

Wandsworth schools and families

FEBRUARY 2022

Headstart

Distributed through schools across the borough

A Place to Call Home

State and independent schools team up on art project

See page 10-11

More funding for schools

See page 14



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What's hot for Wandsworth families this month

Staying safe in school

COVID-19 update **PAGES 5-7**

Junior Citizen goes virtual

Online support to keep you safe **PAGE 9**

A Place to Call Home

Innovative art project **PAGES 10-11**

Together on Climate Change

Images from Schools Climate Day **PAGES 15-17**

New music academy

World Heart Beat comes to Nine Elms **PAGE 18**

Switch if off!

Join an air quality workshop **PAGE 21**



Send your comments and suggestions to
headstart@wandsworth.gov.uk

Get ready for 2022

“ As we settle in to 2022 I'd like to update you on some of the projects going on in local schools and in the community.

In the last Headstart we told you about A Place to Call Home, part of our innovative link up between state and private schools. In this edition you can see some of the fantastic work produced by students, which will go on exhibition next month.

We also asked you to get in touch if you could spread the word to other local families about early years help, especially free childcare for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. Now I'm pleased to say our Early Years Parent Champions have started work in the community.

And there's good news about school funding and extra special needs places and an update on how we are helping schools to safely stay open this term as we continue to battle the COVID-19 virus.

Have a great term, look after each other and stay safe”

Cllr Will Sweet
Cabinet member,
Education and
Children's Services



A familiar name is back...

Family Information Service

Your free family friendly directory

Formerly THRIVE Wandsworth

childcare

parenting support

education

family activities

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www.wandsworth.gov.uk/fis

email: fis@wandsworth.gov.uk telephone: 020 8871 7899





Get tested, get the vaccine

The council has been working closely with local schools and colleges to tackle COVID-19, by encouraging young people to get tested and get the vaccine.

It has been supporting secondary schools to encourage twice weekly at home lateral flow testing this term, so pupils can continue going to school safely, in order to protect themselves and their school community.

The council will support schools, to open weekend vaccine hubs in the coming weeks and months, so pupils can get the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine if they haven't already, as well as second doses for those that are eligible. Suitable schools have offered their school site to offer this provision in order to increase vaccine uptake in the 12-15 and 16+ cohorts, with the intention of reducing transmission of the virus in school, supporting them to remain open and deliver high quality face to face teaching.

Finally, council officers in conjunction with the UK Health Security Agency continue to support schools to manage outbreaks and minimise potential disruption to learning.

HM Government

NHS
Test and Trace

Rapid Covid-19 testing twice a week will help us stay ahead of the virus

Report your test result each time, whether it's positive, negative or void.

Test at home, report online and keep life moving. **GET YOUR TESTS FROM SCHOOL OR COLLEGE**

www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result

Get the jab



The COVID-19 vaccine offers the best possible protection against COVID-19 and variants like Omicron. Make sure that everyone in your family gets every dose they are eligible for, including the all-important booster dose.

COVID-19 is usually mild in most children, but it can make some children unwell.

One dose of the vaccine gives good protection against your child getting seriously ill. But two doses give stronger and longer-lasting protection.

Vaccinating children can also help stop the spread of COVID-19 to other people, including within schools.

Children have been offered a 1st dose of the vaccine from the day they turn 12 at school. Most children can get a second dose from 12 weeks after they had their first.

Most children aged 12 to 15 can get the vaccine at one of the local vaccination clinics across Wandsworth and in neighbouring boroughs – walk in (no appointment needed) or book online. Search for “Book my vaccine Wandsworth”.

If your child has tested positive for COVID-19, and is not at high risk from the virus, they need to wait 12 weeks before they can have a COVID-19 vaccine. This starts from the date of their positive PCR test.

Henry and Peete -
Southfields Academy

How to spot vaccine misinformation

Do flies spread COVID-19? Can you catch the virus from your shoes? Will adding pepper to your soup protect you? When it comes to COVID-19, there are plenty of interesting theories out there.

False news comes in many forms; social posts which go viral, statements by public figures or things you hear from family and friends. While some claims are easy to ignore, it gets trickier when misinformation starts invading the public consciousness, where it can cause real harm.

What's the SOURCE?

Be wary of 'facts' from anonymous sources – someone's Uncle Bob, or a friend of a friend. Always rely on official sources. If a story is meant to be coming from an official source, check back on the organisation's website to be sure.

Go beyond the HEADLINE

Headlines are there to grab attention, they don't tell the full story. Always read to the end before you share any stories about COVID-19 - especially vaccines.

Do some ANALYSIS

Don't take anything at face value – go deeper. If something sounds too odd to be true, it probably is. Check who else is covering the story. If true, it's likely that a serious or troubling claim would be reported widely across news outlets, so try and verify it with an internet news search.

Has it been RETOUCHEd?

Remember that images and videos can often be used out of context or edited and retouched to suggest something misleading.

Look for ERRORS

False news stories on social media and websites can be hidden behind accounts and pages that look familiar, such as the BBC. Check for odd looking URLs and Twitter handles. Bad spelling and poor layouts should also ring alarm bells – official guidance about COVID-19 will have been checked many times.

Always look to trusted sources like **NHS.co.uk**, **Gov.uk** and **wandsworth.gov.uk**. Visit the World Health Organisation (WHO) website too, for the global picture.

Or you can ask the NHS anything in person by visiting one of their walk in clinic to discuss getting your jab – Search for "Book my vaccine Wandsworth".

Wandsworth Council has worked with partner organisations, including the NHS, and young people locally to build a website to help young people make an informed decision about the COVID-19 vaccine.

EVERYTHINGCOVID.INFO



Cameras enforce school streets

Cameras to enforce school streets have been installed outside another two schools in Tooting in a further boost to road safety.

Camera enforcement of the school streets began this term at Louisville Road and Pretoria Road, joining existing cameras at Earlsfield, Furzedown, Hillbrook and Penwortham schools. Some vehicles will be exempt but other drivers who enter the school street during its hours of operation face receiving a penalty charge notice.

There are 19 school streets across the borough. The initiative sees the roads containing school entrances turned into traffic-free zones when pupils arrive in the mornings and leave in the afternoons. The council is committed to bringing in school streets at half of all the borough's primary schools by 2025, with further school streets planned for this year.

See the location of school streets and find out more at [wandsworth.gov.uk/schoolstreets](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/schoolstreets)





Junior Citizen scheme has gone virtual

Wandsworth's Junior Citizenship Scheme is now virtual and available for all the borough's primary school students.

Five interactive videos have been developed to equip young people with the skills and knowledge to deal with a range of emergency situations.

Junior Citizens has been running in Wandsworth for around 30 years – the longest running initiative of its kind in the UK. Thousands of schoolchildren have been on the course during that time, taking part in 'real life' scenarios to learn how to stay safe.

The scheme has moved online to make sure children are not put at any risk during the pandemic. Face to face sessions will resume as soon as possible.

Find out more about the programme by contacting the Wandsworth Junior Citizenship scheme coordinator Andrew Jolly at Andrew.Jolly@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk.

Watch a film about the scheme on the council's YouTube Channel [WandsworthBC](#)



Putney High School

Creating together

Students from state and independent schools across Wandsworth have been working together on a collaborative art project about community.

A Place to Call Home was initiated by the council's children's services department as part of a wider partnership between Wandsworth state and independent schools focusing on academic achievement, enrichment and raising aspirations.

It is led by local artist Alexander Mourant working with Wandsworth Council's arts team and around 1500 children from almost 50 local schools. The project encourages students in years 5, 6 and 7 to reconnect with their sense of being part of their local community in response to the distance and isolation felt during the pandemic.

Pupils have been working on creating artwork panels, which are being collected and reassembled to form a group installation to be exhibited at Southside shopping centre next month. The schools can each keep their own panel after the public exhibition.



John Burns School

Other shared opportunities are in the pipeline as part of the partnership, including opening up spaces in independent schools for performances and exhibitions during the Wandsworth Arts Fringe.



