



Brindishe
Lee

Newsletter

Friday 19thth December 2025

What's been happening this week?

The final week of the Autumn Term got off to a festive start with Year 1's Nativity performance. Well done, Year 1! Their singing and acting was outstanding and left everyone feeling very proud.

On Tuesday and Wednesday Years 1 -6 took the 202 bus into Catford to enjoy the pantomime at the Broadway Theatre- Dick Whittington and his Catford Cat. As well as having a lot of fun, the children learned about the history of the Empire Windrush, as the story had the starring character arriving in London in the 1950s!

In our assembly on Wednesday we marked the festival of Hanukkah with a song, the story of the oil in the temple and information about how the festival is celebrated. Happy Hannukah to all those celebrating at the moment!

On Friday we were wowed by Year 4 who treated us to a ukelele performance! They have clearly been working hard in their lessons this term! We also awarded the prizes for our Poetry Competition and really enjoyed hearing the winning entries read out by our winners and Writing Ambassadors. See below for the winning entries.



What is happening in the new year?

We return from the break on Tuesday 6th January. Monday 5th January is an INSET Day and the school is closed to children.

We look forward to welcoming our new catering company- Nourish. Please see separate email and the website for the new menus!

We will have an assembly to launch the Year of Reading and an assembly from Sportacus to celebrate achievements in their sport clubs.

[National Year of Reading Website](#)



[Nourish Website](#)



Club News

In the Spring Term Sportacus are offering the following clubs:

Monday- Tag Rugby

Wednesday: Gymnastics

Thursday Dodgeball.

Please see WEDUC for sign up details to secure your child's spot!



You will be notified about school club places in the first week of term.

Attendance

Well done to Reception and
Year 5 for minimum learning
time lost to lateness!

Attendance Statistics

15 Dec 2025 - 19 Dec 2025

Registration Form	Present R/C: Marks (%)	Late R/C: Marks (%)
Reception	92%	0.8%
Year 1	93.9%	1.1%
Year 2	90.4%	2.6%
Year 3	93.9%	2.3%
Year 4	93.1%	2.3%
Year 5	95.9%	0.8%
Year 6	96.7%	2.5%

Important Dates

January 2026		February 2026	
Monday 5 th January	INSET Day - No school	Tuesday 10 th February 3.40pm - 4.10pm	Open Classroom
Tues 6 th Jan	Start of Spring Term	Monday 16 th - Friday 20 th February	Half Term

**Have a great holiday everyone and
Merry Christmas to all who celebrate!**



**Back to
school-**

**Tuesday 6th January
2026!**

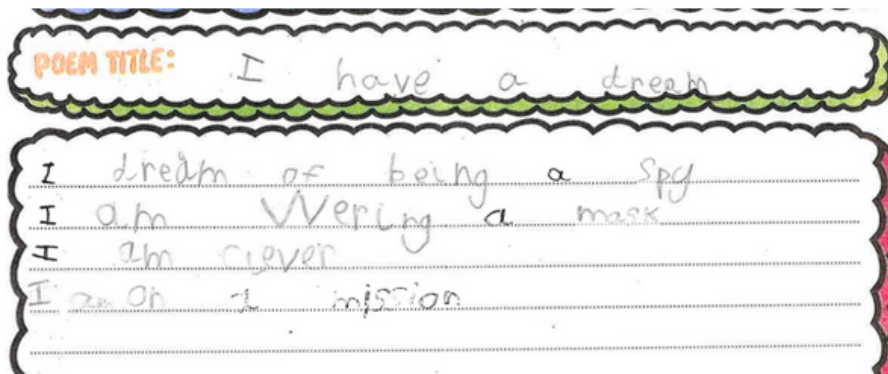
Poetry Competition Winners!

The poetry theme was on 'I have a dream' and they could write about anything they have a dream about. They could be serious about how they dream about our world, or what they wanted to be when they are older, or dreams based in fantasy.

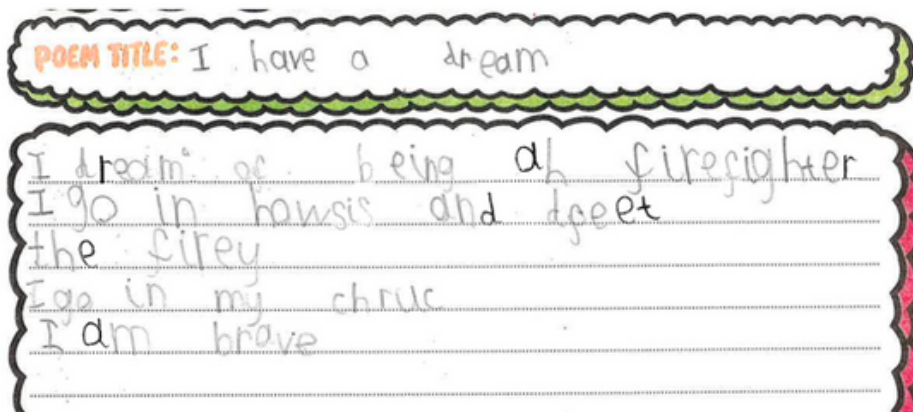
They could also write it in any form, e.g. acrostic poems, nonsense poems, free verse, shape poems, Kenning poems, limericks- any poems which they enjoyed or which form suited their poems.

