BLACK HISTORY MONTH

NUMBER 0738/ 23rd OCTOBER 2026

HITHERFIELD HERALD

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Thank You Sharon

and Happy Retirement!



We are saying a massive thank you and a happy retirement to Sharon after many years at Hitherfield. Remarkably, Sharon grew up on Leigham Vale and attended HItherfield as a child. She initially returned to Hitherfield to work as a teaching assistant, before retraining and becoming a teacher. Her, now grown up, son also attended Hitherfield. Sharon has witnessed many changes over the years and also been the school's French coordinator since primary schools were asked to teach a modern foreign language.

There cannot be many people who have had such a positive and long standing relationship with the school and we are forever grateful for her contribution to the school and its community. We wish her a wonderful and long retirement.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 23rd October
Last Day of Term

Monday 26th – Friday 30th October
Half term

Monday 2nd November
Children return to school

Wednesday 4th November
Individual & Sibling Photos

Tuesday 10th November
2 Mongoose Class Assembly and Open morning 9:15am -10:15am

Wednesday 11th November
2 Manatee Class Assembly and Open morning 9:15am -10:15am

Thursday 12th November
2 Hummingbird Class Assembly and Open morning 9:15am -10:15am

Ready Steady Spell

There will also be a parent workshop morning on Friday 6th November for parents/guardians of children in year 2 - year 6 where you are more than welcome to come and take part in a live lesson as well as going over strategies on how to support your child with their practice at home.

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GOOD NEWS CARDS

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

1 COBRA	1 DUGONG	1 SUNBIRD
Adan and Aayan	Dylan and Neraiah	Vincenzo and Julian
2 MANATEE	**2 MONGOOSE**	**2 HUMMINGBIRD**
Zanayah and Luna	Aya and Marcel	Tajai and Rory
3 JAGUAR	**3 MACAW**	**3 ANACONDA**
Jesse and Nicole R	Lia and Leo	Frankie and Arlette
4 CHEETAH		**4 FLAMINGO**
To be announced next week		Isla and Asia-Lee
5 KINGFISHER	**5 HEDGEHOG**	**5 OTTER**
Owain and Jacob	Kit and Cahlil	Gus and Arabella
6 PUFFIN		**6 WOLVERINE**
Aiden and Dexter		Kateryn and Stanley

Hitherfield Friday Maths Challenge

Challenge A

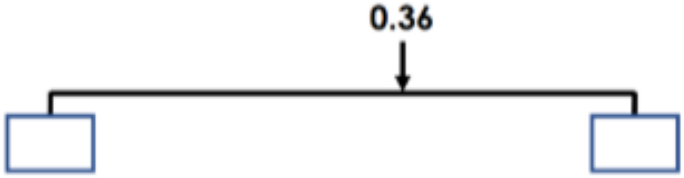
Odd one out



Challenge B

Different ways

What could the start and end numbers be?



Answers will be given at KS1 and KS2 Good News assemblies each week.

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Holiday Vouchers Change

Support for families during the school holidays is changing. These changes are because of the Department for Work and Pensions' (DWP) new Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF).

This change means that not every child on means-tested free school meals will continue to get vouchers. This change takes place from October 2026. Any financial support will be provided directly to the families as opposed to through the schools. The support for families during the school holidays was paid from a central government fund. This fund has now come to an end and it has been replaced by other type of funds. This means funding for Free School Meal holiday provision will now come to an end.

Communicating changes to parents

We recognise that this represents a significant change for families. Whilst the holiday vouchers are no longer possible due to funding changes, **Lambeth Council has other types of support available for parents, outlined below.** We would encourage parents facing financial hardship to utilise the offers most suitable to their circumstances.

Holiday, Activities and Food programme

Across the Winter, Easter and Summer holidays, Lambeth Council works alongside a range of brilliant local organisations, charities and partners to deliver the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme. This is funded by the Department for Education. The HAF is for children who are aged 4-16 years old (Reception to Year 11 inclusive), receive targeted free school meals (for households in receipt of universal credit earning £7,400 or less), live in Lambeth or attend a Lambeth school.