One of the schools taking part is Goldfinch Primary School in Tooting. Class teacher Urooj Ahmeed said:

“ The children have loved talking about their communities, what community means to them and how much they treasure being a part of the Goldfinch community. This project has allowed us to host an art week where children across the school took part in creative exercises and have loved doing the exercises to broaden their mind to the art around them. ”



Baby-friendly borough

Wandsworth's health visitor service, which supports young families and their new-borns, is set to be recognised as a fully accredited "Baby Friendly" organisation.

The Baby Friendly initiative is part of a wider global partnership between the World Health Organisation and UNICEF. Breastfeeding initiation rates across the globe have risen by 20 per cent since the campaign was launched.

Wandsworth currently has higher levels of mothers breastfeeding than the London average. This award recognises that all staff have been trained and have developed the skills and knowledge to enable families to make infant feeding choices that are right for them.

The health visitor service is commissioned by Wandsworth Children's Services in partnership with Public Health and delivered by Central London Community Healthcare (CLCH).

- For more information about health visiting services in Wandsworth visit nhs.uk/services/health-visiting
- For advice on breastfeeding visit wandsworth.gov.uk/breastfeeding-weaning-vitamins-and-allergies
- Wandsworth is running a pilot project with the Breastfeeding Network to offer phone support. Find out if you are eligible at breastfeedingnetwork.org.uk/wandsworth



NHS

Get your **FREE**
NHS Health Check
from your GP.

You must be aged 40-74 have not been previously diagnosed with diabetes, kidney disease, heart disease or stroke have not had an NHS Health check in the last five years.

For more information visit
www.wandsworth.gov.uk/healthchecks

**NHS
HEALTH
CHECK**

Helping you prevent
diabetes
heart disease
kidney disease
stroke & dementia





Watch young people take over

Wandsworth Council took part in its eighth annual Take Over Challenge last term, and you can watch videos of how everyone got on.

Take Over Challenge is a national event created by the Children's Commissioner for England. Local authorities and other organisations across the country invite young people to 'take over' the roles of senior leaders.

This year, instead of the usual one-day event, Wandsworth ran multiple workshops across five days in eight different venues across Wandsworth. These included special schools, the youth offending office, Wandsworth Town Hall, youth clubs, the Lifelong Learning Centre and Battersea Power Station.

Watch the video on the council's YouTube channel **WandsworthBC**



“ I'm excited to take part in future projects and get involved with everything ”

Fareeha, 15, Putney

“ It was really nice to get a space where you could share your ideas and really feel heard ”

Shauna 15, Tooting

“ I found it fun and really interactive. I made some friends too ”

Safiah, 14 Tooting

Extra money for schools

Wandsworth schools are getting an increase in Government funding of almost six per cent per pupil.

The Local Funding Formula is the way the Wandsworth Schools Forum decides how money allocated to Wandsworth is distributed to individual state-funded mainstream schools. In Wandsworth this figure has increased by 5.7 per cent, or roughly £300, per pupil for the period April 2022 to March 2023.

As well as an increase per pupil, overall funding for schools will grow by more than 3.8 per cent including extra money for pupils with high needs.

“This extra funding is great news,” said cabinet member for education and children’s services Will Sweet. “Currently 92 per cent of Wandsworth’s primary schools are classed as either good or outstanding and our primaries continue to strongly outperform others across the country. This additional funding will help ensure our young people receive the best possible education.”

“ This extra funding is great news! ”

More SEND places

More school places are being provided for children with special education needs and/or with disabilities (SEND).

The council’s £5m project will include new resource bases at Swaffield and Granard primary schools, an increase in the authorised capacity of the Savio and Devereux resource bases at St John Bosco College, an increase in the authorised capacity at Garratt Park Special School, improved classroom capacity at Paddock special school and a 12-place resource base for pupils with SEMH needs at Burntwood Academy.

Honour for Nina

Putney teenager Nina Andersen has been awarded a British Empire Medal in the New Year Honours list for her work helping older people in the community.

Nina set up Community Senior Letters matching students in schools with residents in care homes. The students wrote letters to the older people to help them feel more connected and less lonely – especially during the pandemic. More than 250 schools and 250 care homes have got involved in the UK and internationally, including 18 Wandsworth schools.





