PARENT NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY 2026

Options, Assessments and an Uplifting Musical Moment

Thank you to all the Year 9 families who joined us for our Options Information Evening yesterday. This is a key milestone for students as they make their final subject choices for Key Stage 4, and your support at this stage is invaluable. We hope you found the evening informative and that it helped spark meaningful conversations at home about next steps. If you haven't yet had a chance to reflect together on the subjects being considered, this weekend is a great time to do so!

We'd also like to say well done to our Year 9 and Year 10 students, who have been taking part in mid-year assessments during lessons this week. These formal assessments give both students and teachers a clear sense of progress — highlighting where knowledge is secure and where we might need to revisit or reteach certain topics. They also help build important exam experience and stamina in a lower-pressure setting. Assessments continue into next week, so please do continue encouraging revision at home — every bit of preparation makes a difference.

As I write, I'm just getting ready to pay a visit to Dormers Wells High School for today's Music in Secondary Schools Trust Together Day — a special event bringing together young musicians as part of the MiSST programme. Our Year 7 violinists will be performing alongside their peers in what promises to be a truly memorable musical experience. Considering this is only their first year learning an instrument, it's an incredible opportunity and one we know they'll rise to with enthusiasm (and a few nerves!). I'll share more in next week's newsletter — but for now, I just want to say how proud we are of them for representing our school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support — whether it's attending events, helping with revision, or cheering on our musicians.

Ms Marion Budd
Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

w/c Monday 2nd February	Year 10 English Speaking Assessment
	Year 9 & 10 Mid-Year Assessment (in-class)
	Year 11 Period 6 (3.15-4.00pm)
	Year 11 Interviews for Sixth Form
Monday 9th February	Year 9 Womens' Constructions Workshop
Thursday 12th February	Year 9 & 10 School Disco
Friday 13th February	Year 12 BTEC Biology and Science trip to Featherstone High School
Monday 16th - Friday 20th February	February Half Term (School closed to students)

Year 9: Building Foundations for the Future (Miss Kaur)

The Year 9 cohort have continued to make excellent progress this term and should be extremely proud of their efforts. Our year group target of striving to be the best is clearly reflected in the way students have approached both their learning and wider school life.

Year 9 students are now beginning an important step in their school journey, highlighted by the Options Evening that took place yesterday, where students started to make key decisions about the subjects they will take moving forward.

We have also been working hard as a year group to improve attendance, and it has been encouraging to see positive steps being taken by so many students.

Recently, students completed their in-class assessments and approached these with maturity and focus, demonstrating resilience and a strong commitment to their learning.

Beyond the classroom, it has been fantastic to see students thriving in enrichment activities. A particular highlight was the recent Year 9 Interform Basketball Competition. Congratulations to 9S, who emerged as the winners. All students involved showed excellent sportsmanship, competitiveness and collaboration throughout the event.

I am incredibly proud of our Year 9 students and look forward to seeing them continue to grow, challenge themselves and strive for excellence in the months ahead.

Miss Kaur (Head of Year 9)

Whole School Read – Week 4

Students have now begun Week 4 of our Whole School Read, exploring What Happens Online by Nathanael Lessore. This engaging and thought-provoking novel encourages students to reflect on important themes including identity, friendship, peer influence, and responsible online behaviour.

We encourage families to discuss these themes at home and to support students in taking part in the weekly chapter competition organised by Mrs Buck. These shared reading activities not only promote reading for enjoyment but also help to develop strong comprehension, discussion, and reflection skills.

This week's creative challenge:

Write a poem, rap, or song lyrics titled "Humiliation".

Entries should be sent or handed in to **Mrs Buck in the library.**

We look forward to seeing students' thoughtful and creative responses.

Race Equality at Islip Manor High School - Weekly Update

Building an Anti-Racist School Community

This year, our Race Equality Leads have been reading How to Build Your Antiracist Classroom by Orlene Badu. Orlene has previously supported our school in developing our understanding of how to create meaningful and lasting change as part of our commitment to challenging all forms of inequality.

Looking ahead to next academic year, when we are settled into our new school building, we will be delivering further training focused on creating an anti-racist school, as part of bringing our anti-racist policy to life. As part of this work, we will be sharing regular quotes from the book in our parent newsletter to highlight the key ideas that underpin our ongoing journey.

This week's quote

"***When someone with the authority of a teacher describes the world and you are not in it, there is a moment of psychic disequilibrium, as if you looked into a mirror and saw nothing." — Adrienne Rich*** **(Chapter 6)**

This quote reminds us of the importance of recognising and valuing the diversity within our school community, including gender, ethnicity, religion, and SEND. By ensuring children see themselves reflected in our classrooms, curriculum, and wider school systems, we help to create an environment where everyone feels valued, respected, and able to belong.

Race Equality Leads:

Angela Miller (Parent Ambassador and teacher), Marie Dennis (Inclusion Manager and Assistant Headteacher) & Matt Haresnape (Senior Deputy Headteacher)

Christmas Box Appeal – Thank You

We would like to thank our pupils, families and staff for their incredible generosity in supporting the 2025 Christmas Box Appeal.

Thanks to your kindness and effort, Islip Manor High School helped contribute to an amazing 6,524 shoeboxes donated overall. Each box helped bring joy and comfort to people and families in need during the Christmas period.

We were delighted to receive a thank you certificate from the organisers, who shared how meaningful the Christmas boxes were to those who received them. Some of the boxes being distributed can be seen on the House of Opportunity YouTube channel.

Thank you once again to everyone who took part — your generosity truly made a difference.

HOLIDAY YOUTH CLUB

3 DAYS OF FREE ACTIVITIES FOR 11-15 YR OLDS

WHEN?

HALF TERM
Wed 18 – Fri 20
February 2026
10am - 2pm

WHAT?

- Gaming
- Arts & Crafts
- Board Games
- Chill with friends
- Sports and more!

Interested? Sign up!

lfoster@islipmanorhigh.org.uk
Lukefoster@ymcaspg.org

Location

Islip Manor High School
Eastcote Lane
Northolt UB5 4HP

YMCA ST PAUL'S YOUTH PROJECT

Workshops and Groups: January to April 2026

Early Start SEND Inclusion Team & Early Start Speech & Language Therapy Team

Ealing Early Start SEND Inclusion Team

What we do:

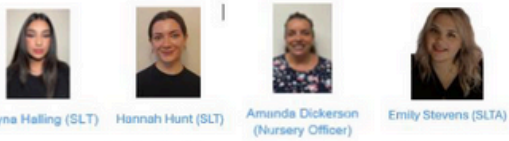
The Early Start SEND Inclusion Team is based within Early Start and offers targeted and specialist support to families of children with additional needs including children with social communication differences, speech and language difficulties, autism, Down Syndrome, visual impairment and children who are d/Deaf/Hard of Hearing as well as Complex Health/Medical Needs.

Our aims:

We provide advice and practical strategies to parents/carers as well as childcare providers to encourage children's development and support with areas such as communication, attention & listening, toileting, eating, sleep, behaviour and sensory differences.

To contact our team:
Tel: 020 8102 5888 (Early Start main hub)
Email: earlystartsendworkshops@ealing.gov.uk

Ealing Early Start Speech and Language Therapy Team



Zayna Halling (SLT) Hannah Hunt (SLT) Amanda Dickerson (Nursery Officer) Emily Stevens (SLTA)

We provide a Universal Speech and Language Therapy service for children under 5. We empower families and practitioners to best support their child's communication.

A child might need some support if:

- They are **18 months old** or over and not yet using any words
- They are **2 years old** and have less than 50 words
- They are over **3 years old** and a half and it is difficult to understand what they are saying
- They are **2 and a half years old** and not yet putting 2 words together e.g. 'want juice' or 'go park'.
- They have been **in a new setting for 6 weeks or longer** and are still not speaking in that setting

Get in touch with us!

wlm-tr.ealing.sltadvice@nhs.net
Monday - Friday 1-4pm
(we can call back with an interpreter)

Carmelita House
21-22 The Mall, W5 2PJ

Facebook SLTEaling

YouTube Ealing Children's Services

Workshops and Groups: January to April 2026

Early Start SEND Inclusion Team & Early Start Speech & Language Therapy Team

Promoting Positive Behaviours

Free online workshop for parents/carers of children aged 0-5.

To gain awareness of what behaviours are communicating, sensory impacts on behaviour and learn practical strategies to support towards promoting positive behaviours.

When
Wednesday 4th February 2026
10am-11:10am

How to book
Scan the QR code:

Understand Sensory Differences Workshop

Free online workshop for parents/carers of children aged 0-5.

To explore and identify Sensory Differences. Understand and learn how to support your child.

When
Thursday 12th February 2026
10am-11:30am

How to book

scan the QR code:

Successful Eating Workshop

Free online workshop for parents/carers of children aged 0-5.

To explore reasons behind difficult mealtimes, learn strategies to minimise problems and how you can support your child to develop a more varied diet.

When
Wednesday 25th February 2026
10am-11:30am

How to book

scan the QR code:

Supporting Children with Social Communication Differences

Free online workshop for parents/carers of children aged 0-5.

You will learn practical strategies to support communication, using visuals, sleep-times, toileting and eating/drinking.

We recommend parents book onto this workshop and 'Understanding children with social communication differences' as a package.

When
Wednesday 4th March 2026
10am-12pm

How to book
Scan the QR code:

SEND Support

Practical Tools

The Parents' Circle

Peer Bonds

Building Networks

Join us for our informal coffee mornings for parents/carers.
Drop in anytime or stay for the whole session.

Festive Baking & Chat
8 Dec, 10:00–11:30
Bake festive treats and enjoy a relaxed morning together.

New Year, New Goals
8 Jan, 10:30–12:00
Reflect on this year's challenges and the wins. Set achievable goals.

Coffee & Creativity
9 Feb, 10:30–12:00
Paint, doodle, or craft while chatting with others.

For any barriers to accessing the Circle or childcare concerns please don't hesitate to get in touch.
07736043328 outreach@hfehmind.org.uk

mind Hammersmith, Fulham, Ealing and Hounslow

EALING PARENTING SERVICE

FREE PARENTING WORKSHOPS
SPRING TERM 2026

Tues 13th JAN

Building Healthier Relationships - Part 1
Delivered by Chris Kolade - Ealing Parenting Service
via MS Teams 10am-12pm

Tues 20th JAN

Work / Time Balance: Fatherhood in a Demanding World
Delivered by Derek Willis - Ealing Parenting Service
via MS Teams 10am-12pm **men only session*

Tues 27th JAN

Building Healthier Relationships - Part 2
Delivered by Chris Kolade - Ealing Parenting Service
via MS Teams 10am-12pm

Tues 10th FEB

Domestic Abuse, Parenting & You
Delivered by Patricia Chapman - SAFE West
via MS Teams 10am-12pm

email parentingserviceadmin@ealing.gov.uk to register or for more info

Ealing
www.ealing.gov.uk

EALING PARENTING SERVICE

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FREE PARENTING WORKSHOPS
SPRING TERM 2026

Tues 24th FEB

Intergenerational Healing:
Parenting Differently, Breaking Cycles & Taboos
Delivered by Derek Willis - Ealing Parenting Service
via MS Teams 10am-12pm **men only session*

Tues 3rd MAR

An Introduction to Internet Safety
Delivered by Hayley Jones - SAFE Team
via MS Teams 10am-12pm
**for parents/carers of under 13s*

Tues 24th MAR

Addressing the Challenges:
Fathers in Caring Roles for Children with SEN
Delivered by Derek Willis - Ealing Parenting Service
via MS Teams 10am-12pm **men only session*

Tues 21st APR

Different Strokes:
Navigating Fatherhood Across Cultures
Delivered by Derek Willis - Ealing Parenting Service
via MS Teams 10am-12pm **men only session*

Tues 28th APR

Understanding Your Teenager
Delivered by Sabrina Meakins - SAFE Counselling
via MS Teams 10:30am-12:30pm
**for parents/carers of over 11s*

email parentingserviceadmin@ealing.gov.uk to register or for more info

Ealing
www.ealing.gov.uk

EALING PARENTING SERVICE

Free School Uniform

The Hub @ Greenford Library

School Uniform Donations needed. Drop off at Greenford Library

Both branded and unbranded school uniform will be available. Up to 5 items per child.

The Hub @ Greenford Library
Oldfield Lane South,
Greenford
UB6 9LG

For more info scan here or visit actforealing.org/ealing-school-uniform-swap