These are completely free activities for children to take part in. Every activity includes provision for a free healthy meal attending child, reducing household food costs. This offer can also help parents to juggle work and family life in the summer holidays and reduce childcare costs.

For the latest information on the HAF offer expected at each school holiday, parents can visit our website or contact HAF@lambeth.gov.uk. Please encourage parents to engage with this service.

Lambeth's Emergency Support Scheme

As part of the Crisis and Resilience Fund, the Council does receive funding to provide targeted cash support to Lambeth's residents facing financial hardship. The council's Emergency Support Scheme (ESS) can help if families are facing a crisis, disaster or can't afford essentials or resettlement costs. To access the scheme, applicants need to live in Lambeth, be on means-tested benefits, have a household income below £30,000 and savings less than £6,000.

For more information on this support, parents can visit www.lambeth.gov.uk/ESS and applications are to be made online at https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/form/emergency-support-scheme.

Lambeth Council Cost of Living service

Lambeth Council has its Financial Link Worker service which provides 1-2-1 advice and support to parents through cost of living appointments in person or over the phone.
Support includes:

- Form filling and support with access to **benefits and grants**
- Access to food banks and low-cost food
- **Council tax entitlements checks, support** and advice
- Reducing **energy and water bills**
- Managing budgeting, **debts and arrears**
- Applying for the Emergency Support Scheme (ESS)
- Connecting residents to **employment and training** opportunities

To make an appointment, parents can contact the Cost of Living team on **020 7926 5059**, email **costofliving@lambeth.gov.uk** or visit **lambeth.gov.uk/costofliving**.

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NUMBER 0738/ 23rd OCTOBER 2026

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As we come towards the end of black history month, families should take the opportunity to look at the work from across the school that has taken place this half term. They display in the long corridor facing the main playground shows all the inspirational people the children have been studying.

Please take a look.



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The Carnival comes to Hitherfield











Year 4 had a fabulous time consolidating their knowledge about the life of Claudia Jones and celebrated with their own mini carnival.

Look at those head dresses!





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tender RE:SET

Parent and Carer Information Sessions on Relationships Education

Hitherfield Primary School are working with Tender Education and Arts this year to become a Healthy Relationships Champion School!

RE:SET is their Healthy Relationships programme, and they are supporting us to deliver Relationship Education sessions throughout the school. They will also be supporting families in how to talk to children about healthy relationships.

Tender will be hosting in-person information sessions for all parents and carers on the following topics:

Introduction to Tender and RE:SET Project & Healthy Relationships Online
Friday 20th November, 9:15 - 10:15am, in-person

This session will explain who Tender are and the aims and structure of the RE:SET Project which Hitherfield are taking part in this year. It will also help you to understand the potential risks and harms of children using technology and online platforms, and give you skills in how to support your child in using these platforms safely.

Supporting your Child to Cope with Change
Friday 4th December, 9:00 - 10:00am, in-person

This session will develop your knowledge about the kinds of change children can face and the impact it can have on them. It will help you to develop strategies to support your child to cope with and adapt to change.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

NUMBER 0738/ 23rd OCTOBER 2026

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HITHERFIELD PTA PRESENTS

COMEDY NIGHT 2026

AS SEEN ON MOCK THE WEEK & HEARD ON THE NEWS QUIZ

ALASDAIR BECKETT-KING

'Either a genius or a very silly man' Rolling Stone



AS SEEN ON THE RHOD GILBERT SHOW

JENNY COLLIER

'Refreshingly original' Broadway Baby



ALEXANDER BENNETT

'Warm, insane and very funny' Evening Standard



AND YOUR HOST...

BEN VAN DER VELDE

'A master of audience interaction' Huffington Post



A FUN NIGHT WHILST ALSO FUNDRAISING FOR YOUR SCHOOL!

