

Friday 11th September 2026

Issue 81

The Shoreditch Park Scoop



WELCOME BACK TO A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

It is a real pleasure to welcome all our children and families back to Shoreditch Park Primary School for the start of a new academic year. I hope you had an enjoyable summer break. It has been wonderful to see the school full of energy again and to welcome both familiar faces and the many new children and families joining our Shoreditch Park community.

We have an exciting Autumn term ahead, with lots of opportunities planned to bring learning to life beyond the classroom. Our children will take part in a wide range of trips, workshops and enrichment experiences, including visits to London Zoo and the Tower of London, alongside many other opportunities linked to their learning. We know how important these experiences are in broadening children's horizons, building confidence and creating lasting memories.

We are also delighted to be introducing OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) this year. Through OPAL, we will continue to develop our playgrounds and play provision so that lunchtimes are even more creative, active and engaging. Over the coming months, children will see new resources, activities and opportunities for imaginative and adventurous play. We look forward to sharing more about this exciting development with families as the year progresses.

Attendance and punctuality continue to be an important whole-school priority. Every day in school matters, and regular attendance gives children the very best opportunity to learn, develop friendships and make strong progress. Thank you to all our families for supporting children to attend school every day and arrive on time and ready to learn.

Most importantly, we want every child at Shoreditch Park to feel happy, safe, included and excited about coming to school. We have a fantastic year ahead and I look forward to working in partnership with you to make it a successful and memorable one for all our children.





RECEPTION AND NURSERY- NEW STARTERS

Reception and Nursery have had a fantastic first week and have settled in so well! They have been busy getting to know their new surroundings, learning our daily routines and becoming familiar with the different areas of our classroom and provision. It has been wonderful to see them beginning to build relationships with their new friends and adults, and growing in confidence as the week has gone on.

The children have enjoyed exploring both our indoor and outdoor provision, making choices about where they would like to play and getting stuck into a range of activities and experiences. They have been learning how to look after our resources, tidy up, share with others and become more independent throughout the day. We have been so impressed with how quickly they are beginning to understand our Shoreditch Park routines.

There have been lots of smiles, curiosity and excitement as the children discover new things and become more comfortable in their new environment. We are incredibly proud of how well they have settled and are looking forward to seeing their confidence, independence and friendships continue to develop over the coming weeks.

We would like to say a big thank you to parents and carers in your support this week in helping the children to have a smooth transition into the new school year.

We look forward to seeing you at the Curriculum meetings next week to provide you more information on what your child will be learning this term and answer any questions that you may have about Nursery or Reception.

Reception Curriculum meeting will take place on Monday 14th September 9-9.30 am if attending please wait at the school office.

Nursery Curriculum meeting is Tuesday 15th September 9-9.30 am

For upcoming events please refer to the Curriculum letter that you received on 08.09.26.



FUN IN OUR EYFS BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Our EYFS children have had a fantastic start to Breakfast and After School Club! Lots of fun and engaging activities have been put in place to ensure that our youngest pupils feel happy, settled and excited to attend.

The children have particularly enjoyed getting creative with a range of arts and crafts, exploring sand play, and using their imaginations in our small-world areas. It has been wonderful to see them playing together, developing new friendships and growing in confidence with their new routines.

Take a look at some of the fun they have been having!



FAMILY FRIDAYS

Family Fridays – join us in the classroom!

Every Friday morning from 8:45am, we warmly invite parents and carers of pupils in **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2** to join their child in the classroom for Family Friday.

Family Fridays are a lovely opportunity to spend some time learning alongside your child and to get a glimpse of their experiences in school. Each week, families can take part in a range of simple and enjoyable activities together, such as sharing books, reading, drawing, crafts, games and other classroom activities.

There is no need to book – simply come into the classroom with your child on Friday morning. We would love to see as many families as possible joining us!



EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS IN PLAY AT SHOREDITCH PARK

We are delighted to introduce Cath Prisk, our OPAL Mentor, who has begun working with us as we develop our approach to play at Shoreditch Park.

