

THE PAKEMAN PRESS



Pakeman
Primary
School

Thank you for taking the time to read this weekly newsletter. We hope you will find its contents useful.

Issue 11 Spring Term 2026

Friday 27th March 2026

Nursery's Library Visit

Our nursery children enjoyed a lovely trip to North Library. They had a wonderful time exploring a wide range of books and sharing stories with the adults. They were also treated to two special story sessions led by the librarian, both linked to their exciting topic this term, Pirates. The adults were very impressed with all the children as they demonstrated fantastic walking and listening skills throughout the day. They were especially good at using quiet voices in the library! A very big thank you to those parents and carers who kindly accompanied the visit. Support such as this is always invaluable.



School Term and
Holiday Dates. 

Spring Term:

End of Term:
Friday 27 March
1.30 FINISH

Summer Term:

Monday 13th April INSET

First day back for children:
Tuesday 14th April



Science Roadshow comes to Pakeman!

We had plenty of bangs, pops and whizzes in this amazing science workshop that taught us all about energy! Ted taught us about tiny, tiny, tiny, tiny electrons and how they can leave their atoms to become "free electrons," forming plasma or creating electricity when they flow through a conductor. The flying rockets created lots of excitement and energy too! With thanks to the Royal Institution for providing this opportunity for our children to learn more about Science.



Ri The Royal Institution
Science Lives Here

SUPERSTARS



A huge thank to all our amazing children and staff for all their hard work this term.

Have a well deserved rest everyone!

THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOUR
HARD WORK

Spring Flower Art Project – Donations Needed!

We are collecting recycled materials to create colourful Spring flowers for our school garden. We are looking for:



- Colourful bottle tops
- Reusable shopping bags (“bags for life”) that you no longer need – for example, ones with broken handles or extras you have at home



If you are able to help, please drop your donations off at the school office. Thank you for your support

Bright Start Outreach Timetable

New free events available for the Spring break - zoom in to check out what is available near you!



