



# LLS News

01/05/2026



Dear families

We are delighted to share that Linden Lodge is being considered as a Beacon School for The School Food Project. Beacon Schools are centres of excellence for food. The project is a whole school programme which brings together five leading food and education organisations; Bike Back, Chefs in Schools, Jamie Oliver Group, School Food Matters and the Food Foundation to support schools to set the standard for outstanding food. Next week our Catering Team will be welcoming a Chef Trainer who will observe our kitchen team during lunch preparation and service during their visit. The School Food Project will let us know in June if we have been selected as a Beacon School.

Thank you to everyone who has already completed our survey for parents and carers. If you haven't completed it yet please click on this link to share your views <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/87dchDCwmr>. We always appreciate your feedback.

Have a lovely bank holiday weekend.  
School reopens at 8.50am on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May.

## Events and dates to remember

### Summer Term



#### Dates



#### May Day Bank Holiday

Monday 4th May  
2026

#### Half-Term Holiday

Monday 25th May  
2026-Friday 29th May  
2026

#### Inset Day 5 (no students)

Monday 1st June  
2026

#### Last day for students

Thursday 16th July  
2026

#### Planning and Preparation Day

Friday 17th July 2026

#### Planning and Preparation Day

Monday 20th July  
2026

## Star of the Week



**Lara** for engaging beautifully in activities with a peer partner and using her voice to laugh and show happiness.

**Fara** for doing some amazing work exploring her voice this week. Fara did some focused intensive interaction using her new favourite resource- the microphone!

**Jay** for having an incredible session on the Eye Gaze. Jay was able to look at the 'good morning' symbol multiple times throughout morning group to greet his friends!





# Linden Lodge Transition and Careers Fair 2026

Thursday 14th May 10.30-2.00  
Isobel Family Centre, Linden Lodge School

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to invite you to our upcoming Careers and Transition Fair, taking place on Wednesday 14th May from 10:30am to 2.00pm in the Isobel Centre.

This event will bring together a wide range of providers from across the country, including colleges, employers, charities, and many other organisations. It's a fantastic opportunity to explore the different pathways and support available, ask questions, and gain valuable insight into future options.

We are planning for this to be a fun, engaging, and informative day for everyone involved. There will be plenty to see, learn, and experience, making it a valuable event for both students and families.

We hope you can join us for what promises to be an exciting and inspiring event. Please let us know if you are able to attend by completing this [form](#).

Warm regards,  
Alex Stylianou  
Careers Teacher

## Learning@Linden Lodge in Early Years

The children in EYFS have been enjoying their new topic of ' The Weather. '

They had a great time during a Lets Pretend Session, acting as scientists while exploring sinking and floating. They used a range of class objects to explore, make predictions and test what would sink or float, sharing their ideas and observations, engaging their senses and building confidence as they tried a new activity.

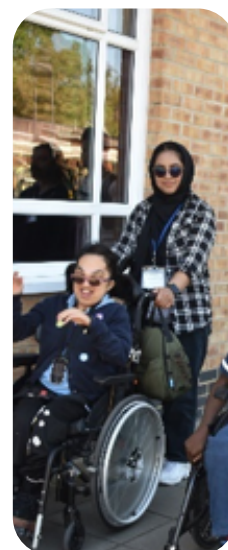
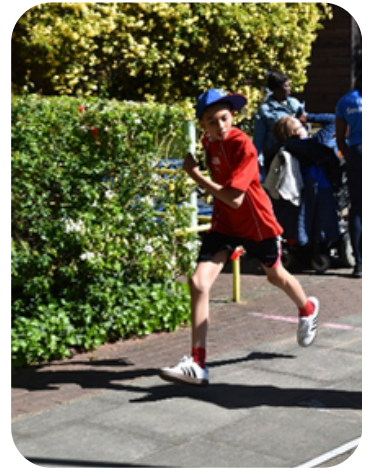
The children have also shown great engagement towards the different elements of weather within topic time sessions and using all their senses to find out what different elements feel, look and sound like.

The children all did so well in completing the school Mini Maarathon we were so proud of their determination and pleasure they showed taking part in this event .

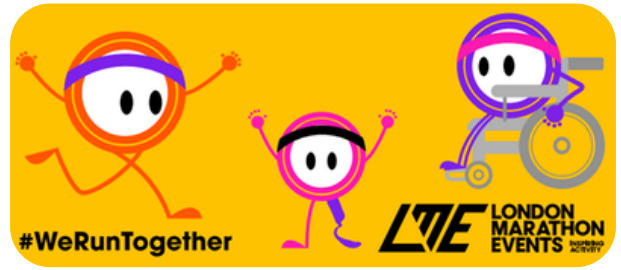


# MINI LONDON MARATHON 26 IN SCHOOLS

The whole school took part in the Mini London Marathon 2026. We walked, ran, used a wheelchair, a walker, or a therapy bike to complete laps of the playground. Students were excited to receive their medal at the finish line. A huge thank to the PE Team for organising such a fun event to encourage healthy habits while building confidence and resilience.



