OCTOBER 2023

Wandsworth schools and families

Headstart

Distributed through schools across the borough

Family hub launched

See page 6

Apple partnership expanded See page 10



l have information about a crime.

l am worried someone is going to get hurt.

Need to tell someone

Don't want my name involved

Who can I tell?



in partnership with



Crimestoppers Trust, registered charity in England & Wales (1108687), Scotland (SC037960).

Tell us WHAT YOU KNOW

100% anonymously at Fearless.org

wandsworth.gov.uk/headstart

What's inside for Wandsworth families this month

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Cabinet Member for Children Kate Stock visiting the Apple partnership.

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Deputy Mayor of London Joanne McCartney visited Sacred Heart School last month with members of the London Assembly Cost of Living Working Group to talk to local families about the Cost of Living support they are receiving.

Helping you through tough times

Most families have been hit by the Cost of Living crisis, so we have a package of measures to help you manage.

Find out more about these schemes, if you're eligible, and how to claim at wandsworth.gov.uk/hub

Free school meals and help with food.

Go to the 'Food' section of the hub to see more about free school meals and community groups offering food support. Claiming free school meals will also unlock other help, so claim if you can.

Free school uniforms. If you are in receipt of free school meals and you have a child moving into Reception or Year 7, you could get help with uniform costs. Email voucherandholidaysupport@wandsworth.gov.uk **Free gym and swim.** If you're on free school meals, Universal Credit or are an asylum seeker you could be eligible for free swimming and junior gym sessions at local leisure centres. Visit placesleisure.org/free-wandsworthpremium-membership

Vouchers, grants and allowances. Find out about Healthy Start Vouchers, maternity grants, free childcare and more in the 'Family and childcare' section of the hub.

Holiday schemes. Children on free school meals can access free activities, with lunch included, during the holidays. Read about this summer's Wandsworth Connected scheme on page 7.

Students at Earlsfield Primary School had a visit from Council Leader Simon Hogg, Cabinet member for children Kate Stock and local MP Rosena Allin-Khan who helped serve them lunch and then chatted to them about school meals. Wandsworth has welcomed free school meals for all key stage 2 children funded by the Mayor of London, and has drawn up its own Schools Food Strategy to ensure all children can access healthy hot food. **Read it at bit.ly/3PLvEQF**

Wandsworth Council Cost of Living Support

alla

Help with grants, bills and benefits

Support for families

Where to turn in a crisis and more

visit: wandsworth.gov.uk/hub call: 0808 175 3339



Our first Family Hub is here!

Come to our new family hub at the Yvonne Carr centre in Battersea.

It's a place where you can chat to other people in your community and ask questions about any issues you may have, including housing, health, childcare, lifelong learning and much more.

This is the first hub but others will follow – it's part of our work to bring services into the heart of communities where families can easily reach us. We listened to feedback from local people about what support they need, and we're working with community partners to provide it.

How to get there: Yvonne Carr Family Hub, 2 Thessaly Road, SW8 4HT. Buses: 77, 85, 196, 452 and P5.

New Services at the Yvonne Carr

- Housing Drop Ins for advice, information, and signposting
- Midwifery services drop-in sessions for pregnant mothers
- DWP advice and support for young people not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET)
- Substance Misuse drop-in sessions for young people

Free services for Wandsworth families Riverside Radio were at the Big Play Out giving young people a taste of broadcasting.

The Kimber Road Skate Park is always a popular Wandsworth Connected activity.

What a sensational summer

We had a brilliant time at our Wandsworth Connected summer scheme, and we hope you did too.

Wandsworth Connected is our free holiday scheme offering activities and lunch to children on free school meals. Loads of community organisations helped deliver it with fun all over the borough, including

sport, trips out, art, music, cooking and lots more.

Keep an eye on wandsworth.gov.uk/fis for details of the next one.

One of the biggest events was the Big Play Out in Battersea Park delivered by Enable, the Battersea Summer Scheme and the council. There was loads to do, including a chance to meet animals.





Bounce theatre helped young people express themselves through art



Well done!

Thousands of young people across Wandsworth did themselves, their families and their schools proud this year with some outstanding exam results.

