

The Patten Pages

The William Patten Newsletter for Parents and Children

Issue 270

Friday 25th September 2026

Dear Parents,

Welcome back everyone! It has been lovely to see all of the children return to school, ready for another exciting term of learning.

I am incredibly proud of our Nursery and Reception children and the way they have settled into school. Our Nursery children have transitioned from their previous settings incredibly well and have quickly become confident coming into school each day. I am also very proud of our Reception children and the way they have transitioned to WP and 'big school'! Year 1 have been amazing and we were delighted to see them coming into school independently after just one week! Thank you to all of our families for your support in helping the children to develop this confidence and independence. Our new wraparound provision for EYFS has also got off to a fantastic start and has proved incredibly popular. We have seen large numbers of EYFS children attending Breakfast Club, with even more children staying for our after-school provision. The children have been absolutely amazing, as has our wonderful staff team. The provision is run by our fantastic WP team of Jane, Carole, Rita, Alviya, Rhoksana and Sam, (who has also been supporting the children at lunchtime). Jane is the manager and has planned so many lovely activities for the children. The provision is based in our Nursery classroom, creating a lovely, self-contained space where the children have access to the toilets and the Nursery outdoor area. They have been enjoying a fantastic range of activities, including dressing up, arts and crafts and music-making.

It has been wonderful to see how happy the children are in the provision. I know that for some parents it has been quite difficult to collect their children at the end of the day because they have been having such a wonderful time and have not wanted to leave! I think that says everything about how popular the provision has become and, most importantly, how happy the children are.

I know that some parents have been asking whether we might be able to extend the provision due to its popularity. We will be looking at whether this is possible, but this will not be for at least another two to

three weeks while we review the current provision and ensure that any changes can be made successfully. Thank you for your patience and understanding in the meantime.

We also had our Reception Teddy Bears' Picnic today, and it was lovely to welcome new families to William Patten. Thank you for joining us and helping to make it such a special occasion.

We have also elected our School Council and Eco Team representatives, and I have been so proud of all the children who put themselves forward. It takes a lot of courage to stand up in front of others, share your ideas and put yourself forward when you don't know what the outcome will be. Not everyone can be elected, of course, and I have been particularly proud of the way the children have handled this.

They have shown such maturity in understanding that sometimes things don't go our way, but that shouldn't stop us from having a go. What has made me especially proud is the kindness the children have shown towards one another. The children who were elected were congratulated warmly by their friends, and those who weren't elected were so supportive of those who were. They listened carefully to each other's manifestos and celebrated each other's successes, which is exactly the kind of teamwork and kindness we want to see. I know that Sian, who leads our School Council, and Wendy, who leads our Eco Team, already have lots of exciting ideas and plans for the children. They were also impressed with the number of applications and the ideas the children put forward.

Finally, thank you for your support with punctuality in the mornings, we have far fewer children late to school which is very positive news. Children are in on time and ready for learning and the office team can get on with their work. It has made a real difference to the start of the day.

Have a lovely weekend!

Best wishes
Karen

Welcome to William Patten!

We have had a wonderful start in EYFS, where the Nursery and Reception children have had their first few weeks in school. The EYFS team have been so impressed by the way the children have settled into their new routines, made many new friends and are enjoying their new spaces. They have loved exploring the classroom, learning new skills, the continuous provision activities, playing in the home corner and the outside areas. They have also demonstrated great confidence and independence when saying goodbye to their parents/carers at the start of the day, settling down and accepting reassurance if needed. Well done, Nursery and Reception children, we are very proud of you all! Here are a few images illustrating Reception in action!



Our **Nursery** children have had a brilliant first few weeks in class. They have settled in really quickly making new friends, learning new routines and getting to know staff. They stayed for lunch on their second day and have taken part in lots of great adult led and independent activities in class. We are really proud of them! Here are a few pictures of what we have been up to!



Just before we came back to school, **Aela and Zoe** set up a stand for the afternoon outside their house to raise money for charity. The girls had been planning over the summer and did almost everything themselves, including making flyers and posting them through doors, putting up posters and setting up the actual stand. Zoe made fairy cakes, Aela some crispy cakes, Clara made cookies and Wilf helped squeeze the lemons for the lemonade! They had lots of help on the day from their siblings, plus Remi, Anita and Nora helped drum up business! The girls chose charities that meant something to them - **Aela chose Great Ormond Street Hospital and Zoe chose Macmillan Cancer Support** and they managed to **raise a staggering £280!** A huge well done to both of them for raising so much money for charity. A fabulous achievement! 🙌🙌





The **Neurodiversity News** team would like to wish everyone a warm welcome back to William Patten at the start of this new academic year. We hope that you all had a good time over the summer holiday, however you spent it.

