

## WINDRUSH DAY

22 June 2021 will mark the fourth national Windrush Day and 73 years since the SS Empire Windrush arrived at Tilbury Docks in Essex in 1948 carrying the first Caribbean migrants to the UK to help rebuild Britain after the Second World War.

We will be holding an assembly in each class. If any families would like to share and send the children in to school with any photographs or artefacts with the class. Please let the class teacher know.



## TERM DATES 2020-2021

**Summer Term 2 2021: 8 June—23 Jul**

## SHORT BREAKS NEWSLETTER

Please [click here](#) to view the Short Breaks newsletter for parents and carers of children with disabilities.

## NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAMME

The National School Breakfast Programme has launched its breakfast at home area on the Family Action website, where you will find lots of information and advice on providing a low cost, nutritious daily breakfast at home.

[www.family-action.org.uk/  
BreakfastAtHome](http://www.family-action.org.uk/BreakfastAtHome)



## NATIONAL THANK A TEACHER DAY

National Thank a Teacher Day will take place on Wednesday 23 June. The National Governance Association (NGA) are encouraging governors and trustees to recognise the incredible work of teachers and leaders in keeping our schools going and supporting our communities over the past year. It is a great way to make governance more visible in your school or trust too.

Sending a free 'thank you' e-card to your executive leader or whole school team is just one of the ways to get involved. Visit the [Thank a Teacher day resources page](#) for governors and trustees to find out more and to watch a video by Emma Knights, NGA's chief executive.

## POLAND CLASS

This week in Year 1 we have been having lots of fun across all of our subjects! In Science we had a letter from Mr Frosty the snowman to help him decide which material we should wrap his spare hands in. We wrapped them in paper, a jumper, cling film, foil and left one without anything to see how quickly they melt. In Poland class, we found out that cling film or paper was the best material for Mr Frosty!



In Geography, the children felt like they were in year 6 because they had to research interesting things about the equator. The children had different stations to look at and use different resources to find out about the equator.



The children have LOVED our book for this half term, "10 things I can do to help my world". They have been really interested in the different facts in the book and learning new ways that we can help our world. They have written a non chronological report to help others learn how we can make small changes to help the planet.

In Maths, the children have been fantastic in their learning of place value within 100. They have been comparing and ordering numbers within 100 and I have been so impressed with their use of mathematical language to reason their answers.

Also, since we have come back from half term we have been focusing on our growth mindset. We have learnt the power of "yet". It is OK if we can't do something, but it is that we can't do it YET! They have been amazing at changing the way they are thinking by saying that "I need more practice" or "I can't do this yet, but I'm going to try".

Well done Poland class!!!

## NIGERIA CLASS



We have been very busy this week in R3- Nigeria Class.

This term, we are learning about superheroes. In Literacy, we have been reading the story 'Supertato'. The children have been making 'wanted' posters to help find 'The Evil Pea'. Please let us know if you see him! Some children have also been creating their own comic strips and writing superhero speech bubbles. As part of our Expressive Arts and Design curriculum, the children have been designing their own superhero masks.

In Forest School, we have been making 2D shapes using natural objects from our environment.





# Lewisham Learning



Dear Parent/carer

## Tackling race inequality in Lewisham schools

We are writing to inform you about exciting work underway in all Lewisham schools. Our children and young people are our future. We want them all to succeed, to achieve all that they can, and to seize the opportunities available to them in the modern economy, and the world city that is London.

Lewisham is an open borough that celebrates diversity, and has a history of standing up to racism and inequalities, from the [Battle of Lewisham](#) in 1977 to more recently becoming a [Borough of Sanctuary](#).

There is a Council-wide commitment to tackling race inequalities, which includes work in various services across the Council. [Read more about our work to tackle race inequalities.](#)

A key piece of this work is actively tackling race inequality in our schools, bringing new energy, expertise and a fresh collaborative approach.

## A snapshot of the Lewisham population



## Is there a problem with race inequality in Lewisham schools?

Evidence shows us there are historic, systemic inequalities in the education system – not just in Lewisham, but in London and across the UK.

Statistics show there are certain demographic groups with lower educational attainment and a higher exclusion rate.

This then plays out in the future – particularly with young men of Black Caribbean and dual heritage (Black Caribbean/White), experiencing poorer educational outcomes.

This shows us that historically, we have been failing certain groups of young people. This is something we cannot ignore, because we want all of our young people to achieve their potential.

We know there are many factors that lead to these outcomes, and education and the wider support that a school community can provide is one of these factors. This is something we can work to improve.





## What is this work in schools going to achieve?

Schools are working together with each other and the Council on this project.

### We are starting by asking these questions

- How can we make sure that the curriculum better reflects our communities here in Lewisham?
- How can we make sure that the relationships between teachers and students are positive and productive and backed up by the right school policies?
- How can we make sure that our schools are linked up with parents and the community?
- How can we make sure that more of our black staff in school progress to senior jobs and that there are more black parents and community members on our school governing boards?

The first piece of work is to ensure that every school in Lewisham is on board, and to do this we are asking them to sign a pledge. You can view the pledge and learn more about what it means on the Lewisham Council website.

### How will this affect my child?

We know that no single initiative will bring about change, but the changes we introduce will create lasting transformation in the lives of our young people.

We know that these improvements to our education system will be beneficial to all Lewisham children, irrespective of their background.

It is likely that a lot of this work will go unnoticed by your child, as it will be 'behind the scenes' in terms of teacher training and policy work, but in time this will filter down into the language used, subjects studied, books that are brought home, conversations that you are having with your child about their school day. It will ultimately result in a more representative curriculum in Lewisham schools which reflects the diverse community we are proud to be part of.

### How can I find out more or get involved?

We have created a [detailed FAQ section](#) on the Lewisham Council website. There you will find more details about the funding for this project, the people involved, and the pledge.

We have also included some useful links for further reading including statistics about the disparities in education and talking to your child about anti-racism.

We will be launching the pledge and more information about this project to the media and wider community on June 22, which is Windrush Day. Your school may contact you about their own activities around this day, celebrating the launch of the pledge and Windrush Day in general.

We are determined that Lewisham is at the forefront of bringing progressive change to our education system and curriculum, and we know that our school communities and residents want to see this happen too.

We will continue to update you with our progress, and look forward to sharing the ways we are actively tackling race inequality together and continuing to support schools to improve education for all of Lewisham's children.

Yours faithfully,

**Brenda Dacres**  
Deputy Mayor,  
Lewisham Council

**Pinaki Ghoshal**  
Executive Director for Children and Young People

**Councillor Chris Barnham**  
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People  
Lewisham Council

**Roger Abo-Henricksen**  
Independent Chair, Lewisham Learning

