Haseltine Newsletter Friday 24th April 2026

Dear Families & Friends,

Thank you & well done to those of you who attended the Breck Foundation training session on Monday. I'm sure that, like me, you found it shocking, heart-breaking and useful all rolled into one. I could see that there were 10 or so Haseltine parents/carers at this online session, which does make me wonder – where were the rest of you? Were you not there because the timing was difficult or was it because you felt it wasn't relevant to you?

If it was the former, then I totally understand.

If it was the latter, then I am sorry but I think you are wrong. This training is relevant to every single parent & carer, no matter how young/old your child is, no matter how safe you consider your child already to be online, no matter how engaged your child is with online activities, no matter how much you already talk with your child about online safety. There is still so much to learn, Breck's mum also felt that she had been doing everything right, he was still groomed and was still murdered.

Either way, I have the solution for you. The session was actually recoded and you can now have access to this for free. Please just click on the link below:

☞ Your Zoom recording is available for the next 2 weeks:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/7asJUmJ1110lBW19Te1T2QsmMxU7CTCnTmcRrUP9vTHyJAT7nckCbViPS5aLCsj1.IYE7NqECILtM92ED

You will then need to add a passcode which is: 39k$s#M9

When you have watched this, or if you attended on Monday, then…

☞ Click here to access our post-presentation resources or this one that is specific to parents:

https://www.breckfoundation.org/_files/ugd/5d9d9e_d9f468569a8e4d36897a07b1582bc62c.pdf

These packs contain helpful information such as the signs of grooming, how to react if a child discloses abuse, conversation starters, and more.

Your children (in years 1-6, except 3 as they were on a trip) had the training on Thursday of this week, this was age specific, and certainly nowhere as graphic as the session for adults, please talk to your child/children about their training and about what they learned.

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Do you need help in knowing how to support at home with Phonics?

A few parents at our coffee morning last week, asked me about where to find resources to help with phonics at home. You especially needed help with the pronunciation of some of the sounds – phonics is extremely complex, especially if English is not your first language perhaps.

Miss Pullinger and I have started to develop Padlet Page to support you with helping your children with phonics. We will add to this over time. The page includes: links to websites – including to the parent section of Little Wandle Letters & Sounds (the program that we use to teach phonics at Haseltine), links to games and links to videos that show you how to pronounce the words.

The link for this Padlet page is:

https://padlet.com/headteacher186/phonic-support-for-parents-carers-loxzh4ryk1vm72ri

We hope that you will find it useful.

A message from Simon Edwards, our Chair of Governors…

Join our Governing Body

We are seeking volunteers to join our governing body and help shape the future of our school. In particular, we welcome people with financial skills, health and safety experience, and those with strong community engagement experience, who can help strengthen links between the school, families and the wider community. No prior experience of school governance is required—just enthusiasm, sound judgement and a willingness to contribute time and expertise. Please contact the school office for more information.

And a message from our governors in general…

Governing Body Update

Hello, I am a new parent governor, part of the governing body for the Fairlawn and Haseltine Federation. Governors work very closely with the Heads and staff team.

As a parent governor my role is to bring a parental perspective to the decisions being made, and not to speak on 'behalf' of the parent body. It's

very much a strategic role rather than getting involved with day-to-day operational issues of the schools.

And here - https://haseltine.lewisham.sch.uk/about/our-governors/

You can find out more about our governors here - https://www.fairlawn.lewisham.sch.uk/about/governors/

Over recent meetings we have been reviewing and approving the budgets for the schools that have been written by the Headteachers and Rosamund Clarke - the Executive Business Director of Fairlawn and Haseltine. These 3-year budgets are very dependent on how many children are coming to the school as schools as funded per pupil. A lot of excellent work goes into ensuring the schools can retain experienced teachers and teach a rich and exciting curriculum, whilst accommodating rising costs and restricted funded from the local authority/government.

As governors we visit the schools during the school day to learn about all aspects of school life, from teachers and pupils - last term we visited Fairlawn & next term we will visit Haseltine.

We also recently heard about the trauma and attachment informed training being delivered at the schools for teachers and parents.