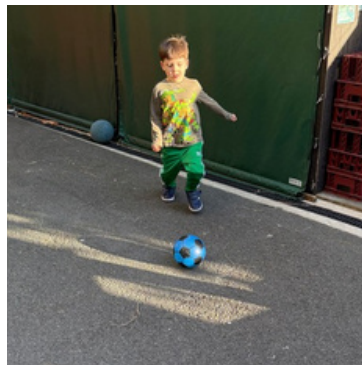
We are looking forward to **Dyslexia Awareness Week** on 5th October, and **ADHD Awareness Month** which is during October. Further in the future are Neurodiversity Celebration week in March, and Autism Acceptance Month in April 2027. We hope you have a great start to the year!

Reception Teddy Bears' Picnic

A huge thank you to all the parents who were able to join us for the EYFS presentation and Teddy Bears' picnic this afternoon. It was lovely to welcome so many of you! Thank you also for your generous donations of goodies! A final thank you to our lovely Year 6 Peer Supporters for their help and kindness, playing with the Reception children and their teddies!



Nursery and Reception children have settled in very well to our new **wraparound care** service. They have been making friends and enjoying lots of indoor and outdoor activities (including minibeast spotting with torches!).



Head along to **Hackney Foodbank's Open Day tomorrow**. Ever wondered about the logistics of feeding hundreds of people every week?

For the first time, Hackney Foodbank is opening the doors to its Homerton HQ with warehouse tours, a chance to meet the team, games, a bouncy castle, crafts and a cake sale. The Open Day (on Saturday September 26th between 10am and 3pm) is free, with any donations of long-life food gratefully received!

Guests can also book to take part in the food bank's legendary Supermarket Sweep Challenge, which sets off at 10am.

Jenna Fansa, Head of Fundraising at Hackney Foodbank, said: "Feeding hundreds of people every week takes a lot of organising and we'd love the chance to show people around. Our caseworkers will be there talking about the work they do and the difference that makes and we'll have some lovely activities for children."

"The Open Day is free, but we'd welcome any donations of long-life food. We're also inviting guests to sign up for our Supermarket Sweep challenge. Working in teams of up to six people, they'll head to the Supermarket with trolleys and shopping lists and will compete to bring back the most food with a £100 budget. There are other challenges along the way and bonus points on our fun inflatables at the end. The winner will walk away with our coveted supermarket trolley trophy!"

Places for the Sweep are limited and can be purchased by clicking on [this link](#).

The Open Day takes place at the Wally Foster Community Centre, Homerton Road, Hackney, E9 5QB.



Year 2 enjoyed an afternoon of **making mushrooms, spiders and frogs out of clay**, playing kestrels and sparrows and working together to build a tent. It was a lovely sunny afternoon and the children were fantastic!



Dates for your diary

1 st Oct	Y6 meeting re Kench Hill 6pm
6 th Oct	Parents' Evening 4.30-6.00pm
7 th Oct	Family Coaching Parent Workshop 9.30am
8 th Oct	Parents' Evening 4.30-6.00pm
14 th Oct	RWI meeting for Reception parents 9.10am
9 th Oct	Y1 local walk
15 th Oct	Flu vaccination catch up session
15 th Oct	Reception trip to Abney Park (pm)



Birthday Bags, Cakes and Party Invitations

A reminder that we do not give out birthday bags or birthday cakes in school. This is because of allergy considerations, but also because of the time it takes during the school day. Similarly, we would not give out party invitations in school because of the time constraints. Recently, there have been situations where invitations have been given out and not everyone has received one. This has caused great upset for the children who have realised that they haven't been invited to the party. We would therefore be grateful if party invitations could be given out outside of the school day. Thank you for your understanding.

Our first **Language of the Month** of the school year is **Gujarati!** Helen introduced Gujarati as the new Language of the Month in a whole school assembly with the help of our Gujarati speaking children; Umar and Zaida 1S, Aria 1M, Zakia 4S, Hafsa 6A, Kiaan 6M and RH's teaching assistant, Meg. During the assembly the classes learned geographical and cultural facts about Gujarat and India and also language facts about how Gujarati is spoken and written. Have a go at learning the Gujarati words and phrases alongside the Makaton signs we will be using in class and around the school!

Gujarati words and phrases

Have a go at saying some of these words or phrases!

