Haseltine Newsletter 24th October 2025

Happy Half Term Families and Friends,

It has been 8 weeks since our last holidays and it has been a very busy half term – I think that we all deserve this break! It will give us a chance to re-charge our batteries and we will be ready to go again on Monday 3rd November (all holiday dates for this year & next are on our website).

I hear that the disco last Sunday was a great success – thank you to the PTFA for organising ☺

I would like to say a huge "Well Done" to all of the 139 children who have not missed one day of school so far – that's 36% of the school with 100% attendance. Keep it up!

The top 5 classes in the school for attendance this term are:

6M = 96.23%
1M = 96.11%
2B = 95.97%
4B = 95.96%
5F = 95.78%

Please remember that we will never authorise holidays in term time.

Half term in Lewisham & beyond…

School Holiday activities at Better Leisure Centres

The Better run Leisure Centre's are running a range of activities this October Half Term.

Activities on offer
- Kids swim for £1
- Additional Swim for All (family swims)
- Soft play sessions
- Swimming lesson Crash Courses
- Junior classes
- Additional Junior Gym sessions
- SEND holiday camp at Alex Yee Ladywell Arena, run in partnership with Access Sport
- Kids Football Camp at Bellingham Leisure & Lifestyle Centre

To find out more about what's on offer, please contact your nearest leisure centre for more information.

https://www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/london/lewisham

Lewisham Libraries:

Half Term Fun at Lewisham Libraries

Looking for free family fun this half term? Lewisham Libraries have you covered with a brilliant line-up of events for all ages! From spooky Halloween crafts and mask-making to LEGO clubs, comic-book adventures, and author visits, there's something for every young explorer. Highlights include Gareth P Jones' interactive show and creative

workshops across the borough. All events are free – just drop in! Explore the full programme

Southbank Centre:

Take a look at their website to see what is happening for children and families this half term:

https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/?artform-filter=family-young-people&gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=21860333886&gbraid=0AAAADrndlOyPi4ldX3t-W7clcSop_37A&gclid=CjwKCAjwpOfHBhAxEiwAm1SwElONptqzY7dMFynviB3aV3ScOGheWDABor91eyPcfyzMRQtuGt2dsRoCAosQAvD_BwE

Events in London:

'Time Out' lists a range of activities for families this half term:

https://www.timeout.com/london/kids/activities/top-half-term-activities

Beckenham Place Park:

There's a free Halloween event in Beckenham Place Park on 1st November…

https://www.beckenhamplace.org/whatson/halloween-samhain-with-wild-south-london/

Also in Beckenham Place Park…

https://beckenhamplacepark.com/events/kids-fair-52d3d-y3tmz

Check out this website for Halloween safety advice if you're out Trick or Treating…

https://www.lewishamcfc.org.uk/stay-safe-this-halloween/

Black History Month events in Lewisham:

Follow this link… https://lewisham.gov.uk/inmyarea/events/black-history-month?utm_source=Lewisham%20Council&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=15222837_Resident%20newsletter%2023.10.2025%2C15222837_Resident%20newsletter%2023.10.2025%40CRM&utm_content=BHM%20-%20ICYMI%2CCampaignVersion_0&dm_i=402,92A0L,MPFNIM,11W88K,1

Blackheath Fireworks:

The countdown is on – grab your fireworks tickets now

Blackheath Fireworks returns Saturday 1 November, 5–10.30pm. Expect a spectacular display at 8pm, plus DJs (including BBC Radio 2's Spoony), live music, comedy and a mass singalong. Visitors can also enjoy a funfair and wide range of food and drink. To make the event as inclusive as possible, we've secured 1,000 concession tickets at 25% discount for low-income families – ensuring it is a true community celebration. Ticket holders are encouraged to use public transport to attend the event as traffic and parking restrictions will be in place. Buy Blackheath Fireworks tickets.

Home-learning ideas:

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Have you ever had a look at BBC Bitesize? It is a great resource for children…

Alien assistance to understand money

BBC Bitesize Primary has launched Space Shoppers Money Funfair, a new game to help KS1 pupils get to grips with using money. It features aliens who have landed on earth at the Money Funfair and need help to learn how humans use money.

