



I was able to share with the governors last night the amazing reading statistics we have. So far, we have 25 millionaire readers, 2 double millionaires and 4 treble millionaire readers, 1 child has read over 4 and another over 5 million words! And we still have a term of reading to go. When I was at primary school there was a set of books that helped my love of reading, Enid Blyton's faraway tree books. So, I am very excited that this Easter there is a movie - The Magic Faraway Tree. Reading a book is so much better than watching a film as you can let your imagination create the scenes and characters, but it will be interesting to see how they have created the character Moonface!

In school we have had some classes putting together their films ready for judging for The Mission Globes in the summer term.

It has been a very short but busy half term. Thank you for all of your positive support. I do have some requests as we head into the Easter break.

**Attendance** - please make sure your child is in school every day. We have issued lots of attendance letters this week and more will be coming in the summer term.

**Uniform**, black hoodies are not part of the school's uniform and in the summer term we will be asking children to remove them. Also, we have had lots of white and coloured trainers being worn. Children can wear trainers to school, but they need to be black and not high tops.

Please can I also ask that you ensure your child reads during the holidays, practice their timestables and learns the spelling words for the school Spelling Bee competition.

When we return after the Easter break we will be having a **parent council** meeting and I would like to talk to the group about why you chose Mission Grove as your child's school and what we can do to get more parents choosing us. There are neighbouring schools that are over subscribed for Reception 2026 and we are not. I know we had poor sats results last year but is that the only thing that puts people off? We will also be sending a parent questionnaire to get your views about lots of things.

I was fortunate to go with Miss Becky's dance group to their performance on Wednesday. They have been working so hard for it and did a fantastic job. We walked to the school where they were performing and had the opportunity to walk through Lloyds Park. We are so lucky with all the green spaces around us, hopefully you will all get chance to spend time over the Easter break outside enjoying the parks and hopefully nice weather. I look forward to seeing you all back on Tuesday 14th April.

Katie Jennings—Head Teacher

### Easter Parade

As always there were some amazing hats/caps/bonnets on parade today. I think we definitely saw the tallest hat we have ever had. It was such a nice way to end the term. It was nice that it wasn't too windy or wet.

### Spelling Bee 2026

The annual Spelling Bee is back! The children should have brought home the words to learn for the heats. They are also on the app and website.

Please ensure that your child is practicing over the holidays.



ATTENDANCE  
PERCENTAGE BY  
CLASS

Form	%
Nursery North AM	83.32%
R Goose	85.19%
2yr North PM	85.84%
2 Mallard	86.03%
R Grouse	86.08%
Nursery North PM	87.35%
Nursery South PM	88.32%
Nursery North Full Time	89.14%
2yr North AM	89.20%
1 Chaffinch	89.66%
R Goldfinch	90.60%
4 Wagtail	90.98%
5 Sparrow	91.12%
5 Swan	91.12%
1 Chiff Chaff	91.36%
3 Kittiwake	91.59%
4 Woodpecker	92.15%
R Goldcrest	92.37%
6 Barn Owl	92.47%
4 Waxwing	92.52%
2 Merlin	92.61%
4 Wren	92.95%
2 Magpie	93.14%
Nursery South AM	93.18%
1 Crow	93.23%
5 Swallow	93.23%
3 Kingfisher	93.62%
1 Cuckoo	93.86%
6 Blackbird	94.03%
5 Skylark	94.50%
6 Buzzard	94.52%
3 Kestrel	94.58%
3 Kinglet	95.47%
Nursery South Full Time	95.61%
2 Moorhen	96.01%

## SPECIAL DATES

**MARCH 2026 Article 14—freedom of thought and religion**  
28th March—13th April—Easter Holiday

### APRIL— Article 12 Respect Children’s views

- 14th Children return to school  
Summer clubs available to book on the app
- 15th Year 4 parent meeting 5pm Sleepover—south
- 16th Reception 2026 offer day  
Year 1 @London zoo  
Year 4 parent meeting 5pm Sleepover –North
- 17th barn Owl Assembly
- 20th Clubs restart  
Spelling Bee Class heats all week
- 21st Parent Council—Agenda promoting the school
- 24th KS1 tennis competition—select children  
Year 4 Sleepover
- 28th BMX cycling—select children
- 29th—1st Year 5 Camping

### MAY—Article 6 Be Healthy

- 1st Parliament trip—school council  
Wagtail class assembly
- 4th Bank Holiday Monday
- 5th Spelling Bee Final
- 7th Nursery South CLOSED—Polling day  
Buzzard class Assembly
- 11th KS2 SATS Monday—Thursday



### Year 6 Leavers Hoodies

We will be placing the order for this years leavers hoodies on **April 17th**. We will send an app with all of the details. We do them at this time of year so that they can have them for some of the summer term at Mission Grove.

