



Stillness Junior School Newsletter

February 2026



OUR
BEST
ATTENDANCE
TIMES

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you all for your ongoing support – it really is appreciated. Your partnership with us makes a real difference to the children's learning and wellbeing.

Best wishes.

Mrs M Nichol
Headteacher

Thank You

We would like to say a big thank you to our resident pianist who performed a beautiful piano piece as staff and children entered the main hall for school assembly. His playing created a calm and welcoming atmosphere that was enjoyed by everyone.

The music talent is clear, and we look forward to hearing more from him in the future.

Thank you, Matthew.



STILLNESS NEWSLETTER

If you wish to contribute to the newsletter, the deadline to submit your articles for the next publication is the penultimate week of every month

Hire our Facilities

We are delighted to offer our facilities for hire during the School holidays and outside normal school hours (5.30pm - 10pm) and facilities within the school, including the sports hall.

Our lettings are open 7 days a week with closures only during bank holidays and extended opening hours during school holidays.

If you are interested in the above, please contact

Kim Kennedy on kim@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk.



Cold Weather Clothing

With the cold, please ensure that children do not leave home without a coat, hat and gloves on cold days. All clothing must be **labelled** clearly.

On wet days, children can wear wellingtons or boots, **as long as they have school shoes with them to change into**. The classrooms get very warm and children will be too hot in boots all day.

Children are **not** permitted to wear leggings but can wear navy or grey tights.

Thank you.

Personal Property

Please note that the school cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage to any personal property that is brought into the school; this includes clothing, bicycles, scooters, games, balls, mobile phones, toys, jewellery, spectacles, money or any other item that is deemed as personal property.



Headteacher Awards



Leon (Montague) for being a pleasure to teach and an extremely popular member of Team Montague!

Jamel (Montague) for hooking the reader by writing a descriptive paragraph on Pandora

Mrs Demetriou for thinking of us during a difficult time. The washing machine is so appreciated!

Bexhill and Montague for all the good art work they did last term

Rauf and Wilan (Salehurst) for being fantastic, sensible pacemakers on our way back from the library. Mrs Renner-Thomas knew she could rely on you and she was proved right!

Isiah and Haru (Bexhill) for always being so polite and helpful and above all kind

Max and Adam (Bexhill) for a fantastic start to the spring term

Penny (Otford) for showing kindness and giving up her scooter at breaktime so someone else could have a go – we know this was a challenge for you and Miss Curtis is very proud

Matthew (Sevenoaks) for a beautiful piano recital as we came together for assembly

Ripley (Iona) for excellent manners on our trip to Crofton Park Library

Habib (Ivy), Jack (Otford), Jude (Parbury), Saskia (Iona), Myla (Salehurst) and Myles (Parbury) for showing outstanding sportsmanship and resilience at the New Age Kurling tournament – well done!

Jason (Premises) for always stepping in and supporting on the main gate – especially when it is raining!

Gisele (Montague) for being a polite and considerate friend. Your kindness toward others and your respectful attitude are an inspiration to us all.

Victor (Montague) for being a polite and considerate friend. Your kindness toward others and your respectful attitude are an inspiration to us all.

Maryum (Montague) for showing incredible resilience when receiving feedback on your work.

Connie (Montague) for writing a sensational setting description on Dunkirk.

Coach Ben for just being Coach Ben! A man for all seasons!

Lenny (Otford) for working collaboratively during your Stop Frame Animation lesson. Miss Curtis was blown away by your short animation.

Felix (Otford) for working collaboratively during your Stop Frame Animation lesson. Miss Curtis was blown away by your short animation.

Archie (Otford) for working collaboratively during your Stop Frame Animation lesson. Miss Curtis was blown away by your short animation.



Online Safety:

Are you part of a parent WhatsApp group in your child's class?

These groups can be useful for sharing information and reminders, but it is important to use them thoughtfully.

Here are some tips on how we can ensure they remain positive and respectful:

1. Be considerate—we know messages can sometimes be misinterpreted so carefully think about what you share. These groups should not be used to share criticisms of the school, staff or other parents and children. Any concerns should always be discussed with the school directly.
2. Don't spread rumours— avoid sharing any gossip within the group.
3. Protect privacy- do not share photos or videos of other children.
4. Think before you send— be mindful of the time and if the message is necessary for everyone.

Our children watch how we communicate, so let's model healthy, online communication to them.