Litter picking at Earsfield Primary

Together on Climate Change Festival

Thirty-nine schools took part in the recent Schools Climate Change Day, held as part of the Wandsworth Together on Climate Change Festival. The day raised awareness of climate change and gave students a chance to listen to experts. Schools were also given a resource pack with ideas for activities, which resulted in some fantastic work – here’s a selection.



Outdoor learning at Swaffield



Pupils at Hillbrook listen to the opening event presented by the Mayor of Wandsworth



Together on Climate Change Festival



A workshop at
Brandlehow School

Artwork from
Ronald Ross
students



All Saints School pupils
learn about climate change





Smallwood pupils at a virtual session

Sacred Heart Roehampton pupil's artwork



Fantastic artwork from Shaftesbury Park



Outdoor art at Ravenstone



To find out more about our work with local schools on climate change, email **TogetherOnClimateChange** @wandsworth.gov.uk

Or scan the QR code for more information





An artist's impression of the new venue

New music academy for Nine Elms

Young people across Wandsworth will soon have access to music education facilities and a new concert venue when World Heart Beat opens its doors in Nine Elms later this spring.

The music academy was recently awarded £800,000 from the Government's Levelling Up Fund to help set up new state-of-the-art premises near the US Embassy and extend education at their existing Kimber Road academy.

The new centre for musical excellence is part of Wandsworth Council's strategy to bring cultural organisations into Nine Elms. It offers a performance space, top quality recording studios and equipment, and will teach music industry skills such as sound engineering.

Leader of Wandsworth Council, Cllr Ravi Govindia said: "We look forward to continuing the fantastic work that World Heart Beat are already doing in the Nine Elms community to offer new creative and career opportunities for our young people."

Open to all young people from all backgrounds and cultures, World Heart Beat supports bursaries and affordable musical education from grassroots to career level.

Find out more at www.nineelmslondon.com/worldheartbeat



World Heart Beat pupils performing in 2019



They're champion!

The first Wandsworth Early Years Parent Champions have started work across the borough to spread information about services available to local families.

In the last edition of Headstart we invited people to come forward if they wanted to use their experiences as a parent or carer, and their love of chatting to other parents, to talk about early years services in the borough. The project has been launched in partnership with Coram Early Years and Childcare and the National Lottery.

Now the first group have been trained and will go out to children's centres and other community venues to talk about local services, including the chance to get funded childcare for pre-school children.

Families with children aged two who meet eligibility criteria are entitled to a maximum of 15 hours a week of funded early education. Eligible working parents of three and four year olds attending a nursery or childminder can get an additional 15 hours of funded child care.

There is also a wide range of services and support available at the borough's children's centres, including targeted play sessions, health visitors, speech and language therapies and mental health support.

Find out more at wandsworth.gov.uk/fis

The value of nurturing

Penwortham Primary School has received a National Nurturing School Award.

The Earlsfield school has been working with the organisation nurtureuk on work to improve the social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing of pupils and has embedded the 'six principles of nurture' into school life. These include safety, communication and self-esteem plus making sure learning is seen as a development, with children taught to learn from mistakes, and that young people learn how to deal with change.

Comments from pupils include: "Everywhere you go in school is safe, you are always with someone who is kind too" and "I am understood as a pupil in this school. We also have ELSA, Place2Be, School Council, Anti-bullying champions and we are a rights respecting school."

'Outstanding' Greenmead

Greenmead School in Southfields has once again been judged outstanding following a recent Ofsted inspection.

Greenmead specialises in educating pupils with severe learning difficulties with many pupils having additional physical disabilities, communication difficulties and complex health needs. The inspectors found that "pupils really enjoy attending Greenmead School and the nurturing atmosphere helps pupils to thrive."



Loving Wandsworth

The theme of this year's Wandsworth Council/GLL Heritage Award for Schools is Wish You Were in Wandsworth!

We want to know what you love about living in Wandsworth and what you know about its history.

Judges will be looking for a postcard, a poster or a short film celebrating a place or person in the borough, and providing a link to the past. Examples could be a place like Putney Bridge, Battersea Power Station or Tooting Common, or could feature a grandparent or neighbour who has stories to tell.

Entries will be displayed at this year's Wandsworth Heritage Festival, and will be shared online.