Wandsworth has some of the best secondary schools in the country with 96.5 per cent rated good or outstanding by education watchdog Ofsted – putting the borough 21st out of 152 local authority areas nationally.



Charlotte Lewis received 4 A Grades in A-Level computer science, maths, further maths snd physics and is moving on to a Software Design sponsored apprenticeship with Amazon at Royal Holloway.

Council leader Simon Hogg said:

These students were among those most badly affected by the pandemic and the disruption it caused to their education so to have achieved such good exam results speaks volumes about their talents and their ambitions.

"And of course congratulations are also due to the teachers and teaching assistants who have worked so hard and shown great professional skills and determination to deliver such good results. I'd like to give them huge thanks for all their efforts and their dedication.



Outcomes continue to be above the London average and Wandsworth is in the top ten of all schools nationally in GCSE progress for pupils who are disadvantaged or receiving SEN support. The proportion of young people leaving school without going on to a job, further education or training is just 3.5 per cent – the lowest figure since 2017 and well below the national average.

More schools get a bite of the Apple

Tim Cook visits St Mary's

The partnership between Apple and Wandsworth schools is expanding.

Two schools – St Mary's and Sacred Heart primaries in Battersea are learning coding and skills thanks to a link-up between Wandsworth Council and the tech giant, which moved into its new Battersea home in February.

Last month Apple's CEO Tim Cook flew in to Battersea from California to meet Year 6 pupils at St Mary's who have picked up new tech skills thanks to the partnership. The Everyone Can Code and Everyone Can Create programmes tackle under-achievement through teaching digital skills to students and their teachers and have had a positive impact on skills and confidence.

The partnership project will now be rolled out across nine Wandsworth schools, giving students and teachers access to iPads and Apple Pencils for home and classroom use and providing Apple Professional Learning to help schools and their teachers to deliver innovative teaching practices.

Keep your vote

You now need to show photo ID when voting in person at a polling station.

If you don't have photo ID don't worry, you can apply now for a free Voter Authority Certificate for use at future elections.

Visit voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk or call the helpline on 020 8871 6023



A list of accepted photo IDs can be found at **gov.uk/voting-photo-id**





New library for Beatrix Potter

Students at Beatrix Potter primary school in Wandsworth have celebrated the opening of their new library with the help of children's author Peter Bunzl.

Volunteers and school staff worked hard to install a new library system, train the teachers and students, gather and catalogue books and create



a library space which opens up onto a sensory garden. The school has partnered up with the independent bookstore Backstory on Balham Road. Over £1000 was spent buying new books to add to those books that were donated.

The new-look library was officially opened by Peter Bunzi, ex-Beatrix Potter student.



Share a love of reading

Could you spare up to an hour and a half a week helping a young person in your community learn to read?

Learn to Love to Read recruits and trains volunteers in Wandsworth to offer one-to-one reading support to primary-age children. The more volunteers the charity has, the more children they can help. Apply at learn2love2read.org.uk/ pages/4-volunteer or email matilda(Ql2l2r.org if you have any questions.

What's your creative idea?

WE'RE GOING FOR 2025 London Borough

OF CULTURE

Let's do this togethe

Support our bid at wandsworth.gov.uk/cult

Fashion, dancing, music concerts in parks, poetry, painting and using recycling to build things are just some of the fantastic ideas that young people say they'd like to happen in 2025 if Wandsworth wins London Borough of Culture.

Over the summer the council listened to children and families at events including Wandsworth's Big Play Out in Battersea Park, Happy Streets Festival, Wandsworth Music and arts events.

And in September we went back to hear from students in Year 5 and Year 6 as well as meeting young people aged 14-19 who shared their views on culture and arts.

What do you love about living here and what is your favourite creative activity?

Tell us in our quick survey at wandsworth.gov.uk/culture

School Streets update

Look out for more consultations giving local people a chance to comment on School Streets in their area.

School Streets close the roads outside primary schools to motor traffic at drop-off and pick up times so that children can more safety travel to and from school. So far there are 25 and the aim is to install them in half of all Wandsworth primary schools.

