

Message from Miss Baverstock

Welcome to the final newsletter of the Spring Term.

We are officially two thirds of the way through this academic year.

Much has been achieved since September. Our teachers continue to develop the 'Hargrave Park Way' a collection of tried and tested systems and strategies for effective teaching and learning. This supports consistency and coherence across the school. Pupils feel safe in their learning, able to approach tasks with confidence and independence.

We are hoping to be able to demonstrate a good deal of this excellent practice when we are visited on Tuesday 14th April by Simon Wellman – who is the new Director of Education and Achievement for Islington. He is new to the borough and making his way round the schools in the borough to get to know us.

I would like to welcome Dean – our new premises manager who started at Hargrave Park this week. He may well be a familiar face to many of you.

Please say hello to him when you get the chance.

I wish you all a safe and happy Easter break and look forward to seeing you all for the Summer Term – soon we will be having sports day, trips to Frinton and all our other Summer traditions!

Meanwhile Please take a look at the link for ideas for children's holiday activities with food provided – for more information, please see page 2

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

A first look ahead to September 2026...!

We are pleased to share that we will have a small number of spaces available in our Baby and Toddler Rooms in September 2026.

We will also have some spaces available in our Nursery. If you are in need of a space or know of someone who may be interested please do follow the link below to make an inquiry.

Under 3s - <https://hargravepark.com/join-us/join-us-in-under-3s/>
Nursery - <https://hargravepark.com/join-us/join-us-in-nursery/>

Upcoming events

Mon 30th Mar – Fri 10th April – Easter Holiday

Wed 15th April Indigo Class to Science Museum

Mon 20th April Purple Class to Westminster Abbey

Tue 21st April Violet Class to Science Museum

Weekly Cricket starts for KS2

Wed 22nd Apr Green Class Assembly

Mon 27th Apr Green Class to Science Museum

Lime Class to Westminster Abbey

Wed 29th Apr Lime Class Assembly

Cyan Class to Science Museum

Mon 4th May – Bank Holiday – School Closed

Wed 6th May Blue Class Assembly

Blue class to Science Museum

Red Class to Science Museum

Fri 8th May Orange Class -Westminster Abbey

Mon 11th May Beginning of SATs week

Wed 20th May Cyan Class Assembly

Mon 25th May – Fri 29th May – Half term holiday



In the Newsletter today:

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P6 – Friends of Hargrave Park



Free holiday activities with lunch

Our free spring, summer and winter holiday programme gives young people the chance to enjoy a wide range of free activities with a healthy lunch.

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

Booking for the spring holiday programme is now open.

The spring programme will run in the Easter school holidays from Monday 30 March to Friday 10 April 2026.

Watch this video to find out more - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Y1acTqa6xk&t=1s>

Eligibility

This programme is **free** to Islington residents who are:

- school-aged children from Reception to Year 11, or up to 18 years old for those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

and you must meet one of the following criteria:

- qualify for **benefits-related** Free School Meals (FSM)
- can be **referred by a social worker, family support worker or other professional**

If you are not eligible, some activities are free for everyone and some require a small payment.

Anyone attending will be offered a free lunch.

To book activities, you need to register your child on our booking system.

If you have already registered, you do not need to do this again.

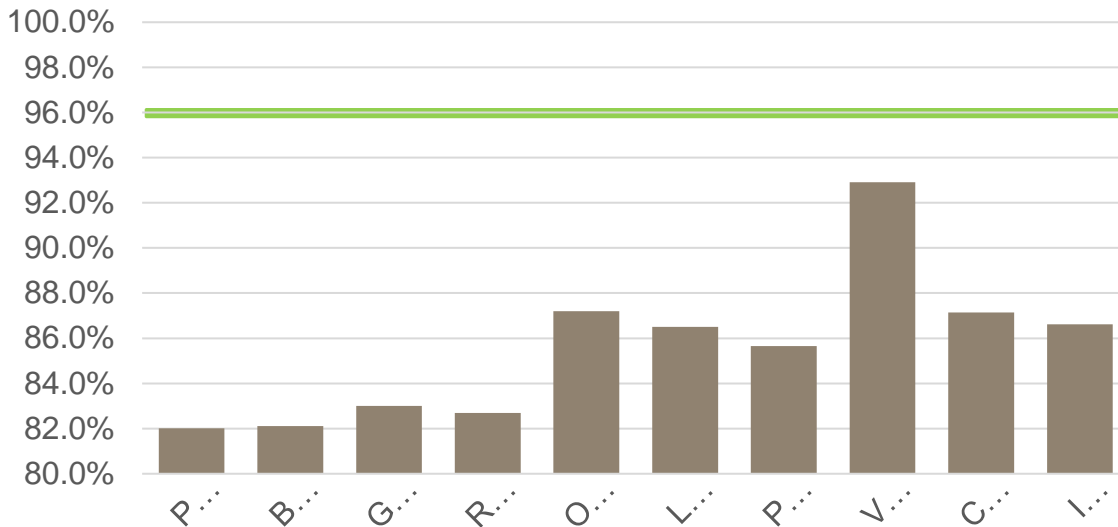
Free School Meals

All children in primary schools receive free school meals (FSM) but this does not mean that everyone is eligible for benefits-related FSM. If you are not sure, you can ask us to check for you. Email HAF@islington.gov.uk with your child's full name, date of birth and postcode. [Find out more or register for FSM.](#)



Attendance Matters

W/C 20/3/26 – 26/3/26



Best Class Attendance

Violet class achieved the highest class attendance this week with children in 92.9% of the time

Key reasons for regular school attendance include:

- **Academic Achievement:** There is a direct, proven link between high attendance and better performance in exams and assessments. Children with 100% attendance are significantly more likely to achieve expected standards compared to those who are persistently absent.
- **Preventing Gaps in Knowledge:** Missing school leads to gaps in understanding, making it harder for children to keep up with the curriculum.
- **Social and Emotional Growth:** Attending school allows children to build essential friendships, develop social skills, and learn to navigate relationships with peers and teachers.
- **Habit Formation:** Regular attendance builds routines, discipline, and a positive attitude toward learning that sets them up for success later in life.
- **Safety and Well-being:** Daily attendance ensures children are engaged in a safe environment, reducing risks associated with disengagement. Missing just a few days can significantly impact a child's learning, with high attendance in Year 6 particularly linked to better results.

