

## Message from Mrs Horton

This newsletter has slightly more pages than normal as we have collated the responses to the recent parent survey!

Thank you to those of you who responded - we had 40 responses in total. A summary can be found on pages 2 – 5. It is really useful to hear the views of families. The most common request for improvement was to do with after school club provision. We will soon put together a follow-up survey to better understand how many families would be interested in more specialist clubs at an extra cost. External professionals would require a minimum uptake so we would need to make sure it is viable. Please email [parents@hargravepark.islington.sch.uk](mailto:parents@hargravepark.islington.sch.uk) if you would like to follow up on any of the issues raised.

The Acceptable Use Policy for families was sent on Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Mar – please read this important document so that you can support your children to work safely in the digital world at home and at school, build healthy habits and make good choices online.

We were very happy to welcome eight families to the Phonics workshop on Tuesday. Learning to read is such an important step in each child's learning and opens the door to all other learning. Thank you for coming – I hope you found it useful and enjoyable.

All that is left now is for me to wish you Happy Holidays – may the sunshine continue!

## Upcoming events

Mon 7<sup>th</sup> April – Mon 21<sup>st</sup> April – Easter Holidays

Tue 22<sup>nd</sup> April all children return to school  
UKS2 Cricket begins  
Tue 29<sup>th</sup> April UKS2 Cricket continues – each Tuesday  
Wed 30<sup>th</sup> April **Green Class Assembly**  
Thur 1<sup>st</sup> May Sophie Izzard – Bright Futures in school  
Mon 5<sup>th</sup> May School closed for Bank Holiday  
Wed 7<sup>th</sup> May **Blue Class Assembly**  
Fri 9<sup>th</sup> May Blue Class, Pink Class and HP Cabin to visit the Golden Hinde  
Summer Inclusion Festival of Sport  
Week beginning Mon 12<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 SATs week  
Fri 16<sup>th</sup> May Dare to be Different Day  
Tues 20<sup>th</sup> May Orange Class to Kenwood House  
Wed 21<sup>st</sup> May **Cyan Class Assembly**  
Lime Class to Kenwood House  
Thur 22<sup>nd</sup> May Purple Class to Kenwood House  
Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> May Sports Day

Mon 26<sup>th</sup> May – Fri 30<sup>th</sup> May – half term break

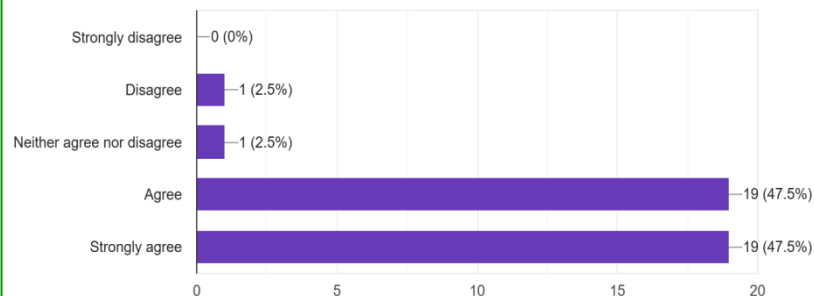
Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> June Children return to school  
Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> June Sophie Izzard – Bright Futures in school  
Mon 9<sup>th</sup> June Maamulaha Netball Competition  
Wed 11<sup>th</sup> June **Pink Class Assembly**  
Tues 17<sup>th</sup> June **Purple Class Assembly**  
Wed 18<sup>th</sup> June Violet and Indigo Sailing lessons start  
Thur 19<sup>th</sup> June Cyan Class sailing lessons start

## In the Newsletter today:

P1- Message from Mrs Horton, dates;  
P2 – 5 – Working with families - Parent Survey Responses;  
P6 – Communication and Language Development  
P7 - Attendance Matters; P8 – Friends of Hargrave Park;  
P9 – a message from School Council; P10 – Handwriting and Presentation  
P11 – Message from our SENDCO; P12 - Holiday Activities;  
P13 – Wider Community Events