ONLY BEST AT IT ALL THE TIME

Emma Johnson Foundation

On Wednesday 21st January, the Emma Johnson Foundation came in and delivered an assembly to Y3 and Y4, called 'Instrument Stories'. Throughout the assembly, it introduced various instruments through stories and illustrations that went with a storyline. The instruments were a double bass, bassoon, a French horn and a clarinet. The workshop was also interactive so the children got involved through clapping different rhythms. A huge thank you to Mrs McCartney for organising an inspirational workshop for the children.

"When the bassoon and the double bass were playing it made me feel like the colour very dark black."
Florian

"I really liked it when the bassoon was playing because it felt like everything was twisting around."
Olive

"I think the musicians played very well and I really want them to come back to our school." **Pola**

"I found the workshop really fun because I enjoyed listening to the different instruments and the stories were very interesting." **Zach**

"The workshop was very good and it made me feel very joyful. The music was lively and it felt good to see all the instruments live. Some of them, I have never listened to." **Naina**

"I thought the double bass was really good as it was low and it made me feel calm. I also liked the bassoon as it could go really high and then really low." **Harry**

"The workshop was really interesting and I felt calm but energetic at the same time. The workshop makes me want to watch instruments more" **Otis**

"I liked that there was a lot of instruments. The music made me feel calm and made me feel more focused. The music is now stuck in my head" **Penny**



St Paul's Cathedral

Ivy Class braved the cold this week for a memorable visit to St Paul's Cathedral, as part of their RE curriculum: Local Christian Places of Worship. The trip gave the children a valuable opportunity to explore a significant Christian site and deepen their understanding of its history, purpose and importance within the local community.

During a fascinating workshop and guided tour, the children learned about the Cathedral's rich history, discovering that a church has stood on this very site for over 1,000 years. Many were amazed by how the building has changed over time and survived major events in London's history.

One of the highlights of the day was the climb up 376 steps to the Stone Gallery, with a stop at the famous Whispering Gallery along the way. Several children admitted they "felt a bit nervous about the height at first," but agreed that "the views from the top were totally worth it!" Others said their favourite part was "seeing London from so high up" and "learning surprising facts about the cathedral's past."

I would like to extend a big thank you to all the Ivy Class parent volunteers and Mr Kat for accompanying us and helping to make the trip such a success. It was a rewarding and inspiring day for everyone involved.

Mr T Baxter – Class Teacher





OUT Best at ALL times



Happy New Year!

Thank you for your continued support and for all the generous donations received for OPAL Play so far.

Playtimes are looking and feeling very different, and it has been wonderful to see the positive impact OPAL is having on our children and just how much fun they are having outdoors. It has also been fantastic to see how confidently they have adapted, exploring and playing creatively with new resources.

OPAL has helped to create a rich and inclusive play environment, enabling all children to enjoy playtimes their own way. Over the holidays, a pond cover was installed, which means our wildlife pond area is now open for children to enjoy—great news!

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the parent and child volunteers who have worked so hard to bring our playground to life. From the sandpit, water wall and welly wall, to painting the playground and de-weeding the pond area, your support has made a real difference. Our next projects include a sheltered outdoor area, seating around the pond and a stage so watch this space!

As we welcome 2026, we are kindly asking for donations of:

- Scooters
- Paint brushes
- Sand play equipment
- Pots and pans
- Old wellies (all sizes)
- Binoculars for wildlife spotting
- Arts and crafts resources

Please take some time to look at the photos below, which showcase some of our recent activities and exciting new additions to our growing playground.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Kind regards,
The OPAL Play Team

Please see below some of the activities our children have enjoyed this month which include; building a huge structure from Jenga blocks, following new recipes in the mud kitchen, Y6 putting together a performance in the garden, a fantastic water structure (made by some of our parents!), a mud cake decorated with the beautiful flowers donated to us by Bloom East and our new Wellie Station!





OUR
Best
at
all
times

Pizza the Action



Pizza the Action was a fantastic themed day enjoyed by children and staff alike. Our kitchen team prepared a delicious selection of pizzas, along with a fresh salsa salad and homemade shortbread biscuits with chocolate ice cream. With music playing and a great atmosphere in the hall, children were dancing, singing, and having lots of fun. We are already looking forward to the next themed day!

Ms Peterkin – Midday Meal Supervisor



It was a nice change having a pizza theme lunch. Everyone was really excited. I really enjoyed all the different pizzas, the tomato and cucumber salad and delicious potato wedges. It was a great experience.