Half term free 'drop – in' activities at
your Islington Library

Make an Easter pop-up chick



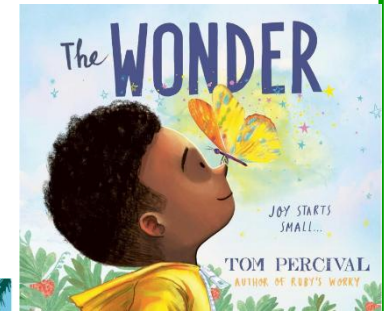
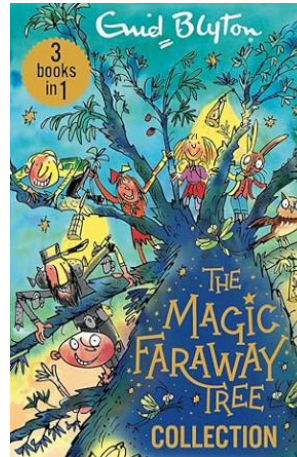
Lolly stick spring animals



Times/days vary depending on
your local library



Free books to read over half term and all year round.
Did you know you can join local libraries for free and
borrow up to 12 books at once! They stock the latest
books as well as old favourites



Visit a library to sign up or join online. You can reserve your favourite
books and have them delivered to your closest library
<https://www.islington.gov.uk/libraries-arts-and-heritage/libraries/join-islington-libraries/join-now>

You can also access **ebooks**, **magazines** and
comics for **free**

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 **H**.

H: Down, lift, down, lift and across in the middle.

h : Start at the top. Go straight down, up and over, down, and flick.

Practice at home!

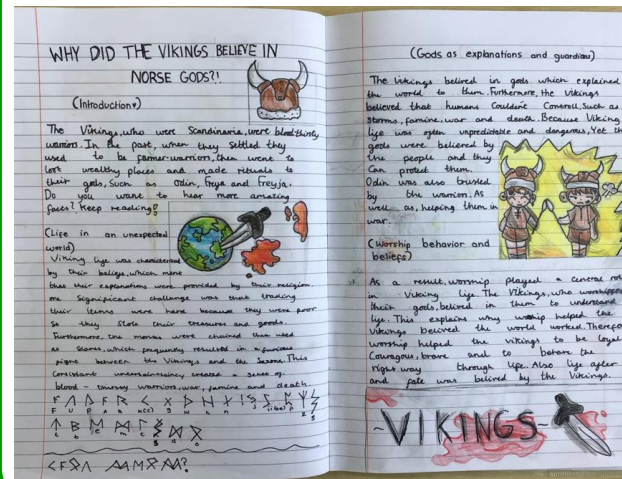
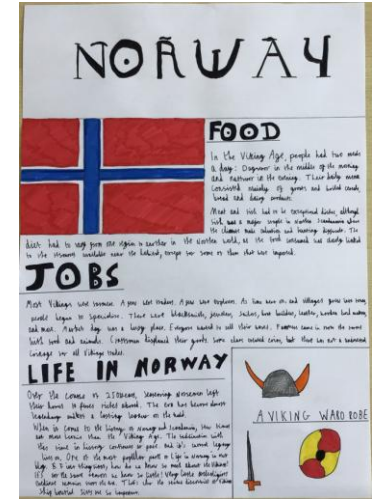
The school uses the Nelson Handwriting scheme from Oxford Owl. Take a look at the videos below for tips on practice at home and fine motor warm-up exercises. Encourage children to verbalise what they are doing to understand their thought processes as they write.

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

Practicing Presentation!

This week, both Albert (Violet, right) and Layla (Cyan Class, below) have demonstrated a thoughtful approach to presenting their learning.

In topic, Albert has created an eye-catching poster about Norway. He has used bright, vibrant illustrations to make his work stand out, and his ideas are presented in a clear and imaginative way.



Layla has produced a published piece of writing about the Vikings. Her writing is thoughtfully structured into clear paragraphs, and she has included detailed illustrations to add interest and support her ideas.

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

The summer fair needs you

I know that the weather has been teasing us and summer still feels like it will never come, but I need more parents to get involved in the preparations for this year's summer fair.

Can you help get us organised? Perhaps you know a fun new game we can introduce to the fair? Or maybe you help choose the refreshments?

I am looking for all kinds of support for the fair. If you could help and share some of the load please get in touch. No matter how little the time you can give, it will make a massive difference and lighten the load.



If you're interested please stop me and say hi if you see me on the school run. Or email friendsofhargravepark@gmail.com

Mayani (Albert & Dora's mum)

The money we raise...

★ Subsidises the annual trip to Frinton-On-Sea



★ Provided the music equipment for the Creative Arts Space

★ Provided new play equipment and games for breaktime



You shop online, brands donate to us

easyfundraising is a hassle-free way to raise money for our school. Just shop online with all your favourite brands as normal, and they will donate to Friends of Hargrave Park School.

Visit [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and search for Friends of Hargrave Park or scan the QR code below.

Once signed up there's nothing to remember. Simply shop online, or via their mobile app. No planning. No stress. Just free donations for our school.

Thank you to all who are already raising money for us by shopping online with **easyfundraising**.

Scan me