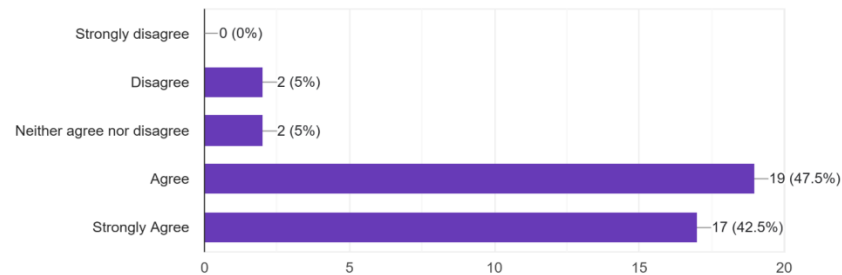
## My child feels safe in school

40 responses



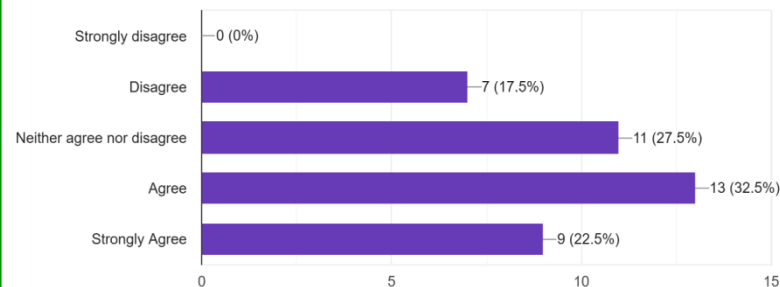
## My child is happy to come to school

40 responses



## Communication between the school and families is well managed

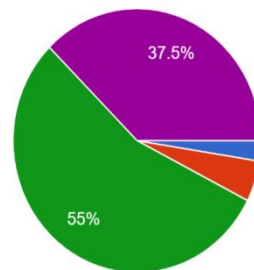
40 responses



## safeguarding, behaviour and communication

### I understand the school's role in the safeguarding of children

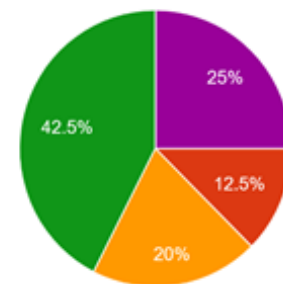
40 responses



- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree

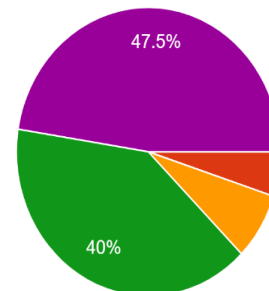
### The school manages behaviour well

40 responses



### I know who to talk to if I am concerned about a child's safety

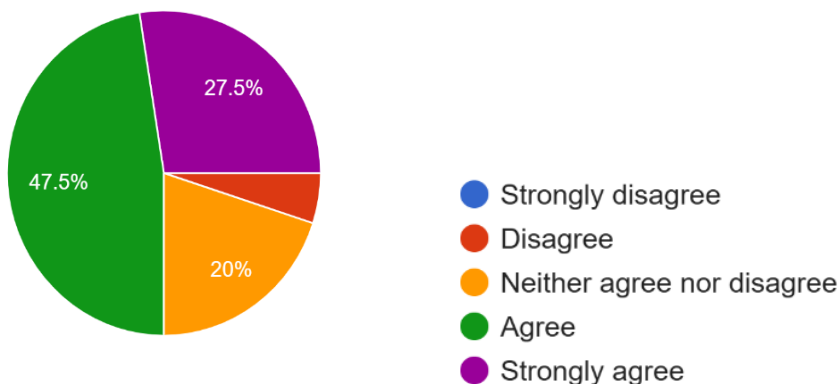
40 responses



## Learning

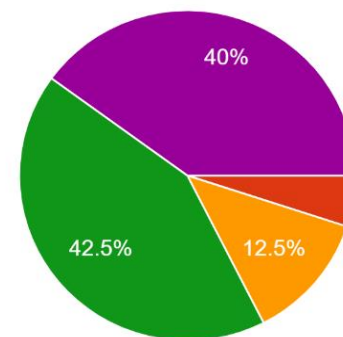
The curriculum offers a variety of subjects and activities for my child

40 responses



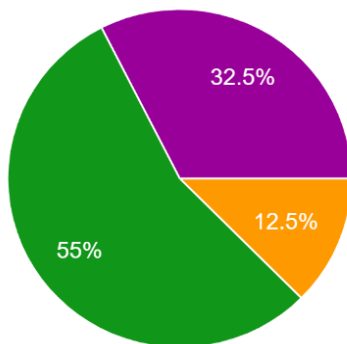
My child is making good progress at school.