Well done to all those who participated and wrote a poem- you had all worked hard on them!

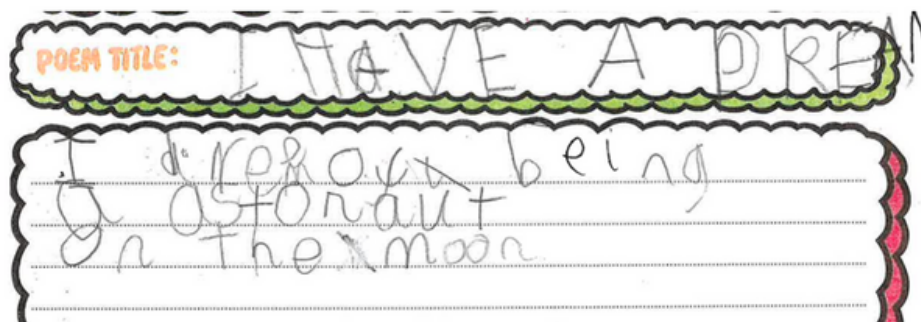
Year 1- Winner- Marta



Year 1- Runner up (2nd)- Emma



Year 1- Runner up (3rd)- Marcel



POEM TITLE:

My Dream Job

When I grow up I want to be a gymnast
and a korean singer
front FLIP back FLIP Oh a beam not
I deserve the spot.
Singing on stage singing in air it's my dream
to sing let the music bring you joy. Tomorrow
today whenever come see me be a winner.
unicorns, rainbows, pretty effects come see me and I'll
be back here best.
If I don't win I won't be sad I'll congratulate
them and I'll be proud. I don't matter it's TV
for fun let our contest start and let the fun
begin. Never say never you will win, don't talk
to me begin begin.
Have fun, be brave, you will win, don't be a
slave.

POEM TITLE:

My dream career

Footballers are strong
Or are they wrong?
Opposite the pitch sang a song
Touching the ball and making a shot.
Beating for a goal
Attacking the ball using their soul
Longing for the win in the dark foggy cell
Looking for space to get the ball and score
Exciting fans roaring for him
Racing players following him shouting and adoring

POEM TITLE:

Chocolate

A world with flying cupcakes and lollipops on
trees and a chocolate lampost melting in the breeze.
A toothbrush that will wash your teeth in a semi-second
Rice as sprinkles and a season of icing and think of
the beauty our world will have with chocolate.

POEM TITLE: Be a ninja

An elemental power
 earth, wind or fire
 I would like to have one.
 Make the wind move,
 or create a sand dune,
 it would be pretty cool to have an elemental
 power.
 but with power comes responsibility,
 and to be a ninja you must have great
 agility.
 So to have an elemental power would be
 pretty cool, do you agree?... The End

Year 4- Runner up (2nd)- Ben

POEM TITLE: A perfect World

Polluting towers all shutdown,
 Eco friendly cars with no foul smells and big sounds.
 Rivers with no rubbish instead filled with fish,
 Flowers blossoming everywhere you wish.
 Endless nature filled with wonderful kids,
 Colourful animals some as big as a car some as small
 as a lid.
 Together we can make this the perfect way to live.

Year 4- Runner up (3rd)- Jerome

POEM TITLE: A I had a dream a cat did this:

There once was a cat
 who sat on a mat
 then ate a rat
 Rat-a-tat-tat Rat-a-tat-tat
 Before that
 the rat
 saw big fat bat
 Batty-bat-bat Batty-bat-bat
 Then the big fat bat
 went to pat the hat
 and a knot came out
 who sat on cat
 who fell in rat!
 Oh no!
 Then Sir Bat rescued Sir Cat
 and there...!
 The cat sat on the mat!

POEM TITLE: A visit to the Greeks

I
step
out of my
time machine.
I've time travelled
to the Greeks! I see an
army preparing for war.
I've landed on a Greek temple
to Zeus and he's not happy! Lightning
strikes me and a hill. I survived but
the hill didn't. A growling mantichore
crawls out of the smoking
crater. The army charges
and after two seconds
the mantichore was
dead. I decided I'd
had enough
and went
back home.
Phew!

POEM TITLE: GULP...

