



## Please Do NOT Buy A Smartphone for Christmas

On Wednesday evening this week parents from Hitherfield (and a few from Julian's and Sunnyhill) attended our second Smartphone Free Childhood (SFC) meeting. Jennifer Powers, SFC regional leader and founder of the Unplugged Coalition, informed the audience of the shocking statistics linking the use of smartphones by children and teenagers to poor mental health, low self-esteem, access to pornography, bullying, lack of sleep and many more frightening issues.



## Alternatives

### Younger kids

Karri Messenger  
Smartwatches: Xplora,  
Omo, Garmin, imoo...  
Nokia 2660 Flip

### Older Kids

Light phone II (hipster phone)  
The Phone+ (only calls & text)  
Pinwheel phone  
Balance Phone  
HMD Fusion or Fuse  
Other Phone (mumsnet)

## Dates for the Diary

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November – Flu Immunisation

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November – 4 Hippo & 4 Cheetah  
Music Concert in the Studio 10:50am – 11:10am  
(Families welcome)

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November – Own Clothes Day

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – 3 Anaconda & 4 Flamingo  
Music Concert in the Studio 2:45pm – 3:05pm  
(Families welcome)

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – 3 Jaguar & 3 Macaw  
Music Concert in the Studio  
2:45pm – 3:05pm  
(Families welcome)

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December – 6 Wolverine trip to Lambeth  
Junior Citizenship Scheme

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Fair 3:30pm –  
5:30pm

Christmas Panto (only for the children) Years 1-3  
9am – 10am Years 4-6 11am – 12pm

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November – 6 Puffin and 6 Orca  
trip to Lambeth Junior Citizenship Scheme

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Year 5 trip to the Polka  
Theatre

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Lunch and  
Christmas Jumper Day!

At Hitherfield we already see some of children experiencing difficulties with online relationships, friendship groups and sleep deprivation. This is what we are aware of, but it is likely that far more things are happening online outside of school.

In the future the school will be sending out a survey to hear as many views as possible from our parent/carer community about us becoming a Smartphone Free School, but in the meantime, we highly recommend that no primary aged child has their own smartphone. There are now many alternative phones on the market, that provide the child with text, call and GPS capabilities to ensure they still meet the desired safety functions. Above are some of the ones currently on the market and many more are on their way. We don't make specific recommendations so it would be worth parents/carers taking a look at the options.



## GOOD NEWS CARDS

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

1 COBRA	1 DUGONG	1 SUNBIRD
Rori-Reign and Henry	Lily and Simeon	Oliver and Amara
2 MANATEE	2 MONGOOSE	2 HUMMINGBIRD
Otto and Zephyra	Alf and Rena	Tabby and Emmy
3 JAGUAR	3 MACAW	3 ANACONDA
Malaika and Loren	Maeva and Lauren	Esmae and Kike
4 HIPPOPOTAMUS	4 FLAMINGO	4 CHEETAH
Scarlett and Mia	Kit and Frankie	Cahlil and Henry
5 KINGFISHER	5 HEDGEHOG	5 OTTER
Jemima and Stanley	Akmal and Cleo	Rubi and Annie
6 ORCA	6 PUFFIN	6 WOLVERINE
Janosch and Isabelle	Eden and Amy	Arlo C and Margot

### Nature Area - Tree Climbing

A quick reminder to parents that when you are using the Nature Area before or after school you should be supervising your children, especially if they are climbing the trees or using the Trim Trail equipment. Whilst our children are very skilful in how they climb both, we did have an accident recently where one of our 'expert' tree-climbing children did have an accident before school and there was no supervision. Thankfully the child is fine and back in school.



Don't forget to vote for one of the three excellent candidates who has put themselves forward to be a parent governor. The ballot ends on the morning of 26th November.

### Extra-curricular clubs

Reminder – clubs will finish week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> December. French will run for an additional week and finish the week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> December. The final session of French club will also finish at 5.00pm. Pascale kindly asks for a donation of £1 for each child as they will be completing a baking activity.



