BARHAM PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

Embedding Excellence

BARHAM PRIMARY NEWS AUTUMN EDITION 25TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Dates for your Diary

October - Black History Month

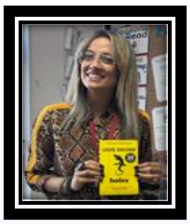
Week beginning 28th September - Black History Month Assemblies

Friday 23rd October – School Ends for Half Term

Monday 2nd November – Back to School – Parents Evening

Reading for pleasure will commences after half term

Monday 9th November – No School Staff Inset Day



Let's Read

Book recommendation – "Holes" by Louis Sachar

Mrs van Amstel

I highly recommend Holes by Louis Sachar because it is an exciting and engaging story that keeps you wanting to find out what happens next and is a real page turner! With its mystery, humour and memorable characters, this book makes you think about friendship, fairness, choices and the consequences of our actions. The different storylines cleverly come together, making it a fantastic book! Last but not least, it has an awesome villain too which makes the storyline even more intriguing!

Dear Families of Barham,

It is hard to believe that we are already four weeks into the new academic year!

It has been wonderful to see our children settling into their new classes, building relationships and embracing all the opportunities that the new school year brings. There is a real sense of energy and excitement across Barham, and we are incredibly proud of the positive start our children have made.

There is lots happening across our school beyond the classroom too. Our clubs and enrichment activities are now well underway, including chess, swimming, Rocksteady and LAMDA, alongside the many other opportunities available to our children. These experiences help children to discover new interests, develop confidence and build skills beyond the curriculum.

Stay and Play at The Owl House

We are delighted to welcome families with children under 3 years old to our Stay and Play sessions every Wednesday from 8:45am to 11:00am.

Come along to The Owl House and enjoy a welcoming space for young children to play, explore and develop, while families have the opportunity to meet others and become part of our wider Barham community.

Keep reading together

As we move further into the academic year, please continue to make time for reading at home. Regular reading has such a powerful impact on children's vocabulary, understanding, confidence and enjoyment of learning. Sharing books together, talking about what you have read and encouraging children to talk about their ideas all make a real difference.

The power of talk

This year, we are placing a particular emphasis on oracy – the power of talk. We want every child at Barham to develop the confidence, vocabulary and skills to express themselves, listen carefully to others, explain their thinking and engage in purposeful conversations.

There are lots of simple ways to support this at home. Talk together about your day, ask your child what they think and why, introduce new words, discuss things you see and encourage them to explain their ideas. Every conversation is an opportunity to learn.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. The children have made such a positive start to the year, and we are excited about all that lies ahead.

Warm regards,

Jayshree Thakore
Head of School

We are delighted to celebrate the launch of our new Barham Primary School website!

Click link below:
https://www.barhamprimary.co.uk/

Our new website is a wonderful way to discover more about our school community, values, learning and the many exciting things happening across Barham. We warmly invite all our families to explore the site, discover what makes our school special and keep up to date with the latest news, events and achievements.

We will continue adding new content and updates over the coming weeks, so please visit regularly. We hope you enjoy exploring our new website and finding out more about life at Barham!

We are also pleased to share our statutory assessment outcomes from the 2025–26 academic year. These outcomes reflect the hard work, determination and progress of our children, alongside the dedication of our staff and the support of our families.

We are incredibly proud of what our children achieved and of the commitment shown across our whole school community. We look forward to building on these successes and continuing to provide ambitious learning opportunities for every child at Barham.

Barham's 2025- 2026 Results

Our unvalidated external results are as follows:

Early Years Foundation Stage	**Good Level of Development** **65% (National 72.3%)**
Y1 Phonic Screen Check	**92% (National 81.8%)**
Y4 Multiplication Timetables Check	**58% (National 37%)**
Y6: End of KS2	**Reading 77% (GD 41%) (National 75% GD 30.9%)** **Writing 84% (GD 16%) (National 73% GD 13.1%)** **Maths 80% (GD 27%) (National 75.1% GD 27%)** **Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling 85% (GD 54%) (National 73.8% GD 30.3%)** **Reading, Writing & Maths combined 71.7% (GD 10%) (National 63.1% GD 8.5%)**

Parents Evening

Parents Evenings will commence week beginning 2nd November 2026

Timings will be shared and confirmed shortly.

