

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 13 Summer Term

Friday 17th July 2026

THANK YOU

Here we find ourselves at the end of another year at Pakeman. Together our children and staff have achieved so much, and we have a great deal to be proud of – not least our latest Ofsted report! We take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to our school community for their continued support.

We thank our wonderful staff for the incredible effort and energy that they bring into our classrooms. We also thank our parents and carers, our governing body and our exceptional team of volunteers for their ongoing commitment. Pakeman is very lucky to have you and we remain grateful for your time and invaluable dedication. We save our biggest thanks for all our amazing children who, year on year, generate the vibrancy and enthusiasm that makes Pakeman the special place we know it to be.

Let's hope that everyone within our community stays safe and well over the summer holiday period and we look forward to seeing you all in September. Have a great summer.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Please Note:

Thur 3rd Sept - Staff INSET
Fri 4th Sept - Staff INSET

**CHILDREN RETURN
Mon 7th September**



Goodbyes

As well as thanks, we would like to use this opportunity to say some goodbyes.

Firstly, we say goodbye to our year 6 children. They have been great learners and fantastic role models to our younger children. We send every one of them our best wishes as they move into a new and exciting time at secondary school.

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to some staff members – Tamanna, Sara and Faharzana. We are so sorry to see them leave Pakeman. They have each been committed and valuable additions to our team here. We shall miss them a great deal and send them our very best wishes for the future. Nesim and Leah leave us temporarily on maternity leave. We wish them both well and look forward to news from them soon.

And finally, after 32 years, it feels unbelievable that we are all saying farewell to our lovely Gill. Gill's long connection with our school began as a small child when she attended Pakeman as a pupil. In later years, she sent her own two children to our school, at which time she was greatly involved as a mum. In 1996, Gill returned to Pakeman in a working capacity. Over the years, her work included several varied roles including lunchtime supervisor, teaching assistant, admin assistant, resources officer and finally senior admin officer. Throughout all this time, Gill has been an incredible asset to our school, always acting with dedication, professionalism and great warmth. We sincerely thank her for this. We shall all miss her dearly – her incredible work ethic, her unwavering support and her big smile. We wish Gill much happiness as she embarks on a new and exciting chapter.



Pakeman Summer Fair

We would like to thank Caterlink, Babylon Park, Ottolenghi, Better Leisure PTA and Holloway Neighbourhood Group for their contributions to the summer fair this year. It was a great success, attended and enjoyed by many. And, of course, we say a huge thank you to our very own White Rabbit from Alice in Wonderland in the form of Marcia who always leads these events with her own special magic! You're a star!!



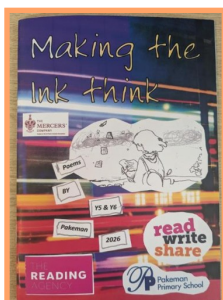
Making The Ink Think – A Published Success!

We are incredibly proud to celebrate the success of Making the Ink Think, our Year 5 and 6 poetry anthology. The book was created as part of Read, Write, Share, a project led by The Reading Agency in partnership with Camden and Islington Libraries, which inspires a love of reading, writing and oracy through collaboration with schools, libraries and professional authors.

Following months of hard work, our children's poetry has now been published. We marked this wonderful achievement with a book launch, where the children shared their poems brilliantly.

We are delighted that the success of the project means we will continue working with our resident poet, Paul Lyalls, next year on another fully funded programme.

Our sincere thanks go to the Year 5 and 6 team, Paul Lyalls and The Reading Agency for making this incredible opportunity possible. Also, congratulations to all of our talented young poets.



Reception Graduation

Congratulations to our Reception children who are graduating into Key Stage 1. Our Reception team made the event so special so we say a big thank you to all of the staff involved.



Starting Reception

Is your child starting Reception soon? There's lots to think about, but help is at hand!

The Starting Reception website offers practical ideas, guidance and simple activities to help you support your child's transition into school. From building independence (like getting dressed or using the toilet) to developing communication and social skills, the resources are easy to use at home.

Taking small steps now can make a big difference to your child's confidence and readiness for school. [Starting Reception Guide](#)



FREE Access to Sports Project



The Access to Sports project are offering a range of FREE summer sports activities for young people aged 5 - 19 across Islington.

The Access to Sports project is a community led sports development charity that works across the London boroughs of Islington, Haringey and Hackney. They offer an amazing summer holiday coaching programme across a variety of sports. They have recently launched the new full timetable.

Activities include: multi-sport camps, tennis, basketball and many more including trips, visits, events and competitions.

Book activities online via www.accesstosports.org.uk/bookings

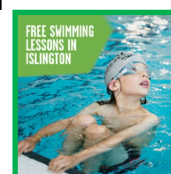


Islington Free Swimming Lessons for the Summer Holidays 2026

Throughout the school holidays Islington Council and Better are offering free swimming lessons to Islington residents and children who go to school in the borough.

