

Dear Parent/Carers,

**Thought of the week:** There are two primary choices in life; to accept conditions as they exist, or accept the responsibility for changing them." **(Denis Waitley)**

**Black History Month:** Inspiring, entertaining and educational: Redbridge's 2023 Black History Month will be its biggest-ever celebration of black history and culture.

With over 30 events this October, the borough will be brimming with history, dance, music, food, family craft events, readings, exhibitions, and so much more.

Local stories will be told, including that of James Alexander, who set up a housing association in Ilford back in 1969. He and his wife worked tirelessly to ensure that those who needed it had a warm, safe and equipped home. They went further than bricks and mortar, building a caring local community that helped each other out, many rallying together to help furnish people's homes once they had a roof over their heads.

James' daughter, Joanna Alexander, said, "My father was very much a pioneer, not letting anything hold back his drive to take care of people in Ilford. This started in the late '60s, but he was unrelenting in advocating for safe homes for everyone right through the rest of his life. I am proud to tell his story through my film, The Homemaker, and in the exhibition on 19th October. If you're free, come along and see some emotive historical photos, watch my short film and hear his story."

The Leader of Redbridge Council, Councillor Jas Athwal, said: "In Redbridge, diversity is our strength and we know how important it is to celebrate our communities, our faiths, and the achievements of those who came before us.

"We've been working with numerous community groups and partners, to create a programme of events and activities that's brimming with Black History Month celebrations. This October, alongside the joy of music and the performing arts, we're shining a light on local stories of achievement, perseverance, and generosity, to enable all our communities to find out about and celebrate black history together."

Everyone in Redbridge is invited to celebrate Black History Month, dance, eat delicious food, learn about black history in the borough, and have fun together.

Whether it's popping into an exhibition on your way through Ilford to spending an afternoon or an evening crafting or listening to live music, this is an opportunity for all communities in Redbridge to come together.

[The full list of events is available to view on the Vision website.](#)



**Palestine and Israel Conflict:** We are all saddened and appalled at the level of violence and life loss during the recent events in the Middle East. The Palestine and Israel conflict will be close to all our hearts as with other areas of conflict. During this very difficult time, I ask that we remain calm and vigilant focussing our efforts on constructive avenues of making our voices of peace being heard. I would ask that you be mindful of what the children are seeing on television (especially any graphic scenes). With all our children, please reassure them about their safety and give them time to talk about what they understand and feel. Older children may have stronger views and it is essential that you allow them to voice their views at home and assist with any misinformation or misconceptions. Activism for Peace is a great way to help us and our children process and get through this difficult time. We may have families who are directly affected by the conflict and we offer you a safe space to talk to us. We will support all our families, as always.

As always we celebrate the children's achievements

**Gold Awards:** Noor. A- 6Y

**Achievement Awards for PE/Dance:** Oluwasemilore. S-1R, Inaya. S-1 Y, Rudren. M-1G, Ayaan. R, Zayaan. P-1 B, Anaya. M-2R, Yousaf. J-2Y, Helena. P-2G, Jamina. K-2B, Brianna. V-3R, Mohammed. S-3Y, Divam. B-3G, Isabella. T-3B, Yuvraj. S-4R, Alex. R-4Y, Hayder. S-4G, Aarush. S-4B, Adnan. A-5R, Leonard. D-5G, Minahil. A-5Y, Layla. M-5B, Laila. S-6R, Haider. C-6Y, Kiara. G-6G, Maya. I-6B  
**Well done everyone!**

**Secondary School Applications for Yr-6:** Please remember to get your Year 6 child's application in by the deadline of **31st October 2023**.

**Secondary School- Open Evenings:** Please note that there are open evenings at various Redbridge Secondary Schools, over the next few weeks. Our main feeder schools are Valentines, Wanstead and Beal High. All the dates and information are available on the Redbridge Council website. This is especially important for the current Year 6 pupils, who will be moving on at the end of the year.

Applications for Secondary School places for **September 2024** close at the end of **October 2023**. As usual, we will be offering sessions in school for parents who require support in completing the applications.