Good morning – Suprabhat સુપ્રભાત



Good afternoon – Shubh bapor શુભ બપોર



School dinners – Shalanu bhojan શાળાનું ભોજન



Packed lunch – Gharnu bhojan ઘરનું ભોજન



Please – Maherbaani karine મહેરબાની કરીને



Thank you – Aabhar આભાર



Hello – Namaste નમસ્તે



Goodbye – Aavjo આવજો



All parents are invited to The Family Coach Service workshop **'Making screen time work for you and your family'** taking place at school on 7th October at 9.30am. Please sign up at:

admin@williampatten.hackney.sch.uk

Year 2 making exploding paint bombs to create a **firework display** inspired by our class text, *The Owl Who Was Afraid Of The Dark!*



William Patten
Primary School

The Family Coach Service's Workshop
Making screen time work for you and your family
Wednesday 7th of October 9:30-11am

All families with a child that has a need within **any of the 4 areas of SEND** are welcome
We are a needs based service. **No EHCP or formal diagnosis** is needed.

4 Areas of SEND

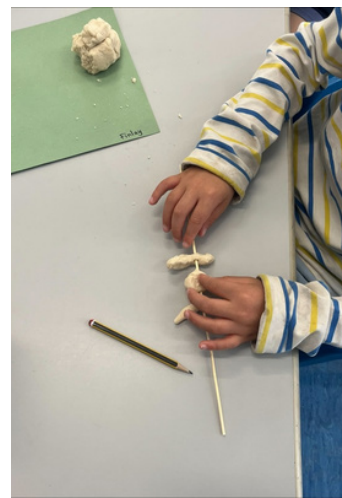


WE'LL BE EXPLORING

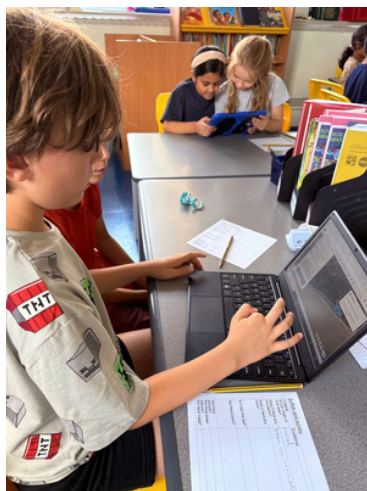
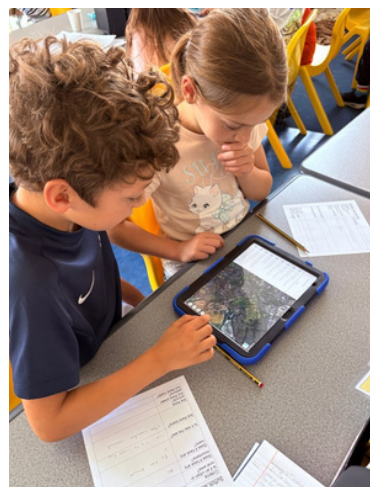
- What is screen time?
- What managing screen time looks like for you and your family
- How you're currently managing screen time
- Amount of time
- What your child is using screen time for
- Transitioning from screen time
- Screen time being linked to rewards and or consequences

To sign up please email Ms Shaw (SENCO): admin@williampatten.hackney.sch.uk
If you have any questions about the workshop please email: familycoach@hackney.gov.uk

To kick-start our new **History** topic, Year 3 stepped back in time and became **Stone Age jewellery makers!** Using salt dough, we sculpted our own jewellery inspired by artefacts from the Stone Age. We created bone, tooth and bead shapes, adding interesting details, patterns and imprints to make each piece unique. We had lots of fun getting creative and thinking about what people may have worn thousands of years ago. We can't wait to wear our creations for our very own Stone Age Day, coming very soon!



This week in **Year 4**, we have been developing our **geographical skills** by using atlases and Google Earth to locate and research counties. We have also been carrying out land surveys, exploring different features of the local area and recording our findings.



Last week in Science, **Year 6** conducted an **exciting experiment** in which they were testing to see if yeast is a living organism. Afterwards, they wrote up their findings and concluded that yeast is indeed a living thing! Well done Year 6!



Does your child want to learn an instrument? Do they enjoy singing? Are they a young performer in the making? **HMDT Music's Minis programme** (which takes place on Saturday mornings at Bridge Academy in Hackney) offers children the unique opportunity to explore instrumental learning through trialling different instruments, and develop their all-round musicianship and stage performance skills through music theatre. It also enables their communication and teamwork skills to thrive and their confidence to build, whilst forging new friendships in a fun and friendly environment!

"I don't know anywhere else where you can combine learning instruments with such a high level of singing and performance!" – Minis Parent. [Read more](#) and apply [HERE](#) or contact 020 8882 8825 team@hmdtmusic.org.uk

I CAN'T SING! SATURDAY PROGRAMME

Does your child enjoy singing? Do they want to learn an instrument? Are they a young performer in the making?

Join us for our Autumn Term!

HMDT Music's Minis programme (which takes place on Saturday mornings at Bridge Academy in Hackney) offers children the unique opportunity to explore instrumental learning through trialling different instruments, and develop their all-round musicianship and stage performance skills through music theatre. It also enables their communication and teamwork skills to thrive and their confidence to build, whilst forging new friendships in a fun and friendly environment!

