tuesday 13th January 2026	Wednesday 14th January 2026	Thursday 15th January 2026	Friday 16th January 2026
	Pokemon Club Year 1&2	Pokemon Club Year 3&4  Movie Club Year R, 1&2  Young Voices (last session)	Board Games Year 5&6	Football Team Training

## Attendance % & Number of Children Lates

For W/E 09/01/2026



Challenge- Let's hit the 96% mark for all classes. Those classes who have had the biggest improvement will win a prize!

Class	Attendance	Lates
Caterpillars	90.6%	2
Bumblebees	93.0%	2
Ladybirds	90.8%	3
Butterflies	90.2%	2
Dragonflies	83.1%	2
Kangaroos	94.2%	3
Koalas	94.4%	4
Penguins	93.3%	3
Polar Bears	97.0%	5
Flamingos	91.4%	4
Pelicans	94.0%	3
Giraffes	91.1%	2
Zebra	94.4%	2
Parakeets	87.9%	3
Starlings	94.4%	4

# Term Dates



## Illuminateminds Trust - Term Dates 2025/26

September 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
36	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
37	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
38	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
39	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
40	29	30					

October 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40			1	2	3	4	5
41	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
42	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
43	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
44	27	28	29	30	31		

November 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44						1	2
45	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
46	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
47	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
48	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
49	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
50	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
51	15	16	17	18	*19	20	21
52	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1	29	30	31				

January 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1				1	2	3	4
2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
4	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
5	26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5							1
6	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9	23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9							1
10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
12	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
13	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
14	30	31					

April 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14			1	2	3	4	5
15	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
16	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
17	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
18	27	28	29	30			

May 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
18					1	2	3
19	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
22	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	29	30					

July 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27			1	2	3	4	5
28	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
29	13	14	15	16	*17	18	19
30	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
31	27	28	29	30	31		

August 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
31						1	2
32	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
33	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
34	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
35	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
36	31						

INSET DAYS

HOLIDAYS

\*School finishes at 1pm on 19/12/25 & 17/07/26



# Lunch Menu



NOVEMBER TO MARCH 2026  
NOURISH



### WEEK ONE

3 Nov  
24 Nov  
15 Dec  
19 Jan  
9 Feb  
9 March  
30 March

MONDAY
Chicken Pie 1 Pesto & Pea Pasta 1,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Crushed Potato Cauliflower, Carrots
Strawberry Mousse 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG

TUESDAY
Margherita Pizza 1,3,7 V Bean Biryani VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Rainbow Pasta 1 Seasonal Vegetables
Toffee Apple Pudding 1 VG & Custard 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG

WEDNESDAY
Roast Gammon & Gravy Broccoli Tot 1,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Rustic Roast Potatoes, Cabbage, Peas
Fruit Jelly VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

THURSDAY
Beef Bolognese Pasta Bake 1,7 Loaded Bean Chili Wedges VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Green Beans Grated Carrots
Parsnip Brownie 1 VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

FRIDAY
Pork Sausages 1,6 Vegetable Sausage VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Chips, Sweetcorn, Baked Beans Cucumber Sticks
Oaty Cookie 1,15 VG Yoghurt 3,7 Fruit Pots VG

### WEEK TWO

10 Nov  
1 Dec  
5 Jan  
26 Jan  
23 Feb  
16 March

MONDAY
Caribbean Brown Chicken Tomato Spaghetti 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Rice, Carrots, Peas
Chocolate Ice Cream 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG

TUESDAY
Cheese & Broccoli Pasta Bake 1,7 V Buffalo Cauliflower Wings & Wedges VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Seasonal Vegetables
Plum Pudding 1VG & Custard 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG

WEDNESDAY
Roast Chicken & Gravy Ratatouille Puff 1,3 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Rustic Roast Potatoes Broccoli, Carrots
Crispy Cake 1,3,7,16 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

THURSDAY
Beef Stew & Dumpling 1 Pesto Pasta Bake 1,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Cauliflower, Green Beans
Apple & Cinnamon Pinwheel 1 VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

FRIDAY
Salmon Bites 1,8 Margherita Pizza 1,3,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Chips, Peas, Coleslaw 9
Marble Cookie 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7 Fruit Pots VG

### WEEK THREE

17 Nov  
8 Dec  
12 Jan  
2 Feb  
2 March  
23 March

MONDAY
Macaroni Cheese 1,7 V Sweet Potato & Chick Pea Curry VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Rice, Green Beans, Mixed Salad
Peach Crumble 1 VG & Custard 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG

TUESDAY
Chicken Noodles 1 BBQ Vegetable Burrito 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Sweetcorn, Peppers
Chocolate Rice Pudding 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG

WEDNESDAY
Roast Pork & Gravy Vegan Sausage Roll 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Rustic Roast Potatoes, Green Beans, Carrots
Fruit Jelly VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

THURSDAY
Beef Cottage Pie Herby Tomato Pasta 1 VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Seasonal Vegetables
Beetroot Cake 1 VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

FRIDAY
Fish Fingers 1,8 Cheese, Carrot & Tomato Swirl 1,7 V Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9
Chips, Peas, Baked Beans, Grated Carrot
Caramel Flapjack 1,7,15 V Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

1 Wheat Gluten 2 Crustaceans 3 Soybean 4 Mustard 5 Sesame 6 Sulphites/Sulphur Dioxide 7 Milk 8 Fish 9 Egg 10 Peanuts 11 Molluscs 12 Celeriac/Celery 13 Nuts 14 Lupins 15 Oat Gluten 16 Barley Gluten VG Vegan V Vegetarian

Selection of Salads 9, Homemade Bread 1,3. Some of our schools may use pre prepped potatoes or vegetables on occasions. These may contain sulphites and celeriac. Please discuss with your manager.