40 responses



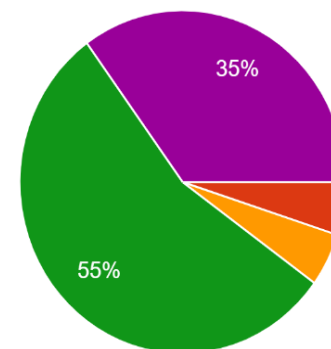
My child is taught well

40 responses



I know how to help my child with their learning.

40 responses



## What do you think the school does well? 40 responses

### Experiences and trips, including tournaments – 10 mentions

‘wide range of experiences and opportunities’

### Pastoral support/ wellbeing / happiness – 8 mentions

‘excellent pastoral care’ ‘the focus on the child's wellbeing’

### Curriculum/learning/subjects – 6 mentions

‘varied and interesting curriculum’

### Diversity/inclusion – 5 mentions

‘a welcoming and inclusive environment’

‘Supporting diversity’

### Teachers – 5 mentions

‘Excellent’ ‘kind and inspiring’

‘approachable and clearly care about the children’

### Academic support and progress for all – 5 mentions

‘supporting children both academically and emotionally’

‘SEND support’

### Communication – 4 mentions

‘The school is great with communication especially through the Newsletter’

### Learning environment – 4 mentions

‘safe and curious environment’ ‘my child can thrive and learn’

### Support for families – 3 mentions

‘excellent support for both children and parents’

### Approachable staff members – 2 mentions

‘staff are friendly, approachable and clearly care about the children’

### Helpful office team – 2 mentions

‘the office team are very helpful’

### Class assemblies – 2 mentions

### Leadership team – 2 mentions

‘senior team visibility at drop off’

### School events – 2 mentions

‘lots of school events, fairs’

## What areas do you think the school could improve on? 40 responses

### Expand the offer of after school clubs – 8 mentions

‘clubs eg drama, board games, dance - musical instrument as extra that parents pay for’

*Look out for a follow up survey after the Easter break.*

### Communication – 6 mentions

‘communication amongst SLT and staff and parents’  
‘newsletter, apps and emails are confusing and I don't know where to look for other information I need’

*Reminder – newsletters are on the website - easy to find all in one place. [Hargrave park website - newsletters](#)*

### Home learning – 4 mentions

‘marking of home learning’  
‘homework not clear’

### Introducing a holiday provision - 3 mentions

‘adequate holiday provisions and care’

### Responding to bullying concerns – 2 mentions

*IMPORTANT – if you believe your child is being bullied, please approach a member of the leadership team at drop off or pick up time, or email*

*[parents@hargravepark.islington.sch.uk](mailto:parents@hargravepark.islington.sch.uk)*

*We take all allegations of bullying seriously and will respond in accordance with our behaviour policy.*

*If you are dissatisfied with the response, you are invited to make a complaint – find our complaints procedure here [hargravepark website – policies](#)*

## Other suggestions...

‘develop better understanding of children's behaviour relating to trauma and neurodiversity’  
*We are part of ‘PINS’ - Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools. This includes a school audit, and training for all staff members. We are also a ‘Trauma Informed School’, having taken part in the ITIPS – Islington Trauma Informed Practice in Schools – project, which included extensive training. We are constantly reviewing our approach.*

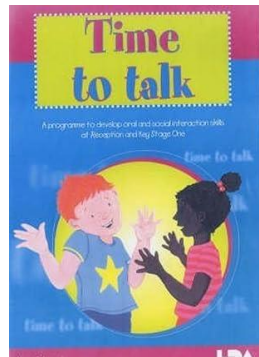
‘Black History Month curriculum could also be improved by asking parents to contribute to learning.’

