

Little Ilford Schools News & Events
Autumn 2025 - Issue 40



Magazine **INLINE**

**COURAGE
COMMITMENT
COMPASSION**

In this edition: Art, Jack Petchey Award, School Production and
much more...

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of this term, I would like to take this opportunity to send my warmest regards to you and your families on behalf of everyone here at Little Ilford School.

The end of the year is naturally a time for reflection and gratitude. Looking back over the past term, I am struck by the incredible resilience and spirit of our school community. Our students have shown a fantastic commitment to their learning, and I am equally proud of our staff, who have worked tirelessly to create an enriching environment full of unique opportunities beyond the standard curriculum.

The progress we have made is a testament to the strong partnership between our students, staff, and parents. It is this collaborative effort that continues to drive Little Ilford School forward.

As we look toward the New Year, we are excited to further enhance the educational experience for all our students. I am confident that 2026 will be a year of significant growth and achievement.

To ensure every student reaches their full potential, I would like to take this moment to reinforce the vital importance of high attendance. Consistent presence in school is the foundation of academic success, and we ask for your continued support as we strive for 100% attendance across the board in the coming year.

We are pleased to share that Newham Council is once again providing funding for food vouchers for families eligible for statutory (benefits-related) Free School Meals.

Students in Reception through to Year 11 currently receive statutory FSM will be eligible to receive them.

£12.50 per child for the holiday period.

Vouchers will be sent via text and/or email using the Wonde system.

These will be distributed on the final day of term.

Please take a moment to review the following resources:

[Newham Activities Programme](#)

[Young People's Health Challenge](#)

I hope you all find time to rest, recharge, and enjoy quality time with your loved ones over the break. We look forward to welcoming all students back to school on:

Tuesday, 6th January 2025 Start Time: 8:20 am (Gates close) Timetable: Week B

Thank you for your ongoing trust and support of our school. I wish you a very joyful, peaceful, and restful holiday.

Kind regards,

Mr Finn

Headteacher

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Every year, we hold a Christmas Card Competition to get the holiday spirit going!



1st Place Winner



Tazin 10.2

2nd Place Winner



Liyana 7.1

3rd Place Winner



Fahamedha, Year 7
Blue Class

WILLIAM MORRIS GALLERY VISIT

William Morris Gallery and
Women in Print - 150 Years of
Liberty Textiles

Year 10 GCSE Art and Design Trip
to the William Morris Gallery. To see
the exhibition of Women in Print
- 150 Years of Liberty Textiles. We
took 36 students to see the textiles
exhibition and the work of Artist
William Morris. All of the students
were exceptionally behaved and
produced detailed sketches from
the work on show. This will feed into
the current project 'Natural world'
and will support students to develop
their own ideas and artwork. 7/11/25



LIS SCHOOL PRODUCTION

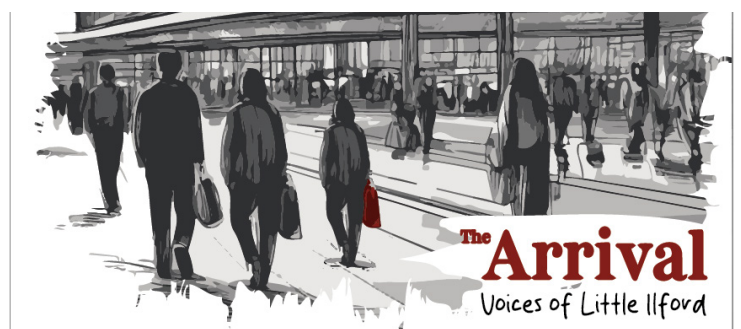
THE ARRIVAL: VOICES OF LIS

Real life testimonials, real talent
- a production based on
migration to Newham

This year we have thrown all conventions out the window and, inspired by the work of David Shearing, we have decided to create a devised, community performance about migration.

5 real stories were collated from people in our community and these have been adapted and transformed by the students into the final performance. With direction, stage, lighting and projection design all created and operated by the students, this has been an original and fully collaborative process from start to finish.

Huge thanks go out to the following students for their vision and creativity on stage: Amjad, Faizaan, Kavinaya, Thisha and ex students Azan and Ayden, and in design: Krish, Rayaana and Summer.



The Arrival
Voices of Little Ilford
LITTLE ILFORD SCHOOL

AVIATION EVENT AT THE EXCEL

Gaining invaluable exposure to the vast career landscape within the industry

The students from Little Ilford embarked on an enriching journey at the recent Aviation event at ExCeL, gaining invaluable exposure to the vast career landscape within the industry. They were introduced to a diverse range of professions essential to a modern airport's operation, including the high-flying roles of Pilots, the complex work of Aeronautical Engineers in design and maintenance, and the critical function of Data Analysts in optimizing operations. This direct engagement with industry professionals proved to be a powerful and inspiring experience, leaving the participants motivated to seriously consider pursuing these dynamic professions in the future.

This inspiration fueled their excellent performance in the event's central competition, where the students were tasked with designing their own renewable airport. Split into three separate teams, the Little Ilford cohort demonstrated exceptional teamwork and originality. Competing against over 10 different schools, they earned distinct praise for their efforts. They presented their highly

original concepts with remarkable confidence, making their ideas stand out from the rest. The school was particularly proud of our runners-up team, whose hard work and innovative presentation secured them a well-deserved place in the finals.



JACK PETCHEY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS CEREMONY

A prestige award, won by 6 of our students and attended the ceremony with immense pride

In October, our high-achieving students proudly represented the school at the annual Jack Petchey Foundation Achievement Awards ceremony.

Our staff nominated these students for demonstrating exceptional qualities such as determination, outstanding leadership, and community spirit. The event was a true celebration of their commitment and hard work.

With great confidence, our students walked across the stage to accept this prestigious award in front of an audience comprising several schools from the Newham borough. We are immensely proud of our recipients for their accomplishments and the challenges they have successfully overcome. They are truly deserving of this recognition, and we look forward to celebrating many more of our students' successes with the Jack Petchey Award in the future.



KEW GARDENS VISIT

One of our Jack Petchey winners spent her grant on a visit to Kew Gardens



Year 7s travelled to the indoor cricket tournament hosted at Brampton

Year 7 cricket squad competed fiercely at the Brampton Manor indoor tournament, showing determination against strong opposition. They demonstrated consistent improvement across all matches. The final game was a highlight, a dramatic contest that saw the team narrowly miss victory on the last ball. The players showed excellent sportsmanship and built a promising foundation for future competitions.

At the beginning of the academic year, one of our commendable Jack Petchey Achievement Award recipients elected to utilise her £300 grant to facilitate an enriching educational visit for 70 Year 9 students to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

The excursion proved to be a successful day of hands-on learning, allowing students to explore diverse plant species and ecological concepts. Students participated in a valuable educational workshop, enjoyed a communal lunch overlooking the pond, and gained valuable biological knowledge alongside their peers. This initiative perfectly exemplifies the positive impact of the Jack Petchey Foundation grant on student enrichment and practical science education.

CRICKET TOURNAMENT



STEPHEN TIMMS MP VISIT

Stephen Timms MP visited LIS to speak to our Citizenship students



Year 10 Citizenship students ran a workshop for our Year 7 students

The Year 10 Citizenship Studies students have successfully taken part in UK Parliament Week 2025! They did an excellent job in delivering sessions to the Year 7 students about UK Parliament, and received positive feedback. There were a variety of tasks planned, from Big Ben Bingo to Petitions Pursuit Board Game. The Citizenship Studies students worked exceptionally hard to create tasks that were engaging and meaningful. Their contribution to the UK Parliament Week is commendable and we are very proud of them!

As part of the UK Parliament Week 2025, the Year 10 Citizenship students have been learning about the role of Parliament and working to expand their knowledge on how they can make a difference.

We had MP Stephen Timms honour us with a visit, to speak to the students about his role as an MP and how he helps his constituency.

The students were able to use MP Stephen Timms' visit to consolidate their learning about Parliament. It was a great opportunity for our students to meet their MP and ask questions about how he has been making a difference.

UKPW YEAR 10 WORKSHOP



A CHRISTMAS CAROL PERFORMANCE

Performers came into our school to do a performance of A Christmas Car



An opportunity that could not be missed to hear from Microsoft

MICROSOFT CAREERS WORKSHOP

Our Year 9 students had the chance to speak to employees from Newham Data alongside Microsoft and had the opportunity to get industry level advice and guidance on their future.

The team at Microsoft helped them to understand what a career in the Digital/Technology sector is like and all round careers advice.

Giving our students the opportunity to hear directly from industry professionals helps them to boost their ambitions and goals!

Our Year 10 and Year 11 students had the chance to watch a theatre performance of A Christmas Carol in the comfort of our own Auditorium.

This was a valuable and enjoyable experience for our students as it is a part of the English Curriculum and gives them a fun way to remember key information for their exams in the future!

They thoroughly enjoyed the performance and we hope to provide many more like this.



PINSENT MASONS DEBATING CHALLENGE

Year 10 taking part in the Pinsent Masons Debating Competition

On December 5, 2025, a brilliant team of our Year 10 Sociology students participated in and won the highly competitive Pinsent Masons debating challenge against Stratford School Academy. This prestigious event tests students' abilities in critical analysis, public speaking, and persuasive argumentation.

The team was presented with the most complex motion of the day: 'There should be an international moratorium on the development of superintelligent AI until we better understand its potential impacts.' This required our students to apply their sociological understanding to a pressing, real-world issue, debating the ethical governance and global implications of rapid technological change.

Despite having minimal preparation time—just over a week—the students demonstrated exceptional focus and tenacity. They dedicated numerous lunch breaks and after-school sessions to rigorous research and strategy development. This commitment paid off, resulting in a deserved victory for our team!

The day concluded with an invaluable opportunity: a tour of the Pinsent Masons legal offices and a special Q&A session with a senior lawyer who advises the King's Council. This offered practical career insight and linked their debating success to future professional pathways.

We offer our sincere congratulations to the entire winning team for their efforts and success: Alisha, Haven, Hussain, Myra, Aisha, and Eva.





Keep in touch with Little Ilford School:
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