I am in my classroom, I say to myself, quite grumpy
Staring at the glass, beam! "Oh it's a Monday!"
My teacher, Mrs Grah,
Begin to turn red,
Smoke comes from her nose,
I have just spoke,
OH NO, OH HECK!
Her hand hovers above her neck,
There and there a blinding flash,
I feel like she's about to smash,
I instead of my teacher, I see...
A dragon! "Oh, I need a wee,
The smoke is still coming from her nose,
I am still quite frozen,
She opens her great, scary mouth,
She's going to eat me up right now,
But all that happens, oh grime,
"Five minutes of your golden time,"
I wake up in my cosy bed,
I feel like a friend is just dead.

POEM TITLE: The banks of the under world

There is the person where I became brave bread, a little step was all it
took to be standing on a bumpy path in the land of the dead as I took on
step on to the stair and a ghost took me a Court among, grabbed me and wuzzed my
back on his Silver Scale. He led me to a door and there was a sea of mileady
Candles with labels and I saw a little label a and there was my name being
lusted by death oh I need to run I need to screen a shitten and was a black
river and a boat man I jumped off the boat and there I saw,
Many doors a steeped on a path a walked I saw 3 doors a body grabbed my
foot. And then I wook up!!!

POEM TITLE: Potential

Through the echoes of the silence
 In the gaps between the violence
 Beneath the thoughtful hesitation
 Thinly spread across the nation
 Lies a world of restless peace
 Where forgotten dreams and kindness are contrapieces.
 A world without deceit and lies
 With endless joy, where no-one cries.

POEM TITLE: Metal Earth

I dream of a world
 where islands float
 And the planet is robotic.

The people of that place
 Are peaceful and calm
 And decided humans were too basic.

Our own creation
 Turned against us
 Taking control of the Earth.

Turning the planet from
 Mud to Metal and
 Breaking sciences deal.

With
 Seas of mercury and
 Fields of crimson rust and
 Mountains of iron and steel.

POEM TITLE: The World's dream

A man sits,
 On a snowy field.
 As bombs and shells,
 Crack around him.
 He dreams of peace.

We all have dreams,
 We all dream of a better life,
 We all dream of a better world.

A politician lays,
 in his cozy bed.
 His thoughts slow,
 at his mind.
 He dreams of victory.

A prisoner cries,
 in her rotten cell.
 A her cellmate,
 sleeps on the concrete floor.
 She dreams of freedom.

Seasonal Greetings to all our families and a Merry Christmas to those who celebrate at Brindishe. We look forward to seeing you all the new year on Tuesday 6th January 2026.



Brindishe
Federation

Brindishe Federation Newsletter Friday 19th December 2025



Christmas Holiday Vouchers

Vouchers for families entitled to FSM will be issued this week from the Household Grant. The scheme allows £30 per eligible pupils. Brindishe Schools will email the vouchers out to all FSM families before the end of term.

The Winter Mini Challenge from Libraries and The Reading Agency

The Winter Mini Challenge is a fun online challenge that encourages children to keep up their reading across December – February.

It's free to take part on wintermini.org.uk, where children can collect rewards for logging and reviewing books. Whatever their interest, it all counts.

The Winter Mini Challenge follows on from the Story Garden theme of the Summer Reading Challenge. Participants unlock special badges and earn a certificate of achievement once they meet their reading goal.



Christmas and Winter Events in our local area

Looking for something festive and seasonal to do over the holidays. Look no further! Your local area has lots to offer, from Panto and The Nutcracker at local theatre venues, Christmas Carols by candlelight at Blackheath, Festive markets in numerous venues and much more.



Starting Reception in 2026

Family and Education

Important dates for the admission process for children starting primary school in September 2026.

The deadline for applying for a primary school place is **Thursday 15 January 2026.**

Contact

Primary School Admissions and Appeals

Laurence House, 1 Catford Road, SE6 4RU

Telephone:  020 8314 8282

Email:  primaryadmissions@lewisham.gov.uk

Online Safety Bulletin

Italian Brainrot

Have you heard of Italian Brainrot? It is a viral trend consisting of AI generated characters featuring in memes and videos. It originally started on TikTok but can now be seen on other platforms such as YouTube and Instagram.

There are also lots of spinoff content including a game on Roblox. Whilst the content is generally nonsensical and children will find some of it funny, some content can include inappropriate/offensive language and content that might not be suitable for your child's age.

For more information about Roblox: [New Technology](#).

ACT Early and be vigilant when buying new devices for children this Christmas

The Met Police and Action Counters Terrorism (ACT) want to make all parents aware of online safety this Christmas. Please share the following information with your parents and carers where possible: We know many parents and carers will be buying new phones and devices for their children in the run up to Christmas, which is why we're calling on parents to be vigilant about your child's online activity. This follows a 38% increase in referrals of children to the Prevent scheme last year in London, which helps stop people becoming radicalised. It's vital that parents are setting appropriate controls to ensure their children are kept safe on their devices. We'd also urge parents and carers to take an active interest in their children's digital lives to try and ensure they don't become drawn towards extremist content that could lead them down a path to radicalisation.