AVAILABLE DAILY



## welcome back!

We hope you all enjoyed a restful winter break. We know returning to school after such a long holiday can feel a little tiring, but it has been wonderful to welcome everyone back.

Have a lovely weekend, and we look forward to seeing all our pupils on Monday, smartly dressed in full school uniform.

Please remember that the weather is extremely cold at the moment. To help keep everyone healthy and well, ensure children come to school warmly dressed with coats, hats, scarves, and gloves. Stay warm, stay safe, and see you on Monday!

# Information



## Admission to Reception in September 2026

Children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 will be due to start in Reception in September 2026. The application period will be open on 1 September 2025 and the closing date is 15 January 2026.

Apply on line at:

<https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>

More information visit:

<https://www.bexley.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/primary-schools/starting-primary-school>

**10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators**  
**ESSENTIAL ONLINE SAFETY**

Children and young people use the internet every day to learn, play, and connect, but the online world is not always safe. For adults, it can be hard to keep up with their habits, including harmful content, cyberbullying and scams. These 10 tips provide clear and practical advice to support safer and healthier digital habits, helping young people to make informed, secure choices when using technology.

- 1 START EARLY CONVERSATIONS**  
Begin talking about online behaviour from the youngest children (3-5) using simple words like 'screen time' and 'passwords'. Use age-appropriate language and avoid technical jargon. Making it clear they can always talk to you about their online activities helps build trust. Encourage them to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety.
- 2 PROMOTE SAFER SHARING**  
Children can be curious without understanding the risks. Encourage them to think about privacy, location, and personal information before sharing anything online. Use simple language to explain why it's important to keep personal information safe and to report any inappropriate messages and what it's safe to share with.
- 3 ENCOURAGE DIGITAL BALANCE**  
Many apps and games encourage frequent use, which can impact their sleep, health, and schoolwork. Encourage them to take regular breaks from their devices and to engage in other activities like reading, sports, or spending time with family and friends. Encourage them to think about how they feel after using devices and to report any concerns.
- 4 CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CONCERNS**  
When children come to you with a concern, respond with interest and care, rather than with shame, keeping your reaction measured and calm. Encourage them to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety. If you're worried about their online safety, they're more likely to be honest and to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety.
- 5 STAY INFORMED AND CURRENT**  
With new technologies being developed so quickly, it's important to stay updated on the latest apps, games, and social media. Encourage them to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety. If you're worried about their online safety, they're more likely to be honest and to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety.
- 6 TEACH CRITICAL THINKING**  
Help children understand how to recognize credible information on the internet. Encourage them to think about the source of the information and to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety. Encourage them to think about the source of the information and to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety.
- 7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES**  
Establish clear rules for screen time, including when and where devices are allowed. Encourage them to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety. Encourage them to think about the source of the information and to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety.
- 8 LEAD BY EXAMPLE**  
Children often copy the behaviour of adults. Encourage them to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety. Encourage them to think about the source of the information and to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety.
- 9 EXPLORE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER**  
Help children understand how to adjust privacy settings on their devices. Encourage them to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety. Encourage them to think about the source of the information and to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety.
- 10 KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP**  
Encourage children to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety. Encourage them to think about the source of the information and to report any concerns to you when they use devices to help you stay on top of their online safety.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Amanda is the award-winning CPS Advisory for educators. The National College for Leadership of Excellence in Education (NLE) is a national charity that supports school leaders and educators. Our team provides expert advice on a range of issues including school improvement, staff development, and school culture of excellence.

**Wake Up Wednesdays**  
The National College

Twitter: @wake\_up\_weds | Facebook: /www.thenationalcollege | Instagram: @wakeupwednesday | YouTube: /wakeupweds

Attached with this week's Newsletter in ParentMail is the Wake Up Wednesdays guide on "Conspiracy Theories"

/ When dropping off and collecting your children to and from school, please can you be mindful of our neighbours. They have contacted the school and asked that you do not block their driveways and more importantly do not park them. Thank you in advance for your support.



Hello and Happy New Year to you all.

Across LA Children's Services, we are actively working on the delivery plan for the Best Start in Life Programme that will link in with our current and future Family Hubs. At the end of March our local plan will be published.

The attached survey is being shared with parents, carers and the early years workforce. We would appreciate feedback from colleagues working in the sector as you understand the needs of the children and families you work with.

Can you kindly forward this to the parents with children under 5, that you work with so we can consider as many voices as possible when we put together our local plan.

Below is the survey link and QR code to the Best Start Family Hub survey. It is open from now until **7<sup>th</sup> February**.

**[Bexley - Best Start in Life Hubs survey – Fill in form](#)**



If you would like to speak to a member of the school leadership team please email [pelhamadmin@illuminateminds.org](mailto:pelhamadmin@illuminateminds.org)

**We Dream Big**