

THE PAKEMAN PRESS

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



Pakeman Primary School

Issue 3 Summer Term 2026

Friday 1st May 2026

London Mini Marathon

Last Saturday, 22 children from Pakeman participated in the London Mini Marathon. We are so proud of you all!

They ran 1 mile past Buckingham palace and other London landmarks. 22,000 children took part and one of our children won Wave 33!

Well done to Adam who ran the mile in 6 minutes 40 seconds! Thank you to Tracey, Coach T and Sabina for running with the children.



Summer Term:

Half Term

Mon 25th May - Fri 29th May

End of Summer Term

Friday 17th July

Lily of the Valley

On May 1st the French give a 'muguet', or lily of the valley, to the one they love. According to tradition this flower announces spring and brings a year full of happiness and good health to those who receive the flower.



So with Emma in mind...

SUPERSTARS



- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| Elm | Luanu |
| Pine | Leo |
| Cherry | Rashad |
| Holly | Jayden |
| Maple | Malak |
| Willow | Geraldine |
| Palm | Malikah |
| Banyan | Kimani |
| Olive | Emily |
| Cedar | Kaan |
| Mahogany | Kayla |
| Eucalyptus | Mama |
| Sequoia | Sofia |

Well done Superstars



Remember - Pakeman International Day

Wednesday May 20th

A celebration bringing together our wonderfully diverse community, while raising money for our school. Start thinking about all the ways you can share your cultural cuisine and showcase your cultural outfits at Pakeman. More details will follow!



Vote For Pakeman

Pakeman Primary is one of the chosen charities in local Tesco stores so please vote for us using the blue token every time you shop between now and the end of July!

We could be awarded up to £1500 if we have the most votes!

Our amazing Breakfast Club has great plans to improve the food and activities on offer so they need every vote at any of these stores;



Stroud Green Superstore N4 3PX
Archway Hollow Express Express N19 5SS
Seven Sisters Road Express N4 2HY
Lower Holloway Express N7 8GA
Drayton Park Express Express N5 1AN
Caledonian Road Express N7 8TP
Sisters Road Express N7 7NS
London Holloway Express N19 4EB
Camden North Road Express Express N7 9GF



Pine Class Garden Centre

As part their topic, children in Pine Class have set up a Garden Centre in their classroom. They've had a wonderful week learning about different types of flowers and discovering new names. They loved role-playing as florists and customers, buying and selling flowers and learning what a bouquet is — they even made their own beautiful bouquets!

The children also explored the season of Spring, discussing the signs they might notice on their way to school or in the park, such as blooming flowers and changing weather. They have been very creative and made some lovely cherry blossom trees using a variety of material.



Caterpillars in Reception

The children in Reception have been really enjoying their new topic, Spring. Last week, they listened to the much-loved story, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, and got stuck into a variety of fun, themed craft activities.

They were especially excited to receive a special delivery of their very own caterpillars to look after in class. The caterpillars are already growing quickly and have started forming their chrysalides, ready for their transformation. Everyone is very excited and looking forward to watching them emerge as beautiful butterflies.



Islington's Green Spaces

You don't have to travel far to enjoy nature. **Islington Ecology Centre** offers family-friendly gardens, ponds and wildlife habitats where children can explore and learn about local plants and animals.

There are also many brilliant parks across Islington, perfect for spotting birds, insects and seasonal changes. A simple visit with time to explore, climb, look and talk together can be a valuable learning experience for young children.

[Islington Parks and Green Spaces](#)



Attendance and Punctuality

Year Group	Best Attendance	Most Improved	Best Punctuality
EYFS & KS1	Maple Class	Palm Class	Elm Class
KS2	Sequoia Class	Under 95%	Eucalyptus Class

Attendance



95% attendance equates to half a day off every two weeks for a whole year

90% attendance equates to a day off every two weeks for a whole year. Less chance of success. Harder to make progress.

85% attendance equates to 30 days off in an academic year. Detrimental to success and progress.

80% attendance equates to one whole day off every week for a whole year.



Every Minute Counts

Letness = Last Learning

(Figures below are calculated over a school year)

5 Minutes late each day 3 days lost!

10 Minutes late each day 6.5 days lost!

15 Minutes late each day 10 days lost!

20 Minutes late each day 13 days lost!

30 Minutes late each day 19 days lost!

Attendance is Everyone's Business!

Plant Production

In year 3 and 4 over the past few weeks the children have been learning about plant production. They have conducted a series of different investigations including understanding what factors affect plant growth and also how plants transport water.

Some of the results have been very interesting and they have enjoyed observing their investigations each day.



Science Question of the Week

Why do some trees grow leaves after they flower in spring?



Did You Know?

- Some flowers can feel temperature changes and only open when it's warm enough for pollinators like bees to visit.
- Some bees can see ultraviolet patterns on flowers that humans can't see - like secret landing guides
- Some birds, like swallows, travel thousands of miles to return to the exact same place every spring