Cath recently led training with our staff and will be working alongside our school community to help us transform and enrich our playtimes through the OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) programme.

Over the coming months, you will begin to see exciting changes to our playgrounds and the range of play opportunities available to children. Our aim is to make playtimes even more creative, active, inclusive and fun, giving every child opportunities to explore, imagine, take appropriate risks and enjoy high-quality play every day.

We are incredibly excited about our OPAL journey and look forward to sharing the developments with families as the programme grows.



Shoreditch Park Primary School

OPAL

DONATIONS NEEDED

We are developing our playground as part of the OPAL programme and we need your help!
We are looking for donations of good quality, clean and safe items to enrich playtimes and inspire imaginative play.

Play Explore Imagine Together!

Loose parts Pipes, planks, reels, rope, buckets, pots, pans and other small parts for creative play.	Fabric and textiles Duvet cases, sheets, curtains, old saris (silk is great!), netting and gauzy materials.	Costumes and dress up Children's and adult costumes, hats, dressing up clothes and accessories.	Crates and trays Plastic crates, bread trays, milk/bottle crates and sturdy trays.
Soft toys Teddies, stuffed animals and dolls.	Soft loose parts Tarpaulins, sofa cushions, soft suitcases, yoga mats, foam padding and pool noodles.	Chalk Large playground chalks (we go through lots!).	Kitchen/café items Pots, pans and utensils (near water and mud kitchen). Various sizes.
Water play Hoses, guttering, cans, pipes and trays.	Gardening items Trowels, spades, plant pots, trays, watering cans and garden tools.	Music and sound Outdoor music players (e.g. Makita, DeWalt, DAB+, Radio). Child portable (battery).	Mud and digging Spades, sand, tarps or raised beds/planters.
Small world toys Figures, animals, dolls, vehicles, people, construction sets and accessories.			

Thank you for supporting play at Shoreditch Park! ♥

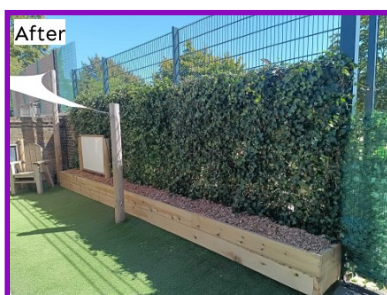
DONATIONS



GROWING GREENER IN EYFS

Over the summer, as part of our continued commitment to sustainability and creating greener spaces, a new green screen was installed in our EYFS playground. As the plants grow, they will create a greener, more natural play space, help to improve air quality, support local wildlife and biodiversity, and provide additional shade and screening within the playground.

We look forward to watching our new green screen grow and develop throughout the year!



MEET OUR NEW SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL OFFICER



We are pleased to introduce Ms Vemba as our new School Crossing Patrol Officer.

Ms Vemba will be helping our children and families cross the road safely at the start and end of the school day, supporting everyone to arrive at and leave school safely.

Alongside this, the school will continue to take part in the Safer Active Travel training programme for primary schools throughout this academic year, helping our pupils develop the skills and confidence to travel safely and actively.

Please join us in giving Ms Vemba a warm welcome to our school community. We are delighted to have her with us!

WILD WALKS WITH OUTDOOR PEOPLE

Our OPAL mentor, Cath Prisk, is also the Founder and Director of Outdoor People, a Hackney-based social enterprise passionate about helping children and families spend more time outdoors.



As part of this work, Cath leads regular Family Wild Walks, giving families the opportunity to explore Hackney and the surrounding area together. The walks are designed to help children become explorers: discovering local green spaces, spotting wildlife, visiting playgrounds and adventure playgrounds, connecting with nature and, most importantly, enjoying time playing outdoors. They are suitable for families and are free to attend.

We would love to see Shoreditch Park families getting involved. You can find details of upcoming walks and book a place through the Outdoor People events page: <https://outdoorpeople.org.uk/blogs/events>

You can also contact Cath Prisk at cath@outdoorpeople.org.uk to find out more.