There is information on the [ACT Early website](#) which has tips on warning signs to look out for, as well as advice on having conversations with your child, and information on what to do and who to contact if you do have any concerns.



Applying to start primary school 2026-27

Information about admissions arrangements

Is your child due to start primary school in September 2026?

If your child was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022, you can apply for a Reception place for September 2026.

Before you apply you should:

- Research your local primary schools
- visit schools you want to apply for
- carefully check the admissions criteria for schools you are interested in.

From 1 September 2025, visit our website for everything you need to know about applying for primary school places, including:

- schools that are in the borough and are closest to you
- how to apply for a school place
- how decisions are made
- what happens after you apply
- important dates in the application process.

Deciding which schools to apply for

The first step is to decide which schools you would like to apply for. There are many good and outstanding primary schools in the Lewisham borough. Find out about these schools and see which are nearest to you at www.lewisham.gov.uk/primaryschools.

Check if your child is likely to be offered a place at a school

If there are more applicants for a school than places available, we use the admissions criteria to decide who should be offered a place. The criteria vary from school to school. You should use them to find out if your child has a good chance of being offered a place at the schools you prefer.

How to apply

You need to apply online at www.eadmissions.org.uk. You can apply for up to six schools, either in Lewisham or outside the borough. You must not put independent schools on your application. You must list the schools you wish to apply for in preference order. You can apply online from 1 September 2025 and must apply by the closing date on 15 January 2026.

When you will find out which school your child has been offered a place at

You will get an email on the evening of national offer day, Thursday 16 April 2026. It will tell you where your child has been offered a place and how to accept the offer.

From 1 September 2025, you can find all the information you need to apply for primary school places at www.lewisham.gov.uk/primaryadmissions. If you cannot find the information you need, call us on 020 8314 8282 (Monday – Thursday 10-12pm and Monday 2-4pm).

Children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities

Most children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities can get the support they need at local mainstream schools.

If your child has an education, health and care plan, you need to follow a different process. Find out more at www.lewisham.gov.uk/SENadmissions.

Free email reminders

Sign up to get free emails with reminders, application tips and more at www.lewisham.gov.uk/primaryadmissions



CHRISTMAS Support 2025

Christmas can be a hard time for everyone and this is recognised by Lewisham and the Family Hubs. To support families over the festive season, they have produced a Christmas Support Factsheet, with opening times of support venues, free Christmas meal venues and other food provided during the season in Lewisham. _

Sharing REAL course for Parents

Sharing REAL with Parents



To book go to:
[lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk/
events/parenting-course](https://lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk/events/parenting-course)
scan the QR code
email [family.hub.bookings
@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:family.hub.bookings@lewisham.gov.uk)
or call 07720 152902



This fun 4 week course aims to build your confidence in how you can support early literacy within your home and help your children's learning and development in communication and language.

- Meet other parents and carers.
- Share ideas to support your child's early learning.
- Take home FREE resources each week.

Wednesdays 14th January - 4th February 2026
9.30am - 11.30am
Corbett Community Library
103 Torridon Rd, SE6 1RQ

Wednesdays 18th February - 11th March 2026
1.00pm - 3.00pm
Evelyn Family Hub
231 Grove Street, SE8 3PZ

Fridays 6th - 27th March 2026
1.00pm - 3.00pm
Bellingham Family Hub
109 Randlesdown Road, SE6 3HB

lewishamfamilyhubs.org.uk



Key Federation Dates

- End of Autumn Term - Friday 19th December 2025
- INSET DAY - school closed to children - Monday 5th January 2026
- Start of Spring 1 - Tuesday 6th January 2026
- February Half Term - Monday 16 February 2026 to Friday 20 February 2026

Brindishe Schools Governing Body

Governing Body meetings are regular and meet every half term. Parents/carers are more than welcome to attend our meetings as 'observers'. This means you can sit and observe the meeting but will be unable to speak/comment and would need to leave the meeting during confidential items.

If you would like to know more about the governing body or you would like to attend one of our meetings, please email Rachel Waite - rawaite@brindisheschools.org. An email to confirm attendance at the meeting will need to be received before a parent/carers can join the meeting.

Our third meeting for 2025/2026 will be held on Tuesday 3rd Feb 2026 at Brindishe Manor School - 6pm.

2026-2027 Term Dates

We are currently setting our 2026-2027 term dates. Please, please do not google or search the web 'Brindishe Schools or Lewisham term date's as **copilot (AI companion) will give you inaccurate dates.** Brindishe Schools will inform you in the new year of 2026-2027 term dates and they will be posted on our school website.

Introducing Nourish - our new catering provider from January

From January, the Brindishe Federation will be moving over to Nourish as our new catering provider Primary - nourish contract catering. Nourish is a family-led company passionate about serving healthy, balanced, and freshly prepared meals every day. We have been working very closely with them to make it a smooth transition and can't wait to begin our new journey as we start 2026.

What's Staying the Same?

- Meat-Free Mondays and Fish Fridays will continue.
- The same friendly kitchen staff
- All menus and catering details will be updated on the school website for easy access
- Children be able to choose between a packed lunch or hot meal each day

What's New?

- Children and families will notice new signage around the kitchen.
- We'll introduce fun themed days like Harry Potter Day and Lunar New Year
- Opportunities to meet Mr Nourish



Allergy Support

If your child has a bespoke allergy menu, Clare Doran will be in touch to ensure a smooth transition. This may include reviewing the new menu and completing a Nourish Risk Assessment.

Why Choose a Hot School Meal?

- Did you know that opting for a hot school meal can save you time and money?
- On average, families could save £477 per year compared to packed lunches.
- Nourish meals are nutritionally balanced, freshly prepared, and designed to support learning.
- Children enjoy a variety of dishes, a daily salad bar, and freshly baked bread—plus the social experience of eating together.

Thank you for your continued support as we make this positive change for our children.

NOVEMBER TO MARCH 2026 NOURISH WHAT'S ON THE MENU					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK ONE	Margherita Pizza 1,3,7 V Bean Biryani VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9 Rainbow Pasta 1 Seasonal Vegetables Strawberry Mousse 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG	Chicken Pie 1 Mushroom & Lentil Stew VG Pesto & Pea Pasta 1,7 V Crushed Potato Cauliflower, Carrots Toffee Apple Pudding 1 VG & Custard 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG	Roast Turkey & Gravy Broccoli Tots 1,7 V Arrabiata Pasta Shells 1 VG Rustic Roast Potatoes or Jollof Rice Cabbage, Peas Fruit Jelly VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG	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	Fish Fingers 1,8 Vegetable Sausage VG Cheese & Tomato Pasta 1,7 V Chips, Sweetcorn, Baked Beans Cucumber Sticks Oaty Cookie 1,15 VG Yoghurt 3,7 Fruit Pots VG
WEEK TWO	Cheese & Broccoli Pasta Bake 1,7 V Buffalo Cauliflower Wings & Wedges VG Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9 Seasonal Vegetables Chocolate Ice Cream 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG	Caribbean Brown Chicken Chick Pea Jambalaya VG Tomato Spaghetti 1 VG Rice, Carrots, Peas Plum Pudding 1VG & Custard 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG	Roast Chicken & Gravy Ratatouille Puff 1,3 VG Cheesy Pasta Twists 1,7 V Rustic Roast Potatoes or Jollof Rice Broccoli, Carrots Crispy Cake 1,3,7,16 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG	Beef Stew & Dumpling 1 Falafel Burger & Wedges 1,5 VG 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	Salmon Bites 1,8 Margherita Pizza 1,3,7 V Herby Tomato Pasta Twists 1 V Chips, Peas, Coleslaw 9 Marble Cookie 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7 Fruit Pots VG
WEEK THREE	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	Chicken Noodles 1 BBQ Vegetable Burrito 1 VG Pesto & Pea Penne 1,7 V Sweetcorn, Peppers Chocolate Rice Pudding 7 Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Fruit Pots VG	Savoury Mince Beef & Yorkshire Pudding 1,7,9 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	Beef Cottage Pie Butternut Squash Risotto 7 V Herby Tomato Pasta 1 VG Seasonal Vegetables Beetroot Cake 1 VG Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG	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 Flagjack 1,7,15 V Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG
Brindishe	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				
AVAILABLE DAILY	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.				
	WE ♥ VEGGIES				

Being a Parent

Parenting programme for parents of children aged 2-11

Delivered by trained Parent Group Leaders from Empowering Parents Empowering Communities (EPEC), part of South London & Maudsley NHS Trust, in partnership with Lewisham



A FREE 9-week course to help parents learn practical skills for everyday life such as:

- Looking after yourself as a parent
- Recognising and managing your child's emotions
- Learning positive parenting strategies

ONLINE

Wednesday 9.45-11.45

23rd January – 27th March 2026

(no session 18th Feb – half term)

Feedback from Lewisham Parents

"I absolutely loved this course. I would recommend it to anyone. It has helped me out so much as a parent"

"The leaders were amazing, made me feel so much more confident and feel like people actually do care."

To sign up and find out more click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code:



Or Contact **07860 371868**



EMPOWERING
PARENTS
EMPOWERING
COMMUNITIES

NHS
South London
and Maudsley
NHS Foundation Trust



'Being a Parent' starting January 23rd 2026.

This is a free 9 week group programme offered to parents/carers of children aged from 2 to 11 years old.