In June School Streets were introduced at Smallwood Primary in Tooting and Riversdale in Wandsworth. Parents and local people have six months to comment and the results will help the council decide if the streets should be kept, amended or withdrawn. People can also comment on an amended scheme for Swaffield School. Visit wandsworth.gov.uk/ schoolstreets

The council also works with schools to bring in school travel plans to encourage students to walk, cycle or scoot to school. Visit wandsworth.gov.uk/school-travel-plans

booster

Get help with your mental health

Dedicated, in-school mental health support is being rolled-out in schools across the borough.

The council is working with the NHS so schools benefit from trained professionals who can help promote good mental health and identify mental health problems earlier. They offer a drop-in service and regular counselling, as well as working closely with local mental health services.

This service has already been rolled out to half Wandsworth's schools and work will continue to

Get your **FREE** NHS Health Check from your GP

NHS

You must be aged 40-74, have not been previously diagnosed with diabetes, kidney disease, heart disease or stroke and have not had an NHS Health check in the last five years

For more information call the council's public health team on (020) 8871 5026 or visit wandsworth.gov.uk/ healthchecks



Wandsworth

make sure all schools benefit from dedicated, in-school mental health support.

"We will make sure young people get the right support, as quickly as possible, whether at school, in the community or through health care settings.

"We are also rolling out initiatives like our new Family Hub pilot at the Yvonne Carr centre which opened recently. It's designed to create holistic family support under one roof, so families get the right help – including mental health support - at the earliest opportunity to improve the lives of children."

Kate Stock,

Cabinet Member for Children



Need help? Ask your school about mental health support Scan the barcode to access online support from Kooth



Open the door to your first home!

If you live or work in Wandsworth and you earn up to a maximum household income of £90,000, speak with Wandsworth's Home Ownership Team and find out about the affordable housing options that are available.

These options include schemes such as:

Shared Ownership - where you can part buy/part rent

Intermediate Rent - where you can benefit from a discounted rent

AND specifically for council tenants:

► House Purchase Grants (Portable Discounts) - where you can use the grant towards purchasing a property on the open market, shared ownership or towards an adaptation on a family member's home.

All schemes are subject to eligibility For information call **(020) 8871 6161**



Let's recycle right

Pupils from Roehampton Church School have been getting involved and supporting the council's efforts to encourage everyone locally to recycle.

The school's Eco Council filmed a series of videos, which the council will share as part of Recycle Week, encouraging everyone to do the right thing with their recycling.

Find out more about what can and can't be recycled locally. Search for "Recycle Now Locator", type in the item you are looking to recycle, enter your postcode and it will tell you whether it can be recycled. Here are some of the things the pupils said about why recycling is important to them:

Recycling is important to me because you can reuse things and make use of things out of the things you have recycles Steven

G Recycling is important because it saves our planet. **J** Wilson

I think it's really important to recycle because I don't want animals to get stuck in plastic and eat it.





Help to get healthy!

Wandsworth schools that have achieved Healthy School status were presented with their awards at a special town hall ceremony.

The Healthy Schools London programme was launched in Wandsworth a year ago and is about developing young people in four areas – PSHE (personal, social, health and economic education), physical activity, healthy eating and mental health and wellbeing.

16 schools achieved bronze, three silver and one gold awards. Bradstow, a special residential school, was the first Wandsworth school to have achieved gold.

As well as Healthy Schools, the council is developing a Children's Food Strategy to tackle food poverty during the Cost of Living crisis, which includes free healthy breakfasts and a new school meals contract focusing on fresh, seasonal produce and healthy food.

And work to help support young people's mental health includes a child and adolescent mental health service in nine out of ten schools, and additional support for the most vulnerable.

Find out about Healthy Schools and other support to keep young people healthy at wandsworth.gov.uk/childrenand-young-peoples-health



A taste for classical

As Wandsworth campaigns to become London Borough of Culture 2025, pupils at four local primary schools got a taste of classical music when the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra visited to run free music workshops.

They were based around orchestral, soul, and

jazz music ahead of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra performing at Battersea Park in a concert organised by Enable.