SAFEGUARDING TIP OF THE WEEK: STARTING SCHOOL



Starting a new school year can bring lots of excitement, but it can also feel overwhelming for some children. Regularly check in with your child about how they are feeling, particularly during these first few weeks.

Try asking open questions such as “What was the best part of your day?”, “Was there anything that worried you today?” or “Who did you spend time with?” These can help children talk naturally about their experiences.

If your child tells you something that concerns you, listen calmly, take them seriously and let the school know. Working together helps us to keep every child safe, happy and supported.

MOBILE PHONE-FREE SCHOOL

As we begin the new school year, we would like to remind families that Shoreditch Park Primary School is a mobile phone-free school. This is an important part of our commitment to creating a safe, focused and positive environment for all our pupils.

We ask for the support of our whole school community in making this successful:

Pupils who bring a mobile phone to school must switch it off and put it into the locked cupboard in their classroom for the duration of the school day. Phones must not be used anywhere on the school site.

Parents and carers are asked not to use mobile phones while on the school site, including during morning drop-off and afternoon collection.

Reducing mobile phone use on site helps us to protect pupils' privacy and safeguarding, minimise distractions and ensure that face-to-face interaction remains at the heart of our school community.

Thank you to all our families for supporting us in keeping Shoreditch Park a safe, welcoming and phone-free environment for everyone.



INTO UNIVERSITY - SUPPORT

Into University offers an after-school Academic Support programme, which currently has spaces available for students in Years 3 to 6. During these sessions, students receive support with maths and literacy through degree-themed activities designed to broaden their aspirations and build their confidence.

If you are interested you can contact them directly on 020 7812 9588 or scan the QR code on the flyer to register your child.

IntoUniversity ^{iu}

Primary Academic Support

- ✓ **Literacy and numeracy** support through fun degree-themed activities
- ✓ **Events and trips** in school holidays
- ✓ Rewards and Prizes!
- ✓ 1-to-1 **mentoring** with a University student
- ✓ It's **free!**

Tuesday OR Wednesday, 3:30 - 5:00 pm

IntoUniversity Hackney South
Livermere Rd, London E8 4HT

How to register your child:

- Phone us on **020 7812 9588** to speak to a member of staff and book a registration appointment.
- **OR Scan this QR Code**

TRAVELLING BOOK FAIR

After a very popular book fair last year, we were able to buy lots of new titles for the school library and classroom selections. We are delighted to host another fair at the end of the month. Please see below for more details and scan the QR code to see the full catalogue of books available to order. Card payments and apple pay will be possible on the day but no cash payments please.



Tuesday 29th September -
Tuesday 29th September



NEW BOOKS. NEW WORLDS. NEW FAVOURITES.

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Includes your own wands!

4 for £10.00

2 for £15.99

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All books subject to availability.

Payment at our Book Fair

Please check with your school for the best way to pay for your books

- You may pay by card at the Fair via our digital till or card reader machines. If your school has one, or by using the online link at www.travellingbooks.co.uk/pay and simply selecting your school from the drop down menu.
- Pre-paid gift vouchers are available in £5, £10, £15, £20 and £25. Go to www.travellingbooks.co.uk/gift-vouchers to buy vouchers for your child before the Fair.
- If you can't attend the Fair in person, your child can order books via a Wish List - please ask your school for details.

HELP EARN FREE BOOKS

Scholastic is one of the largest providers of free books to schools via our Reward scheme which helps to ensure that as many children as possible have access to books that support reading for pleasure. Every time you buy from the Book Fair, you help to make a difference by supporting literacy in your child's setting. Last year, with your help, we gave over £5.3M worth of free books to schools nationwide, which stocked school libraries and classrooms.

*Free books are subject to terms and conditions. Please contact your Book Fair Organiser or Scholastic Book Fairs for details.
 All books subject to availability. Book prices may vary.