



Holmewood Nursery School and Tree House Children's Centre

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Spring Newsletter 2026

Welcome to the Spring Term at Holmewood, as ever we have lots of activities to share as well as a few future dates and important reminders.

We have already started our annual preparation for our **RSPB Great Garden Bird Watch on Friday 23rd January** and want to tell you all about the activities that you are invited to participate in with your children:

- Tuesday 20th and Thursday 22nd January – **8:45-9:30** – all **parents and children Activity Session** – you are all welcome to join in making bird feeders and learning about the many different birds that visit the Holmewood grounds. There will also be gardening activities.
- Wednesday 21st January between **8:45 and 9:10** – **Wriggle Rhyme and story time** in the hall with your children and parents are then invited to stay and chat over **coffee, tea and biscuits**
- Friday 23rd January – 8:45-9:45, you are invited to carry out some fun **bird spotting with your children**

Daffodils

Last term every child planted a daffodil bulb, if your child chose to take one home we would love to know how it is doing. If the bulb is already coming into bloom, please can you share a photo of it with us or let your child bring it back to Holmewood so we can take a photo. If we have enough photos they will form part of a collage about the work the children have done planting and caring for the daffodils. This will also be part of our entry to the London Children's Flower Society's Spring bulb competition.

If you have any ideas of ways to improve our provision, please do not hesitate to share them: drop a note into the comment box, located outside the school office; leave a note in the office; send an email to: admin@holmewoodnurseryschool.org.uk.

School Photographer – children will be able to have school photographs on Wednesday 25th February. The office will email with arrangements for children who do not usually attend on Wednesdays but would like their child to have a photograph taken

Tree House Children's Centre. The children's centre offers a variety of activities to support families and parenting in our community and you are always welcome to visit the centre or ask in the office for a copy of the latest timetable

Working together Parents & Carers are welcome to help or contribute to events in the nursery, if you are available and would like to help occasionally with outings or activities, please mention it to a member of the classroom staff.

Allotment – If you think you could spare some time and would know how to help repair and renew our raised beds and improve the pathways, please let us know.

With best wishes from the Holmewood Team

Future Dates and Activities

Wednesday 4th February – **Maths Workshop** - parents are invited to come to our outdoor Maths workshop between 8:50 and 9:30. You will have a go at early number activities, problem solving and making patterns

Thursday 26th February – storytelling sessions for children only. We will share details for how parent can attend with their child should they not usually attend on a Thursday.

Monday 2nd March start of We Love Reading Week

Tuesday 3rd March – **8:45 and 9:10 – Wriggle Rhyme and story time** in the hall with your children

Wednesday 4th March – Early Literacy Workshop for parents – Mark making and reading

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day – Core Book workshop for parents - children are invited to dress for a bedtime story and to bring in their favourite book

Monday 9th March - _Arrival of the live duck eggs

Wednesday 11th March – Upstairs visit to the Horniman Museum

Friday 13th March – Science Day

Thursday 26th March – Last Day for children

Friday 27th March – Parent conferencing

Easter Holiday – Monday 30th March - to Friday 10th April

Monday 13th April – Start of Summer Term for all

Please see the next page for Important Reminders

Important Reminders

School Fund - the school fund is an important voluntary donation that we use to enrich the provision for your children. We use it to buy daily fruit, improve the library and organise special events such as visits by authors. We suggest £1.00 per week for part time children and £2.00 for full time children. Please remember how important your weekly donations are.

Packed Lunches - once again you have impressed us with the array of exciting packed lunches. For anyone short on ideas, children have had: sandwiches, quiche, soups, stews, rice dishes, mini tapas selections, salads and pasta; lots of the warm meals are sent in thermal flasks as we are unable to warm lunches. Please remember that all lunches should be nut and chocolate free. Children are provided with water; no other drinks should be included.

Food. Please do not allow your child to eat food when coming into nursery and they should not have food items in their pocket for eating later as the food may pose a danger to the other children with severe allergies.

Punctuality. It is important to arrive promptly. If you arrive more than 5 minutes late or after 8:50am, please go to the office with your child to register, before going to the hall. If you do not, they may not be registered in a safe and timely manner. This is important in case of a fire drill or alarm. **Should you and your child arrive between 08:50 and 09:05, you are reminded to wait by the entrance to the hall** with your child as it is the key group time and late arrivals disrupt this important session of the day.

Absences. Please remember to keep us informed of any absences. Please do not bring your child to school if they are unwell as it is distressing for them and they do not enjoy being at nursery when unwell. If you have any doubts about whether your child is fit for school, visit your GP for advice or ring the school to check on our guidance for illness exclusion periods.

Clothing. Please ensure children wear clothing that is safe and practical for running and climbing outdoors; dressing up clothes can hinder movement. Children should be wearing suitable shoes and coats for the weather. Please, if you do not want your child to lose any clothing, especially hats, gloves and scarves, name them clearly.

Spare Clothing. Please remember to return any nursery loaned clothing as we have run out of emergency spares. All children should have their own spare set of clothes on their peg in case of accidents.

Breakfast and Afterschool Clubs are available on a regular or ad hoc basis. Booking may be made on the day provided there is space available, Breakfast club is from 7.45 and costs £8.00, afterschool club costs £5.00 to 3:30pm, £10.00 to 4:30pm and £18.00 to 5:45. The school keeper starts to lock up at 5:45 so prompt collection is essential.

Gate Security - to ensure the children are safe and secure please remember to close the gate with the red latch and cow bell, situated by the school office, at all times. **Please do not allow your child to operate or climb the gates to release the catch.** We know it may seem polite if someone is approaching the gate to leave it open, however, it is safer to close it so others also remember to close the gate and keep everyone safe. **On no account should children be allowed to press the button to release the main entrance black gates into the car park.**

Emergency Contacts Please ensure your emergency contacts and password are kept up to date and inform us immediately of any change. Children under 14 years of age are not permitted to collect a child from Holmewood or the Treehouse Children's Centre. Your security Password must be given to anyone collecting your child who is not listed on your contact form and you must ring us in advance to advise us of the name of the person collecting your child.