Spring break timetable 2026		Easter highlights		Spring break timetable 2026		Easter highlights				
Monday 30 March 12noon – 1.30pm Nest & Pasta Making event, Islington Ecology Centre, 181 Drayton Park, N5 9PH (Islington families-booking via helpline/email) 10.30am – 12.30pm Three Corners Adventure playground, Northamton Road, EC3R 0HB 3.30 – 5.30pm Barnard Park Adventure playground, Copenhagen St, N1 0RB Tuesday 31 March 10am – 12noon 222 Education drop in, 222 Upper Street (Islington Families) 11am – 3pm Go Ape, Alexandra Palace Way, London N22 (Islington Families – booking via helpline/ email) limited spaces available first come first serve	10.30 – 12.30pm Lumphy Hill Adventure playground, 5 Market Road, N7 9PL 3.30 – 5.30pm Crumblies Castle Adventure playground, Pembroke Street, N1 0DP 11am – 12.30pm Seaside session (SEND) Lavender playpough, Museum of the order of St John, St John's Gate, St John's Lane, EC1M 4DA 11 – 2.30pm 12pm and 1pm (Booking through Eventbrite). Events are free but must be booked in advance at St John's Gate, St John's Lane, EC1M 4DA 1.30 – 3pm Rowan Bowling Broad Green Rd, Finsbury Park, London N6 2DF (Islington families - book via helpline and email.) 4 – 6.30pm Andover Youth Club, 155 Carter Walk, N7 7RY 7 – 8pm Elthorne Youth Club, 88-88 Holland Walk, N19 3X	Wednesday 1 April 12noon – 1.30pm Art Workshop-play creatures, badge making, tattoo making, Islington Ecology Centre, 181 Drayton Park, N5 9PH (Islington Families-booking via helpline/ email) Lit Youth Hub SEND activity, Time TBC, White Lion Street, N1 9PW 4 – 7pm Youth night, White Lion Street, N1 9PW Museum of the order of St John Family session 11 – 2.30pm Storytelling from 12.30pm St John's Gate, St John's Lane, EC1M 4DA 4.30 – 8pm Highbury Youth Club, 71 Ronalds Road, N5 1XB Friday 3 April Bank holiday	Thursday 2 April 10am – 3.30pm Embark on a multi-sensory journey 17 Miles Street, Vauxhall, London SW8 1BZ (Islington families-booking via helpline/ email) 11am – 12noon Sobell Centre, SEND trampolining session, Tollymore Rd, London N7 7YJ (Islington families-booking via helpline/ email) 12noon – 1.30pm King Henry Adventure playground, 11 King Henry's Walk, N1 4BX 3 – 5pm Waterside Adventure playground, 50 Dame Street, N1 7FR 4 – 6pm Timbuktu Adventure playground, 31 Grenville Road, N19 4EJ Friday 3 April Bank holiday	Spring Family Adventure at the Ecology Centre! Join us on Monday 30th March 12-1.30pm at the Islington Ecology Centre, Drayton Park, N5 9PH for a horde of Spring Family Adventure in the heart of beautiful Gillespie Park. Families will have the chance to explore nature together, make bird's nests using natural materials gathered from the park, and even make your own posts in this fun and creative outdoor session. A perfect way to welcome spring, learn new skills, and enjoy time together in nature. All families welcome!	Monday 6 April Bank holiday Tuesday 7 April 12noon – 1.30pm The Arc drop in The Arc, 888 Paul Street, London N1 7DF (Open to Islington Families) 2 – 4pm Nature Arts and Crafts activity with Jewellery making 2 – 4pm Whittington Park, Hocking Hall, Verbury Rd, Archway, London N19 4BS (Open to all Islington Families) 10.30am – 12.30pm Three Corners Adventure playground, Northampton Road, EC1 3.30 – 5.30pm Barnard Park Adventure playground, Copenhagen Street N1 0PB 4 – 6.30pm Andover Youth Club, 55 Carter Walk, N7 7RY	Wednesday 8 April 12noon – 1.30pm Acrylic Painting and Mirroring Nature Walk, Islington Ecology Centre, 181 Drayton Park, London N5 9PH (Islington Families-booking via helpline/ email) 1pm – 2pm Sobell Centre Active play session (5-10yrs) Tollymore Rd, London N7 7YJ (Islington families-booking via helpline/ email) Arts and Crafts for Easter and Eid celebrations 2 – 4pm Andover Community Centre, 85-87 Carter Walk, Finsbury Park, London N7 7RY (Open to all Islington families - no booking required) 3.30 – 7.30pm The Zone Youth Club 281 Condon Road, N7 0EQ, Lit Youth Hub SEND activity, Time TBC 4 – 7pm Lit Youth Hub Youth night, 40 White Lion St, London N1 9PW	Thursday 9 April Brickworks Community Centre drop in 10.30am – 12noon 42 Crouch Hill, N4 4BT Arts and Crafts, Community Partnership event 12 – 2.30pm Jean Stokes Community Centre, Caroubate Drive, N1 0DX 11am – 2pm The Castle climbing Green Lanes, London, N4 2HA (Islington Families-booking via helpline/ email) 3 – 6pm Cope Adventure playground, 85 Spring 2026, Temetable Crouch Hill, N8 9EG	Friday 10 April 222 Education drop in 10am – 12noon 222 Upper Street (Islington Families- no need to book in advance) 10.30 – 12.30pm Crumblies Castle Adventure playground, Pembroke Street, N1 0DP 3.30 – 5.30pm Waterside Adventure playground, 50 Dame Street, N1 7FR 3 – 6pm Cornwallis Adventure Playground, 44 Cornwallis Road, N19 4LT	Bright Futures – Eid and Easter Family Celebration! Join us on Wednesday 8th April 2-4pm at Andover Community Centre (N7 7RY) for a fun and creative afternoon for the whole family! We'll be celebrating both Eid and Easter with arts and crafts, including lantern making and egg decorating, plus refreshments and plenty of community spirit.	SEND Trampoline Session at the Sobell! Join us for a fun and supportive SEND trampolining session on Wednesday 2nd April 11am-12pm at the Sobell Leisure Centre. This session is designed to offer a safe, calm and inclusive space for children and young people with SEND to enjoy movement, develop confidence, and have fun on the trampolines. Families are welcome, and staff will be on hand to offer friendly support throughout the session.

BRIGHT FUTURES

Wednesday 8th April • 2-4pm

Celebrations for Eid and Easter

FOR ALL THE FAMILY

Arts and crafts activities including lantern making and egg decorating

- Refreshments

Andover Community Centre, N7 7RY

Contact us if any questions- Bright.Futures@islington.gov.uk
 This event is FREE.

FAMILY EVENT

TUESDAY 7TH APRIL

WHITTINGTON PARK, HOCKING HALL N19 4RS
 2-4PM

- Jewellery making
- Plant potting
- Arts and crafts
- Refreshments

Bright.Futures.gov.uk
 FREE EVENT

Click here for a range of family-friendly Easter Trails taking place across Islington. These are either free or ask for low cost contributions.

[Islington Life](https://www.islington.gov.uk)

Sabina's Marathon In Vienna Fast Approaches

Spotlight on Vienna: The City Sabina Will Run Through!

Vienna isn't just a marathon - it's a cultural feast. Sabina will be running past some of Europe's most beautiful landmarks:

- The **Vienna State Opera**, where the race begins
- The **Danube Canal**, a favourite stretch for runners
- The **Prater Park**, home to the famous giant Ferris wheel
- And finally, the finish near the **Burgtheater**, one of the oldest theatres in the world.