"I don't know anywhere else where you can combine learning instruments with such a high level of singing and performance!" - Minis Parent

CONTACT US:
020 8882 8825
team@hmdtmusic.org.uk
<http://www.hmdtmusic.org.uk/>

FIND US:
Bridge Academy
Laburnum Street
Hackney, E2 8BA

Hackney Engagement and Consultation Hub have launched a borough-wide campaign to demand **urgent childcare reform** from central government.

"The current national childcare system does not give local authorities the means or the funding to offer long-term, fair solutions that work for all families in need of reliable childcare to manage their daily lives. We want to hear from parents and carers that live, work and access childcare in Hackney to share what works well, what challenges they face, what would help them the most. Whether they're using a children's centre, a public, private, or voluntary nursery, a childminder, relying on family members, or using a combination of options. We will bring the stories together, in an anonymised form, and create a report that will be shared publicly and sent to central government, together with a letter urgently asking for change."

Families can share their experiences online at <https://consultation.hackney.gov.uk/children-families/fixing-childcare>. Closing date -11th October.

Tool of the Week

Each week we introduce a new Tool of the Week. Posters go up around school and classes practise the new tool and discuss which zone it would be useful for. We will include the new tools in the Patten Pages so you can try them out at home. These are the latest ones:

ZONES TOOL OF THE WEEK
14.09.26

THINK IT SONG BIRD

Think about your favorite song. Hum it or sing it in your head if others are around.

How do you feel?

The **ZONES** of Regulation®

ZONES TOOL OF THE WEEK
23/09/26

DO IT GROWING ROOTS

1. Sit down on the ground, right where you are.
2. Feel your legs and bottom connect to the earth.
3. Let your body sink in and feel the support beneath you.

How do you feel?

The **ZONES** of Regulation®



Attendance Matters



Attendance chart for w/e 18th September

Year group	Attendance
Reception	98.5%
Year4	98.2%
Year1	97.9%
Year3	97.5%
Year5	96.7%
Year2	96.6%
Nursery	94.9%
Year6	92.9%
	Average 96.8%

Attendance chart for w/e 25th September

Year group	Attendance
Year4	99.3%
Year2	98.1%
Year1	98.0%
Year3	96.4%
Reception	96.0%
Nursery	95.0%
Year5	94.6%
Year6	93.2%
	Average 96.5%

Congratulations to the children who recently received an EYFS Super Achievers award or a HT award certificate.

Well done everyone!

Friday 18th September

Nurs	Jonah and Amelia
RA	Niamh
RH	Pax
1M	Louie, Maxima, Taliah, Maggie, Mick
1S	Leo, Amara, Zaida, Taio, Sigrid
2B	Felix, Jagraj, Raeheem, Zaynab, Clara
2C	Hannah, Gabriel, Alaia, Chloe, Aiden
3A	Saifa, Hugh D, Weston, Navraj, Ruairi
3B	Lua, Wilder, Elias, Marina, Zoe
4S	Rocky, Zakia, Aster, Gurleen, Winston
4YC	Mimi, Rafael, Misher, Ruben, Mira
5C	Sara, Eva, Simay, Robbie, Odhran
5NS	Hulya, Hunter, Dolly, Matilda, Yahya
6A	Nia, Alfie, Bobby, Clara, Amos
6M	Blake, Ciro-Mael, Leni, Lorcan, Eloise

Friday 25th September

Nurs	Ellie and August
RA	Bodie
RH	Callum
1M	Antonia, Bee, Felix, Freddie, Sofia
1S	Maya, Harrison, Lisa, Bart, Wilfred
2B	Cece, Cody, Grace, Oscar, Matteo
2C	Ezra S, Shifa, Joe, Nimrit, Honey
3A	Zayn, Corinne, Billie, Liyat, Aoife
3B	Ben, Finlay, Ezra, Shanelle, Oscar
4S	Buray, Lara, Remi, Stella, Alice
4YC	Flip, Zoe, Soan, Martha, Rai
5C	Isabelle, Wilf K, Phoebe, Mayus, Joseph
5NS	Noah, Khaleem, Naile, Marloe, Alexander
6A	Nisa, Marcelo, Nina, Hafsa, Georgina
6M	Max, Ada, Ellen, Kiaan, Felix



Many happy returns to the children who recently celebrated their special day: Taliah, Sigrid, Wren, Aubrey, Cece, Callum, George, Marloe, Ramona, Cooper, Elijah, Sophia, Zachary, Leonel, Martha, Nessa, Paloma, Isabelle, Jessa, Ronnie, Chloe, Emory, Azad, Max, Teddy, Romilly, Marty, Deniz, Milla and Clara. Happy birthday everyone!