‘Being more ambitious for all pupils from all backgrounds and giving them opportunities to see excellence in education and careers as something all can aspire to. Getting external speakers in from a range of fields.’

*We are always interested in increasing parental involvement in shaping the curriculum offer here at Hargrave Park. Please email [parents@hargravepark.islington.sch.uk](mailto:parents@hargravepark.islington.sch.uk) for the attention of Miss Baverstock if you would like to offer or share your expertise and experiences.*

## Communication and language development

As a school this year we have been refining opportunities for oracy across the curriculum. Yesterday teachers met to learn about a new resource to support the social and emotional element of communication and language, called 'Time to Talk.' This is being introduced in Reception and Key Stage One classrooms. This supports children in learning how to communicate effectively with their peers and adults.



## Online resources to support communication and language at home

The National Literacy Trust's  
**Words for Life**

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/parents-and-families/>

“**Words for Life**”

BBC's Tiny Happy People

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/language-advice>

**TINY HAPPY PEOPLE**

## Going Home Bags for Nursery

As part of our work to support communication and language development we are pleased to share our new Going Home Bags for Nursery children

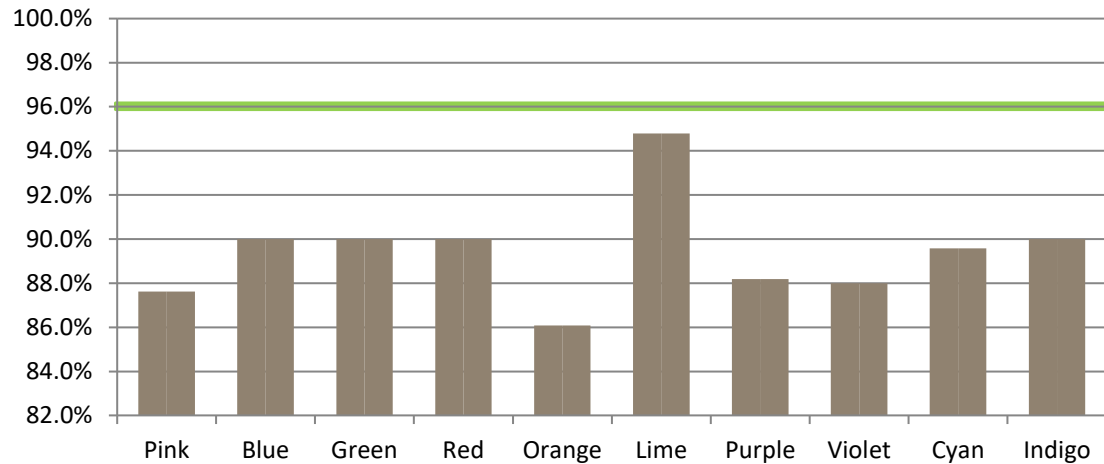
Inside each bag there is a story to read at home and puppets or props to act out the story. There are also bags with props to support singing of nursery rhymes or action songs.





# Attendance Matters

**W/C 28/03/25 – 03/04/25**



**Best Class Attendance this week goes to...**

**Lime class**  
They have achieved **94.8%** attendance this week.

Did you know there are now 17 pupils who still have 100% attendance – that means they have attended school every day since September

There are also 92 pupils who have attendance between 96% and 99%

We have had 171 pupils arrive late for school since September!

The total number of minutes late is now a staggering **24,516**.

That is roughly 408 hours or equivalent to 63 school days!

Email your appointment letters to:  
[parents@hargravepark.islington.sch.uk](mailto:parents@hargravepark.islington.sch.uk)

If your child is ill, please call the office on 020 7272 3989 choose option 1 to report your child's absence. All calls should be recorded before 8.45am

Our Parent and Staff Association

# Friends of Hargrave Park School

✉ Want to get in touch? Email us at:  
friendsofhargravepark@gmail.com

Every parent and carer of a child at the school, as well as staff, are automatically a member of Friends of Hargrave Park School.

Run by a committee of parent volunteers, we organise events and activities that aim to build the school community and raise funds to help enhance all Hargrave children's experience of school life.

Getting involved in the summer fair or becoming a class rep is a great way to get to know other families while supporting the school.