Entrants should be in key stage 2 at the end of the current academic year. There will be prizes for the winning entries.

To find out more about the competition and online resources you can use, email heritage@gll.org or visit wandsworth.gov.uk/wandsworthgll-heritage-awards-for-schools-2022





Switch it off!

Wandsworth schools are being offered free Air Quality workshops

The workshops are run by Idling Action London and give students in Years 4, 5 and 6 workshops and challenges about air quality and what they can do to persuade drivers to switch off engines when parked outside schools.

Schools need to sign up by March 31. Find out more at idlingaction.london/schools



Save money on fuel bills

Wandsworth families are being encouraged to apply for a grant to help them become more energy-efficient and save money.

Wandsworth, in partnership with 11 other boroughs, has successfully applied for funding for another round of Green Homes Grants, but you must apply by March.

The grant is targeted at lower income homeowners living in the most energy-inefficient properties. It pays for up to £10,000 of works to improve the energy efficiency of your home and could save you up to £600 a year in fuel bills. Work could include installing air source heat pumps, insulation, double glazing and solar panels.

Find out more at wandsworth.gov.uk/ghg

Keeping families connected



Since it was set up at the start of the pandemic, Power to Connect has handed out more than 1600 devices to help make sure families stay connected.

Now the partnership between the council and Battersea Power Station is working to bring together a network of Key Supporters asking organisations to pledge an annual contribution of devices or money so work can continue in the community.

A special event will be hosted by the Mayor of Wandsworth on March 29 where Key Supporters can see the positive impact their donations are having on the local community.

Power to Connect has distributed donated devices plus wi-fi dongles and data vouchers to dozens of local families. It is also running free digital skills sessions for parents.

The council has given around 8,000 tablets and laptops to local schools and families since April 2020, including those provided as part of the Power To Connect partnership. This is to make sure local people - especially children - can access learning and services online.

If you are interested in the free digital skills sessions or in becoming a Key Supporter, email hello@powertoconnect.co.uk

Find out more about Power to Connect at www.powertoconnect.co.uk or follow @PWRtoConnect on twitter.



Power To Connect has supplied devices to some of our most disadvantaged families this year. They report being able to keep up with online learning and seeing their children progress, not lose pace with their classmates. Parents have told us their family lives have improved immeasurably, as the stress of managing access to online learning has eased.

Abigail Brady, headteacher, Ronald Ross School.



New home?

You're less likely to be registered to vote if you've recently moved home. You're not automatically registered at your new address, even if you pay council tax.

Why you should register to vote

Elections can be called at short notice and you can't vote if you're not registered. Borough Council Elections to elect your local councillors will take place on 5 May 2022. Credit reference agencies can use the electoral register to update their records, so being registered may also improve your credit score.

Register at gov.uk/register-to-vote. Visit wandsworth.gov.uk/vote for further information

UNICEF Gold for Shaftesbury Park

Shaftesbury Park primary school in Battersea has been awarded a United Nations gold award for respecting the rights of children.

The UNICEF-designated Rights Respecting School Awards scheme is based on “principles of equality, dignity and respect, non-discrimination and participation.”

Headteacher Bunmi Richards said: “My staff and I are delighted that the school’s work has been recognised in this way. Respecting people’s rights is at the heart of what we do as a school and we believe that it is the first building block of a thriving school.”

Wandsworth has twelve gold award winners – more than any other London borough.



Try out two wheels

The Try Before You Bike scheme is a partnership between the council and Peddle My Wheels. Families can rent new or nearly-new bikes, cargo bikes or electric bikes for a monthly fee, as well as trailers that attach to bikes. Lights, lock, helmet and free maintenance are included and you can have a free cycle skills session if you want it. If you like your bike you can buy it at a discounted price.

Visit peddlemywheels.com/try-before-you-bike

Climate win

Students at the Francis Barber referral unit have won a £10,000 cash prize in the Mayor of London’s Climate Kick Start competition for a pioneering eco-project. Students will create green spaces to help boost air quality, provide welcoming natural spaces and also to create a vegetable garden as part of the school’s independent living and creative curriculum. Some of the cash will also be used to develop a bike maintenance and repair programme to support sustainable transport.