## **Christmas Concert Dates**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 10am – 1 Cobra,  
2 Manatee and 3 Anaconda**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2pm – 4 Cheetah,  
5 Otter and 6 Orca**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 10am – 1 Dugong, 2  
Hummingbird and 3 Macaw**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2pm –  
4 Flamingo, 5 Kingfisher and 6 Wolverine**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 10am – 1 Sunbird, 2 Mongoose  
and 3 Jaguar**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2pm – 4 Hippo,  
5 Hedgehog, 6 Puffin**

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 10am – Reception**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 10am - Nursery**

**All performances will take place in the Studio. Spaces are  
limited so we ask that only two adults per child attend,  
Thank you.**





## HITHERFIELD PTA Non Uniform Day

**Friday 28th November 2025**

**In return we ask that you donate a tombola prize  
- this could be a box of chocolates, bottle of  
drink, candles, perfumes, diffusers, unopened  
gifts etc.**

**For the Teddy Tombola, you can donate any soft  
toy. We will be collecting the donations on the  
morning of the 28th outside the main office.  
Alternatively you can donate £1 in cash or you  
can scan the QR code below!**

**Please note we will not be accepting second  
hand toys this year.**

**Thank you!**





## SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2026 / 2027

### Autumn 2026

Inset  
Inset  
Children Start  
End of Term

### Term One

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2026  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2026  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2026

37 Teaching Days

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Children start  
End of Term

### Term Two

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2026  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2026

35 Teaching Days

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### Spring 2027

Children start  
End of term

### Term Three

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2027  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2027

30 Teaching Days

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Children Start  
End of term

### Term Four

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2027  
Thursday 25<sup>h</sup> March 2027

24 Teaching Days

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### Summer 2027

Children start  
Bank Holiday  
End of term

### Term Five

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2027  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2027  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2027

34 Teaching Days

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Children start  
End of term  
Inset  
Inset  
Inset

### Term Six

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2027  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2027  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2027  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2027  
Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2027

30 Teaching Days

Total Teaching Days 190

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### Bank and public holidays

- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day
- Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> December – Boxing Day
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January – New Year Bank Holiday
- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Good Friday
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Bank Holiday Monday
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May – May Day Bank Holiday
- Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Spring Bank Holiday
- Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August – Summer Bank Holiday





## Autumn Term Parent Support Series

### *Free Parent Webinars*

*Join us and Elevate Education for FREE  
60- minute webinars designed to help you  
support your child's studies at home.*

Scan the QR code  
to register



#### In the Autumn Term, we'll cover:

1. **How to Get (And Keep!) Your Child Motivated**  
- 16<sup>th</sup> September @6:00pm (BST)
2. **How You Can Help Your Child Manage Their Time**  
- 30<sup>th</sup> September @6:00pm (BST)
3. **How You Can Help Your Child Set Up for Success in Exams**  
- 14<sup>th</sup> October @6:00pm (BST)
4. **How You Can Help Improve Your Child's Memory**  
- 18<sup>th</sup> November @6:00pm (GMT)
5. **How You Can Build Resilience in Your Child**  
- 2<sup>nd</sup> December @6:00pm (GMT)
6. **How to Help Your Child Alleviate Stress**  
- 16<sup>th</sup> December @6:00pm (GMT)

**elevate**  
education





2025 Hitherfield PTA discounted

*Mistletoe & Pine*



## Christmas Trees

- Premium Grade 'non-drop' Nordmann Fir Trees
- Special Hitherfield Prices! (savings up to 22% vs direct from M&P)
- Flexible collection at school drop-off or pick-up between:
- Friday 5th December to Friday 19th December

Approximate sizes:

- |                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • 3ft - £30 <del>£44.99</del> | • 6ft - £55 <del>£69.99</del> |
| • 4ft - £35 <del>£49.99</del> | • 7ft - £65 <del>£89.99</del> |
| • 5ft - £45 <del>£59.99</del> | • 8ft - £75 <del>£99.99</del> |

### Order Form



All parents and carers -  
please complete the order  
form and make payment  
through ParentPay.  
Many thanks!

Hitherfield Staff - to place your order please scan the  
QR code to the right to pay and complete the order  
form. Please email [hitherfieldchristmas@gmail.com](mailto:hitherfieldchristmas@gmail.com)  
to confirm you've paid. Many thanks!