The course is designed to give children and families the very best start in life by supporting parents to:

- Understand and manage their own feelings, as well as their child's
- Communicate and interact positively with their child
- Use positive behaviour management strategies
- Reduce and manage parental stress
- Providing practical tools and guidance to help families build stronger, more positive relationships

There will be 2 groups running: one is in person and one is online. Parents and carers can choose which one (online or in person) they would like to attend.

The in person group will be held at Downham Family Hub and an online group

To find out more scan the QR code in the flyer Or Contact 07860 371868

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Downham Family Hub

Shrofford Road, BR1 5PD

Friday 10.00 – 12.00

23rd January – 27th March 2026

(no session 20th Feb – half term)

To sign up and find out more click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code:



Or Contact **07860 371868**



EMPOWERING
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and Maudsley
NHS Foundation Trust



CHRISTMAS FACTSHEET 2025

*Below is our most up to date list of Christmas opening hours, free Christmas meals and other food support provided during the Christmas season. For further details and support please phone our Community Connections Lewisham phone line on 0330 0583 464, open 9:30am-4:30pm Monday to Friday (*except Thursdays when it is open 2:00pm-4:00pm only).*

GENERAL SUPPORT

Lewisham Council Customer Service Centre

020 8314 6000 automated switchboard- open every day, 24/7.

Crisis Mental Health Line

(South London and Maudsley mental health support line)

0800 731 2864 – open every day 24/7.

Advice Lewisham

Closed from 24th December.

Reopens 5th of January.

Community Connections Lewisham

Phoneline will be closed from 4:00pm 23rd December and reopen 9:30am on the 2nd January.

Drop-in is closed 25th December and 1st January and re-opens on 8th January.

Rushey Green Pharmacy

Primary Care Centre, Hawstead Road, SE6 4JH.

Telephone: 020 8690 8917

Christmas Opening: 25th December, 10:00am-6:00pm, 26th December, 10:00am-2:00pm

New Year Opening: 31st December, 10:00am-9:00pm, 1st January 2025, 10:00am-2:00pm

All other days normal opening hours.

Forest Hill Jobcentre

32-34 Dartmouth Road, London, SE23 3XU

Week commencing 22nd December:

Closed 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th December

Week commencing 29th December:

Open 29 - 31st December,

Closed Thursday 1st January, reopens from Friday January 2nd as normal.

Good Gym

Please submit referrals as early as possible.

Christmas: The referral portal will close at 3:00pm on 24th December. Referrals re-open on 27th December at 9:30am.

New Year: The referrer portal will close on 31st December at 3:00pm and reopen on 2nd January at 9:30am.

Lewisham Mencap

Final evenings with Christmas Parties:

Monday Club - 15th December, reopens 5th of January.

Tuesday Club - 16th December, reopens 6th of January.

Thursday Club - 18th December, reopens 8th of January.

Day out in the city to see the Christmas lights: 20th of December, timings to be confirmed. Call 07932 001217 to join.

Silver Line

Telephone 0800 470 8090

The Silver Line Helpline offers support and conversation for people aged 55 and over. Open 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

Waythrough Lewisham Recovery Service and Aftercare

55 Dartmouth Road, Forest Hill, SE23 3HN

Drug and Alcohol service.

<https://www.waythrough.org.uk/find-support-near-me/lewisham-primary-care-recovery-service-pcrs/>

Telephone 020 8699 5263

Open over festive period 9am to 5pm except:

Christmas Eve, 24th December, closing 3pm.

Christmas Day, 25th December, and Boxing Day 26th December, closed.

New Years Eve, 31st January, closing 3pm.

New Years Day, 1st January, closed.

Bank of Things

Distributing toiletries and school supplies for 11-25-year-olds living, working or studying in Lewisham.

Locations:

Elevate 100, Downham Health and Leisure Centre BR1 5EW

Wednesdays 3:30pm to 5:00pm. Last date before Christmas Wednesday 17th December.

Unit 19, Lewisham Shopping Centre, Molesworth Street, SE13 7HB- Fridays 3:00pm – 5:00pm. Last date before Christmas Friday 12th December.

Contact: Hannah hannah@lewishamlocal.com or 07726 350915

FOOD SERVICES BEFORE AND AFTER CHRISTMAS

Note: also see this link for **Good Food Lewisham's** list of free and cheap food, which will continue to be updated during December 2025:

<https://www.goodfoodlewisham.org/christmasmealslewisham>

The Bear Church at Evelyn Community Centre

Evelyn Community Centre, 9 Wotton Road, SE8 5TQ

A free hot freshly made meal, all welcome, 6:00pm-7:00pm on 7th December.

Christmas meal on the 21st December, 6-7pm with carols.

Reopening Sunday 11th January.

