



Newsletter

8th May 2026



Upcoming Events

Week of 11th May:

Mon - Thurs Year 6 SATS

Week of 18th May:

Thurs 21st Y5 Class assembly

Week of 25th May: HALF TERM

Week of 1st June watch this space

Week of 8th June:

Thurs 11th Y3 Class assembly

Week of 15th June: watch this space

Week of 22nd June:

Thurs 25th Y1 Class assembly

Week of 29th June:

Mon 29th June Y6 Swimming begins (2 weeks)

Thurs 2nd July Y4 Class assembly

Week of 6th July: watch this space

Week of 13th July:

Friday 17th July last day of term - school ends at 2pm

See our website or click here for all [term dates](#)
for the academic year 2025/2026.

In the Newsletter today
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Message from Ms Liney

At Robert Blair, we are lucky to have some of our children from babies to the time they leave for secondary school. In this week's newsletter, I'd like to mention both.

On page 2, you will see we have included a page dedicated to the Under 3s. This will be a regular feature from now on, to share updates and recommendations for families of our youngest children. We are very pleased to have recently recruited some skilled Early Years Educators - Shanika and Laura will be starting in the next couple of weeks to join Folami's team. One of them actually came to Robert Blair as a toddler herself and Folami was her keyworker - a testament to the excellent start given by our Under 3s! We still have spaces available in our Early Years, so do spread the word (see page 8).

Next week will be all about our oldest children as Year 6 have their SATS. The teaching team have done an amazing job at keeping the children's morale and enjoyment levels high whilst ensuring they are well prepared and ready for to do their best. Of course, their learning has been built on throughout their years at school. Thank you for supporting and encouraging your child to complete revision over the past few months. This weekend, the best thing they can do is have fun with friends and family (as well as keeping to regular bedtimes and getting some good sleep!). We wish Year 6 all the best and congratulations for all their hard work.

Ms Liney, Head of School

House Points

4,590

Paradise park

5,310

Clock Tower

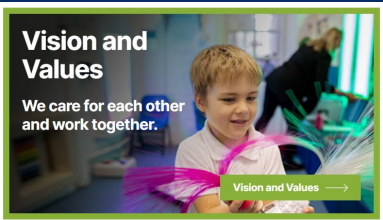
4,430

Cally Bridge

4,350

Market Road





Under 3s



Welcome to our new Under 3's newsletter page! This will provide important updates, news and recommendations.

Screen Time: New UK Guidance for Parents

Screen time is part of modern family life; but it comes with challenges. New UK evidence-based guidance helps parents decide from what age, how often, how much and what children could watch.

Why limits matter?

Excessive screen time is linked to missed opportunities for: conversation and bonding, free play and creativity, language and social skills, good-quality sleep.

Key recommendations:

- Under 2s: Avoid screen time.
- Ages 2 to 5: Aim for maximum 1 hour per day (but less is better)
- Avoid completely social media and short fast past videos
- Choose slow-paced, simple content with clear language that you watch together and talk about what you see with your child.
- Create screen-free zones (especially bedrooms)
- Completely avoid screens 1 hour before bedtime
- Swap screens for reading time, play, and conversation, especially during meal time and family time.



And remember that around 90% of brain development happens before age 5. Used thoughtfully, screens can support learning, but moderation and active parenting are key.

More information on: <https://beststartinlife.gov.uk/screen-time-under-5s/>



Under 3's art work
We were inspired to create our own Under the Sea artwork this week. We used different coloured paints to create fish and seaweed and layered these to create a classroom display.



Reception 2026



Starting Reception Parent/Carer workshops

The Family Hubs Early Years Therapies team, together with the Health Visiting service & Early Years Foundation Stage Team, are running workshops for Parents / Carers with advice and practical tips for children around starting reception.

Parents and carers are invited to join us for a workshop where we will share ideas and helpful steps with them around starting reception including what parents/carers can do at home to build their child's development, confidence and independence for starting reception. Please can you share with your teams and families you work with.

Booking can be made via Eventbrite using the links on the poster for the events below:

[Register for Wednesday 29th April, 9.30-10.30am, Archway Children's Centre](#)

[Register for Wednesday 13th May, 1:30 – 2:30pm, Online – MS Teams](#)

For further queries, please contact: Family Hubs Universal Therapies team: whh-tr.universaltherapiestraining@nhs.net

Bright Start ISLINGTON For a more equal future

ISLINGTON For a more equal future

NHS Whittington Health NHS Trust

STARTING RECEPTION

Workshop for Parents / Carers with advice and practical tips for children starting reception

The Family Hubs Universal Therapies Team, Health Visiting service & Early Years Foundation Stage Team will provide advice on:

- Growing Independence
 - Building Communication & Relationships
 - Physical Development
 - Healthy Routines

Wednesday 15th April 9.30-10.30am
New River Green Children's Centre
23 Ramsey Walk London N1 2SX

[Click here to register](#)

Wednesday 22nd April 9:30 – 10:30am
Bemerton Children's Centre
1a Carnoustie Drive, N1 0DX

[Click here to register](#)

Wednesday 29th April 9.30-10.30am
Archway Children's Centre
Vorley Road, N19 5HE

[Click here to register](#)

Wednesday 13th May 1:30 – 2:30pm
ONLINE – MS Teams

[Click here to register](#)

Choose a date & register with EventBrite by scanning the QR code or using the link.