SumUp







## ENCONTRO COMUNITÁRIO PARA PAIS DE CRIANÇAS COM SEND E AUTISMO

Convidamos pais e mães de crianças com necessidades educacionais especiais (SEND) e autismo para um encontro acolhedor na IRMO.

**GRATUITO- TODOS SÃO BEM-VINDOS!**

Vamos conversar sobre:

- O que é o EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan)
- Como iniciar e acompanhar o processo
- Apoios e serviços disponíveis para famílias em Lambeth
- Espaço aberto para perguntas, troca de experiências e apoio mútuo

Registre-se  
aqui



**Dia:** Segunda-feira, 24  
de novembro

**Horário:** 10.00 - 13.00

**Local:** IRMO

(Unit 9, Warwick  
House, Overton Road,  
SW9 7JP)



Para perguntas, entre em contato  
conosco aqui:  
[familyproject@irmo.org.uk](mailto:familyproject@irmo.org.uk)

**irmo**





## Lambeth Autism Advisory Service Parent Workshop - Autism, Anxiety & SEMH

**OneLambeth**

CONNECTED BY PURPOSE



**Topic:** Autism, Anxiety & SEMH

**When:** Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November

**Time:** 10:00am – 11:30am

**Where:** Woodmansterne School, Woodmansterne Road, London, SW16 5UQ

**With:** Edyta Zjawiony from the Lambeth Autism Advisory Service

The workshop will cover the following areas:

- To support children and young people in their development of SEMH.
- Understand the impact on SEMH.
- Underlying anxieties.
- Understanding anxiety and the impact on a young person's life.
- What we can do to help.

• Sign-up details on the next page.

1 of 2

## Lambeth Autism Advisory Service Sign-up For Our Parent Workshop

**OneLambeth**

CONNECTED BY PURPOSE



Scan the QR Code

[Click here](#)

or



- You can use the above links to sign-up for all our Parent workshops.
- If you have any questions, please email Noel Gardner on [ngardner@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:ngardner@lambeth.gov.uk)

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The **BiG** Winter HAF 2025  
Holiday Camp!  
Engage in.....



*Board games*

*Arts & Crafts*

Register now for the BiG Winter 2025 Camp at Hitherfield Children Centre (Hillside Gardens), Hillside Roadale, SW2 3HL - Monday 29<sup>th</sup> December '25 to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January '26 (**excluding 1<sup>st</sup> January**). **9:30am to 3pm for all children between 5 and 13 years-old!**  
**..... and just £85 for the week!**

**However, we are pleased to announce that 10 FREE places will be allocated to Lambeth residents who are between 8 and 13 years-old that receive benefit-related free school meals and they will be offered on a first come first serve basis so book now!**

*Multi-sports games*

*performing arts*

All places will be limited and will be allocated on a first come first serve basis so book now - <https://eequ.org/book/big-multi-activities-xmas-camp-with-big-bestys-inspirational-guidance-cic-16757>

All enquiries to Lionel Best on  
020 8676 3480 / 07957 208 930 /  
[lionel.best@bigcic.org](mailto:lionel.best@bigcic.org)



**Think BiG**







**The BiG Winter 2025  
Holiday Football Programme**



Register now for the BiG Winter 2025 Holiday Football Programme  
<https://youtu.be/H2dzpAluBMw>  
at Rosendale Playing Fields,  
Rosendale Road, SE21 8LW,  
between Monday 29<sup>th</sup>  
December'25 & Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
January'26 (excluding 1<sup>st</sup> January)  
4 days in total.

For just £60 for the 4 days!

However, we are pleased to announce that 22 free places will be allocated to Lambeth residents that receive benefit-related free school meals and they will be offered on a first come first serve basis so book now - <https://eequ.org/book/big-2-in-1-xmas-football-programme-with-big-bestys-inspirational-guidance-cic-21696>

All enquiries to Lionel Best on 07957 208 930 /  
[lionel.best@bigcic.org](mailto:lionel.best@bigcic.org)

**FREE PLACES FUNDED BY LAMBETH COUNCIL ON BEHALF OF  
THE DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION!**