The children have loved them in the past. The cost is £25. You can pay on parent pay or at the school office. It will be a red hoodie with black writing.

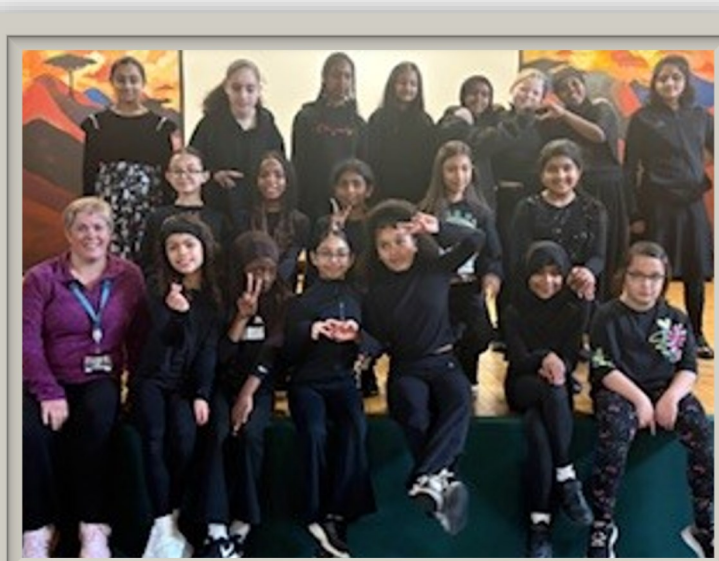
On the app you need to click the **blue** word SIZE and that will open a pdf of the different sizes available



Year 4 at the Wonder Lab.



I really liked it when we watched the live experiment with fire. It was amazing. Abdul woodpecker  
It was amazing when we got to make a paper aeroplane and got it spinning in the air like a tornado.  
It was an adventurous trip filled with great experiments. Riyan woodpecker



Miss Becky and her dance group from North took part in the now Annual Borough Dance show. It was held at Hillyfield in the Park.

The all girl group performed to Stargazing by Myles Smith. It was a fantastic performance.



On Monday, six of our most accomplished chess players represented Mission Grove at The Waltham Forest and Haringey Primary Schools' Chess Tournament! The children were lucky enough to receive tutoring from, and to play against, international masters in the morning. The afternoon was spent competing against other children from the borough in an organised tournament, in which the children play six matches. They all performed excellently and did themselves and our school proud.

The children had this to say about the day...

Joao, Barn Owl, "I particularly enjoyed meeting the friendly children from other schools and playing against them."

Adam, Wren, "I enjoyed winning and learning from my mistakes when I lost."

Alina, Blackbird, "The tournament was the most enjoyable part because I am really competitive!".



Thank you to Mrs Thompson and Kittiwake for their lovely assembly this morning. It was a lovely start to our busy Friday.



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# Free Easter-break cycling activities



## Looking for a fun, free way to keep the kids active (and away from screens) this Easter?

We are offering Bikeability-certified cycle training this Easter break – whether your child is learning to ride or ready to tackle the roads.

**Courses for children** - Each course runs over two consecutive days.

**Learn to Ride** – For beginners who want to learn to cycle from scratch. (Reception age & up).

**Level 1** – For riders who need more practice and confidence before going on the road (like signalling or looking behind). (Year 3 & up).

**Level 2** – For confident riders ready to learn road safety on quiet streets. (Year 5 & up – must attend both days for certificate & badge).

Bikes can be borrowed for children aged 7+. More details on booking page.

### Locations & dates

**Monday 30th March to Thursday 2nd April:**  
Feel Good Centre, 170 Chingford Rd,  
Walthamstow E17 5AA

**Tuesday 7th April – Friday 10th April:**  
Buxton School, 234 Cann Hall Rd,  
Leytonstone, E11 3NN

Book for the Easter Cycle School:  
[bit.ly/WF-Children](http://bit.ly/WF-Children)

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### Family training also available!

We're offering free, private 2-hour cycle training for families who want to ride safely together.

**Book family training:** [bit.ly/W-F-Cycle](http://bit.ly/W-F-Cycle)



Share your active travel stories with us:  
[schooltravelplans@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:schooltravelplans@walthamforest.gov.uk)



# Attendance Ladder

## How close is your child to 100%?

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned



### EASTER Music Concerts

We had 2 days of music concerts this week with Rock-Steady and our own annual one. Well done to everyone who took part and thank you to the parents who came along to watch.





# Science News

## Science trip - Wonderlab



Year 4 had an amazing time at the Wonderlab in the Science Museum as part of their Science topic (states of matter). From hands-on experiments to exciting live demonstrations, the children explored light, forces and electricity like real scientists. We were so proud of their curiosity and fantastic behaviour throughout the day!