Isha Y6

I really enjoyed pizza day. I had the cheese pizza and it was really nice. Noah Y3

Pizza day was full of smiling, laughter and joy was in the air. I really enjoyed the different types of pizza and the lovely salad. It was a nice change for an ordinary afternoon. Flo Y6

I really loved the BBQ based chicken. It was amazing. AJ Y4

New Age Kurling

Monday 19th January, six of our Y3 and Y4 children had a wonderful opportunity to take part in a New Age Kurling tournament at Bonus Pastor. It was a fantastic experience for everyone involved and they showed great enthusiasm and team spirit throughout the day.

After playing against all of the other schools, our team performed exceptionally well and made it through to the final. We are very proud to share that they finished in second place out of fourteen schools – a brilliant achievement for their first time taking part in the event.

The children also enjoyed a taster session of New Age Kurling, giving them a chance to try something new and learn some new skills. We hope that this experience has sparked an interest in the sport and that some of the children may choose to continue with it in the future. Well done to everyone who took part!

Miss A Curtis – PE Lead

*“Kurling was fun & I would love to do it again”
Jack*

*“I think it was great and I improved massively”
Saskia*

“I would like to play again and I feel proud of how well we did” Habib





Instagram

Thank you to everyone who has visited our Instagram site.

Our Instagram continues to go from strength to strength. We have had a large number of follow requests; however, to ensure we keep the account private and only accessible by the Stillness Community, we would be grateful if you would email the main office with your request on admin@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk. We are also receiving requests from children that will not be accepted as this platform is only for children over the age of 13.

Please keep popping in to have a look at what is going on in and around our wonderful school.

All “likes” welcomed!



School Streets
Reminder that Lewisham School Street Programme “School Streets” is in effect. Fines will be issued for those who enter Brockley Rise from the junction with Stillness Road, without an exemption permit from **Monday to Friday** between the set times of **8.30am to 9.30am** and **2.45pm to 3.45pm**. Please be aware that local residents are able to access during these hours so we should continue to observe road safety. Thank you.

Attendance

Our Local Authority Attendance Officer is Charmaine Holder who will be monitoring our pupils’ attendance.

Emergency Contact Information

Please make sure that we have your up to date contact details so we can contact you if your child needs you during the school day.

If you change your mobile phone, move house or want to change your child’s contact list please email the school office on admin@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk

SAFEGUARDING

Working together to safeguard children.

Stillness Junior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and parents/carers to share this commitment.

Safeguarding is a term which is broader than ‘child protection’ and relates to the action taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility.

We are fully committed to ensuring that consistent, effective safeguarding procedures are in place to support families, children and staff at school.

Safeguarding Leads:

Mrs M Nichol - Headteacher

Mrs Z Renner-Thomas – Deputy Headteacher

Miss P Augustus – Inclusion Lead



Mobile Phones

We are a “mobile free” school.

Please be reminded that mobile phones cannot be brought into school for any reason whatsoever. We strongly believe that children are more at risk when they carry and use a mobile phone than it being a deterrent. Our school policy reflects this and it is a rule that we enforce vigorously.

Any mobile phone brought into school will be taken and can only be collected by a parent/carer; repeat offenders will have their mobile phone held in the school office until the end of term.

Dinner Money

Following Government Guidelines, primary school children will now receive a school dinner free of charge for the academic year 2025/2026.

Cashless School

To improve the service we provide, we are a cashless school and do not accept cheques or cash as payment.

Payment for school trips etc. can be done online using a very secure website called ParentPay. You all have your individual ID and Password to access this facility.

Please note: if you wish to change your child from packed lunch to school dinners or vice versa please inform the school office in writing together with any allergies they may have.

School Website

We work extremely hard to ensure that our website is up to date. Please take a minute to have a look and catch up with the latest news and holiday dates.

If you do not wish photographs of your child/ren to be posted on this website, on Instagram, in the school newsletter or in articles that may be published in the press, please notify the school office in writing.

February Diary Dates

6.2.26 – Y6 SATs Meeting (3.40pm in main hall)

9.2.26 – Ivy and Sevenoaks to Maritime Museum

9.2.26 – Y3 trip to Millwall FC Training Ground

13.2.26 – Last day of term

16.2.26 to 20.2.26 – Half Term Break

23.2.26 – Children return to school