

Dear Parents and Carers,

January 2026

As we move through the spring term, I would like to take a moment to thank you for your continued support and partnership with the school community. It has been another busy and positive month, full of learning and development for both pupils and staff.

I was delighted to see such strong attendance at our recent Oracy and Maths workshops. These sessions are an important way for us to work together to support children's progress, and it was wonderful to welcome so many families into school. Thank you to everyone who took the time to attend.

Today, we also welcomed the Tower Hamlets Emotional Wellbeing Service, who delivered a parent workshop focused on anxiety in children. The session was very well attended, and parents came away with practical strategies for recognising and supporting children in managing feelings of anxiety. This was the first of many workshops we will be offering, so please do look out for future dates and come along if you can.

We are also making steady progress on our journey towards achieving Silver Status as a Rights Respecting School. The children are developing a strong understanding of their rights and responsibilities, and many can confidently explain the ABCDE of Rights. Please do ask your child about this at home — you may be impressed by what they can tell you!



Week beginning 9th February (2 weeks time) marks the beginning of Children's Mental Health Week, and this year's theme is "This is My Place." Our focus will be on helping every child feel that they belong and are valued within our school community. We will be exploring what it means to feel safe, included and supported, and how the adults and systems around children can help them to thrive. On Friday 13th February, children are encouraged to wear 'shades of blue'. More information will be shared with you next week.

We have also had a group of parents express interest in organising an Eid Bazaar as a future community event. We are delighted to support this wonderful idea and look forward to celebrating together as a school community. Please keep an eye out for further details and information in the coming weeks.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. Together, we continue to ensure that our school is a place where every child can learn, grow and feel proud of who they are.

Warm regards,

Norma Marshall
Headteacher

Read below to find out more about what we have been doing in school....

PINs Coffee Morning



Thank you to all our parents and carers who attended the PINS (Neurodiversity) parent meeting last week, we hope you found it useful.

The next PINS coffee morning will be on 4th February at 9am at Ben Jonson.



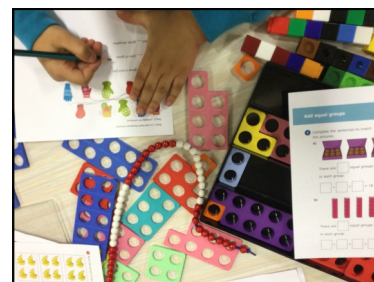
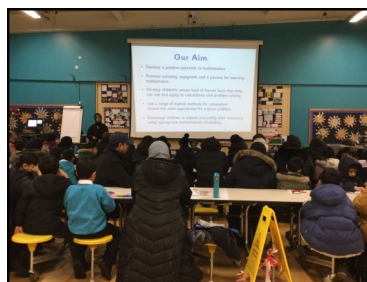
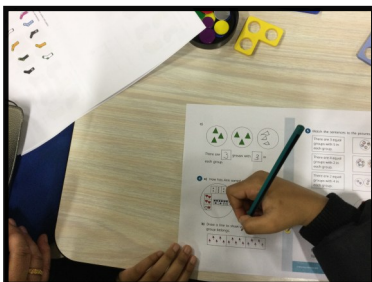
Oracy and reading Workshops

Thank you to all parents and carers who came along to the Oracy and Reading workshops.



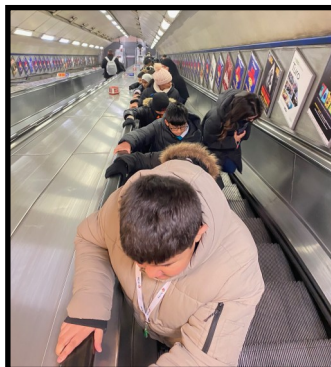
Maths Workshop

Thank you to all our parents that came to the Maths Workshop.



Year 5 to St. Paul Cathedral

Year 5 went to the iconic St Paul's Cathedral to learn about places of worship, linking to our Religious Education curriculum . The children enjoyed their time learning.



Key dates to keep in your diary

Event	Date
■ Year 4 Maths Workshop (Parent & Children)	Wednesday 28th January 2026 14:30 - 15:30
■ Year 1 Maths Workshop (Children & Parents)	Thursday 29th January 2026 09:00 - 10:00
■ Year 4's Assembly (parents/carers)	Friday 30th January 2026 09:00 - 10:00
■ Nursery Open Morning	Tuesday 3rd February 2026 09:00 - 10:00
■ PINS Coffee Morning for Parents 9-10am	Wednesday 4th February 2026 09:00 - 10:00
■ Year 3 Maths Workshop (Parent & Children)	Wednesday 4th February 2026
■ Y6 Maths Workshop	Thursday 5th February 2026 14:30 - 15:30
■ Year 5 Maths Workshop (Children & Parents)	Tuesday 10th February 2026 09:00 - 10:00
■ Half Term	Monday 16th February 2026 - Friday 20th February 2026
■ Eid Al-Fitr - School Closed	Friday 20th March 2026
■ Easter Holiday	Monday 30th March 2026 - Sunday 12th April 2026
■ Bank Holiday - School Closed	Friday 3rd April 2026
■ Y5 Maths Workshop Workshop	Friday 3rd April 2026 14:15 - 15:30
■ Bank Holiday - School Closed	Monday 6th April 2026
■ Term starts	Monday 13th April 2026
■ Bank Holiday - School Closed	Monday 4th May 2026
■ Tower Hamlets Mayor and Local Elections - School Closed	Thursday 7th May 2026
■ Bank Holiday - School Closed	Monday 25th May 2026
■ Half Term	Tuesday 26th May 2026 - Friday 29th May 2026
■ Eid Al-Adha - School Closed	Wednesday 27th May 2026
■ Last day of Summer Term 2	Friday 17th July 2026
■ Inset Day - School Closed	Monday 20th July 2026
■ Inset Day - School Closed	Tuesday 21st July 2026
■ Inset Day - School Closed	Wednesday 22nd July 2026
■ Summer Holiday	Thursday 23rd July 2026 - Sunday 30th August 2026
■ Bank Holiday - School Closed	Monday 31st August 2026

