



Linden Lodge School
Provider of specialist education since 1903

LLS News

05/12/2025



Dear families

We look forward to seeing you at next week's Festive Concerts. Please see the schedule on page 8.

Please will you complete this short survey on the OT service at Linden Lodge. Your feedback is so helpful for us! <https://forms.office.com/e/4crrH6rABk>

Thank you to all of the families who attended our Family Learning Week sessions last week. We have featured some photos of the sessions on page 4. If you attended any of the sessions please could you to complete our short feedback form <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/AhHMey8sia> . We value your comments.

Have a lovely weekend

Events and dates to remember

Autumn Term

Dates



Sunday 7th December 2025

C@LL Christmas Event

Week beginning Monday 8th December

Festive Concerts

Thursday 11th December 2025

Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 18th December 2025

Last day for pupils

Friday 19th December 2025

Planning & Preparation Day
(no pupils)

Star of the Week



David for showing kindness to a visitor in residential

Lillie for cooking a lovely meal of home made pizza for her grandparents

Halima for making healthy choices when preparing her evening meal.

Drew for making progress in her personal care routines.



Learning@Linden

Primary Department

Harp class visit to Southfields Library on the 18 November

Our children thoroughly enjoyed this valuable alternative to traditional classroom learning. The opportunity allowed children to learn through real-life activities, practice independence, and engage with new environments in a fun and motivating way.

We worked on sound activities prior to our visit, such as vehicle noises (far, close, loud, soft etc.) During our walk from school, Harp children followed instructions such as: "Stop, listen, look" before crossing driveways and roads. They were delighted to notice so many things along the way.

We were rewarded with the librarian reading many stories in a cosy area before having the opportunity to explore the library. Well done Harp class



Violin class have been working really hard on understanding and enjoying our bodies, through Physio, OT and movement sessions, in class and around the school. As you can see, we are getting stronger and more confident every day!



Learning@Linden

Habilitation

Canes: facts and fiction!

This week, the Habilitation team would like to explore some facts and myths about canes.

Myth: Only people with no vision at all use the long cane.

Fact: Plenty of people with some vision benefit from the long cane! The long cane can support people who have difficulties with depth perception, lower visual field loss, delayed visual processing, and much, much more!



Myth: Using a cane takes away independence.

Fact: When used by someone who needs it, canes actually do the opposite! Using a cane is empowering for many of our young people. Canes help our young people move around the world more safely and develop their independence and confidence.

Myth: People who use a cane use it all the time.

Fact: Some people use a cane all the time, but there are others who don't! For example, some people choose to use a cane in the evenings and at night, or in busier, more challenging, and less accessible spaces. It is all about finding out what works best for the individual.



Myth: Everyone who is blind uses a long cane.

Fact: Every blind person is different and spends time exploring and learning what works best for them. Some use a long cane or a symbol cane. Others use pre-cane skills without using a long cane. Some use sighted guide, a guide dog, or their remaining vision. Using a long cane requires a certain amount of coordination and dexterity, as well as prior learning and emotional readiness.

Myth: People in powerchairs can't use the long cane.

Fact: Using the long cane together with a powerchair is challenging but possible! The person needs to be able to manipulate a cane and manoeuvre a powerchair at the same time, whilst responding appropriately to obstacles and people. It is hard work but it can be very worthwhile for the right person.

Myth: Long canes are also called sticks!

Fact: Calling a long cane a 'stick' is confusing. A stick usually refers to a walking stick, which is very different to a cane and performs a completely different function. Some of our students won't understand if their cane gets called a 'stick'. Others may feel that labelling it a 'stick' is a misrepresentation.



Family Learning Week

Last week we welcomed parents and carers to our Family Learning Week sessions. Here are some photos of the sessions and a few of the comments that we have received from you.



This was such a lovely event: it was wonderful to meet teachers

Nice opportunity to see the children in class and reconnect with other parents



The activities were so thoughtfully planned and inclusive.



Hydrotherapy pool guidance



In line with the guidance for Hydrotherapy Pool : Standard Safe operation procedures from the Aquatic Therapy Association of Chartered Physiotherapists (ATACP), children and young people should not be in a hydrotherapy pool longer than 30 minutes. This 30 minutes allows 5 minutes on either side to transition them into and out of the water. No student should be in the hydrotherapy pool more than 20 minutes long.

This time frame is established to prevent individuals from overheating and thus becoming overly fatigued or dehydrated. This guidance is for ALL students accessing the hydrotherapy pool.

Press release - Government launches national conversation on SEND

Government acts on commitment to put parents' experiences at the heart of SEND reform through new public engagement campaign.

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-national-conversation-on-send?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=603818b2-2c2c-4915-b768-203554bd0b49&utm_content=immediately

Recent heating issues in the Harris Centre

As you may know there was a recent issue with the boiler in the Harris Centre which has now been rectified.

Please see timeline of actions:

- Tuesday, 25th of November the boiler stopped working
- Tuesday, 25th of November the boiler engineer attended and managed to start the heating
- Friday, 28th of November the heating goes off again
- Friday, 28th of November installed blow heaters for all classrooms and monitored temperatures. Readings varied from 19 to 21 degrees
- Monday, 1st of December parts were received to complete the repair on the boiler. Blow heaters switched on from 7AM and monitored temperatures. Readings varied from 19 to 21 degrees
- Tuesday 2nd of December boiler engineer attended and completed the repair.



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Dear Parents/ Carers,

Children's Contenance Product Ordering Service, Wandsworth

We have been informed that the NHS in Wandsworth is no longer receiving any new referrals for continence products and as of January 2026 products that go to existing families will stop; continence supplies will no longer be provided.

The NHS/ ICB will continue to fund products only for children who are receiving Children's Continuing Care for medical needs and continence issues, which is only a very small number of children.

As this will almost certainly be a concern and an issue for existing users of this service and for those who might in the near future need this support, the school nursing team have tried to provide some basic signposting and advice, in collaboration with the ICB.

For those that are already receiving supplies from CLCH/ NHS Supply Chain, most of these pads can be subscription bulk bought via Amazon but there will be other suppliers too and there are some links provided.

Families whose children are not receiving Disability Living Allowance (DLA) may need assistance in applying for it, which could help cover the costs of these products. Most health visitors, specialist nurses and community nursing teams can help to fill in DLA applications, though these are time consuming and would be down to the capacity of the individual teams. The ICB have also arrange for Wandsworth SEND in Mind to provide support for families.

Local Citizens Advice (CAB) offices can also help with financial advice and DLA form filling. Families should aim to provide medical evidence in the form of recent clinic letters listing the child or young person's health conditions and diagnoses, treatment plans etc., to support their applications.



The school nursing team at Linden Lodge School will have limited capacity to help with DLA applications but will be happy to offer any advice or signposting as necessary and can support with measuring children and young people for sizing.

Please find a list of suppliers and agencies that may offer help:

[Incontinence Choice | UK Incontinence Shopping Destination](#)
[Incontinence Pads & Pants for Men and Women | Incontinence Supermarket](#)
[Our Daily Solutions | Attends | Attends](#)
[Amazon.co.uk: Drylife](#)
[Amazon.co.uk: Attends - 311514](#)

Help with DLA forms:

[Home - Citizens Advice Wandsworth](#)
[Citizens Advice Merton and Lambeth](#)
[Citizens Advice Sutton](#)

Advice around continence:

[Information and advice - ERIC](#)

Funding and Grant Support

[Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\) - Wandsworth Borough Council](#)

[AfCinfo website - Kingston and Richmond:: Home](#)

Kind Regards

School Nursing Team

gesh is a collaboration between St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust. We're working to create an outstanding healthcare experience.

NHS Education Wellbeing Service December EY/Primary Webinars

The SWLSTG Education Wellbeing Service is offering lunchtime and evening parent Webinars across the year to help support your child's wellbeing and mental health.

You can sign up to any of their free webinars by copying these URL's:

Early Years:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/early-years-parents-nhs-wellbeing-workshops-3573849?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=creatorshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=odclsxcollection&utm-source=cp&aff=escb>

Primary Years:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/primary-parents-nhs-wellbeing-workshops-682309?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=creatorshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=odclsxcollection&utm-source=cp&aff=escb>

Festive Concert Schedule

| Department | Classes | Date | Time | Location | Winter Concert Title |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------|----------------|----------------------------|
| Sixth Form and Alba | SF1 SF2 SF3 Trombone Tabla Gamelan | Tuesday 9th December 2025 | 10.30am | SPACe | Winter Extravaganza |
| Primary and Alba | Guitar Violin Ukulele Drum Harp | Wednesday 10th December 2025 | 10am | SPACe | Christmas Around the World |
| Early Years | Maracas Tambourine | Wednesday 10th December 2025 | 10 am | Jasmine Centre | Festive Fun |
| Secondary | Oboe Clarinet Kalimba Piano | Wednesday 10th December 2025 | 2pm | SPACe | Winter Festival |
| Minerva | Minerva 1 Minerva 2 Minerva 6thF Bassoon Flute | Friday 12th December 2025 | 11am | SPACe | A Winter Adventure |

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day will take place on Thursday 11th December.



Christmas Lunch
Thursday 11th December

Turkey (Halal)
Roast potatoes
Yorkshire puddings
Stuffing
Brussel sprouts, parsnips,
mixed vegetables
Gravy

Vegan option
Butternut squash tart,
Vegetable pie (Gluten free)

Vegan mince pies or
vegan Christmas pudding
served with optional double/whipped
cream

**Christmas
Jumper
Day** 



Calling ALL siblings!

Are you a brother or sister who loves getting involved and making things happen?

Siblings Host at Linden Lodge (SH@LL) are looking for new members to join our committee. Since starting in 2020, we have had some amazing events made by siblings for siblings including: cooking classes, scavenger hunts, sports days and a trip to Gravity!

We are looking for more of you to join our team/committee. We meet online around three times a year to plan upcoming events and share ideas.

If you'd like to join or learn more, please contact me on: spencer@lindenlodge.org.uk