Headteacher Jackie Addison said: “I’m so proud of our pupils for having drawn up and developed such exciting and inspirational plans.”

Watch a video about the project at <https://youtu.be/QmTpLLh4HZA>



Mayor visits Nine Elms Advent Calendar school window

Pupils at St Mary’s RC Primary, SW8 welcomed the Mayor of Wandsworth in December to celebrate the opening of Window 8 of the giant Nine Elms Advent Calendar. Families and friends were treated to a sing-along of carols, festive tunes and even some snow!



Saint Cecilia's pupils Jayden and Ezekiel took part in the opening ceremony

Storming it!

Saint Cecilia's has set up partnerships with two top sporting teams.

The school already has a rugby partnership with London Irish, offering students weekly coaching and training, and has now teamed up with Superleague team Surrey Storm to launch a new Netball Academy. The partnership will offer senior girls regular coaching by a Superleague player to enable them to play sport to a top level while studying for their A Levels or BTEC qualifications.

Renata Joseph, Headteacher at Saint Cecilia's, said: 'This is a fantastic opportunity for talented local netball players to join Saint Cecilia's and be part of an ambitious netball Academy. My sports staff and I want to grow and develop sport opportunities for girls within the school, and this programme gets that off to a flying start.'



Expanding popular schools

The latest phase of a £15m investment in local schools includes a new teaching block at Saint Cecilia's CofE secondary school.

The investment programme is providing more classroom places at some of the borough's primary, secondary and special schools.

The new building at Saint Cecilia's, which specialises in music tuition, will allow it to increase its intake by one extra class of 30 each year – meaning an eventual total of 210 additional pupils across all age groups.

Similar schemes have already been successfully delivered at Chestnut Grove Academy in Balham, Tooting's Burntwood and Graveney schools plus Putney's Ark Academy. In total the council's funding will secure an extra 1,000 places across the borough - including 825 places at secondary level with a further 150 sixth form places.

This is in addition to a programme of capital investment worth around £2.1m a year which finances the replacement of fixed assets like heating systems, roofs, windows, fire alarms and other pieces of school infrastructure.

Mikki Austin (pictured), Surrey Storm Head Coach said,

“ We have already seen talent coupled with great attitude so we feel optimistic the academy will be a success. ”

Worried about your child's speech?

If you are worried about your child's speech and language development, help is available.

The borough's children's centres work with speech and language therapists to help with issues including problems with language or voice, stammering and social communication.

Children's centre staff can spot problems early. Have a word with staff at your local centre if you are worried. You can also find out more at stgeorges.nhs.uk/speech-language-therapy-childrens

Aisha's story

'Aisha' and her mum attended the Fantastic 2s programme at Fayland Children's Centre. Early Years Practitioner Sally noticed that Aisha had communication and social delays and wanted to refer Aisha for clinical Speech and Language support. Mum preferred to wait and see if there was any progress in Aisha's speech and language.

Over a 3-month period, Sally encouraged Mum to speak to the Educational Psychologist and to receive speech and language support. After more encouragement, consent was given for a referral to Paediatrics. Sally continued to support the family and invited Aisha to attend a School Readiness programme. Aisha is now happily in place at Smallwood School's Nursery.

Aisha's mum said:

“ I was totally unaware of my daughter's needs. Because of COVID-19, we didn't go anywhere. When we started going to Fayland, Sally noticed her needs and helped me every step of the way. She helped me see the light. Now Aisha is understanding me more and I'm understanding her. She has her own way to play, her own world. It makes me happy to see her happy. ”



Source: Public Health Annual Report 2016 - Diabetes in Wandsworth

Every week 15 people in Wandsworth are told they have diabetes



15,000 residents are living with the condition...

**TYPE 2 DIABETES
KNOW YOUR RISK**

Finding your risk of Type 2 diabetes only takes a few minutes. It could be the most important thing you do today...

Check your risk online at
<https://riskscore.diabetes.org.uk>



...and another 25,000 are on the verge of getting it.



18/20



NHS
Wandsworth
Clinical Commissioning Group

10/2019 (Rev 2) 18/19



Above: Lady Allen Playground
Below: Savona, artists impression

Playground update

Colourful play areas and new sports equipment being installed in eight spaces across the **Patmore Estate**, **Savona Estate** and at the **Yvonne Carr Centre** will be open for use this spring.



Local youngsters at schools including St George's CE Primary and Griffin Primary and who use the Yvonne Carr Centre will soon be able to play on swings, see-saws, climbing frames and even a zipwire! The sport and play trail will be a hive of activity with lots of new plants, grass and trees to encourage wildlife, along with new bug hotels and birdboxes ready for the summer months.

The work is part of Wandsworth Council's programme of upgrades using funding from Nine Elms developments to invest in improvements to the local area. The investment in the sport and play areas

was secured from the nearby building developments. Find out more at nineelmslondon.com/sport-and-play

Meanwhile playgrounds around the borough are getting upgrades. **Fred Wells Gardens** in Battersea has got new play equipment, including a timber play castle, and the **King George's Park playground** has new monkey bars, a new seesaw and other improvements.

Windmill Playground on Wandsworth Common is being extended with new equipment including a better climbing frame and a basket see-saw. Work starts later

this month. Improvements are also in the pipeline at **Harroway Gardens**, Battersea. The final design is being drawn up following consultation with local people.

The Lady Allen playground on Wandsworth Common has received council investment to the tune of £153,000, which has paid for a revamped and modernised clubhouse, repairs to some of the play equipment and a new perimeter security fence. The centre is for children with disabilities and special needs. Find out how to access it at kids.org.uk/lady-allen-adventure-playground1

Get protected against flu

Children and young people aged 2 to 17 years old can get protection from the flu virus with a free, painless and completely safe nasal spray flu vaccine.

Flu can be a serious illness for children and could lead to health problems such as bronchitis and pneumonia. Children can easily catch and spread flu and hence getting them vaccinated protects others.

The main flu viruses can change each year so a new nasal spray vaccine has to be given annually. The flu vaccine is safe and effective as it contains small amounts of weakened flu viruses which do not cause flu in children.

The flu vaccine is free and will be given by a quick, simple and painless spray up the nose. It is available for:

- children aged 2 or 3 years on 31 August 2021 (born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2019)
- all primary school children (reception to year 6)
- all year 7 to year 11 children in secondary school
- all children aged 2 to 17 years with long-term health conditions

Parents and carers of 2 and 3 year-olds will need to book their vaccine with their GP. Children aged between 4 and 17 years will receive their vaccination at school. Please make sure you return the consent form.

It's not too late to get your child vaccinated, they could still be at risk of flu. If you have missed the consent form cut-off date but still want your child to be vaccinated, please email the School Age Immunisation team at [hrch.immunisationteam@mailbox.wandsworth@nhs.net](mailto:hrch.immunisationteam@mailbox.wandsworth.nhs.net)



**Protect your
child against flu**

Get the flu vaccine

nhs.uk/child-flu



Duckie

February 15-19

A reimaging of Hans Christian Andersen's *The Ugly Duckling* with a message of tolerance and self-acceptance. Suitable for age 3+
bac.org.uk



Winter listings

This is just a taste of what's going on. For lots more activities, visit Thrive Online Wandsworth at www.wandsworth.gov.uk/thriveonline

How to be listed

Send details to: headstart@wandsworth.gov.uk

We cannot guarantee that your entry will be inserted. This is a free service. The information in this guide has been provided by the advertisers themselves. Wandsworth Council accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of the information or for any event not organised by the council.



All Star Tennis

February 14-18

Holiday tennis camp for three-year-olds to teens:

- Leader's Gardens
- Wandsworth Park
- King George's Park
- Wandsworth Common
- Tooting Common

Visit allstartennis.co.uk

info@allstartennis.co.uk

Holiday Clubs

date??

- Energy Kidz Balham Holiday Club
Ravenstone School
energy-kidz.co.uk/holiday-club/balham-ravenstone-primary-school
- Crazy Camps, Ernest Bevin College and St Francis Xavier 6th Form College
crazycamps.co.uk
- Funky Moves holiday course, Alderbrook Primary School, Balham
funkymoves.com/kids/kids-holiday-courses
- Funky Moves holiday course, Alderbrook Primary School, Balham
amsportsacademy.co.uk/camps

RAD Dance School

A bursary scheme is available for Wandsworth residents for the Royal Academy of Dance dance classes.