Join us on
THURSDAY, 12 FEBRUARY



丙午
Bing Wǔ

to celebrate
**Chinese Lunar
NEW YEAR**
2026
YEAR OF THE FIRE HORSE

Fantastic FOOD IN SCHOOLS

**CHINESE LUNAR
NEW YEAR**

YEAR OF THE FIRE HORSE
THURSDAY, 12 FEBRUARY

Chinese Chicken
or
Quorn Dippers
with Sweet Chilli Sauce

All with
Coconut Rice
Sweetcorn
Broccoli

Dessert
Orange Jelly with Mandarins
Fresh Fruit Platter

Fantastic FOOD IN SCHOOLS



FREE FOOD
Just bring bags!

FELIX FRESH

The Felix Project, in partnership with All Saints Church Poplar, will be distributing free fresh fruit and vegetables.

WHEN	WHERE
Wednesday 4 th February 12-2pm	All Saints Church Poplar, Newby Pl, London E14 0EY W3W ///local.spins.chin

BRING YOUR BAGS, BOXES, TROLLEYS AND STRONG ARMS, AND TAKE HOME WITH YOU A VARIETY OF DELICIOUS, FRESH FOOD!

Felix | THE FELIX PROJECT

**AUTISM SWIM
LESSONS**

A POSITIVE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITY THROUGH SPORT, HELPING CHILDREN FEEL SAFE, CONFIDENT, AND CAPABLE IN THE WATER



EVERY SATURDAY
STEPNEY ALL SAINTS SCHOOL,
STEPNEY WAY, E1 0RH

At Love to Swim, we provide a structured, and nurturing swim programme designed specifically for children with ASD.

Our Autism Swim-Certified instructors create a safe and enjoyable environment where every child can build confidence, develop water skills, and progress at their own pace.

OUR PROGRAMME SUPPORTS:

- 3 pupils max per class
- Autism Swim certified teachers
- Swim England progressive swim lessons

For more details:
ASwim@lovetoswim.co.uk



BOOK NOW

YEAR
2025-2026



NURSERY OPEN Mornings



Please come visit us on:

- ❖ Tuesday 9th December 2025
- ❖ Tuesday 27th January 2026
- ❖ Tuesday 3rd February 2026

Come and visit
our school and
see us in action.

020 7790 4110

Between 9am and 10am.



***Tower Hamlets Independent
SEND parent/Carers forum***



***Calling all Tower Hamlets SEND Parents/Carer of
children Aged 0-25***

One Voice Stronger Together

***What do you know about SEND
services in Tower Hamlets ?***

Would you like to know more?

***Do you Want to Help shape services
for SEND Families in Tower
Hamlets ?***

Scan me



Join today and be part of the Change

***Thsendforum@gmail.com
www.thsendforum.co.uk***



Tower Hamlets Send



Thsendforum

An introduction to the Disabled Children's Outreach Service (DCOS)

Please join us for an Introduction to DCOS

DCOS offers behavioural & therapeutic support to families where there is a child with a diagnosed neurodevelopmental disability and/or complex lifelong physical health needs

When: Wednesday 11th February

Time: 9am – 10am

Where: Ben Jonson School



Your child's attendance is important

Our whole school attendance for this month is 93.3%. We know there has been some illnesses, please try and bring your child into school as soon as they are well. Our whole school attendance target is 96%. Thank you for your support in working with us to improve attendance and let's make it even better.

Just a reminder, there have been significant changes to the government's attendance guidelines. Working together to Improve School Attendance (DFE August 2024). Please note the fines are now higher for extended leave and lateness can be fined too. It is important to become familiar with the new changes. Please see below guidance of the new penalty notices.

PENALTY NOTICES
New National Framework for Penalty Notices for poor school attendance and unauthorised leave in term time effective from 19 August 2024.



Per Parent, Per Child
Penalty Notices will still be issued to each parent for each absent child.
For example – 2 siblings being absent for unauthorised leave in term time, will result in each parent receiving two separate fines.

Penalty Notices will be issued for:

- Term Time Leave: 5 consecutive days or more
- 10 sessions of unauthorised absence and/or lateness in a 10 week period

First Offence
The first time a penalty notice is issued, the amount will be £160 per parent, per child, if paid within 28 days.
(Reduced to £80 per parent, per child, if paid within 21 days.)

Second Offence
The second time a penalty notice is issued, the amount will be £160 per parent, per child, if paid within 28 days.
(There is no reduction for any early payment.)

Third Offence
The third time a penalty notice is issued, the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates Court.
Fines of up to £2500 per parent, per child, can be issued by the courts.

BEHAVIOUR AND ATTENDANCE SUPPORT SERVICE
London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Town Hall, 160 Whitechapel Road, London E1 1BJ
Email: LBTHAttendance&WelfareServiceAdmin@towerhamlets.gov.uk Telephone: 020 7364 3450

The best of London
in one borough



Lateness

Please ensure your child arrives to school on time every day. Prompt arrival in school is important for every year group from Nursery to Year 6. Lateness disrupts the teaching in the classroom and results in your child missing out on their learning time.

Please note the following to ensure your child starts school on time everyday:

- **8.45am to 8.55am Drop off**—school gates open and children can go straight to class
- Parents are not allowed through the gates after 8.55am

Thank you for bringing your children to school on time!