Food Cycle Lewisham

The Lewisham Irish Community Centre, 2a Davenport Road, Rushey Green, SE6 2AZ

Last meal before Christmas: 21st December 1:15pm.

Three course vegetarian community meal.

Reopens 3rd January.

Food Cycle New Cross

All Saints Hatcham Community Centre, 105 New Cross Road, London, SE14 5DJ

Last meal before Christmas: 18th December 1:15pm

Three course vegetarian meal. Free to everyone.

Reopens 8th January.

The Feast at King's Church Catford

Catford Hill, SE6 4PS

Dinner every Wednesday, up to Wednesday 17th December at 7:00pm, with Christmas meal on the 10th December.

Rehoboth Community Outreach Club

Ray Champion Meeting Room, 1-18 Allwood Close, SE26 4JP

Telephone: 07487738908 / 07946354617 for additional information.

Children 0 - 16 yrs winter jacket give away

Monday December 15th, 11:00am - 3:00pm

Community Christmas Dinner

Monday December 22nd, 11:00am - 5:00pm

Christmas Eve - December 24th, 6:00pm - 10:00pm

News Years Eve - December 31st, 6:00pm - 10:00pm

Soup Kitchen/ Food Bank Opening Days:

Monday 11:00am - 2:00pm (Free Hot Meals)

Wednesday 2:30pm - 4:00pm (Food Parcels)

Thursday 11:00am - 2:00pm (Food Parcels)

Saturday 3:00pm – 9:00pm (Fundraising Saturday - All donations gratefully appreciated).

Christ Church United Reformed Church Bellingham

15 Bellingham Green, London, SE6 3HQ

Christmas Meal Friday 19th December. Doors open at 12:30pm for a three course, traditional Christmas dinner. Will cater for special diets and ask people about this at the time of booking. Gentle activities afterwards until 4:30pm. Can cater for up to 40 places, so please book in advance.

Contact Christ Church on 07546 952 661 or hello@ccbellingham.org.uk

Please note - The Friday Drop-In will be closed for one week only on Friday 26th December.

Friday 2nd January. Doors open at 12:30pm for a three course, festive dinner including roasts. Will cater for special diets and ask people about this at the time of booking. Gentle activities afterwards until 4:30pm. Can cater for up to 40 places, so please book in advance.

Contact Christ Church on 07546 952 661 or hello@ccbellingham.org.uk

Ichthus Community Table

Ichthus Lee Green, 23 Lampmead Road, London, SE12 8QJ

19th December, 1:30pm

Christmas dinner with all the trimmings.

Opening hours remain the same 1.30-3.00pm every Friday, except they will be closed on 26th December and 2nd January 2026.

Catford Soup Kitchen

1 Bromley Road, Catford SE6 1JX

25th December, 12:00pm – 2:00pm.

Christmas Dinner.

Also open over the Christmas and New Year period every Saturday, 11:00am – 1:00pm. Contact outreach@uckg.org

Community Connections Lewisham / Lewisham Salvation Army

Meals on Wheels. Tuesday 23rd December.

Freshly made meals for Lewisham residents isolated over Christmas. Delivered in the morning by volunteers. First come, first served booking. Limited number of meals, refer early to avoid disappointment.

Please signpost to the Community Connections Lewisham phoneline or ring yourself on 0330 058 3464 to provide details, dietary requirements, and anything else we should know about the delivery.

Lewisham Foodbank

Last session before Christmas: Monday 22nd December, 12:00pm - 2:00pm at Deptford Salvation Army, Mary Ann Gardens SE8 3DP

Closed Tuesday 23rd December until Thursday 1st January inclusive

Reopens: Fri 2nd January 10:00am -12:00pm at Catford Salvation Army, 23 - 25 Brownhill Road, SE6 2HE

Mye Green Mango

1a Station Approach, Catford, SE6 4RE (near Catford Bridge Tavern)

24th December 12:00-4:00pm. Christmas Dinner with trimmings.

Lewisham Donation Hub

Unit D, Place Ladywell, 261 Lewisham High Street, London, SE13 6AY

Please ALWAYS check the website before visiting:

www.lewishamdonationhub.org

Weather/limited volunteer numbers can close certain parts of the service.

Planned opening and service times as follows:

28th November- 18th December.

Food support: Tickets shared at 9:00am - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

General support: Please check the website

Donations: Please check the website

Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th December

Open for Food support - tickets shared at 9:00am

Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 31st December

Open for Food support - Tickets shared at 9am

25th December (Christmas Day) and 1st January (New Year's Day): Fully closed

6th, 7th, 8th January

Food support: Tickets shared at 9:00am - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

General support: Please check the website

Donations: Please check the website

13th, 14th, 15th January

Food support: Tickets shared at 9:00am - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

General support: Please check the website.

Donations: Please check the website.

The Love Fellowship Lifeline Ministry

Honor Oak Community Centre, 50 Turnham Road, SE4 2JD

Telephone 07957 198 304

25th December 2:00pm – 5:00pm.

Free Christmas meal for people in need on the estate.

To book your meal please visit <https://rsvp.online/LFLMChristmasDinner>

Living Waters Christian Centre foodbank, last Wednesday will be the 17th of December returning on the 4th of February.

Cummin Up Caribbean Takeaway with Taste Soul Good

389 Lewisham High Street, London, SE13 6NZ

25th December 1:00pm to 6:00pm.

Christmas day traditional meal with a Caribbean twist.

Richard Simpson 07831423163 no booking necessary.

Family environment encouraged, volunteers welcome.

St Peters Church

St Peter's Brockley, Wickham Road, SE4 1LT

Wednesday 24th December.

Hot drinks, mince pies, carols and Christmas festivities from 10:00am. Christmas lunch with all the trimmings will be served at 12:00pm. The meal is included in a weekly £4 membership for those also purchasing a grocery parcel. People coming just for the meal are invited to make a donation of £2 for the lunch.

Hill Station Cafe

Hill Station Cafe, Kitto Road, SE14 5TY

Friday 26th December 11:00am – 5:00pm.

Free basic hot drinks (instant coffee and tea-bag tea), squash and biscuits. Bring music to share (there's a piano!), play board games and stay as long as you like. On the 484 and 343 bus routes.

Action for Refugees in Lewisham / St Peter's Church Food Bank

St Peter's Church, Lee, SE12 8HQ

Food Bank dates over Christmas period: 20th December, 3rd January. Closed 21st December - 2nd January.

The Food Bank is not drop-in, maximum of 40 places for people with no recourse to public funds and all referrals must be agreed in advance. Accept referrals from organisations and self-referral from individuals.

Contact Omar Shayah, Destitution Coordinator at foodbank@afrii.org.uk

Catford Fridge

Lewisham Irish Community Centre, SE6 4AS

Will be closed for 3 Saturdays: 20th, 27th December, and 3rd January.

CHART CIC Food Bank at WG Grace Community Centre

1 Lions Close, SE9 4HG

Last day for our Foodbank will be on Wednesday 17th December and back on Wednesday 7th January 10:00am - 11:00am

For food and hygiene essentials. It's quick and easy to register, just bring your ID and proof of address - no referral needed. If you have any questions, please contact: chartcic@outlook.com mobile: 07455 213 291

Downham Gleaning Pantry - Social Supermarket

Brook Lane Community Church, 27-29 Brook Lane, Bromley, BR1 4PU

Open Fridays 9:30AM – 12:30pm. Closed on 26th December and will open as normal on 2nd January. Social Pantry for people on low incomes and affected financially in Downham.

Residents pay a membership fee of £5 a week to choose from a variety of food.

Register online at downhamaid.org.uk.

Contact downhamaid@gmail.com

Feed the Hill

367 New Cross Road, London, SE14 6AT

Open on Wednesdays 10:00am - 12:00pm throughout the holiday period. Social supermarket for people on low incomes (£2 per shop), no membership required, bring proof of address. For people on low incomes who may benefit from spending less on their weekly shop (£2 per shop, or free if you can't afford £2).

Contact feedthehill@gmail.com

Lee Community Foodbank

370 Lee High Road, SE12 8RS

Thursdays 10:00am – 11:30am.

Last day Thursday 18th December.

Also open on Christmas Eve 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Opening back from the festive season 8th January 2026.

Contact Foodbank@ntcglee.org.uk or Ann on 07956972622.

Rastafari Movement UK Wellbeing

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 12:00pm-3:00pm at The INI Food and Wellbeing Centre, 103 Boundfield Road, North Downham, SE6 1PF and

Mondays 12:00pm – 2:00pm at The Community Hub 33 Wildwood Close, Newstead Gardens SE12 0ST.

Offering African and Caribbean Cultural support services including foods, fresh fruits, and veg and other groceries, and toiletries for wider community needs.

Closed 25th December - 12th January.

Reopens on 12th January 2026.

St Luke's Downham

Northover, Bromley, BR1 5JR

The Front Room at St Luke's Downham - closed after Tuesday 23rd December reopening on Monday 5th January.

Welcome Club at St Mark's Downham closed from Thursday 25th December.

Reopening Wednesday 7th January.

Word of Life: Food Bank and Community Resource Centre

72A Mayeswood Road, SE12 9RP

Friday 19th December Food Bank and Community Resource last opening day.

Reopens on Friday 9th January.

Handing out Christmas hampers for families in the community on Saturday 20th December.

This information has been compiled by Community Connections Lewisham and Good Food Lewisham. If you have any updates or see anything that's not correct, please email Joe on community.development@ageuklands.org.uk

Updated on:

3rd December 2025