Wandsworth schools and families

Headstart

Distributed through schools across the borough



Award winning camps with All Star Tennis!



ANNIVERSARY

3yrs to teens | All levels welcome

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The borough's babies will get a better start in life thanks to a unique package of support from Wandsworth Council.

The first scheme of its kind in London will see all care-experienced young parents, and parents under 21 in need of support, get a free 'baby box' just before they have their first child.

The box contains books and toys to help young parents positively bond with their baby through play, reading, singing and counting and provides them with the essentials needed in the crucial first few years of a baby's life. The box itself has a padded mattress and can be used as a cot if necessary.

Framie Brum, a young parent herself who has used the contents of the box with her baby, said "I'm glad they've brought this in now when some people are struggling. You wouldn't have an idea what to do but his box is complete with

everything you need."

The Baby Box scheme is being launched soon with support from the Family Nurse Partnership and St George's and Chelsea and Westminster NHS Trusts

As well as the Baby Box, parents will receive ongoing support from experienced, child-focused staff from the council's new 'one-stop shop' the Family Hub, working in partnership with health and social care experts.

The first Wandsworth Family Hub was launched in September at the Yvonne Carr centre, and provides a wide range of family support under one roof, including midwifery, health visiting and children's centre services, as well as more streamlined access to other new services such as housing support and career advice.

Find out about support for families at wandsworth.gov.uk/hub

Swim for free



Children in school years 5-7 can get free swimming lessons during the school holidays and all children aged eight and under can use council-run swimming pools for free.

The lessons will be for Wandsworth school children who have not reached the required swimming level set out in the National Curriculum.

All Wandsworth children aged eight and under can use council-run swimming pools for free and children can also use some tennis courts for free at certain times. Young people up to the age of 18 who receive free school meals and a range of benefits can swim for free and use the free junior gym.

This summer, following its £4m refurbishment, 250 free tickets to the Tooting Bec Lido will

Wandsworth residents on means-tested benefits (see page 27)

It's all part of the council Access for All initiative aimed at lower income families on a range of benefits who would not otherwise be able to afford admission fees to sports and leisure facilities.

Access for all is an element of the council's cost-of-living support fund, worth £15m and the biggest in London.

Find out more at

wandsworth.gov.uk/





our bid and is seen here with Year 4 children.

We are delighted to announce that Wandsworth will be London's Borough of Culture in 2025. Mayor of London Sadig Khan made the announcement at City Hall in March and since then the council has been starting the process of turning its bid into reality.

Being Borough of Culture means we will receive funding from the Mayor's office which will go towards staging a fantastic programme of arts and culture across the borough, from Tooting and Roehampton to Battersea and Putney. It also means we can attract investment into the borough, create new employment opportunities and ensure we have a thriving arts and culture sector for generations to come.

We are still working on the details of the programme, which will be announced in the Autumn, but there will be loads of things for young people and their families to do and lots of opportunities to get involved. Through our Schools Programme we aim to ensure that every single young person in the borough is involved in the year.

Over 350 young people were involved in creating the bid and during that process they told us what they would like to see in 2025. This included opportunities to explore and express their creativity and learning arts and digital skills.



Making sure Wandsworth children can access healthy food is crucial, so the council has changed the way people claim free school meals.

Instead of expecting parents to apply, now all eligible children who are known to the council through the revenues and benefits service are automatically enrolled - although they can opt out if they want.

Twenty-nine per cent of Wandsworth children are eligible for free school meals – up from 17 per cent in 2019.

Receiving free school meals enables families to claim other benefits, such as free holiday playschemes (see page 29), free food vouchers during the holidays, free swimming lessons (see page 5) and free school uniforms.

It's all part of making sure families and young people can get access to the support and services they need. A new Schools Food Plan is making sure that children can get affordable, nutritious meals, including working with the charity Magic Breakfast to offer free breakfasts in 20 schools, school lunches that focus more on quality, health and sustainability and lessons on food, cooking and growing.

The Leader of Wandsworth Council, Simon Hogg, has visited local primary schools to learn more about how the School Food Plan, and the Mayor's of London's free school meal funding, is making a difference. This includes trips to Earlsfield School, Sacred Heart and Heathmere (pictured above).







St. Mary's RC is the first primary school in Wandsworth to achieve Gold Healthy Schools status in Wandsworth.

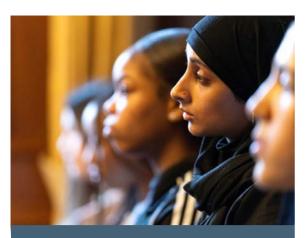
The school has put food at the heart of its approach, including lessons in cooking, kitchen skills and the different food groups, visits to a farm and a popular after-school cooking club.

