



Comber Grove Primary School Weekly Newsletter Spring Term 1



Friday, 10th February 2023

Quote for the week:

'We feel so much pride and joy when our children follow in our footsteps. Let's make sure our footsteps are worthy enough for them to follow.' – Toye Lawson Brown

A message from our Headteacher

Dear Comber Grove families,

Children's Mental Health Week

Comber Grove Primary School celebrated Children's Mental Health Week (6th to 12th February 2023). This year's theme was **'Let's Connect'**.

Thank you to Izzy and Shanice (Groundwork Project) for leading our assemblies this week.

Emergency Appeal for Turkey

We were all very shocked with the devastating news of the earthquake which affected parts of Turkey and Syria this week. Our thoughts and prayers are with all the families who have been affected by the earthquake.



A massive **THANK YOU** to all members of our school community who collectively donated over **£500** towards the Turkey Emergency Appeal today!

Please continue to donate online to support the Emergency Appeal for Turkey:

They urgently need your help.

You can help organisations get families the food, warm blankets, winter clothes and shelter materials they need to survive. You can help them set up safe spaces for women and children, and get psychological support to children so they can start to process their terrible experiences.

Save the Children:

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/how-you-can-help/emergencies/turkey-syria-earthquake>

Oxfam:

<https://www.oxfam.org.uk/oxfam-in-action/current-emergencies/turkey-and-syria-earthquake-appeal/>

Islamic Relief:

<https://www.islamic-relief.org.uk/turkiye-syria-islamic-relief-provides-swift-emergency-medicine-food-and-shelter-to-earthquake-survivors/>

Wishing you all a very restful and safe Halfterm.

See you all on Monday, 20th February 2023!

Lorram Black and Team Comber Grove



Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

THEME: 'Let's Connect!'



What can you do at home to support your child?

- *Connect with your child in everyday ways*
- *Talk to your child about important connections*
- *Talk to your child about their friends*
- *Connect by taking an interest in your child's world*
- *Find time to connect as a family*
- *Try to resolve conflict and re-connect after arguments*

Let your child know that if they are worried about something, they should always talk to an adult they trust. It could be you, someone in your family, a teacher or someone else in our school.

If you're worried about your child's mental health you can talk to your GP or someone at school.



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Free School Meals Eligibility Checker

Some parents confuse Healthier Free School Meals with Free School Meals

Healthier Free School Meals = At the moment all Children in Southwark's Primary Schools, are entitled to a meal at school for which they do not have to pay. [This will not continue for ever].

Free School Meals = Children from Reception age upwards whose parents are on benefits or low waged may be entitled to have a meal at school which is **free** [Please note: NOT nursery]

FSM

Due to the rising cost of living everyone could use a bit of help.

If you are on a low income or on benefits, then you may be able to claim free school meals for your child. While all Southwark primary school children are able to access free meals **via their healthy schools meal programme**, for those children who have a statutory entitlement to **free meals**, an additional funding called Pupil Premium is allocated from the Department for Education. This funding is paid directly to a school to improve the quality of children's education. It benefits you as a family as well as us as a school. There will be some occasions when we will be able to offer half fees instead of the full costs e.g. school trips or residential school journeys etc.,

If you would like to see if you are entitled, please visit this website: <https://pps.lgfl.org.uk/>
It only takes a few minutes to complete, and you receive a certificate of eligibility which you can then share with us so that we can access the funding.

Follow the simple instructions as listed here:

1. Click – Check my eligibility
2. Click – Proceed, create a new account
3. Click – Drop down box Local Authority – Insert **Southwark**
4. Click – Drop down box School – Insert **Comber Grove Primary School**
5. Read terms – before you can use the Free School Meals Eligibility Checker, you need to read and accept the Privacy Notice by ticking the box
6. Input your details: You must complete all of the boxes – paying particular attention to those in the green area, which indicates information that is matched against DWP/HMRS data
7. Results will show at the bottom. If successful, it will be Green. Download certificate and email to Susan Roberts- sroberts@combergrove.southwark.sch.uk or bring the certificate in to the school marked for the attention of Mr Black.

Please contact the office for further support and information. If you need help to complete this please let us know.



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Free School Meals

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

What is pupil premium funding?