It's a route full of music, history and energy - perfect for someone running to support creativity at Pakeman. If you'd like to send Sabina to Vienna with an extra spring in her step, her page is here. **She has raised almost £700 so far - PLEASE - let's get her to £1000 for all this hard work!**

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/sabina-culley?
utm_medium=CF&utm_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/sabina-culley?utm_medium=CF&utm_source=CL)

Arsenal In The Community

Arsenal in the Community are running a free after school club for children (aged 6-10 years) in the local area who live between an N5 and N7 Postcode. There are **limited spaces**.

The course will run from Friday 17th April – Friday 3rd July
4pm – 5pm at the Arsenal Hub N7 7BY.



The sessions will include:

- Coaching by Arsenal in the Community staff
- Small-sided games
- Fun activities, aimed at developing players in their technical & physical ability, but also supporting the development of their confidence, creativity, and communication skills. Those attending will need to bring plenty to drink with them. Participants must also bring shin pads.

To book, please email dsiggers@arsenal.co.uk for the invite code – you will be asked to present your postcode to ensure that your son or daughter is eligible for the programme.

FREE SWIMMING LESSONS IN ISLINGTON

Throughout the school holidays and in partnership with Islington Council, we are proud to be able to offer a variety of free swimming lessons for children and families. Lessons will run during Easter, May Half Term, Summer and October Half Term. Sessions include:

- Adult and child swimming lessons: 6-week course for under 3's *Summer holiday only
- Swimming lessons for 4-13 year-olds, intensive lessons, Monday - Friday for 1 or 2 weeks
- Teen swimming lessons 13-16 year-olds, intensive lessons, Monday - Friday for 1 or 2 weeks
- Family swimming lessons, 6-week course for up to 2 adults and 2 children to learn to swim together and enjoy the pool together *Summer holiday only

To apply please scan QR code or visit website at better.org.uk/free-swimming-lessons
You can email for more information at summer.lessons@gl.org



BETTER ISLINGTON
For a more equal future

Easter Holiday 2026 - FREE Bikeability

Islington Council offers free Bikeability cycle training for children aged 5-17 years old in the school holidays.

Where: **Highbury Fields (N5)** and **Tollington Place (N4)**

There are **three courses** available to suit age and ability.

Beginners – learning to ride (age 5-17, two day course)

Level 1 Bikeability – training for more confident riders (age 5-12, for those who have a little more experience with the bicycle)

Level 2 Bikeability – an introduction to road cycling for those who can ride (age 9-12)

For more info: [Bikeability](#)



Free Holiday Activities With Lunch

Islington's free holiday programmes gives young people the chance to enjoy a wide range of free activities with a healthy lunch.

Spring programme bookings are now open.

The programme will take place from **Monday 30 March to Friday 10 April 2026**

The 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 SEND and meet one of the following criteria:

- qualify for benefits-related free school meals
- referred by a social worker, family support worker or other professional, including school staff



[Holiday Activities with Lunch](#)

FREE - ACCESS TO SPORT

Access to Sports is, once again, running free activities for children and young people over the Easter holidays all over the borough.

Week 1: Monday 30 March – Thursday 2 April

Week 2: Tuesday 7 April - Friday 10 April

Activities include athletics, handball, tennis, football, multi-sports amongst others. They are also running trips and competitions as well as coaching and leadership courses.



Click the link to book: [Access To Sports](#)

Youth Safety Strategy - Free Events

After the launch of the new Youth Safety Strategy, Islington Council met with local children and young people to create a programme of exciting activities for all ages to develop confidence, feel safe and get advice and support this spring. All activities are free and include workshops, an escape room, sports, a cooking challenge, a film night, connecting with nature, gaming and more. For many more workshops and sessions including events for teenagers please click on the link:



[Youth Safety Strategy Events](#)

Kickback Easter Activities

Wednesday 1 April, Wednesday 8 April and Wednesday 15 April

London Zoo / Sobell Centre / Finsbury Park
Family trips and activity days for local children aged 5-11 and their families - zoo visit, indoor play and outdoor sports

Football Tournament / Safety Workshops

Tuesday 31 March 3-6pm The Arsenal Hub, N7 7BA
Football tournament with safety focused workshops and stalls from local support services

SEND Trampoline Sessions

Tuesday 7 April and Friday 10 April 4.45-6pm
Sobell Leisure Centre, Hornsey Road, N7 7NY

Inclusive trampoline sessions for SEND young people and families, with refreshments provided.

Contact Ayan Guled on 0207 2720550 or email ayanguled@isc26.org.uk to book your place.

Positive Citizens

Thursday 2 and Wednesday 8 April
The Underground Youth Centre

Fun, hands on activity days for young people aged 8-13 featuring positive message bracelet making in Paradise Park and a trip to the Castle Climbing Centre and Woodberry Wetlands.