Sessions are run by fully qualified teachers who help your child learn to swim and improve their swim safety awareness.

Applications for the Summer Holidays can be made via the link: [Islington Swim](#)



LOVE & LIMITS PARENTING PROGRAMME

Brandon Centre
Helping you grow your child

FREE 6-week support group for parents/carers of adolescents aged 12-16 with challenging behaviour

Groups are held online via Microsoft Teams

Parents must live in or be registered with a GP in Camden or Islington

Start date: Wednesday 16th September 2026

Time: 10am - 11:30am

Venue: Online (Microsoft Teams)

Group runs at the same time weekly for 6 weeks

We accept referrals from professionals and parents. Please use the QR code to access the referral form. Or please email familyservice@brandoncentre.org.uk to request for a referral form



For more details please email us at: familyservice@brandoncentre.org.uk

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FREE 6-week support group for parents/carers of adolescents aged 12-16 with challenging behaviour

Groups are held online via Microsoft Teams

Parents must live in or be registered with a GP in Camden or Islington

Start date: Monday 14th September 2026

Time: 6pm - 7:30pm

Venue: Online (Microsoft Teams)

Group runs at the same time weekly for 6 weeks

We accept referrals from professionals and parents. Please use the QR code to access the referral form. Or please email familyservice@brandoncentre.org.uk to request for a referral form



For more details please email us at: familyservice@brandoncentre.org.uk

ADHD Parenting Programme

Brandon Centre
Helping you grow your child

FREE 6-week parent support group for Camden and Islington residents

Parents and Carers of children aged 5-12 with an ADHD diagnosis are welcome!

Learn more about the diagnosis and gain parenting skills and strategies from the 1-2-3 Magic model to help you manage your child's behaviour

Start date: Friday 18th September 2026

Time: 10am-11:30am

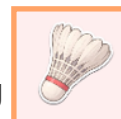
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Badminton Coaching



Black Arrows are running Badminton coaching sessions 9.30am – 11.30am on Sundays at Britannia Leisure Centre for 8-17 years. As well as having fun playing badminton in structured coached sessions, it is a fantastic opportunity to meet and make friends, play in tournaments and get fit.

[Black Arrows Badminton](#)

Holloway Neighbourhood past present and future

Friday, 17 July

When: 2pm - 5pm

Starting point: Old Fire Station,
84 Mayson Street, N7 6DT

All Free

Pick up a map and follow the trail to discover the arts and culture that make Holloway unique

All Ages Welcome

Music

magic show

local artists

tea party



Funded by
UK Government

ISLINGTON
for a more equal future

SUPPORTED
MAYOR OF LONDON

Summer Fun

Looking for summer fun ideas to entertain your children?

Tiny Happy People have lots of free or inexpensive fun things to do with young children both outdoors and indoors.



For further bigger outdoor adventures check out

[Things To Do In Islington](#)

Get Ready For The Team England National Sports Weekend Islington



Come and join us in partnership with Team England across Islington for a weekend filled with free sports and fun family activities for everyone to enjoy.

Members and non-member can jump in and experience the excitement of Commonwealth Games-inspired sports and activities. Whether you're a seasoned gym-goer or just curious to try something new, there's something for everyone across Archway Leisure Centre, Cally Pool & Gym, Highbury Leisure Centre, Ironmonger Row Baths, Islington Tennis Centre & Gym, and Sobell Leisure Centre.

[Team England Open Weekend](#)

Lunch Bunch Summer 2026

Islington Council's Lunch Bunch programme gives young people the chance to enjoy a wide range of **free activities with a healthy lunch**.

You can book activities for free if your child or children live in Islington, attend school from reception to year 11 - or if your child is 4 years old and will start school after the summer. You need to be in one of the following groups:



- ♦ you receive benefits-related free school meals (FSM)
- ♦ you have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)
- ♦ have a social or family support worker, or can be referred by a professional.

Important - You must be registered first. For details click on the link: [Lunch Bunch](#)



The summer HAF programme will run in the school summer holidays from Monday 20th July to Friday 28th August 2026.

Email: lunch.bunch@islington.gov.uk

Call: Family Information Service on **020 7527 5959**

Islington Adventure Playgrounds

Islington has free, safe adventure playgrounds for children aged six and up. Adventure playgrounds are **free for children who live or go to school in Islington**.



You don't need to book but children have to register before playing.

Adventure playgrounds: [Crumbles Castle](#), [Lumpy Hill](#), [Martin Luther King](#), [Timbuktu](#)

Free summer fun for children in Islington

Check links for various summer holiday dates and times

Free all-day play - exciting outdoor activities, creative play and a safe space to make friends.

[Crumbles Castle Adventure Playground](#)

[Lumpy Hill Adventure Playground](#)

[Martin Luther King Adventure Playground](#)

[Timbuktu Adventure Playground](#)

Don't Forget Your Bikes and Scooters



Please make sure that you collect your bikes and scooters from the playground before school breaks up today.

Many thanks.