Appointments do go very quickly please make sure you book your appointment directly with the class teacher

REPORT concerns to our Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead/AHT Years 2 & 3: **Natalie Dweh**
Contact details: **ndweh@barham.brent.sch.uk**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead/AHT EYFS & Year 1: **Elisabeth Hicham**
Contact details: **ehicham@barham.brent.sch.uk**

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Parent/Pupil Liaison: Margaret Narcisse

Head of School: Jayshree Thakore

Deputy Head: Stephen Anti

Associate Head/SENDCo: Nyasha Brackett-Thomas

Associate Head Years 4/5/6: Shanta van Amstel

Executive Head: Georgina Nutton

Alperton Best Start Family Wellbeing Hub

Please click the link to view the timetable for the Alperton Best Start Family Hub:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bUmheCxloHKB0IgxCx6OIsj84aZrH8CG/view?usp=sharing
There is so much support available for our families. The Alperton Best Start Family Hub offers a wide range of services such as free creche facilities, health services, advice and support for parents and much more.

Please come and speak to a member of the safeguarding team if you need directions or have any questions.

Contact Alperton Best Start Family Hub
Address:
Ealing Road
Wembley
HA0 4PW

Opening hours:
Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm

Phone: 020 8937 3860
Email: Alperton.FWC@brent.gov.uk

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

If you have a concern about a child or an immediate concern about a child then please call 999. Alternative contact Brent Family Front Door 0208 937 4300 (option 1)

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Dweh.

Brent Preston Park Best Start Family Hub 1st September – 18th December 2026 Autumn Timetable Brent

Autumn/Winter	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
BEST START IN LIFE | FAMILY HUBS Registration link: **Preston Park Family Hub** **College Road** **HA9 8RJ** **Tel: 020 8937 5980** **Free Vitamins (Must have Healthy Start Card)** **For pregnant women and children aged 0 – 4 years.** 	**Midwifery Services** **9:00am – 4:30pm** **Appointment only** **Citizens Advice Bureau Brent (CAB)** **9:00am – 3:00pm** Independent advice on issues such as benefits housing Welfare rights. **Appointment only** **Baby Time** **9:45am – 10:45am** 0 – 12 months Weekly from 7th of September Come along and meet different professionals to learn the different stages of your babies' development. **Booking required** **Busy Feet** **1:00pm – 2.00pm** 2 years – 3.5 years Weekly from 7th of September Different activities, alongside health information **Booking required** **Term time only** **Healthy Lifestyle Clinic** Nutrition advice to parents with children aged 1-5 years **2:00pm – 5:00pm** **14th & 28th Sept, 12th Oct, 9th & 23rd Nov, 7th Dec** **Booking required** **Housing Surgery** **9:30am – 12:30pm** **28th Sept** Advise provided for families with no allocated Housing Officer. **Appointment only**	**Midwifery Services** **9:00am – 4:30pm** **Appointment only** **Registration Clinic** **9:00am – 2:00pm** Get help and support completing registrations. Drop in **Sport in Mind Mum & Baby** **10.30am – 11.30am** **8th Sept- 15th December** Mums and their babies (up to 1 years old) to use movement to support their mental health, including low mood and isolation **Booking required** **Term time only** **Brent PAIRS (Parent and Infant Relationship Service)** **9.30am – 2:00pm** 0 – 5 years For parents who maybe struggling in their relationship with their child **Referral only (fortnightly)** **FELIX PROJECT** **(Food Bank for all families)** **10:30am – 2:00pm** **Weekly** Felix | Rescuing food for fuller lives	**Health Visiting Clinic** **9:00am – 3:00pm** 1 & 2-year-old Development reviews **Appointment only** **Breastfeeding Support Clinic** **9:30am – 1:00pm** 2nd, 16th & 30th September 14th & 28th October 11th & 25th November 9th & 16th December **Ask questions and get support with breastfeeding** **Employment Support** **9:30am – 4:00pm** Employment and benefits entitlement information. Help with CV Book online or call the centre Weekly **Appointment Only** **Baby Massage** **10:00am – 11:00am** 2 months – 6 months 4-week course 16th Sept-7th Oct **Booking required** **Potty Training 4-week Toileting Programme** **10:00am – 12:00pm** 18 months – 3 years 4th-25th November **(Creche provided)** **Booking required** **Introduction to Solids** **12:30pm – 2:00pm** 23rd Sept 21st Oct 25th Nov & 16th Dec Weaning advice and support **Booking required** **Group session** **Let's Talk** **1:00pm – 2:00pm** 14 months – 3 ½ years Weekly from 9th September Advice and support if worried about your child's speech through reading and play. **Booking required**	**Health Visiting Clinic** **9:00am – 1:00pm** 1 & 2-year-old Development reviews **Appointment only** **Sensory Play** **10:00am – 11:00am** Weekly from 10th September 14 months – 3 years Learning and exploring cornflour, paint, water, shredder paper, sand, shaving foam through play **Booking required** **Term time only** **Building Blocks -Mega, Jenga, Lego** **1:00pm – 2:00pm** 16months – 4 years Weekly from 10th September Enhance children's fine and gross motor skills, turn taking, problem solving, Hand and eye coordination, schematic and social skills **Booking required** **Term time only** **Ansar Youth Project** Activities for young people, include sports, gaming, arts and crafts, educational **4:00pm – 5:30pm (Girls 8 – 17 years)** **5:30pm – 7:30pm YMC (13 – 17 years)** **Term time only**	**Health Visiting Clinic** **9:00am – 3:00pm** 1 & 2-year-old Development reviews **Appointment only** **Dad Matters** **10:30am – 11:30am** **11th Sept 9th Oct** **13th Nov & 11th Dec** Free breakfast - Hot drinks - good conversation A welcoming space to meet other local dads **Drop in sessions** **Special Educational Needs & Disabilities -Stay and Play session** **11:00am – 12:00pm** Weekly from 11th September 14 months – 3 years Have fun with your child, meet other families, access information, advice and practical support. **Booking required** **Prospects/Brent Connexions Careers Advice Session** **1:00pm – 4.00pm** Support with training/ Employment for 16 – 19 years and up to 25 years with disability not in school/college **Appointment Only** **Toy Library** Parents can loan educational and fun toys for FREE Membership & £5 deposit required. The deposit will be returned. **Ansar Youth Project** Activities for young people, include sports, gaming, arts and crafts, educational **4:00pm -5:30pm (Mixed 8 – 17 years)** **5:30pm – 7:30pm (Mixed 13 – 17 years)** **Term time only**	**Saturday Sessions** **Saturday sessions are now delivered at the hub during term time, please contact Preston Park Best Start Family Hub for more information.** **Call Centre for information** **Useful Links** The Local Offer for Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) aged 0-25 and their families https://www.brent.gov.uk/children-youngpeople-and-families/send-local-offer **Brent Youth Zone information:** Brent Youth Zone has links to information, advice and activities for young people. https://www.brentyouthzone.org.uk/ **CFIS Services:** The Children and Family Information Service (CFIS) provides information and advice on a variety of services for children and young people (0 to 25 years old) and parents, including childcare and early education. https://www.brent.gov.uk/children-youngpeople-and-families Contact CFIS Team: Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm Phone: 0208 937 3010 Email: cfis@brent.gov.uk Best Start Family Hubs| Brent Council

Attendance and Punctuality – Every Day Counts!

At Barham, we believe that **every school day is an opportunity to learn, grow and succeed**. Regular attendance and punctuality are important foundations for children's academic progress, wellbeing and wider development.

Why does attendance matter?

When children attend school regularly, they are able to build their knowledge and skills progressively and take part fully in school life. Even occasional absences can mean that children miss important learning, which can make it more difficult to keep up with their classmates.

Being in school every day also gives children the opportunity to:

- Develop positive relationships with their friends and teachers.
- Take part in lessons, clubs, enrichment activities and special events.
- Build confidence, independence and resilience.
- Establish positive routines and habits.
- Make consistent progress in their learning.
- Feel a strong sense of belonging within our school community.

Why is being on time important?

Punctuality matters too. Arriving on time allows children to begin their day calmly and confidently. The start of the school day is an important part of our daily routine, when children settle into class, complete morning activities, receive key information and prepare for the day's learning.

Arriving late can mean missing valuable learning time and can sometimes make children feel unsettled or anxious about entering the classroom after the day has started. Developing good punctuality habits from an early age also helps children understand the importance of responsibility and commitment.