To get involved email the team on  
friendsofhargravepark@gmail.com

## LEND A HAND

FOHP doesn't work without your help and support

Friends of Hargrave Park aim to build a supportive school community while raising money for supplies and activities to compliment our children's school experience. But without the involvement of HP parents, carers, family and staff none of our activities would be possible.

*How could you help or get involved?*

### Handmade

From making cupcakes for a sale or creating a new game for the fair we need your skills

### Hands On

Help out on a stall such as the cake sale or at the fair. Or host a family social on our behalf

### Hands Up

Become a class rep or part of the committee and have your say on what we activities we do

## The money we raise...

- ★ Subsidises the annual trip to Frinton-On-Sea



- ★ Provided the music equipment for the Creative Arts Space

- ★ Will buy new play equipment and games for breaktime



Raise free donations when you shop online

Through Easyfundraising you can raise money for Friends of Hargrave Park School when you shop at online at no extra cost to you. There are over 8,000 retailers to shop with and an app when shopping on your phone.

Thank you those who are already raising money for us by shopping online with Easyfundraising.

Scan the QR code or visit [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://easyfundraising.org.uk) and search for Friends of Hargrave Park





School councillors are working on helping Hargrave Park to become a 'water only school'!

A water only school is where a school encourages the students to only have water and low fat plain milk.

The three main benefits of drinking water are: it helps to look after your child's teeth by reducing the chance of tooth decay; it helps the environment as it reduces single use plastic; and it will improve your child's general health as they will be consuming less sugar.

Hargrave Park promotes water by having water fountains available in the playgrounds, water dispensers in each classroom and water jugs in the dining hall during lunchtimes. It is a good way to keep your child hydrated throughout the day.

We also recommend students to bring in clear water bottles to help support this project and increase healthy drinking habits.

Staff are also committed to partaking in the cause to help spread awareness.

Water each day, keeps the headaches away!

Water is the best thing in the world!

- Shay

After Easter, school councilors will survey the children about drinking water, and give out stickers to children who are drinking water.

Water is very healthy and it keeps your child focused on learning!  
- Kaylan

Water is very refreshing!  
- Fleur



# Handwriting and Presentation @ HP

At Hargrave Park, we want children to be proud of their work as this feeling is linked with having confidence in themselves as independent, ambitious learners.

The language of letter formation!  
This week's letter is **P**.

**p**: Start at the top. Go straight down, up to the top, and all the way round.

**P**: Down, lift, and round till you stop.

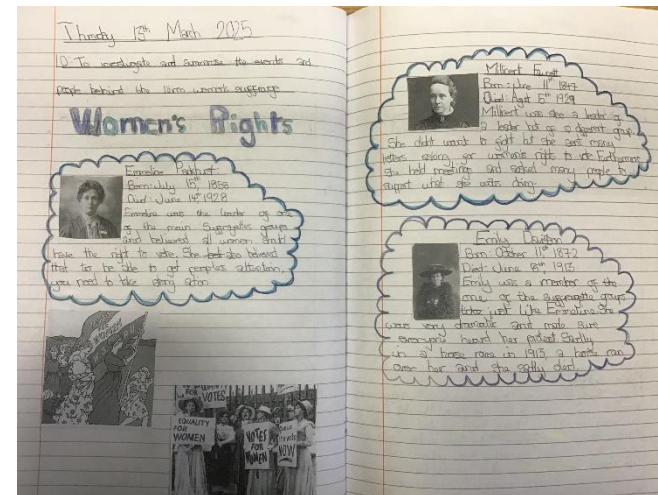
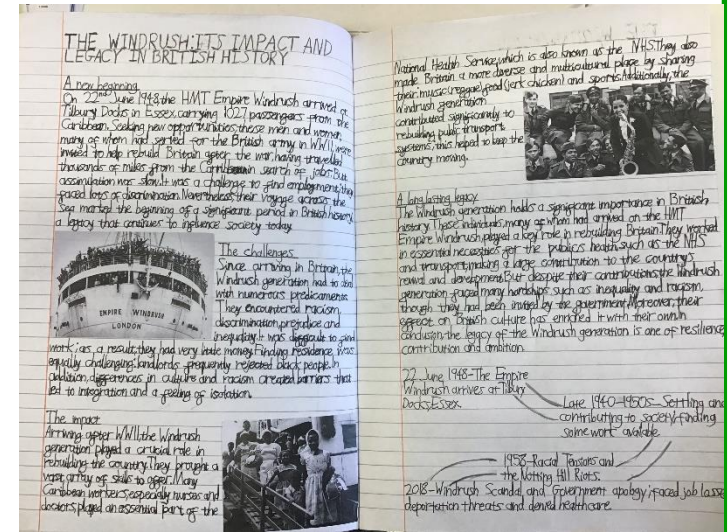
## Practice at home!

The school uses the Nelson Handwriting scheme from Oxford Owl. Take a look at the videos below for tips on practice at home and fine motor warm-up exercises. Encourage children to verbalise what they are doing to understand their thought processes as they write.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/oxford-owl-videos/handwriting-videos--1/>

## Practicing Presentation!

Edward, Indigo Class, has produced a striking report on the legacy of the Windrush.



Josie, Indigo Class, has done a wonderful job presenting her poster on the figures behind women's suffrage.

A message from our SENDCO: Miss D'Orsi

What is Occupational Therapy (OT)?

**What is  
Occupational Therapy?**



Occupational Therapists (OT) help children develop skills to participate in every day activities. A child's 'occupation' includes activities such as playing with toys, engaging in learning tasks at school, writing, using scissors, learning to dress, brushing teeth and using the toilet – to name a few activities. These activities rely on the development of fine motor skills.



Children's Occupational Therapist (OTs) work with babies, preschool and school aged children who have physical, developmental or sensory difficulties to help them with skills that they need to success in every day life.

As a parent, you may be concerned about your child's fine motor development. The Occupational Therapy Team in Islington offers all families and caregivers, parent-specific workshops to help parents gain basic understanding of strategies to support children and attempt the steps and strategies outlined in the workshops before requesting an OT referral.

The following three workshops are being offered to parents who would like to find out strategies to support the development of toileting skills and sensory needs:

**Supporting Toileting Needs at Home:**

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 10am to 11:30am

Please book a place by emailing [whh-tr.mainstreamOT@nhs.net](mailto:whh-tr.mainstreamOT@nhs.net)

**The Sensory World – What Every Parent Should Know:**

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 12:30pm

Please book by clicking on this link: [Eventbrite 11th June 2025](#)

**The Sensory World – What Every Parent Should Know:**

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 10:00am

Please book by clicking on this link: [Eventbrite 12th June 2025](#)



## Fun things for your child to do in the Easter holidays



Click here to find out about Islington's Spring  
Holiday Programme

<https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/things-to-do/lunch-bunch>

This programme gives young people the chance to enjoy a wide range of FREE activities with a healthy lunch. Activities will take place between Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

Mr Bond can support in referring your child.

The programme is FREE for Islington residents who are:

- school-aged children from Reception to Year 11
- and
- qualify for benefits-related Free School Meals (FSM)
- can be referred by a social worker, family support worker or other professional.

Activities include:

Basketball, puppet-making, 'all sports', roller skating, 'Holiday Hubs', Little Angel Theatre performances...





## SPRING COMMUNITY CATCH-UP CLINICS



If your child missed their vaccination at school, you can book an appointment at one of our local community clinics. We offer:

DTP (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Polio)

Meningitis ACWY

HPV

(check with your local team)

MMR



To find out more information on our clinic locations, speak to someone at Vaccination UK, or for more contact options please follow the links below:

<https://www.schoolvaccination.uk/catch-up-clinics>

<https://www.schoolvaccination.uk/contact>



### Eid Celebration!

Come and celebrate Eid with Bright Futures

All Welcome

Come and join in with jewellery making, t-shirt design and creative arts!

You can also come in for a quick chat where we can discuss:

- Child behaviour, routines and parenting
- Strengthening family relationships and reducing conflict
- Help with your child's school attendance and learning
- Improving your family's health and well-being
- Home finances, training and employment
- Connecting you with activities and support in your local community

At  
**Hornsey Road Children  
Centre**

Date  
**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

Time  
**11:30-13:30**