**Attendance: Good attendance= good progress**

**Parent Meetings-Monday 30th October - 8.30am-3.30pm** \*appointments to be booked via **School Ping** -Please refer to the School Ping message which was sent last week to all parent/carers to book your appointment with the class teacher, to discuss your child's progress. This term we will offer face to face meetings on **Monday 30th October** from 8.30am-3.30pm.

# KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## **Flu Vaccinations on Friday 10th and Monday 27th November 2023:**

We have the following dates for the flu vaccination which will take place on **Friday 10th November and Monday 27th November 2023** for all the children from Reception through to year 6. Please find the link below for the E-consent form. Please note that the portal shuts 2 days before the session, so it is important parents complete the form as soon as possible. This year, your child will be offered the nasal spray as well as the gelatine free alternative which is an injection. The nasal spray is more effective for young people however, if any parent wishes for their child to receive the flu injection instead of the nasal spray, they will need to consent to the vaccination and then you will be given the option of nasal spray or injection. The use of e-consent means that parents are notified that their child has been vaccinated immediately at the point of care. Please use this link which you can copy and paste into your Google search field and click on "START HERE " this will take you to the form which you need to complete for your child <https://london.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2023/redbridge> If you have any questions please contact the Flu vaccination team on 0203 343 2400 option 3.

## **Online Safety, TikTok and Other Social Media Checklists:**

While **cybersecurity** protects **devices** and **networks** from harm by third parties, Online Safety protects the **people** using them from harm by the devices and networks (and therefore third parties) through awareness, education, information and technology.

Online Safety is being aware of the nature of the possible threats a person could encounter whilst engaging in activity through the Internet, these could be security threats, protecting and managing personal data, online reputation management, and avoiding harmful or illegal content.

\*Please create/go over some rules with your child/ren about online safety and screen time. Remind them of how important online safety is.

Internet Matters have a good range of guides that help parents with family pairing (where available), privacy settings, reporting and much more. This is a really helpful resource to support you to set parental controls. Please click on the link below

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/social-media/>

Thank you for all your support.

**Children Centre Services for Redbridge residents:** Please find attached Autumn Term brochure for the Children's Centres services that are available for free to the residents of London Borough of Redbridge. If you prefer an online version then please visit the link below:

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/?pid=MzU352547>

For their latest timetables of services, including information on how to book, please visit their website via link below or the QR code:

<https://find.redbridge.gov.uk/childrenscentres>

**Car Park Etiquette - A polite reminder:** 1. Please use the parking bays available- This is for the safety of our children

2. Please DO NOT block other vehicles

3. If you have blocked someone - please

apologise politely on your return and don't do it again

4. Please travel through the car park in an orderly manner

5. We all have to model good examples to our children - stay

polite at all times! **Please be aware that we will be talking to parents regarding inappropriate conduct.**

## **Key Dates for this Term**

### **Term Dates for 2023-2024**

**Autumn Term:** Monday 4th September-  
Wednesday 20th December 2023

**Half term break:** Monday 23rd October-Friday  
27th October 2023

**Spring Term 2024:** Thursday 4th January-  
Thursday 28th March 2024

**Half term break:** Monday 19th February-  
Friday 23rd February 2024

**Summer Term 2024:** Monday 15th April- to  
Tuesday 23rd July 2024

**Half term break:** Monday 27th May to Friday  
31st May 2024

### **Inset Days 2023-2024:**

**30th October 2023-Parent/Carer consultations from 8.30am-3.30pm in person**

**26th February 2024**

**3rd June 2024**

**Half term break: Monday 23rd October 2023-  
Friday 27th October 2023-Please note, the school will be closed on Inset days, but will be open for in person parent/carers consultations.**

## **Gratitude towards Year 1 Parents/carers**

As part of our kindness topic, one of our school values, the Year One team has been speaking to the children about how they have demonstrated acts of kindness. Most children and their Year One parents have been generous and extended their acts of kindness by donating food supplies. Their donations enabled the Year One team to contribute to four families. The Year One team extends their gratitude to all!



*Cassim Bana*

Head teacher

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