It also received the award for work to get children more physically active, including free after-school dance and gym clubs and Raceways Revolution which encourages children to run laps which are recorded on a database. If they do well they get a certificate.

"Children who once dreaded the idea of running are now desperate to get out for our weekly Raceway Revolution sessions, come rain or shine!" said teacher Mr Shoubber.

To find out how to get involved in the Wandsworth Healthy Schools Programme email Zdenka.Buchan@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk





Think about apprenticeships

Students at Wandsworth schools have found about local opportunities at an event to mark National Apprenticeship Week.

In Wandsworth the council's Lifelong Learning team works with young people to find them apprenticeships, and with local employers to encourage them to offer apprenticeships.

Southfields student Alex, who wants to be a social worker, went along to find out about the different routes to starting a career other than university: "You start an apprenticeship with specifically a career you want to go into to, so you've got to make sure you have the passion for the job."

To find out how Lifelong Learning can help you visit wandsworthlifelonglearning.org.uk or call 020 8871 8055.





Supportiving families

Wimbledon's youth orchestra

Join us for our 2024/25 season

Main Orchestra Grade 7+



Learn to make music together Aged 8–13? Start your orchestral journey with Stoneleigh Training Orchestra Grade 4+



Auditions 7 & 8 September

Main Orchestra and Training Orchestra Saint Cecilia's Church of England School, Sutherland Grove, London SW18 5JR

BOOK NOW stoneleighyouthorchestra.org.uk



Farm life

A group of 11 students from Heathmere Primary School have got a taste of what it's like to work on a farm.

The students spent a week at Jamie's Farm in Hereford; a charity that helps young people thrive through a mixture of farming and therapy.

They took part in activities including farming, cooking, gardening, chopping wood and working with horses, as well as climbing the Gaer in the Black Mountains. The school chose students that they felt would benefit the most, and they overcame any fears they

had and threw themselves into everything.

The young people lived like a family; working, eating and playing together, and were given time to reflect on their success and behaviour and to show recognition of what the group achieved as a whole.

The trip was funded by the council via the Wandsworth Peace Memorial Fund, and was a pilot for a possible expansion of the scheme to other schools.





I want to be with horses and try riding. I want to help animals and work on a farm with animals. I want to remember I am a very good farmer. David

After my time on the farm I want to see more horses and be more around animals.

Farisha

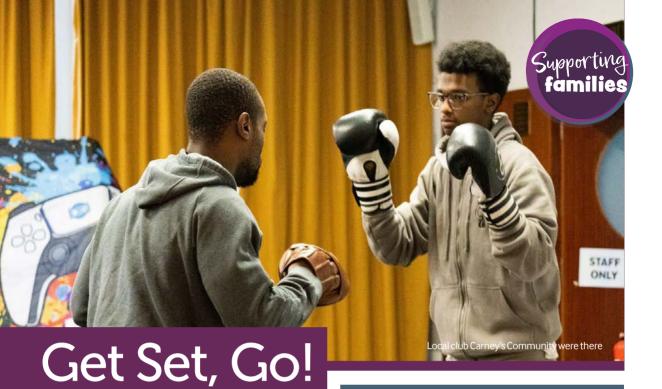
I want to remember that on the farm I am hard working because whenever we go out to do the feeding rounds I don't stop or give up. **Veronica**



I want to remember that on the farm I am calm and positive also happy and active. I felt overjoyed when I held the baby lamb.

Adriana





Thanks to everyone who turned up to April's Get Set, Go! 2024 event. We hope you had fun and found it useful.

Get Set, Go! Is an event to help with the transition to adulthood for young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

As well as fun activities, there was a chance to find out about support on offer, including training, housing, employment, education, activities and health.

If you missed it you can find out about support for children and young people with SEND and their families on the Wandsworth Local Offer page. Visit wandsworth.gov.uk/localoffer



Keep an eye out for this card when you are out and about

Parent Champions keep these cards on them when they're out or at events and hand them out so it's easy to contact them if you don't have time to chat there and then.

The Parent Champions help families find out

about the services and support available to them, including early years help and support for young people with SEND. To find out more

To find out more search Parent Champions on wandsworth. gov.uk/fis



GET IN TOUCH

Scan the QR CODE to let us know what help your family needs.



https://fis.wandsworth.gov.uk







Wandsworth's first Youth Mayor

For the first time ever, Wandsworth has a Youth Mayor.

Millie Quinn, 17, has vowed to make sure young people's views and needs are considered in decisions that affect them.

She also wants to promote understanding of young people living with poor health and tackle gender-base violence through education. She said: "I am extremely passionate about Wandsworth being a more inclusive and innovative borough, and so I will ensure to promote and celebrate children and young people's achievements across Wandsworth."

The deputy Youth Mayor is Favour Oniri. Her priorities are tackling child poverty, raising awareness of young people's mental and physical wellbeing and building stronger and safer communities.







Fircroft Primary celebrated World Book Day by inviting parents and carers in for family reading. There were also visits from authors and a competition for the best dressed pupil.





St Mary's RC Primary, Battersea pupils enjoyed extra reading, talking about books and quizzes, plus the chance to meet an author and take home a free book from the pop-up book shop.





Award Schools for Jackie Valin

Southfields Academy headteacher Jackie Valin has won an Inspirational Educator Award in Mental Health in Education.

She was praised for her work building strong links with professionals in health and social care and for developing policies and activities across the school to provide support, normalise mental health and emotional well-being and remove any stigma attached to talking about mental health and asking for help.

Her approach has been extended to schools across South West London and she has supported schools across England. Jackie also produced the 'Butterflies' book, a resource for schools across London to effectively tackle mental health and emotional well-being, and to support students and parents who suffer mental ill health





Outstanding schools

Finding their voice

Year 6 pupils at Granard won places in the final of this year's Speak Up public speaking competition.

Speak Up helps young people learn how to structure speeches and engage audiences. Two Granard pupils – Joe Byrne and Lauren Takyi – represented Granard at the final and Lauren won the runner's up prize with her speech about women's football and gender inequality.

create a safer, kinder school community.











Food waste recycling collections

Food waste collections have now started for all households with enough space at the front of their property for a food waste caddy, e.g. a front garden or a driveway.

Riaan, age 8 and Neva, age 6, have been getting involved showing residents how to use the new food waste service.

Food waste – raw and uncooked food - is now collected weekly, on collection day. Residents have been given two caddies – one brown caddy for the outside and a silver, indoor one to put in the kitchen.

During the week residents can empty their silver, indoor caddy as many times as they like, into the outdoor brown one. The brown caddy should be put out on collection day, or the evening before.

The food waste is taken away to be recycled and turned into renewable energy and compost for farmers.

To find out more about what can and cannot be recycled, visit wandsworth.gov.uk/foodwaste



AUGUST 3RD - 4TH 2024

EVOLUTION LONDON, BATTERSEA PARK

A two-day adventure of endless fun and entertainment awaits the kids this August. Playtopia is a jam-packed schedule of games, activities, and educational fun.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

Nails and hair braiding salon **Movie screenings** Free book zones **Dodaems Giant inflatables** Soft play areas Kid's discos

+ loads more

Tickets and information: PLAYTOPIA.ORG.UK















Runaway success

Nine Wandsworth Schools got involved in the TCS Mini London Marathon in April.

An impressive 476 Wandsworth pupils jogged, ran or walked either a mile, or 2.6km depending on their age, around St James's Park while friends and family cheered them on to the finish line at The Mall.

"If you want to feel like a champion and get a medal take part in the Mini-Marathon," said Max in Year 6 at St. Mary's RC Primary School

Young runners triumphed again when Wandsworth Schools were crowned top London borough in the TCS Mini London Marathon in Schools Challenge. The challenge was to run, jog, walk or wheel 2.6 miles in their school over one, two, three or more days, making it accessible to everyone.

Thanks to Layla Hall, the Daily Mile School

Engagement Manager, and Nick Miller, the Wandsworth School Games Organiser, and their teams.

Both The TCS Mini Marathon in schools and Daily Mile initiatives are promoted as a part of the Wandsworth Healthy Schools Programme.

Find out more at wandsworth.gov.uk/healthy-schools





School Streets update

Two more schools could be getting School Streets if plans are approved following a public consultation.

All Saints in Putney and Battersea's Belleville at its Meteor Street site are consulting on proposals to join the borough's existing network of 29 schools across 27 zones.

The scheme prevents vehicles from using roads outside schools during the start and end of the school day.

If local people agree the School Streets will run for a trial period and people will get a chance to comment again during that time.

An additional three Schools Streets also started last month at Heathmere School on Roehampton's Alton Estate, Brandlehow School in Putney and Belleville School's site in Webbs Road, Battersea

Find out more about school streets at wandsworth.gov.uk/school-streets- scheme



BOOK AN CHECKED CHECKED HER GREAT HEALTH CHECKED HER GREAT AT a local pharmacy

Aged 40-74? A quick and free NHS Health Check can help reduce your risk of common, serious illnesses like stroke, dementia and diabetes.



NHS Health Checks are now available at MORE pharmacies across the borough, in addition to GP surgeries. Find out if you're eligible and where you can get an NHS Health Check in your area.





Wandsworth's young

Healthy

sporting stars

Congratulations to Poppy Frost and Julia Marczak, who were winners at this year's Active Wandsworth Awards.