In a series of short, colourful games, children can help the aliens to buy lunar lollies and astronaut stickers. They also have a chance to help them to sell their own out-of-this-world produce, including delights such as refreshing Saturn smoothies and tasty moon dogs.

Space Shoppers Money Funfair helps pupils to learn about the value of different coins, recognising the symbols for pounds and pence, combining coins and notes, giving change, plus lots more. It is a fun way for children to practice their maths skills in an interactive and engaging format.

Visit: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zvfcp9q

Happy Diwali to all our families who celebrated earlier this week, we hope that you enjoyed your festivities. We spoke about Diwali in our assemblies on Monday and our EYFS children have been busy making Diyas. The home corner in nursery was decorated beautifully for Diwali too.

A message from Lewisham's Mayor:

In her newsletter to Lewisham residents this week, Lewisham's Mayor, Brenda Dacres, wrote:

I want to start by addressing the serious incidents in Catford over the last week. I know it is worrying and upsetting when these things happen on our doorstep. Keeping our residents safe remains our top priority, and we continue to support the police to fully investigate these acts. I want to reassure you that the Council's enforcement team are working closely with the police to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour, and to make Catford safe. Read my full statement.

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Year 6 Parents/Carers: do not forget to complete & submit your application for secondary school by Friday 31st October. Follow this link if you still need help:

https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/schools/school-admission/applying-to-start-secondary-school

MESSAGES FROM THE OFICE:

Coming into school - Can parents please not ring the buzzer to come to the office before the end of the day. The gates will not be opened after 3.15pm unless you have a pre-planned visit with the office or member of staff. From this time the children are coming down from their classes and it is a safeguarding issue to have adults wandering through the playground at this time. Once the gates are opened at 3.25pm you are more than welcome to come and speak to us.

Please DO NOT allow anyone to follow you through the gate without them first buzzing through to the office. Again, this is a safeguarding issue, as we may not even be aware that they have followed you through. The office gets extremely busy and we are not always able to check the camera to ensure only the person buzzing has come through. You are the eyes and ears of safety when entering the gate, please be aware of those around you and of those trying to follow you through. If you are unsure, or do not want to approach the person just let us know when we answer the buzzer that someone else is following you through. We can then ensure they come to the office and are met by one of us.

Reception children - Please do not bring your Reception children via the office for their classes *unless* you are late bringing your children in. They should only come this way once the main gates are closed. Children brought to the office before this time will be sent round to the classes the normal way via the dining hall ramp.

Uniform - as per pervious information, the prices of the school uniform will increase from the 3rd November. The new prices will be available on Arbor School Shop later this evening. If you order uniform on Arbor, please leave at least 24 hours for the payment to clear. Uniform will be available the day after you have ordered.

Address and contact numbers - we are unable to change your address in school without written proof of your new address. This can either be the tenancy agreement, utility bills (i.e. connection of new electric or gas supply) council tax bill etc. Please bring this to the office either in the morning or after the gates open at 3.25pm, we can then copy it and make the change for you. Please ensure that you update your contact numbers with us as soon as they change. This is the only way we can contact you in an emergency.

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Meals - the new menus will be going on to the school website before we return on the 3rd November. If you would like a paper copy these are available in the office on the leaflet stand. If your child wishes to change the meal option please let the school know within the first week. Any changes made, will have to be for the half term.

Lost property - the office does not hold any lost property. Coats, jumpers, bags, hats, shoes etc. are not brought to us. These will be either where your child left them during the day or on the hanging racks outside the dining hall in the playground. Please ensure you put your child's name inside their items.

Office area – We really appreciate that you all feel comfortable around the office area, but we must ask you not to congregate to chat once you have finished your reason for being there. We have children in and out, who we are sometimes unable to see due to people standing around. We also have parents that come in to speak about things they do not really want to discuss in front of others. I know we can provide a safe space for anything private and confidential, and there are some things people just want to have a quick chat about, with one of us and it is very hard to do so with lots of people milling about. If you are waiting for someone to finish with the office please wait just outside the main door. Thank you for respecting people's privacy and need for space.

Everyone here at Haseltine wishes you all a happy half term, we will see you all again on Monday 3rd November. Don't forget that the clocks go back one hour this Saturday night ☺