Some Governors will be in school to help invigilate the 6 SATs in early May - good luck to all the students and teachers.

Soon we will be recruiting new Governors to the board - I'd encourage you to find out more if you are interested. It's a great way of leaning more about how schools run, and to meaningfully support your children's education in our two fantastic schools.

Grace Pinner - parent of 3 children at Fairlawn

Meeting for Carers & Parents on 29th April (Nursery to yr4) or 6th May (yrs5 & 6)…

We have a very exciting project happening this term at Haseltine, and we really want, and need, your help with it.

Year groups will be teaming up to deliver 3 different projects across the school (exact themes will be revealed in a letter from the teachers or at the meeting) with one very important theme – **getting children away from screen time and getting them engaged in other activities, including play, exercise & reading**.

We are excited about this, it is a project, an action research project, of our own making and one that we have not done before; we will struggle to do it without your help.

Don't forget that from September 2026, children will no longer be able to bring a smart phone to school, so this project will be a good introduction to that happening.

Please, please come along. If you have more than one child, and they are in different year groups, please come to one of the meetings and then you will receive information from the other teachers.

Anti-Racism work at Haseltine…

At Haseltine, we endeavour to stand up against all forms of racism and social injustice. We aim to ensure all our children can see themselves reflected in our curriculum and in the books they read.

Many years ago, we signed up to the Lewisham Pledge to tackle racial inequalities in education, please click the link for further details of this: https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/schools/race-equality-in-schools

We also have an Anti-Racist Policy on our website: https://haseltine.lewisham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Anti-Racist-Policy-July-2024-after-Governor-ratification.pdf

The policy states: Parents can report incidents of racism directly to the headteacher or can follow the complaints procedure if they consider that the incident has not been dealt with appropriately: https://haseltine.lewisham.sch.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2023/12/Haseltine-Complaints-Policy.pdf

It is really important that incidents of racism, or any hate incident, are reported. As a school, we are trying very hard to eradicate racism for our children (and for everyone in our community), but that does not mean to say that incidents do not occur, or that we don't always get it right. I am passionate about learning and about doing better, so please do talk to me – or email: s.anderman@haseltine.lewisham.sch.uk if you need to report anything, or if you have ANY suggestions. It is really important that the Haseltine community supports each other to ensure equality and equity for all.

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Events in the community…

Head to Beckenham Place Park this weekend

Books in the Park returns to Beckenham Place Park on Saturday 25 April, with a packed day of author talks, writing workshops, guided walks and children's events. It's also peak bluebell season, with the woods looking stunning thanks to the work of staff and volunteers. If you're visiting, please stick to the paths to help protect these beautiful native wildflowers. Visit the Beckenham Place Park website for full details.

Got old tech to recycle?

Broken hairdryer? Dead charger? Don't bin it – drop it off for FREE at a WEEE recycling bank near you. Let's make Lewisham cleaner and greener together. For more information and the location of our recycling banks

Best Start Family Hubs **EPEC (Empowering Parents Empowering Communities)** **parenting programme** taking place at **Bellingham Family Hub**.

Struggling to find or stay in work? We're here to help

Are you a Lewisham resident who could use some extra help getting into work and sticking with it? Connect to Work is a national employment support programme for local people with barriers to work for example, you may have a disability or a health condition. Eligible residents receive 12 months of personalised, compassionate support

delivered by the friendly Lewisham Works team. You don't need to be formally diagnosed so if you're not sure, get in touch and we'll let you know how we can help. Learn more about employment support.

And finally…

Good luck to anyone running the London Marathon this weekend! We will be cheering you on.

If you have never taken your children to watch the marathon, I highly recommend it. Even if you don't know anyone running, it is still so exciting to watch. The top of Deptford High Street is a great place to stand & watch, so is Mudchute area or Canary Wharf.

Hopefully see you at the Haseltine Parents Teachers Friends Association Meeting today after school in the middle hall ☺

Have a great weekend,
Sara Anderman

P.S. Don't forget that there is no school on Monday 4th May as it is a Bank Holiday Monday. There is also no school on Thursday 7th May as we are a polling station, and it is an INSET day.