Unfortunately we cannot provide a creche so are asking if you can please come to the workshop while your child is at nursery.



HOME START SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES



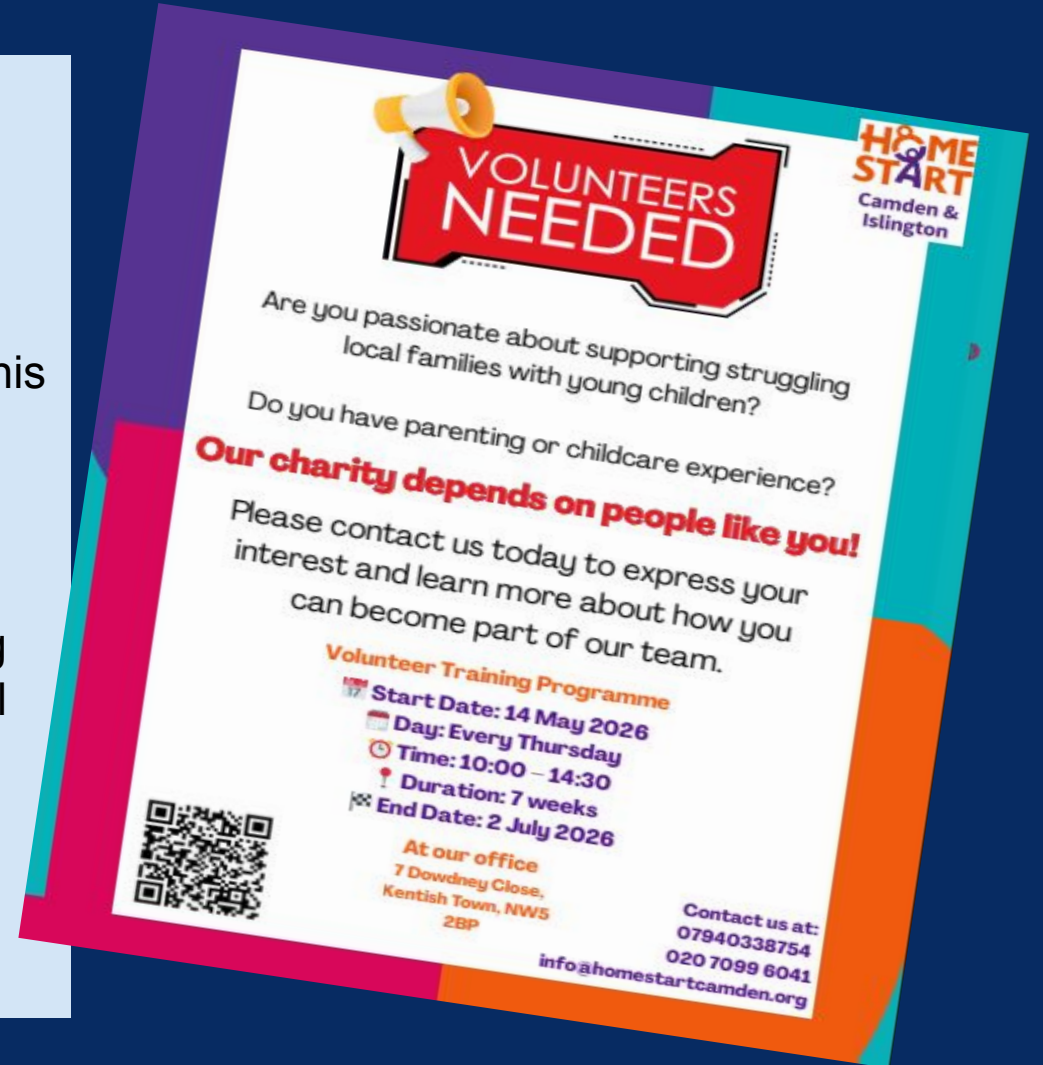
Home-Start Camden and Islington is a local charity with more than 30 years of experience that offers free, confidential mental and practical support to parents that have at least one child under 5.

To make a referral for someone or yourself please follow this link:

<https://homestartcamdenandislington.org.uk/referrals-2/>

Home start are also recruiting for new Volunteer Training starting May 14th and they would really like to have local parents as part of their amazing team.

To express interest please call or WhatsApp Eleni at 07940338754.





National Year of
Reading 2026

National Year of Reading



Using hobbies to help your child read

Many parents find that, while their children are happy to spend hours kicking a football around, watching TV or listening to music, they don't always show the same enthusiasm for reading and writing. But the hobbies that children love can be a great way to get them reading, writing and chatting. You'll also find that they can naturally help to boost language and communication skills.

Read these five tips on how to make the most of your child's passion:

1. Exploring outside

If your child prefers getting muddy in the garden to staying indoors, you can use their love of the outdoors to chat and learn. Spotting plants and wildlife can help with memory skills and teach them new words.

2. Music

Learning lyrics can be a fun way to read and improve memory. Challenge your child to learn all the words to a new song. If they like music, ask them to write their own lyrics!

3. Finding out

Lots of children enjoy reading factual books to learn more about the world around them. If your child enjoys learning about the past, they might like *Horrible Histories*, which enables children to learn about history in a funny and entertaining way.

4. Getting creative

Following instructions and recipes to make something or expressing an idea can help boost literacy levels.

5. Football and sports

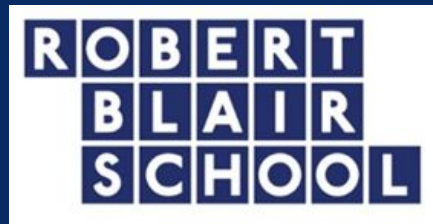
Reading newspaper reports, learning players' names and talking about matches can all help improve reading and communication.

For more information click on this [link](#).





Attendance and Punctuality Matters



Attendance for the last week

Our whole school attendance this academic year is 93.4%

Holidays during term time.
A reminder that, like all Islington schools, we do not authorise holidays taken in term time. Some parents may believe that there is a right to a certain number of days holiday during term time. This is not true. **You may be served with a Penalty Notice or a summons to court for your child/ren's unauthorised absence once your child turns 5 years old and will incur a fine from the Local Authority.**

This is below the national average of 94.6%

Extended Day Provision
8-8.45 am Breakfast club
8.45-9am Soft Start
9am Registration
(any child arriving after 9am is marked as late)
3.15pm Collection time
3.30-4.45 Enrichment clubs
3.30-6pm extended day provision.

Africa class (Reception)	95.2%
Antarctica (Year 1)	89.2%
South America (Year 2)	98.1%
Oceania (Year 3)	98.8%
Europe (Year 4)	93.0%
Asia (Year 5)	95.2%
North America (year 6)	95.7%

Class with the highest attendance this week is:

Oceania (Year 3)

Please help us raise the attendance level across the school by ensuring you send your child to school every day.

Be Mindful
Be Ready
Be Safe

Behaviour Policy Reminders

At Robert Blair, our behaviour system has different stages

Statement of Intent:

Good behaviour is essential for effective teaching and learning to take place. A sound approach to behaviour management is a vital foundation for the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of children. At Robert Blair, we believe that pupils and staff have the right to work in an environment that is safe, friendly, peaceful and fair. Good behaviour must be carefully developed and supported. It is the responsibility of parents and carers to work with the school in helping their children to behave well.

There are consequences for inappropriate behaviour. After class teachers have implemented a range of behaviour strategies (for low level behaviour), one verbal warning will be given before the child's card is changed to blue. The following system will be employed. These are displayed on the whole class behaviour chart and serve as a visual reminder to children.

Gold card when a child has demonstrated exceptional behaviour. When a child gets 15, 30, 50 and 100 gold cards, their achievement is acknowledged in assembly with specific rewards.

Green card Each child will start the day on green. If they remain on green all week they will get a green sticker on Friday.

Blue card After a clear warning, the card will be changed to blue card. It is expected that the child will improve their behaviour; when the behaviour improves, they will be moved **back to green**.

Orange card When a child receives an orange warning, they are sent to the reflection table for a fixed period of time. During this period, they will reflect on their behaviour choices.

Red card When a child receives a red warning, the Pastoral and Welfare Lead is informed. A restorative conversation will take place during lunch time as a form of reflection. Parents will be informed of the red sanction and a letter will be issued. Behaviour will be logged on our behaviour system. Parents may be contacted to discuss the behaviour further if needed.

Each class will also have in-class rewards

The School has high expectations around learning behaviour. We have three school rules:

- Be mindful
- Be ready
- Be safe





NURSERY and UNDER 3s SPACES AVAILABLE for September 2026



Spaces available for September 2026

We are pleased to share that we have a small number of spaces available in our Baby and Toddler Rooms in September 2026. We also have some spaces available in our Nursery. If you are in need of a space or know of someone who may be interested in either a part time place of two and half days or a full time place of five days please do follow the link below to make an inquiry.

Under 3s -

<https://www.robertblairschool.com/childrens-centre/admissions/>

Nursery -

<https://www.robertblairschool.com/parents-carers/admissions/>



2026 – 2027 term dates

August 26						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 26						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 26						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 26						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 26						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 27						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 27						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						


March 27						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 27						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 27						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 27						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July 27						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

 Inset Day
(no school for students)

 Bank Holiday

 School Holidays