WEDNESDAY, 18th NOVEMBER

Bar & Food 6:30, Comedy & Bar 7:30 - 9:30

Buy tickets now on ParentPay

£10 in advance or £12 on the door

(Pre-order food on Parentpay until 11th Nov. Veggie Curry & Rice £8)

HITHERFIELD PRIMARY PTA

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

NUMBER 0738/ 23rd OCTOBER 2026

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Christmas jumper sale

Has your child outgrown their Christmas jumper/dress or festive top?

The PTA is collecting pre-loved Christmas clothing to help get ready for the festive season and raise funds for our school.

Why donate?

- Reduce waste
- Support sustainability
- Get ready for Christmas Jumper Day & festive celebrations

What we're collecting

- Christmas jumpers
- Festive tops/t-shirts
- Dresses
- Cardigans
- Child and adult sizes

Please ensure items are clean, in good condition and ready to wear. The sale will take place on 3 and 4 December.

HITHERFIELD PRIMARY PTA

Drop off at the school office by: Friday 27 November

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Throughout November, we're challenging everyone to complete 9 small carbon-cutting activities at home with friends and family.

These actions will reduce your everyday carbon emissions and benefit our planet.

To find out how you can get involved, speak to a member of the school Eco-Committee.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

NUMBER 0738/ 23rd OCTOBER 2026

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○ Make 3 evening meals plant-based across the month.



○ Make 4 journeys active across the month.



○ Meal plan to reduce food waste for one week.



○ Have a 'device-free' day.



○ Drop your heating by 1°C for a week.



○ Substitute 4 baths for 4 showers and limit them to 4 minutes.



○ Share 3 pieces of carbon-cutting advice.



○ Lower your washing machine temperature to 30°C for 3 washes across the month.



○ Opt for a refillable water bottle 3x a week across the month.

Completed by: .....

CUT YOUR CARBON

How many of the Cut Your Carbon challenges will you complete this November?

📌 Stick this checklist on your fridge and start cutting carbon today!

Make three evening meals plant-based across the month
Meat production is responsible for around 14% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, so make three evening meals plant-based and discover how delicious cutting carbon can be!

Make any four journeys 'active' across the month
Transport creates nearly a quarter of the UK's carbon emissions. Active travel - such as walking, scooting, wheeling, or cycling - doesn't emit anything! So, get active and ditch the drive!

Meal plan to reduce food waste for one week
Research suggests that the average person wastes 95kg of food per year! At each stage of the life-cycle of wasted food, from production to rotting at landfill, carbon is produced. Plan your meals, shop smart, and waste less – it's good for the planet and your wallet!

Lower your washing machine temperature to 30°C for three washes across the month
Washing machines are energy-hungry! Drop the temperature to 30°C for three washes this month and cut carbon without sacrificing clean clothes. Cool it to care!

Have a device-free day
Electricity makes up about 25% of your home's carbon footprint. Power down non-essential devices for one day – no gaming, no streaming – and rediscover the joy of offline fun!

Turn down the heating by 1°C for a week
Heating is the top source of home carbon emissions in the UK. Turn it down by just 1°C for a week, layer up, and show your love for the planet – one cosy jumper at a time!

Share 3 pieces of carbon-cutting advice
To conquer climate change, we all need to work together. Share three pieces of carbon-cutting advice with people you know. You might remind a brother or sister not to waste food, challenge a grandparent to time their shower or share a plant-based recipe on social media.

Substitute 4 baths for 4 showers and limit them to 4 minutes
Capping your shower at 4-minutes long can save over 50 litres of water, whilst saving the energy required to clean, transport, and heat this water. We recommend using a 4-minute song as a timer that you can sing-along to!

Opt for a refillable water bottle 3x a week across the month
Switching from buying bottled water to using a refillable bottle is great for the environment. It reduces the amount of plastic waste that enters our oceans whilst cutting the carbon emissions produced in manufacturing.

Find out more about Cut Your Carbon in our 90 second explainer video

Eco-Schools | KEEP BRITAIN TIDY. | POSTCODE LOTTERY | POSTCODE EARTH TRUST