Pupils at St George's Primary School, Sacred Heart Primary School, St Mary's RC Primary School and Falconbrook School explored classical instruments and created their own composition together.



Cars banished on play streets

Play Streets sprang up across Wandsworth last month as the borough celebrated Car Free Day.

The council closed streets for free, and there were grants on offer for play equipment and refreshments.



What a wonderful Wandle mural!

Children from five local schools helped create a 15-metre wide mural on Garratt Lane celebrating the wildlife in and around the River Wandle.

The mural was created by local artist and illustrator Jane Porter and features collages and drawings created by more 300 pupils at a series of workshops.

Students from Sheringdale, Riversdale, Swaffield and St Michaels schools, plus Aspire Nursery, Kimber Skate Park and Paradise Co-op took part. As part of the project children also learnt about the ecology of the river through workshops with the South East Rivers Trust education programme, Project Kingfisher.

This mural is one of three projects supported by funding from Higgins Partnerships and secured through Section 106 planning commitments with Wandsworth Council.

Well done young historians

Congratulations to the winners of our 2023 Wandsworth Council/GLL Heritage Awards for Schools. Local schoolchildren were invited to make a short film featuring a place or person with a link to Wandsworth's past.

St Joseph's RC Primary School visited a workshop where they learned about the changing landscape of the area around their school.

Inspired to find out more, they investigated Wandsworth's past in their short film, and paid a



visit to Wandsworth Town Hall.

Dolphin School pupils interviewed teaching and support staff who grew up in the area and asked them about their experiences ranging from food to fashion.

Both schools were awarded a prize, which included a £100 Amazon voucher, a free trampoline session, and an annual membership to the Wandsworth Historical Society.



Getting creative about careers

In July, 375 Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in workshops to help them find out about careers in the creative industries.

Creative Routes workshops are delivered by a creative professional to teach pupils a new creative skill and open

their eyes to a wider range of creative skills and opportunities. Pupils find out more about a different creative segment then are given their own fun mini-brief and job 'commission'.

Workshops last term focused on journalism with former BBC reporter, producer and Head of Change Sarah Burbedge, and on Illustration and the publishing world with professional illustrator Grace Holliday.

To find out about future workshops email creativewandsworth@wandsworth.gov.uk







Well done Team Wandsworth

Wandsworth scooped the Inner London Borough Trophy at this year's London Youth Games.

Around 4,000 young sportspeople from all 33 boroughs took part in the finals earlier this month.

The Inner London trophy is awarded to the inner London borough with the highest overall score. Wandsworth's teams came first in Archery and second in Girls Volleyball, Cross Country (female and male), ParaGames Swimming (Male) and Indoor Rowing.

Find out more about this year's results and how to take part next year at **enablelc.org/lyg**

The girls' volleyball team



Darci performs poetry

Six-year-old Darci from Swaffield School won the top prize in the national Shadowing Scheme run as part of the CLPE Children's Poetry Award (CLiPPA).

Darci performed Uplifting by Waterstones Children's Laureate Joseph Coelho and impressed the judges so much that she was invited to perform it live on the Lyttleton stage of the National Theatre at the award ceremony in July becoming the youngest solo performer in the competition ever.

CLiPPA is the UK's only award for published poetry for children. As well as celebrating outstanding poetry, the CLiPPA encourages schools to explore the shortlist with their pupils through the Shadowing Scheme, which prompts poetry performances in classrooms across the UK, including Swaffield.

Darci said:

I chose the poem to perform and I worked out all the actions myself. I met Joseph Coelho at the event and he said thank you to me for performing his poem! "It educates you what you should do when it's unsafe and you feel uncomfortable doing something." **Primary pupil**

"Really helped me understand the signs of exploitation. I learnt what is and isn't a healthy relationship." Secondary pupil

SAFE TEAM



Young people have learnt about abuse and consent through a touring production from Loudmouth Theatre.

The theatre company have been visiting Wandsworth primary and secondary schools for three years. With younger children, drama is used to explore issues such as abuse, online safety and domestic abuse, with children guided to sources of support. Older children also learn about issues such as county lines, pornography, grooming and modern slavery.

Around 3,000 Wandsworth schoolchildren have been reached, with all of them saying the sessions helped them stay safe, and 97 per cent of secondary pupils saying they felt more confident about spotting signs of exploitation. The next tour will start this month.

Get protected against measles

With measles cases rising in London, parents and carers are reminded to make sure their child is protected.

Two doses of the MMR vaccine offers 99 per cent protection against three serious, highly infectious conditions: measles, mumps and rubella. Measles symptoms include cold-like symptoms, sore red eyes, a high temperature and a rash and the disease can lead to serious complications.

The first dose is usually given at one year and the second from 18 months or pre-school. Some children miss out on the second dose for various reasons. Your child will not be fully immunised against measles if they have not received both doses. Check in your child's red book or ask your GP.

If your child has not had both MMR doses, it is never too late to catch up. Book an appointment with your GP to get the vaccination.

For more information visit www.nhs.uk/ conditions/measles



Schools put on a show for WAF

Primary schools from across Wandsworth came together as part of Wandsworth Arts Fringe for a spectacular and creative showcase celebrating Happiness.

The evening was packed full of theatre, visual arts, animation and dance including: theatre by Brandlehow Primary School and Ronald Ross Primary School; a music video by Paddock Primary School; dance by Goldfinch Primary School, Ravenstone Primary School, St. Faith's CE Primary School, St. Mary's RC Battersea, Trinity St. Mary's Primary School and Shaftsbury Park Primary School; animations by Nightingale Community Academy; visual art by John Burns Primary School, Mosaic Jewish Primary School and St. Joseph's RC Primary School.

Schools worked with local partners including Group 64 Theatre, Chocolate Films, London Children's Ballet and the Royal College of Art.

Visit wandsworthfringe.com to find out about taking part in next year's Wandsworth Arts Fringe.

Battersea Park Fireworks

November 4-5

Saturday night's show will be delivered by Titanium Fireworks who provide notable displays to events such as The Mayor of London's New Year's Eve Celebrations and the 2022 Commonwealth Games. There will also be the traditional bonfire and food and drinks stalls.

November 5 will be a familyoriented Sunday night show with an earlier start time and children's activities.

Book tickets now at batterseaparkfireworks. com

Autumn listings

This is just a taste of what's going on. For more activities visit wandsworth.gov.uk/fis

How to be listed

Send details to: headstart@wandsworth.gov.uk We cannot guarantee that your entry will be inserted. This is a free service. The information in this guide has been provided by the advertisers themselves. Wandsworth Council accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of the information or for any event not organised by the council.



All Star Tennis

October 23-27 Holiday tennis camp for three-yearolds to teens

- Leaders Gardens
- King George's Park
- Tooting Common
- Wandsworth Common

allstartennis.co.uk info@allstartennis.co.uk



Solstice

December 1-24

Solstice is a brand new immersive trail through the seasons, with magical creatures and a festive adventure for all the family. The light-trail marks the first collaboration between BAC and Wild Rumpus, an awardwinning immersive events company. Suitable for ages 3+.

bac.org.uk/whats-on/solstice/

WANDSWORTH

The Story of the Ashanti Throne

Tooting Library, October 16 Earlsfield Library, October 27. Find out about the Ashanti Royal family in Ghana and dress up as African kings and queens.

Storytime and Craft, Roehampton Library

October 17 and 24. Storytime with Kamapala Chuckwuka. Hear about Obi, a boy with a unique gift of caring for others.

wandsworth.gov.uk/black-history-month

Half Term at Putney School of Art and Design October 23-27

Courses for young people and families including drawing,

painting, printmaking and pottery

psad.org.uk/course-list/ specialist-and-holiday-courses



Mix and Munch half term lessons

Young people aged 6-12 can learn how to prepare simple, healthy dishes and can take them home afterwards.

mixandmuch.com or email hello@mixandmunch.com



Pied Piper

Oct 24-28

The Mayor of Hamelin has banned music! Can a mysterious stranger help? The world premiere of hip-hop music Pied Piper comes courtesy of the BAC Beatbox Academy and is suitable for the whole family.

bac.org.uk/whats-on/pied-piper/

Wandsworth Mobile youth centre

Wandsworth's first mobile youth centre is coming to a neighbourhood near you.

It's a place to relax and socialise, with gaming consoles, recording equipment and free refreshments. Catch it at the following locations from 4pm-9pm:

- Monday: York Gardens, Battersea
- Tuesday: The former Alton Youth Club, Dilton Gardens, Roehampton
- Wednesday: Tooting Bec Lido car park
- Thursday: The Green, Charlotte Despard Avenue, Battersea
- Friday: Former Lennox Youth Club, Arabella Drive, Roehampton.
- On Saturday the bus will be in Tooting from 2pm-6pm. Find it next to the Skylark Café, Wandsworth Common.

Holiday clubs

Oct 23-27

- Junior Adventures Holiday Club, Sheringdale Primary School, SW18 junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/find-us/ sheringdale-primary-school
- Multi sports camp, Floreat School and Earlsfield Primary School. amsportsacademy.co.uk/camps
- Activ Camps, Graveney School, Tooting.
 Activcamps.com/store/graveney-school/
- Junior rowing at Barn Elms Boathouse. enablelc.org/bebh

Group 64

October 24-27

Half term theatre holiday projects for 4-7 year olds and 7-11 year olds at the Putney Arts Theatre

g64.org.uk/holiday-projects



Trick or Treat Trail

Collect goodies and treats around Putney and enjoy some scary safe fun. Businesses that are taking part will display a poster in the window so that you know that you are at the right place, plus take part in Halloween arts and crafts.

positivelyputney.co.uk/halloween/

Drawn to Water

Until January 1

Discover the magic of the Wetlands Centre through the illustrations of Quentin Blake. Follow an illustrated trail and take part in art and illustration activities for all ages.

Wetlands Centre, Barnes wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/London



Childminder briefing sessions

November 7, December 5, 10am-noon Find out if being a childminder is for you and start the registration process. No need to book – just turn up

7 Ram Street, SW18 1TJ childmindingservice@ wandsworth.gov.uk

Creative Careers Fair

November 14, 10am-5pm Ever wanted to work in the creative industries? This free event for young people in years 7-13 is a chance to explore different job roles. Just turn up or email for more information

Battersea Arts Centre creativewandsworth@ wandsworth.gov.uk

Jack and the Beans Talk

December 3, 9 and 10 A fresh and funny retelling of the classic fairlytale.

Omnibus Theatre, Clapham Common northsideomnibusclapham.org

Building Better Stories: A Lego Adventure

October 21, 10am-1.30pm Let your imagination loose and build your own world at Balham Library

Board Games Club

October 24, 4pm-5pm Play chess, scrabble, Uno and more in Southfields Library

All day Halloween Party: Spooky Crafts

Come and join the Halloween fun at Tooting Library

Find out more about these and other fun events, storytimes, workshops and crafts at better.org.uk/whats-onin-wandsworth-libraries

Schools

General information: wandsworth.gov.uk/schools Admissions: wandsworth.gov.uk/admissions Term dates: wandsworth.gov.uk/termdates Find a school: wandsworth.gov.uk/schoolsAtoZ

Recycling

General information: wandsworth.gov.uk/recycling

What can I recycle?: wandsworth.gov.uk/recyclefromhome

Arts, leisure and culture

Arts: wandsworth.gov.uk/arts Events: wandsworth.gov.uk/events Libraries: wandsworth.gov.uk/libraries Leisure centres and sport: wandsworth.gov.uk/sport Adult Education: wandsworthlifelonglearning.co.uk

Parks

General information: wandsworth.gov.uk/parks

Playgrounds and trim trails A-Z: wandsworth.gov.uk/playgroundsAtoZ

Parenting support, education, childcare, family activities, health, SEND local offer

wandsworth.gov.uk/fis











Join our adventure and book here before we sell out!



December 16th – 23rd Wandsworth Civic Suite

HE PANTO

FK

Tickets available from

Get in touch:

theatre@enablelc.org whatsonwandsworth.com/peter-pan-the-panto



In partnership with enable For happy, healthier communit Not for profit.