

10th October 2025



# John Donne Primary School

Tel: 020 7639 0594

Email: office@jdacademy.org.uk



Kindness

Respect

Resilience

Community

Collaboration

Aspiration

Dear parents and carers,

As the weather turns chillier, we can certainly feel that autumn is upon us! It's a time of change, and our pupils are embracing it wholeheartedly.

This week, our Year 1 class had an exciting adventure to Kirkwood Nature Reserve. This trip was the perfect opportunity for them to explore the seasonal changes around us and engage with nature hands-on. We are thrilled to see their enthusiasm for learning about the environment!

Meanwhile, Year 3 has been buzzing with energy as they dive into their swimming lessons. It's fantastic to see them making a splash and gaining confidence in the water!

As we head into the colder months, we kindly remind parents to ensure that children are coming to school with warm coats, as the temperatures are dropping. Staying comfortable will help them focus and enjoy their activities to the fullest.

Just a reminder that school will finish next Friday (17<sup>th</sup> October) for a two-week half term break. It's a great time for everyone to relax and recharge before we welcome more exciting activities in the coming weeks.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend, and we will see you bright and early on Monday morning!

Jo Rooney  
Headteacher



This Weeks Class Attendance Winner

**Green 2 with 100%**

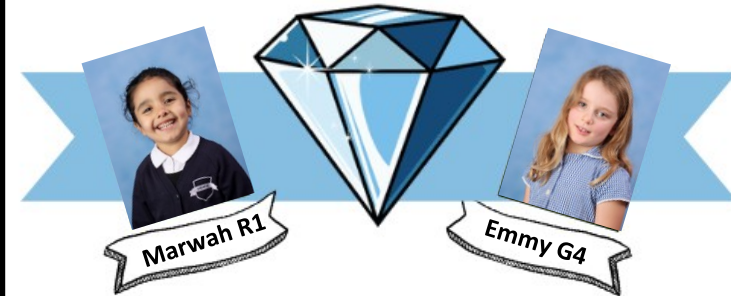
## Attendance

Our whole school attendance target is **97%**

Our overall attendance this week is **96.21%**

Class	Attendance	Late
Nursery	89.26%	2
Reception Green	92.96%	1
Reception Red	96.02%	2
Green 1	94.14%	4
Red 1	95.93%	0
Green 2	100%	5
Red 2	98.4%	5
Green 3	97.24%	0
Red 3	98%	1
Green 4	94.62%	1
Red 4	97.39%	0
Green 5	97%	4
Red 5	97.24%	1
Green 6	98.46%	1
Red 6	97.6%	2

Diamond Ticket Winners this week:



Milani R1, Bouba G1, Lina G1, Ava R2, Yasin R2, Aaryan G2, Angel G2, D'Angelo R3, Elaine R3, Aaliyah G3, Mohammed G3, Ezra R4, Ryleigh-Wrey G4, Ibraheem R5, Teegan R5, Lina G5, Rebecca G5, Nia R6, Riya R6, Amy G6, Akeem G6

Golden Ticket Winners this week:



Raimond R1, Aaleyah V G1, Oscar G1, Iimani R2, Mickell R2, Asma G2, Noah G2, Kaz R3, Isaac R3, Stephanie G3, Zara G3, Ayaan G4, Siri G4, Van Ha R5, Wendy R5, Dallas G5, Diamond G5, Abdul Razak R6, Akilah R6, Iyla-Rose G6, Kamilia G6



Collaboration

## Values Assembly – What our learners think!

Values Assembly – What our learners think!

This week, our pupils were thinking about Collaboration and read the fantastic story of 'The Gigantic Turnip' by Aleksei Tolstoy. In the story, different animals have to work together to reach the goal – getting the gigantic turnip out of the ground! We discussed why collaboration is important and Green 3 said **'They showed collaboration because they managed to work together to get the turnip out – it doesn't matter that people are different because we are stronger when we work together'**

## Important Parent Information

# SCHOOL BREAK

We will be breaking up next week **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October** for the Half term for 2 weeks. We will be returning back on **3<sup>rd</sup> November**. Please note that **break up time will be 3:15pm**.

### NOTICE TO PARENTS/CARERS

Any scooters/bikes brought onto the school ground will not be the responsibility of the school.

Please ensure your child's name is on their bike/scooter.

Please can you park bikes/scooters in the areas provided.



### NOTICE TO PARENTS/CARERS



Could parents/Carers update the office if your child has any medical, Dietary requirements or needs. This is very important as we want to ensure your child gets the right care and treatment.

### NOTICE TO PARENTS/CARERS



Can you please ensure that all your children's belongings have their name and class in/on it.



Also if you do happen to have someone else's belongings can you please bring it back into the school so that we can reunite it their owner.



Please download the Arbor Parent App to receive updates on information and payments portal for clubs and trips.

For further information on how to download the app on your phone.

Please Click here>>>>>>>>>>



If your child is unwell or sick please call the office or register their sickness through Study bugs:

**Studybugs**

### Term Dates

Autumn 1	Tuesday 2nd Sept	Friday 17th Oct
Half Term	20th Oct	31st Oct
Autumn 2	Monday 3rd Nov	Friday 19th Dec

**NEW**

**Lunch Menu**

Click link

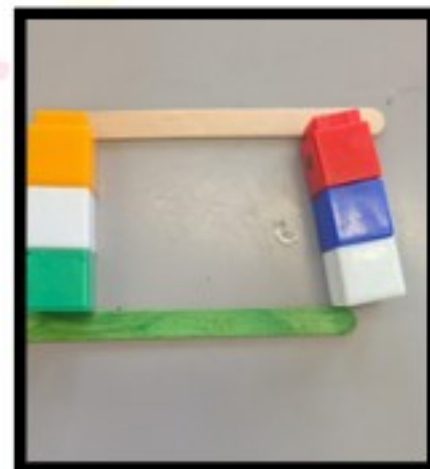
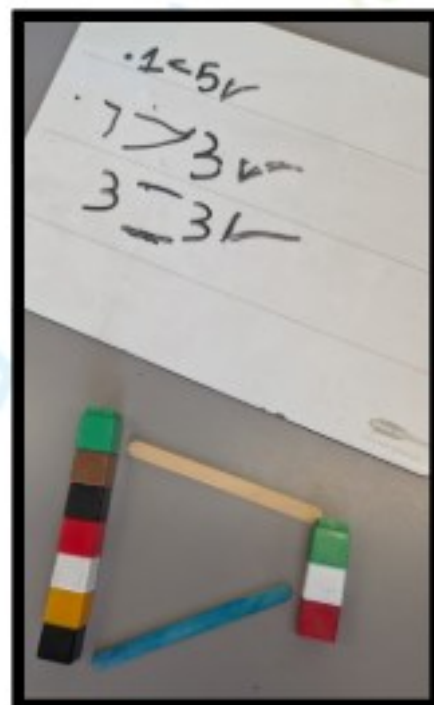
**WEEK 1**

Please make sure you follow us on Instagram and Twitter, @JDPSoffice. We will be posting live updates and pictures to show what is going on within your child's school day.



# Learning inequality Symbols

WITH YEAR 1



Red 1 have been learning the inequality symbols and how to use them. We have had great fun finding greater than and less than.

# Drawing Club

with Miss Brennand



In drawing club we looked at our favourite books and discussed the illustrators. We then drew our own book covers in the style of our favourite illustrator.

Kindness

Respect

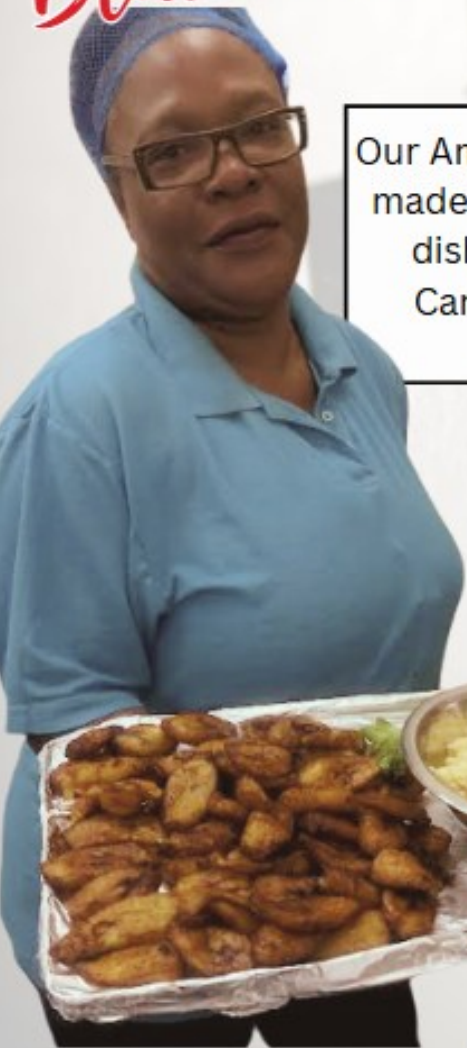
Resilience

Community

Collaboration

Aspiration

# Black History Month



Our Amazing Joyce in our kitchen made some traditional Nigerian dishes... It tasted amazing! Can you name some of the foods?...



Red 1 have created posters about Black History Month



Plantain and Egg sauce, Fried Yam and Egg Sauce, Puff Puff

Kindness

Respect

Resilience

Community

Collaboration

Aspiration

# MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT Coffee Morning



**A huge thank you to all the children and parents who supported our Macmillan Coffee Morning!**

**Thanks to your kindness and generosity, we were able to raise £212.72 for this wonderful charity. Your support helps Macmillan continue their incredible work, and we are so grateful to everyone who joined us, donated, and made the morning so special.**

**We would like to say a special BIG THANK YOU TO Luxumeebyee, parent of Heerabye in Red 2 for baking such a lovely cake!**

**Thank you again!**



# parentgym

## Six-week programme overview

Parent Gym is a course of six workshops: each session lasts two hours and is packed with practical tips and techniques to make family life easier and help your children thrive.

- Fun and interactive sessions, with a weekly 'mission' to practise at home
- Rooted in scientific research
- A great chance to meet and chat with other parents

Each week's session covers one of these key topics:

01 / Week

### Chat

**How to communicate**  
Get you and your child talking and listening in a positive way every day.

02 / Week

### Love

**How to show you care, in the right ways**  
Boosting your child's confidence, with a balance between closeness and independence.

03 / Week

### Behave

**How to be consistent in setting boundaries**  
Bring calm to your family with rules and routines that really work.

04 / Week

### Care

**How to raise healthy children**  
Keep yourself and your family healthy and happy with good sleep, eating and exercise.

05 / Week

### Discover

**How to encourage learning**  
Help develop healthy learning habits with your child, including managing screen time.

06 / Week

### Together

**How to build a family support network**  
Keep your family feeling happy, supported and loved.

## Still looking for a reason to take part?

Around **10,000** parents have already participated

**96%** of those surveyed would recommend to other parents

### Parents' feedback

"I am calm... the family is happier... It is amazing how a course can change your life."

*Parent, Morningside Childrens Centre*

"I'm sleeping through the night for the first time in years."

*Parent, Boxgrove Primary School*

"Parent Gym has worked wonders for me and my family. It's not about who's a good or bad parent – it just gives you lots of ideas to overcome difficulties in parenting."

*Parent, Mount Stewart Junior School*

The six, weekly sessions run (for two hours) from:

9:00-11:00am

on:

Wednesdays

from:

5.11.25-10.12.25

Please sign up in the School Office



**WE'RE  
COMING  
TO TAKE  
YOUR  
PICTURE  
ON...**



Individual and sibling  
photos only  
**'STRIKE A POSE'**



**COMING  
SOON**

## Taekwondo Lessons

Taekwondo lessons will start a new club running in the afternoon time from next term on a Thursday. If your child wishes to attend please could you register your interest at the office.

Spaces are limited so it is on a first come, first serve basis.

Classes are £3.50 per session and will be charged per term

Autumn 2:  
Years 5 - 6

Spring Terms 1 & 2:  
Years 3 - 4

Summer Terms 1 & 2:  
Years 1 - 2



## Year 2 CAKE SALE

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October  
3:15 PM  
Community Space

We're excited to announce that we'll be holding a Cake Sale to raise funds for future school trips and excursions!

Every cake purchased will help us create more memorable learning adventures outside the classroom.



# Black History Month Youth Club

**MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**  
**4pm - 6pm**

Join us for a special evening of  
cultural food, music & activities  
to celebrate Black History  
Month!

Books  
Games  
Arts & Crafts  
Photo Booth

Ages  
8-17

Mentivity House, 50 Westmoreland Rd, SE17 2GA

## EVENT DETAILS & SCHEDULE:

We're excited to invite you to a special edition of our Youth Club as we celebrate Black History Month — a fun, vibrant evening dedicated to creativity, culture, and community.

If you know any young people aged 8–17, register them via the [Youth Club Registration Form](#) and let them enjoy an unforgettable experience filled with creativity, culture, and celebration.

**Date:** Monday, 13th October 2025

**Time:** 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Location:** Mentivity House, 50 Westmoreland Rd, London SE17 2GA

Find us easily with [What3Words](#)

### Who Should Attend?

Young people (age 8-17)

### What to Expect:

This FREE entry celebration will feature:

- Delicious Food
- Great Music
- Quizzes and Prizes
- Special Activities
- Photo Booth
- Free Wi-Fi
- ...plus plenty more!

Join us on Monday, 13th October, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM, for an evening of creativity, culture and connection.

Kind regards,  
Mentivity Team

[REGISTER FOR YOUR SPOT HERE](#)





## CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### FIGURES CURATED BY BISONNE

08-12 OCTOBER 25

VARAIDZO

**STAFFORDSHIRE ST!**

Artist and writer Varaidzo presents over 100 digital works reviving Black British figures from before 1948, the year HMT Windrush arrived.

Many of the figures including Dr Harold Moody, Ronald Moody, and Una Marson lived locally to Staffordshire St on Queen's Road in Peckham, now marked with a blue plaque in their honour.

Figures is a celebration of these stories and a reminder of the impact we can have in our communities today.

Opening times:  
8 - 12 October, 12 - 6pm

Please contact [info@staffordshirest.com](mailto:info@staffordshirest.com) to arrange a school visit.

## Family Learning at the Thomas Calton Centre

Southwark  
Council

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 13.00-15.30  
Family Learning Festival: Story Power

- arts & crafts
- puppet-making
- stay & play
- painting
- creative writing
- making books
- music & dance
- storytelling



Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October 13.00-15.30  
Black History Arts & Cultural Crafts Fun Day

- storytelling from around the world
- arts & crafts
- stay & play
- song & dance
- music
- painting
- cultural displays

**FREE!**

Contact: [adult.learning@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:adult.learning@southwark.gov.uk)  
07539 233 779  
or 0207 358 2100

Thomas Calton Centre  
Alpha Street  
Peckham  
SE15 4NX

Southwark  
Adult  
Learning  
Service Southwark Council

EDUCATION



# CAMP GREEN HORIZON

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
9.30am - 2pm

Would you like to learn more about the natural world this half term? Would you like to spend time with animals and wildlife?

Join us at The Farm for a jam-packed week of...

**Crafts | Games | Gardening | Conservation**



**FREE\* | Ages 8 -14 years**

Can't make the 2pm pick up? For £10 a day, join games club until 5pm

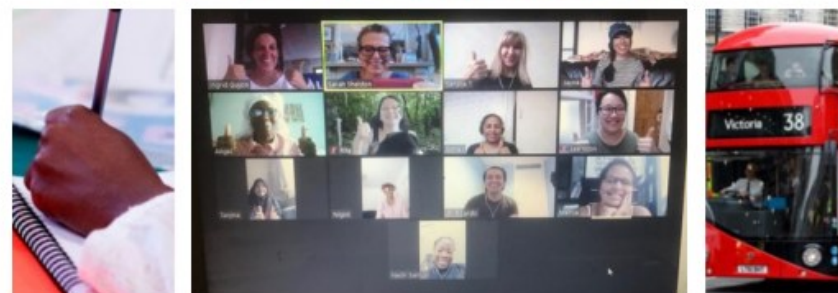
For more info and to sign up, email:  
[education@vauxhallcityfarm.org](mailto:education@vauxhallcityfarm.org)

\*This opportunity is aimed at students from low-income households or who receive benefit-related free-school meals.



## Online English (ESOL) Course

**FREE 15-week Entry level/Level 1 online accredited courses for Southwark residents**



**Classes will be on**

**Two mornings per week at 10am—12.30pm**

(Days of classes will depend on your level)

**6th October 2025 - 6th February 2026**

(term-time only)

**plus online Conversation Clubs**

This course will take place on Zoom.

Applicants should live in Southwark

To apply for a place on the course *in advance*  
please use this link or QR code:

<https://tinyurl.com/2v3zn2za>

Spaces are limited so **book soon**.

We will contact you to arrange an assessment and confirm your place on the course.