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces

At Comber Grove Primary School, we get an extra **£1,385** (for primary schools) for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

Your child might also be eligible if you're in a household with no recourse to public funds (NRPF), subject to a maximum income threshold. This is for children of:

- Zambrano and Chen carers (non-EEA nationals caring for a British citizen residing in the UK)
- British National (Overseas) passport holders

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- Spousal visa, work visa, or student visa holders
- Those with no immigration status
- Families with a right to remain in the UK under Article 8 of the European Convention of Human Rights
- Families receiving support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 who are subject to a no recourse to public funds restriction
- Certain failed asylum seekers supported under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Universal infant free school meals

Currently, pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to a free school meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You shouldn't confuse UIFSM with free school meals and the pupil premium.

If your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 and is eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, you should still register because we'll receive the extra pupil premium funding.

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

How do I register?

You only need to register once at the school.

To register, please contact the school office and we will assist you with your application.

More information

For more information about pupil premium go to our website, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

The information that you supply to register for Pupil Premium will be held securely and will only be used for the purpose of establishing entitlement to Pupil Premium and to contact other sources, as allowed by law, to verify your initial and continuing entitlement.

If in receipt of Pupil Premium funding, you must notify Comber Grove Primary School in writing of any changes to your financial circumstances.

If you have any questions or specific concerns, please contact Lorrain Back (Headteacher), Joanne Fielding (Deputy Headteacher) or Susan Roberts (School Business Manager).



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Stars of the Week



Value of the Week: PRIDE		
Class:	Pupil:	Reason:
Year 1 Benjamin Zephaniah	Eyup	For taking pride in his writing
	Kadidjah	For taking pride in her writing
Year 2 David Attenborough	Miya	For taking pride in her writing
	Thiago	For settling well into the class. Well Done Thiago!
Year 3 Mo Farah		
Year 4 Marcus Rashford	Samuel	For taking pride in his work
	Gulsen	For taking pride in her work
Year 5/6 Mae Jemison	L'Riyah	For being very respectful and taking pride in her work.
	Giuseppe	For being very respectful and taking pride in his work.
Year 6 Olive Morris	Whole Class	Well Done for working well during the Year 6 SATS Assessment Week.
	Whole Class	We are very PROUD of every child in Year 6 for working well, concentrating and doing their best!



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ATTENDANCE MATTERS!!!

Can We Help?

Your child's school attendance is very important, and we are here to help. If you need support to increase your child's attendance, please contact any member of the Safeguarding and Wellbeing Team (Mr Black, Ms Fielding, Mrs Anchebe, Ms Rowe or Ms Trent).

Call the school on: **020 7703 4168** or email: office@combergrove.southwark.sch.uk

Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

Days off school add up to lost learning!

175 NON-SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR

175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, household jobs and other appointments.

<p>0 DAYS ABSENCE (190 school days) 100%</p> <p>EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE</p> <p>Best chance of SUCCESS!</p>	<p>6 DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE 96%</p> <p>SATISFACTORY ATTENDANCE</p> <p>Harder to make good progress.</p>	<p>15 DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE 92%</p> <p>REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT</p> <p>Less chance of success.</p>	<p>19 DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE Below 90% (Persistent Absentee)</p> <p>CAUSE FOR CONCERN</p> <p>Serious concern. Possible court action!</p>
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ATTENDANCE MATTERS
every student, every day

Attendance Winners

School Target: 95.6%	This week's attendance: 92.3%
Years 1, 2 and 3	Year 4, 5 and 6
<u>Well Done:</u> Benjamin Zephaniah 92.5%	<u>Well Done:</u> Olive Morris 95.2%
Class:	Attendance:
Reception Maggie Aderin-Pocock	84.3%
Year 1 Benjamin Zephaniah	92.5%
Year 2 David Attenborough	89.9%
Year 3 Mo Farah	94.2%
Year 4 Marcus Rashford	92.2%
Year 5/6 Mae Jemison	93.5%
Year 6 Olive Morris	95.2%

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School Information and Events



Dates
for your Diary

Dates for your Diary



Dates
for your Diary

Half Term: Monday, 13 th to Friday, 17 th February 2023	
Monday, 20 th February 2023	First day of Spring Term 2
Wednesday, 1 st March 2023	National offer day for Secondary Schools
Thursday, 2 nd March 2023	Teacher Strike Action (tbc)
Friday, 3 rd March 2023	World Book Day
Monday, 6 th to Friday, 10 th March 2023	Assessment Week
Friday, 10 th March to Sunday, 19 th March 2023	British Science Week –THEME: ‘Connections’
Wednesday, 15 th March 2023	Teacher Strike Action (tbc)
Thursday, 16 th March 2023	Staffing Committee Meeting at 4pm Teacher Strike Action (tbc)
Thursday, 23 rd March 2023	Beginning of Ramadan
Friday, 24 th March 2023	Parent OPEN Day (more information to follow closer to the time!)
Wednesday, 29 th March 2023	SPRING Fair
Monday, 27 th March 2023	LA Progress Review Meeting
Friday, 31 st March 2023	End of Spring Term. School closing at 2pm

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Southwark Children and Family Centres
Peckham, Peckham Rye and Nunhead

INCREDIBLE YEARS AUTISM PROGRAMME

The Incredible Years Autism Programme offers great strategies for promoting children's language skills, school readiness, emotional self-regulation, social skills, empathy, and building positive relationships. It provides evidence-based strategies for parents and carers to enhance their parenting confidence and understanding of the valuable role that they play in promoting their children's development.

Starting Wednesday 22nd
February 2023 10am -12pm,
every Wednesday for 14
weeks

Book your place
02038485780
Childrenscentre@ivydale.
southwark.sch.uk

Rye Oak Children & Family Centre
Whorlton Road SE15 3PD



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Half term Fun at the Southbank

Why not spend the day at London's Southbank over the holidays. Look below to see some free events happening each day.

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on>

FRI 17 FEB 2023, 10.30AM & 1.30PM

Top Draw

Imaginations at the ready to journey with us on an ink-filled day of illustration and storytelling

FREE



SUN 12 FEB 2023, 10.30AM & 1.30PM

The Marvellous Myth Hunter

Love heroes, monsters and mythical tales? The Marvellous Myth Hunter needs YOU!

FREE



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MON 13 FEB 2023, 10.30AM & 1.30PM

Imagine's Big Gig

Imagine Children's Festival serves up a day of live music – think festivals, but without the mud

FREE

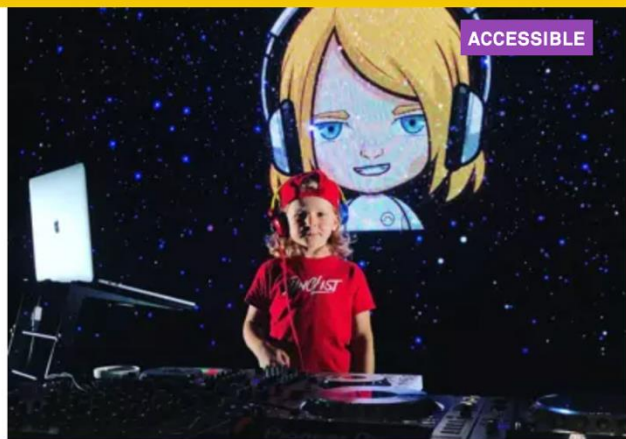


SAT 11 FEB 2023, 10.30AM & 1.30PM

Daytime Rave with DJ Archie and Friends

Party on with the current Guinness World Record holder for the world's youngest club DJ

FREE



13 – 14 FEB, 10.30AM

Craft Zone

Bring your artistry to help us create a cardboard art gallery overlooking the Thames

FREE



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WED 15 FEB 2023, 10.30AM & 1.30PM

ZooNation Youth Company's Hip-Hop Half- Term

Bust a move with ZooNation Youth Company
in a family-friendly day of demos and
workshops

FREE



SAT 11 FEB, 1.30PM

Play Unlimited with The Herd: Ages 5 - 11

Let your kids loose to play in a room full of
stuff, and help develop a new interactive
installation

SOLD OUT



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Discounted Zoo tickets

We want as many people as possible to be able to enjoy a brilliant day out with us, to benefit from the amazing animals which live at London Zoo, connect with nature and help us create a world where wildlife thrives.

To help people who might find cost or other challenges a barrier to visiting London Zoo, our Community Access Scheme (CAS) provides discounted tickets.

Tickets from as little as £3 per person

Help for Households

We know how hard things are for many families on low incomes right now, and we want to do what we can to help.

As part of our Community Access Scheme, you can now buy reduced price tickets for London Zoo at our entry kiosks from as little as £3 per person, if you are receiving Universal Credit, Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support or Jobseeker's Allowance.

The £3 tickets are available for the whole family (under 3's go free), only at the zoo entrance (not online) from 11am every day of the week, and the current offer runs until the end of March 2023.

You'll need to bring your proof of benefit letter with you to the zoo when you buy your tickets(s) from our friendly staff at the admissions gate (this can be an electronic copy if you prefer).

Unfortunately, we won't be able to issue discounted tickets unless you are able to show one of the above documents (per household) as proof of eligibility.

The Help for Households offer has proved very popular, so please be prepared to queue to enter the Zoo, especially at peak times like weekends and during school holidays. To minimise waiting time we recommend arriving later in the day, or if possible choosing to visit at off-peak times.



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After Diagnosis - Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

An Online Workshop for Parents and Carers
after your child's assessment with ARD Service

Meet other families from Lambeth and Southwark and ask your questions to the Speech and Language Therapists

Children Under 5 Years	Date	Time
	Monday 27 th February 2023	10:00 – 11:30am
	Wednesday 1 st March 2023	1:00 – 2:30pm
	Tuesday 28 th March 2023	10:00 – 11:30am

Primary Age Children (approx. 5-11 years)	Date	Time
	Monday 27 th February 2023	1:00 – 2:30pm
	Monday 13 th February 2023	10:00 – 11:30am
	Tuesday 28 th March 2023	1:00 – 2:30pm

Secondary Age Young People (12 years +)	Date	Time
	Monday 13 th February 2023	1:00 – 2:30pm
	Wednesday 1 st March 2023	10:00 – 11:30am

How to book – email your details to gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net

- include your name, your child's name / date of birth
- date you wish to attend
- add 'After diagnosis - Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorder' workshop as the subject of your email



OR

- Scan the QR code



For any other queries related to the Autism and Related Disorders (ARD) Clinic please contact:
Lambeth (Mary Sheridan Centre): 020 3049 5964 Southwark (Sunshine House): 020 3989 0370



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Welcome to the Autism and Related Disorders (ARD) Service

Your child has been referred to the ARD Service for an assessment

Book your place onto:



'What will happen at my child's autism assessment: An online workshop for Parents and Carers'

The workshop includes information about:



- What Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is
- What will happen on the day of the assessment
- Where to look for more information about ASD

The workshops are run by the Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) Team

Children Under 5 Years	Date	Time
	Wednesday 1 st February 2023	10:00 – 11:30am

Primary Age Children (approx. 5-11 years)	Date	Time
	Wednesday 1 st February 2023	1:00 – 2:30pm
	Tuesday 14 th March 2023	10:00 – 11:30am

Secondary Age Young People (12 years +)	Date	Time
	Tuesday 14 th March 2023	1:00 – 2:30pm



How to book: Please email gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net

Write 'Subject' of email as **ARD Assessment Workshop**

To: gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net
 Cc:
 Subject: ARD Assessment Workshop

Include **your name**

Your **child's name / date of birth**

To ARD team
 My name is XXX
 My child's name is XX and date of birth (DOB) is XXX

OR

➤ Scan the QR code



For any other queries related to the Autism and Related Disorders (ARD) Clinic please contact:
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Need help with another language for this letter?

You can get an interpreter here:

<https://www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/patients/your-care/language-support/language-support-services.aspx>



Call 020 7188 8815



Email languagesupport@gst.nhs.uk

gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net

<https://www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/visiting-us/language-support>

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**Half Term Family Activities at the Centre for Wildlife Gardening
28 Marsden Road, SE15 4EE**

Have fun on these on this 2 day course for dads, mums and children of any age with the London Wildlife Trust. Southwark residents only. Free - booking essential. www.wildlondon.org.uk/events

Nature Detectives

**Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th February
10am till 3pm**

A fun two day course for parents and their children living in Southwark. Use clues around you to find out about the wildlife living on your doorstep. You will explore animal sounds, footprints, make a cast, set up footprint, moth and pitfall traps and tune into your senses with activities and games.



To find out more and for booking visit www.wildlondon.org.uk/events or contact Diana



Funded by
Southwark
Council
southwark.gov.uk

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