# Learning@Linden Lodge



Dear Families and Carers,

Thank you for joining our coffee mornings this year. It was wonderful to gather all together, share experiences and have the opportunity to chat with one another. We would love your help in shaping our future coffee mornings. Please, share your recommendations for future topics, discussions and speakers you would be interested in hearing from next year.



Thank you again for your participation and we hope we stay connected.

Please, get in touch with Lina, one of our Sixth Form teachers, to share your ideas:  
[Itsianaka@lindenlodge.org.uk](mailto:Itsianaka@lindenlodge.org.uk)

All recommendations are welcomed!

## Transitioning to adulthood

### Voting

People with a vision impairment have the right to vote independently and in secret, but, in practice, this is often not happening. Currently, many rely on those supporting them to fill out the ballot according to their wishes. This week we focus on how voting can be made accessible to those with a vision impairment.

### Reasonable adjustments

We recommend supporting your family member to request the reasonable adjustments which are best suited to their needs, as soon as possible, via your local authority's electoral services department. Reasonable adjustments include:

- Tactile, audio-tactile, and audio voting devices.
- Additional lighting.
- Large print ballots.
- Magnifiers.
- Sighted guide assistance.

The McGonagle Reader is an audio-tactile device considered by RNIB to be the current best option for voting independently and in secret. Please find a photo and links to access more information below:

<https://www.pakflatt.com/product-mcgonagle-reader>

<https://www.pakflatt.com/videos>



RNIB have created templates for anyone wishing to request a tactile or audio-tactile voting device through their local authority, including the McGonagle Reader. These templates can be accessed below:

<https://change.rnib.org.uk/page/187578/action/1?ea.tracking.id=web>

Reasonable adjustments are available for people with other accessibility needs too, including seats for people who need to rest, grips for those who may struggle to hold a pencil, and low-level polling booths for wheelchair users.

People with vision impairments may also choose to vote by proxy or by post. Anyone can vote by post, as long as they request to do so by the appropriate deadline. Reasonable adjustments can also be requested when voting by post, e.g., a large print ballot. Voting by proxy is when someone casts a vote on behalf of someone else. If your family member wants to vote by proxy, they will need to explain why it is challenging for them to vote in a polling station.

### **Deciding who to vote for**

Deciding who to vote may feel overwhelming. Some of our students may benefit from Easy Read manifestos which omit the jargon, and use clear, everyday language. Organisations such as Mencap campaign for all political parties to release Easy Read manifestos, alongside their full manifestos. The most recent can be found below. Not all parties chose to release Easy Read manifestos.

<https://www.mencap.org.uk/general-election-2024-easy-read-manifestos>

My Vote My Voice have also released their own Easy Read guides on the parties:

<https://www.myvotemyvoice.org.uk/resource/my-vote-my-voice-easy-read-guide-to-englands-main-political-parties/>

<https://www.myvotemyvoice.org.uk/resource/my-vote-my-voice-easy-read-guide-to-englands-smaller-political-parties/>

United Response have created Easy Read guides comparing each parties' policies.

<https://www.unitedresponse.org.uk/resource/easynews-party-comparison/>

It is important to note that all of these Easy Read guides were released prior to the last general election, so some information may have changed.

### **Photo ID**

When we think of photo ID, most of us probably think of driving licences and passports, but there are many forms of ID that our students can obtain, which don't require them to have either. Many of our students have a Freedom Pass or a Blue Badge, both of which can be used as photo ID for voting. Other options include PASS cards and citizen cards which can be used to prove age and ID:

<https://www.postoffice.co.uk/identity/pass-card>

<https://www.citizencard.com/apply-for-a-uk-id-card-online>

It is also possible to obtain a free certificate which can be used to vote:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate>



## Join our school on Classlist

*The parent app that brings you into the heart of our school community*

- ✓ Get in touch with parents in our school
- ✓ See what's coming up for you and your child
- ✓ Find like-minded friends in our community
- ✓ Organise meet-ups and birthday parties
- ✓ Buy event tickets & RSVP to invitations

*I'm in the loop with essential updates*

*I can ask the parents in my child's class questions*

*It helps me see who's who at my school and see who lives nearby*



*Now I know who my child is friends with, I can get in touch with their parents*

*I can buy and sell pre-loved clothing, books and household items*

*I can organise my child's birthday and see who's coming*

### Is Classlist moderated?

Yes! It's moderated by parents to keep our community friendly, welcoming and useful.

### Is Classlist secure?

Yes! It's fully GDPR-compliant and private; only verified school parents can join.

### How much information do I need to share?

You're in control of your profile info and notification settings!



**Build amazing parent communities**

Connect - Celebrate - Collaborate