Poppy volunteers for Spencer Lynx, introducing children aged 9 and 10 to hockey. She won Young Volunteer of the Year.

Judo champ Julia has been named Junior Sports Person of the Year. Last year Julia won gold for Great Britain in the European Youth Olympic Festival, was 5th in the European Championships and took silver at the European Cup in Spain this February.

The Active Wandsworth Awards are run by Enable in partnership with Wandsworth Council. Find out more about how to get involved in sport in Wandsworth, including the London Youth Games, at enablelc.org/leisure







Get protected against Measles

Parents and carers are urged to make sure their child is protected against Measles, amid an upsurge of cases in Wandsworth and across London.

Measles is a highly infectious disease that can lead to serious illness. One in five children who catch the disease are hospitalised, and on rare occasions it can prove fatal.

The MMR vaccine remains the safest and most effective way to protect children against severe illness from measles.

Children are routinely offered the first dose of the MMR vaccine at age one year, and the second dose at 18 months. Just two doses of the vaccine give lifelong protection against measles.

If your child needs one or both MMR vaccines, you can book an appointment at your child's GP surgery. You can also speak to your GP



practice if you have any questions or concerns about the vaccine.

It is never too late to catch up. The MMR vaccine is available free from the NHS whatever your age. Visit wandsworth.gov.uk/measles-mmr-vaccine







All Star Tennis

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

Group 64

July 29-August 14

Summer holiday theatre projects for 4-7 year olds, 7-11 year olds and 11-16 year olds at the Putney Arts Theatre.

g64.org.uk/holiday-projects

Mix and Munch cooking classes

July 22-August 20 Holiday classes for six-12 year olds.

mixandmunch.com

Holiday clubs

- Junior Adventures, Sheringdale School junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/ find-us/sheringdale-primaryschool/#holiday-programschedule
- Activ Camps, Burntwood School, Graveney School activcamps.com/burntwoodschool
- Crazy Camps, Ernest Bevin College crazycamps.co.uk
- Super Camps, Putney High School supercamps.co.uk
- Gymfinity Wandsworth camp, Garratt Lane Gymfinitykids.com
- AM Multi-Sport Camp, Floreat School amsportsacady.co.uk



Family Bike Rides

- July 7 Tooting Athletics Track to Battersea Park
- August 3 Richmond Park to King George's Park.

Join a family bike ride and get a free bike maintenance check. Book your place in advance.

wandsworth.gov.uk/family-cycle-rides

Putney School of Art and Design

July 16-August 9

Courses include art and design for young people, family learning pottery and a kids' art club.

psad.org.uk

Furzedown Youth Café

Open to sixth formers only during term time at lunch time and after school. Free food and drink available

Furzedown Pavilion enablelc.org/furzedown-youth-cafe

Sport in the Park

Summer fun in Battersea Park from the Battersea Crime Prevention Panel.

batterseasummerscheme.org.uk

Childminder Briefing Sessions

August 6 10am-noon September 10, 10am-noon

Interested in a career as a professional childminder? Find out what's involved and start the registration process.

The sessions are at 7 Ram Street, Wandsworth. Just turn up.

Email childmindingservice@wandsworth.gov.uk or call (020) 8871 6223 for details.



Wandsworth Connected: Summer Fun

Summer fun, including a free lunch, for children on free school meals. Drama, arts and crafts, swimming, cycling, messy play, reading, cooking, science, skateboarding and more.

wandsworth.gov.uk/fis





Battersea Junior Parkrun

Every Sunday, 9am
A free, fun and friendly 2k event for four to 14 year olds

Battersea Park parkrun.org.uk/battersea-juniors

Family Hub Virtual Workshops

Fortnightly 1.30pm-2.30pm Parents and carers can get helpful tips from a range of experts. The next session on July 15 is about toilet training.

Email Hannah.skaife@ richmondandwandworth.gov.uk



Kellogg's Football Camps

July 29-Aug 30

Delivered by AFC Wimbledon at The Aspire Centre, Southfields

afcwimbledonfoundation.com/kelloggs-football-camp

about.

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



Food waste collections



Please recycle all your cooked and uncooked food waste

Food waste is now collected from all eligible households across the borough. Flats will receive the service later in the year.

















REMEMBER

Put your rubbish, recycling, food waste and small electricals out for collection on your usual day, or the evening before.

Rubbish and recycling collections may be earlier than you are used to.

DO NOT PLACE THE FOLLOWING **IN YOUR CADDY:**

- X Compostable packaging (except compostable caddy liners)
- X Liquids, such as milk, oil or gravy
- X Biodegradable plastic coffee pods
- X Any other plastics/bio-plastics
- Paper (except to line the caddy)
- X Foil or cling film
- Garden waste



Any questions visit: wandsworth.gov.uk/foodwaste