## Staff Science CPD

We are pleased to share that our staff recently completed a Science CPD (Continuing Professional Development) session, with Ms Hakeem (Science lead) following her attendance at the Science Museum focused on STEM engagement.

A key focus was the importance of exploration and discovery through an enquiry-based approach, helping children to think and work like scientists.

During the CPD session, staff were introduced to a range of practical ideas and activities that can be used both in the classroom and beyond. These included:

- "Mystery Boxes" activities, designed to develop working scientifically skills through observation, questioning, and reasoning
- Strategies to promote STEM engagement and inclusion, ensuring all learners feel confident and inspired
- A variety of hands-on STEM activities to bring learning to life

We can't wait for our teachers to put these ideas into practice in the classroom with the children!



## Science Joke of the Week!

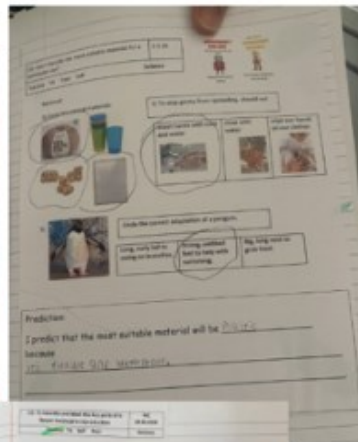


Do you have a science joke that's guaranteed to make everyone giggle? Share it with Ms Hakeem!

What did the electricity say to the wire?  
WHY ARE (wire) you making me go past?  
Rashana - Blackbird

## Science in the school

This term, it has been wonderful to see a wide range of practical, hands-on science lessons taking place across the school, from EYFS all the way through to KS2. Across all year groups, there has been a strong focus on learning through doing—encouraging curiosity, resilience, and a love of discovery. It has been fantastic to see children so engaged, asking thoughtful questions, and developing their understanding of the world through practical experiences.



## Science in action - clubs

Our clubs give children the opportunity to explore new skills, enjoy hands-on activities, and have fun with friends.

Here's a snapshot of what's been happening:

- **STEAM Club** - Children have been exploring science, technology, engineering, art, and maths in exciting, hands-on ways.



- **Gardening Club** - Pupils have been getting their hands dirty, planting, tending, and learning about plants, insects, and sustainability.

- **Forest Club** - Our adventurous learners have been exploring the outdoors, building beetle, spotting wildlife, and developing teamwork, resilience, and curiosity.



### Forensic Science Workshop

Year 6 pupils took part in an exciting forensic science workshop, where they practiced observing, exploring, and asking questions—just like real scientists!

They tackled two thrilling cases:

- **Dognapped** - the prize pooch goes missing on dog show day
- **Stolen Money** - the school safe has been broken into

Our young investigators worked together to collect and analyse clues such as fingerprints, hairs, fibres, and 'DNA', learning how evidence helps solve a mystery.

It was a hands-on way to bring science to life—and our pupils loved every minute of being detectives!

*We learnt that identical twins have the same DNA, but have different fingerprints' - Aleema (Blackbird)*



### Places to visit during the Easter break

Here are some brilliant science-linked places to visit in London over Easter—perfect for children and full of hands-on, curiosity-building experiences:

- 1) Science Museum
- 2) Natural History Museum
- 3) London Zoo
- 4) The London Transport Museum
- 5) Young V&A
- 6) MathsWorld (Ms Hakeem has attended and thoroughly enjoyed all the puzzles and activities)



Work in a **STEM** field? We would love to hear from you to inspire our children to pursue Science beyond the classroom.



# PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) EASTER HOLIDAYS 2026

[moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free](https://moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free)



## ANGUS STEAKHOUSE

Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

## ASDA

Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

## ASK ITALIAN

2 Kids eat free from 27th March - 19th April 2026

## BELLA ITALIA

Children eat free Sunday - Thursday

## BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 Kids Eat Free Breakfast with one paying adult

## BILLS

Kids eat free Mon 30th March - Fri 10th April

## BREWDOG

Kids eat free 28th March - 12th April 2026

## CAFE ROUGE

Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week

## COCONUT TREE

Kids eat free Mon 30th March - Sun 19th April

## CHIQUITO

Kids eat free during all school holidays

## DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

## FARMHOUSE INNS

Kids eat FREE weekdays 30th March - 17th April

## FRANKIE & BENNY'S

Kids eat FREE daily from 30th March - 17th April

## FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

## GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

## IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

## LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

## MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

## MARCO PIERRE WHITE

Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

## PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day

## PIZZA HUT

Kids Eat Free Every Day after 3pm

## PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

## PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

## PUREZZA

Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

## SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

## SUBWAY

Kids eat Free from the 6th - 13th April

## SIZZLING PUBS

Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

## TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

## TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

## THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

## TRAVELODGE

2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast

## TURTLE BAY

Kids eat free with every £15 adult spend

## WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

## YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays



