



## School Finances and Impact

All schools are finding their budgets more difficult to manage as we have to pay for unfunded or partially funded pay increases and general costs for everything from paper and books to gas and electric continue to rise. Many Lambeth schools are already in a deficit position (meaning they have spent money they do not have and have to repay it) and, even though Hitherfield is not one of these schools, we are finding it harder and harder to set a balanced budget. Everyone can read the Lambeth Schools Forum minutes <https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/schools-and-education/education-lambeth/lambeth-schools-forum> which gives information about school funding.

However, even at Hitherfield we have to make changes which parents/carers need to be aware of. The Senior Team (myself, Luke, Laura, Tom, Jenni, Julia and Melanie) are all now supporting and/or teaching in classes at various points in the week. This means that not all of us will be available at the start of the school day and we may take longer to get back to you if you request a catch up or a conversation. We appreciate your patience.

Schools are funded on a per pupil basis and, whilst this has increased per child, it has not kept up with specific school costs. In addition to this many schools in Lambeth are struggling with pupil numbers, due to the falling birth rate, Brexit, housing issues, the cost of living crisis and the pandemic. Thankfully, Hitherfield continues to be very popular with local families and we will, once again, be full in Reception in September 2024 so our pupil numbers remain strong. Therefore the financial situation is far worse in many other Lambeth schools, but it is an issue for all Lambeth and London schools.

Chris Ashley-Jones  
Executive Headteacher

## Urgent Incident Update

Yesterday we sent this email to all families:

A parent has reported that they were involved in an incident at the top of Hitherfield Road, near to Hillside passage yesterday (Wednesday) evening. A man was talking and shouting randomly and he started to shout at and follow the parent and their child and he went on to grab the child's shoulder. Whilst the parent and child were fine and the incident has been reported to the police, I recommend all of our families take extra care at the moment and please return to the school if you feel threatened in any way.

Thank you to the families who made contact and reported further incidents or other observations. We have passed the additional information onto the local MET Safer Neighbourhoods Team and we have requested their presence at drop off and collection. We recommend that families do not engage with anyone shouting and if you feel unsafe please telephone 999 to report the incident and return to the school if it is safe to. We now know that the police are taking this issue seriously and attended the school at 6pm yesterday.



## GOOD NEWS CARDS

Congratulations to these children who have really impressed their Teachers this week.

1 COBRA	1 DUGONG	1 SUNBIRD
The Whole Class	Emily and Julian	Ferdie and Ruby
2 MANATEE	2 MONGOOSE	2 HUMMINGBIRD
Oscar and Marwa	To be announced next week	Jacob and Alfie
3 JAGUAR	3 MACAW	3 ANACONDA
Nicholas and Ayana	Annie and Stevie	Finlay and Jackson
4 HIPPOPOTAMUS	4 FLAMINGO	4 CHEETAH
The Whole Class	Abbie and Gilbert	Grayson and Kolya
5 KINGFISHER	5 HEDGEHOG	5 OTTER
Niah and Jazeeb	Cerys and Alexandre	Jules and Amelia
6 ORCA	6 PUFFIN	6 WOLVERINE
Gabriel T and Nelly	Victoria, Hussain and Tabby	Kayla and Joshua

### Dates for the Diary

**Monday 5th February** - Ancient Egypt Day Year 6

**Tuesday 6th February** - 1 cobra Class Assembly and Open Morning 9:15am – 10:15am

Wednesday 7th February - Nursery Parents' Evening 1pm – 6pm  
**Nursery closes at 12pm**

**Wednesday 7th February** – Year 1 Wandle Reading meeting 2:30pm main hall

**Thursday 8th February** - Hitherfield's Got Talent - Years 1-3

**Friday 9th February** - Hitherfield's Got Talent Years 4-6

**Friday 9th February** – Last day of term

**Monday 19th February** – Children return to school

A new Dance Club started this week for Years 4-6 on Wednesday's 3:30 – 4:30pm. We still have a few places left. Dance your way to fitness to the sounds of Soca, Hip-Hop, Dancehall, Afro-Beats and Drum and Bass

**Polling Day - May 2nd 2024 - London Mayor and Assembly**

**Advanced Notice - School Closure**  
**We have been informed that the polling station will be on the main school site on Thursday May 2nd 2024. Therefore the school and nursery will be closed to all children and staff that day. The Children's Centre will remain open as usual.**

In reception we need some equipment for our wood working area

Lids - metal, plastic, jam jars etc

Corks

Small world animals

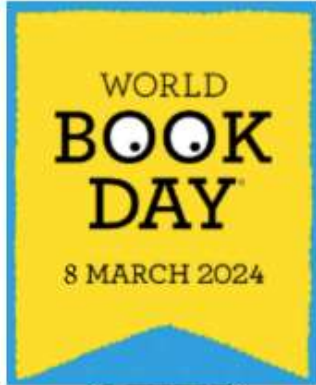
Large construction toys

Please drop them to Jenni in Early Years or the school office.



Year 2 had great fun with a Travel & Transport Through the Ages Workshop on Thursday. Actors from Divergent Drama took them on a journey through time and the children had to use the history knowledge and drama skills to create a Roman Chariot, a Viking Longship, a Hot Air Balloon, a steam train and even a car assembly line for a visiting Henry Ford! As well as having a lot of fun the children learned key facts about the development of transport over time and extended their understanding of History. In Class, they then designed and built their own cars in DT - applying their new knowledge of inventions and engineering! Well done Year 2!





## WORLD BOOK DAY IS COMING!



Fancy dress

Costume parades



Drop Everything and Read

Paired Reading



Book Themed Activities



Book Tokens

The Big Book Swap





Hitherfield Primary School is hosting our second **Big Book Swap** on **Friday 8th of March** for **World Book Day!**

And to make it happen, we need **YOUR** books!  
**1 or 10, ALL HELP!**

Do you have any books at home that your children are bored of, are no longer age appropriate or that have sat untouched for months?

**Yes? Then donate them to the Big Book Swap!**

Please bring all donations in by the Friday 1st of March! Deliver them to either the school office or Lauren in Puffin Class (Year 6).

(Please only donate books that children would like to read - No torn up or scribbled on books please!)



# FEBRUARY WARM UP FRIDAYS



Friday 2nd  
February

Friday 9th  
February



**HOT CHOCOLATE, TEA,  
COFFEE, SWEET TREATS**  
after school,  
main playground

## Early Years SEN Autism Coffee Mornings



- ❖ Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February at Jubilee Children's Centre, Tulse Hill, SW2 2JE
- ❖ Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March at Stockwell Children's Centre, Burgoyne Road, SW9 9QJ
- ❖ Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April at The Spinney, Windmill Drive SW4 9DE
- ❖ Drop-in session 10am-12pm, no need to book, just pop along! Children welcome

Activities Toileting **SLEEP** Behaviour  
**FUSSY EATING** VISUALS SEN Processes  
Nursery





Green Space Works  
LJ Works  
Gatineau Yard  
Loughborough Junction  
SW9 7FA  
[www.getridofit-donate.com](http://www.getridofit-donate.com)

Free crafts workshop -  
all welcome  
Community Event  
Monday 5th  
February 2024  
2pm - 4pm



## HANDS ON HEARTS



### Come and create giant bunting chains with your community!

- ♥ Hands on Hearts creates giant bunting chains to celebrate our community spirit and strength
  - ♥ The bunting is made up of hand and heart shapes - and people really love them!
  - ♥ We work together to make individual flags and then gather them together to hang in our community spaces.
  - ♥ Anyone of any age can take part - you don't have to think of yourself as creative and you don't have to be able to sew
  - ♥ We hope to create enough bunting to hold an exhibition later this year...
  - ♥ But the only way we can do that is if we get together to make it happen!
- ♥ No need to sign up - just turn up and it's fine to drop in
  - ♥ Free tea, coffee - and cake!
  - ♥ Children must be accompanied by an adult
  - ♥ Hope to see you there!

Reuse and Recycle Eco Community Shop

Lambeth

MAYOR OF LONDON

meanwhile  
SPACE



## Lambeth Children's Centres – A Better Start

Senior Administrator

Salary: Scale 6 – points 12 to 15 (£29,364 to £30,852)

Position type: Full Time – All year-round

To start: As soon as possible

Lambeth Better Start areas play a key role in providing early help and support to young children and their families in Lambeth.

You will be responsible for the development and operation of the Better Start area Children's Centre (CC) administrative and management systems and procedures, ensuring that they meet the needs of the Better Start area.

We can offer:

- a supportive leadership team within the Streatham/Norwood area working alongside a committed team
- an opportunity to be creative and inspire others
- commitment to supporting your professional development

You will have:

- Previous experience of working with database systems
- Strong computer task experience and knowledge of data entry
- Experience of working in a customer facing role
- Experience of communicating with multi-agency partners
- Experience creating flyers, posters and other promotional material on multi-media platforms
- Experience of using Word, Excel, databases, email and internet applications
- Experience of planning workloads and organising time to meet the needs of a busy workplace

To obtain a recruitment pack please download a pack on [www.hitherfield.co.uk](http://www.hitherfield.co.uk) or contact Tammy Wallace on 020 8769 8428, or email [recruitment@hitherfield.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@hitherfield.co.uk)

We look forward to receiving your application. Please note we cannot accept CV's.

**Closing Date: Friday 23rd February 2024 at noon**  
**Interviews: Thursday 7th & Friday 8th March 2024**

Please email completed applications to [recruitment@hitherfield.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@hitherfield.co.uk)

Tammy Wallace, Hitherfield Primary School, Hitherfield Road, London SW16 2JQ

Lambeth Council is committed to safer recruitment  
Successful candidates will be asked to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure Baring Service.  
Lambeth aims for quality services and equal opportunities for all.





## Lambeth Children's Centres – A Better Start

Early Years & Family Practitioner – 1 Post Available

Salary: Scale 4 – points 7 to 10 (£27060 to £28419 per annum)

Position type: Full-time (Mon-Fri 8.30am to 4.30pm) – All year-round

To start: As soon as possible

Lambeth Children's Centres are managed by five lead schools, supported by the Local Authority. Children's Centres maintain close working partnerships with Health Services, Early Help and Social Care Teams, as well as a wide range of Voluntary Sector Organisations to ensure that there is a strong Better Start offer for Lambeth families.

Staff work in area-based teams, with opportunities to work in a number of different Children's Centres and other sites. We are seeking to recruit an experienced and enthusiastic practitioner who is passionate about the role of Children's Centres in improving the lives of young children and tackling inequality and disadvantage.

As a Lambeth Early Years and Family Practitioner, based in the Streatham and Norwood Better Start Area, you will be fundamental to the delivery of Early Years services and activities for young children and their families.

You will be knowledgeable about the Early Years Foundation Stage, committed to delivering high quality Early Years services to young children, while also being dedicated to working collaboratively with parents and carers to improve outcomes for children and families.

Knowledge and experience of the Lambeth Better Start agenda would be desirable.

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## Lambeth Children's Centres – A Better Start

Senior Early Years & Family Practitioners – 2 Posts Available

Salary: Scale 6 – points 18 to 20 (£32,481 to £33,510 per annum)

Position type: Full-time (Mon-Fri 8.30am to 4.30pm) – All year-round **Fixed Term until March 2025**

To start: As soon as possible

It's an exciting time to be working in Lambeth Children's Centres, delivering services and support to children aged 0-4 and their families across a local 'Better Start' area. Lambeth Children's Centres are managed by five lead schools, supported by the Local Authority. Children's Centres maintain close working partnerships with Health Services, Early Help and Social Care Teams, as well as a wide range of Voluntary Sector Organisations to ensure that there is a strong Better Start offer for Lambeth families.

Staff work in area-based teams, with opportunities to work in a number of different Children's Centres and other sites. We are seeking to recruit an experienced and enthusiastic practitioner who is passionate about the role of Children's Centres in improving the lives of young children and tackling inequality and disadvantage.

As a Lambeth Senior Early Years and Family Practitioner, based in the Streatham and Norwood Better Start Area, you will be fundamental to the delivery of Early Years services and activities for young children and their families.

You will be knowledgeable about the Early Years Foundation Stage, committed to delivering high quality Early Years services to young children, while also being dedicated to working collaboratively with parents and carers to improve outcomes for children and families.

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