Find out how to apply at royalacademyofdance.org/dance-school-bursary/



Group 64

February 16-18

Half term theatre holiday projects for 4-7 year olds and 7-11 year olds at the Putney Arts Theatre

g64.org.uk/holiday-projects

Libraries

Fun events, storytimes, workshops and crafts.
better.org.uk/whats-on-in-wandsworth-libraries

The S.M.I.L.E-ing Boys Project

February 9-25

A new exhibition of portraits at Southside Shopping Centre is the culmination of eight weeks of creative workshops with 60 thirteen year-old boys from Ark Putney Academy, Ark Bolingbroke Academy and St John Bosco College, supported by Wandsworth Council. Using photography, poetry and film, Kay Rufai's S.M.I.L.I.N.G. Boys project aims to address the mental health needs of Black boys and challenge negative stereotypes. See the exhibition for free outside Waitrose, and watch this space for additional dates.
wandsworthart.com





It's a Wild Life

February 12-20

Children and family events during half term at the Wetlands Centre include a chance to create delicious dishes in the Mud Kitchen, learn how to build a den, light a fire and tie a knot in the Adventure Workshop, track animal footprints in Tracks and Trails and learn to navigate in the Map Challenge www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/london/whats-on/its-a-wild-life-february-half-term

WAF 2022 Wants You!

Take part in this year's Wandsworth Arts Fringe festival! Every summer, WAF takes over Wandsworth with a thrilling programme of comedy and theatre, circus, music, dance, talks, film, family workshops, exhibitions, outdoor arts and much more.

There are loads of ways to get involved - host your own activity or provide a venue for someone else, team up with a local artist or devise your own creative showcase... whatever you want to do, we want to hear from parents, teachers, pupils, community organisers or anyone a creative idea.

From 10 – 26 June 2022, WAF's bringing back even more live events, safely celebrating Wandsworth's creative community in our pubs, theatres, parks and streets once more - as well as ensuring those at home can continue to enjoy digital projects with our award-winning WAF In Your Living Room programme.

Registrations for WAF 2022 are open until **Friday, 25 February 2022.**

Visit wandsworthartsfringe.com to find more about getting involved.

WANDSWORTH ARTS
FRiNGE



How do I find out about...

Schools

General information: [wandsworth.gov.uk/schools](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/schools)

Admissions: [wandsworth.gov.uk/admissions](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/admissions)

Term dates: [wandsworth.gov.uk/termdates](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/termdates)

Find a school: [wandsworth.gov.uk/schoolsAtoZ](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/schoolsAtoZ)



Recycling

General information: [wandsworth.gov.uk/recycling](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/recycling)

What can I recycle?:

[wandsworth.gov.uk/recyclefromhome](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/recyclefromhome)



Arts, leisure and culture

Arts: [wandsworth.gov.uk/arts](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/arts)

Events: [wandsworth.gov.uk/events](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/events)

Libraries: [wandsworth.gov.uk/libraries](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/libraries)

Leisure centres and sport: [wandsworth.gov.uk/sport](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/sport)

Adult Education: [wandsworthlifelonglearning.co.uk](https://www.wandsworthlifelonglearning.co.uk)



Parks

General information: [wandsworth.gov.uk/parks](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/parks)

Playgrounds and trim trails A-Z:

[wandsworth.gov.uk/playgroundsAtoZ](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/playgroundsAtoZ)



Parenting support, education, childcare, family activities, health, SEND local offer

[wandsworth.gov.uk/fis](https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/fis)





GET VACCINATED
GET BOOSTED
GET PROTECTED

**Book online or visit a
local walk-in clinic**

- 1st and 2nd doses for people aged 12+
- 3rd doses for people with a severely weakened immune system aged 18+
- Boosters for people aged 18+
- Boosters for people aged 16 and 17 years old



SCAN ME TO
VISIT THE SITE

GET BOOSTED NOW

nhs.uk/covidvaccination
wandsworth.gov.uk