Working together

We recognise that there are times when children are genuinely unwell or when unexpected circumstances affect attendance. We ask families to keep us informed and to work closely with the school if attendance becomes a concern.

If your child is finding it difficult to attend regularly, or if there are circumstances affecting their attendance or punctuality, **please speak to us**. Our aim is always to work in partnership with families and provide support wherever we can.

Every day counts. Every minute matters. Every child deserves the opportunity to be here, learn and thrive.

🍎 PUPIL PREMIUM & FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Important information for families from September 2026

💡 What is Pupil Premium?

Pupil Premium is additional government funding given to schools to help support children who may face financial or other barriers to learning.

Schools use this funding to provide additional support and opportunities for eligible pupils.

🆕 WHAT HAS CHANGED?

From September 2026, children living in households receiving Universal Credit can qualify for benefits-related Free School Meals, regardless of household income.

There are now two categories of Free School Meals:

🟢 TARGETED FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Universal Credit

Annual household earnings of £7,400 or less

➡ Free School Meals

➡ Pupil Premium funding for the school

➡ May be eligible for other support linked to benefits-related FSM

🔵 EXPANDED FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Universal Credit

Annual household earnings above £7,400

➡ Free School Meals

➡ Does not attract Pupil Premium funding from this eligibility

➡ Other support linked specifically to Targeted FSM may not apply

⭐ WHY SHOULD I CHECK?

All children at Barham Primary School can access free school meals through the Mayor of London's Universal Free School Meals programme.

However, this is separate from benefits-related Free School Meals and Pupil Premium.

If your family receives Universal Credit, please still check your eligibility.

Registering means we can make sure our records are accurate and that our school receives any additional funding your child is entitled to.

This funding helps us provide additional support and opportunities for eligible pupils.

🔎 CHECK YOUR ELIGIBILITY

Visit: https://fsm.lgfl.net/

It's quick and easy!

1 Select Brent

Choose Brent and then Barham Primary School.

2 Enter your details

Include your email address so you can receive a response.

3 Enter your child's details

The school will also be notified if your child is eligible.

❤️ EVERY ELIGIBLE CHILD COUNTS

Even though children at Barham already receive a free school meal, please check your eligibility if your household receives Universal Credit.

The Information You Need!

NHS Whittington Health NHS Trust

Breakfast Swaps

Sugar and fat are the biggest things to watch out for at breakfast time – try some of these easy swaps

Swap these with...

Chocolate cereal
Frosted flakes
Honey crunch cereal
Croissants
Cereal bars

These

Wheat biscuit cereal
No added sugar muesli
Porridge
Wholemeal toast
Plain yoghurt with fruit

NHS Whittington Health NHS Trust

Oral Health Promotion Website

Top tips for healthy teeth:

- Brush twice a day; last thing at night is most important.
- Use a smear of toothpaste for under 3 years & a pea size for over 3 years.
- Use toothpaste containing 1,350 - 1,500 parts per million fluoride for maximum protection.
- Spit your toothpaste out after brushing, but do not rinse.
- Reduce sugar in your diet and keep to mealtimes only.
- Visit your dentist for regular check-ups.

For more information please scan the QR code:

NHS Whittington Health NHS Trust

Healthy Snack Ideas

Apple and peanut butter

Slice one apple and enjoy with 1/2 tbsp of pure peanut butter make sure it doesn't contain added sugar, salt or oil.

Blueberries and yoghurt

Combine a small handful (40g) of blueberries with a small pot (125g) of plain low-fat yoghurt.

Cottage cheese, tomato and rice cake

Add about two heaped tablespoons (50g) of low-fat cottage cheese and six cherry tomatoes to one rice cake.

Red pepper and hummus

Have 3 tbsp of reduced-fat hummus with a whole red pepper cut into sticks.

NHS Whittington Health NHS Trust

How to find an NHS dentist

You can find an NHS dentist that is convenient for you, near your home or school, and phone them to see if there are any NHS appointments available at the moment.

Dental surgeries will not always have the capacity to take on new NHS patients and you may have to join a waiting list.

Once you find a dental surgery, you may have to fill in a registration form. However, that does not mean you have guaranteed access to an NHS dental appointment in the future.

Scan the QR Code to find a dentist close to you or search find an NHS dentist: