Message from SLT

Please donate and pass onto family and friends

We're delighted to share that the mother of one of our staff members is running the London Marathon this year to raise funds for the renovation of our hydrotherapy pool. This generous support will help us continue providing an important resource that benefits our students' physical development and wellbeing. If you'd like to donate or share the link, you can find it here: https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/helen-murphy-219?utm_medium=CF&utm_source=CL

End-of-Term Thank You

As we reach the end of this busy and joyful term, we want to extend a heartfelt **thank you to all our families** for your continued support. Your involvement has helped make every event, activity, and shared experience truly meaningful for our pupils and our whole school community.

Across the term, we have seen a wonderful range of **creative, engaging, and child-centred teaching and learning** happening in every class. Staff have worked hard to bring the aims and themes of our curriculum to life in ways that enable our learners to participate, explore, and thrive.

We celebrated **National Careers Week** with tremendous energy, giving pupils opportunities to engage with sensory-rich, accessible activities all linked to the world of work. **World Book Day** was another highlight, carefully designed to ensure all pupils could enjoy the fun of stories, characters, and imaginative play in a way that suited their needs. We even shared a little community love on **Valentine's Day**, spreading kindness and connection across the school.

As we move into the **Easter break**, we hope that all our families enjoy a peaceful, restful, and happy time together. If you have any worries or concerns during the holiday, you can always contact **Andy Smith, Headteacher and/or Lisa Webb** by email at **andy.smith@limetrust.org**, **lisa.webb@limetrust.org** or call the school on **01708 341800**. Someone will ensure your message reaches Andy.

Looking ahead to next term, we are hopeful for brighter, warmer weather. Please do think about **appropriate clothing, hats, and sunscreen** so all pupils can enjoy both indoor and outdoor activities comfortably and safely.

We have a very exciting summer term to look forward to, including our **famous School Fete on 13th June**, our **Prom celebration**

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for leavers in July, and our much-loved **Awards Evening**, where we will once again celebrate the fantastic achievements of our learners. Families will also have the opportunity to **meet teachers** to discuss progress over the year and, where relevant, meet new teachers for classes changing in September 2026.

Thank you once again for your partnership, positivity, and support. We wish you all a wonderful Easter break.

Last Friday, we continued our much-loved school tradition of marking **Red Nose Day** with creativity, colour, and a wonderful sense of community. The whole school came together to celebrate Comic Relief in a way that was fully accessible, engaging, and meaningful for our pupils.

Staff and pupils embraced the day by **dressing up**, adding splashes of red, fun accessories, and plenty of smiles. Across the school, classes took part in **shared learning experiences** designed with our learners' sensory and communication needs at the heart. Activities included tactile exploration, collaborative art, music-making, and practical "making and doing" sessions that encouraged interaction, enjoyment, and participation.

One of the highlights of the day was the fantastic involvement of families. We were delighted to welcome so many parents and carers into classrooms, joining pupils in activities and helping to create a warm and inclusive atmosphere. The sense of partnership, joy, and togetherness was felt throughout the building.

Thanks to everyone's enthusiasm and kindness, we also managed to raise some money for Comic Relief, supporting the important causes behind the day.

A huge thank you to all staff, families, and pupils for making Red Nose Day such a

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positive and memorable experience for our school community

Exciting update on parental campaign to improve SEND provision in hospitals

The parents letter was send to Margate Mullane MP after parents found out that she is already campaigning for improvements at Queens hospital. She has already been in touch and agreed to come to a school coffee morning next term to meet with parents. We will share the date as soon as it's arranged.

Parents' Coffee Morning – A Wonderful Morning of Support

We are delighted to share just how successful last week's **Parents' Coffee Morning** was. The session, held on 24th March, welcomed **Alexander Leatherbarrow**, an advocate working to strengthen and reshape the **Havering Local Offer**, and it proved to be an incredibly valuable and well-received event for our families.

Alexander's warm and approachable style created a relaxed environment where parents and carers felt comfortable to ask questions, discuss concerns, and share personal experiences. Many families commented on how useful and reassuring the session was, particularly in understanding the support available for children with complex needs, SEND pathways, and barriers to access across the borough.

There were **lots of thoughtful questions**, and the discussion highlighted just how important clear, accessible information is for families navigating multiple services. Alexander provided practical guidance and insights into the changes being made within Havering, helping families and school staff alike feel more confident about where to find support and how to access the right services.

The information shared will help both **families and the school** continue to make the best use of the wide range of valuable resources available within Havering and beyond. We are grateful to all the parents and carers who attended and contributed to such a positive and collaborative morning.

A huge thank you once again to Alexander for giving his time and expertise, and to our families for their continued partnership and engagement.

Pupils of the week

Jojo in Wonder class - for actively engaging in all the outreach activities and using her voice to communicate,

Carl in Bayley class - For shining throughout his session in the Multiverse Room, sitting beautifully and staying fully engaged. He continued this fantastic focus during the rhyming session in the

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classroom. Carl has shown strong listening skills and transitions smoothly within his sessions and school activities.

Jack in Keller class- For showing wonderful growth in independence by feeding himself during snack and lunch time.

Iosif in Weir class- For wearing his hearing aid for more than 30 minutes during his music session.

Joshua in Adepitan class-Working so hard during his rehab at the Evelina - we can't wait to see you back at Ravensbourne

Muhammad in Simmonds class- for fantastic walking whilst out in the community.

26.03.26 Spring term ends
27.03 Inset Day
30.03-10.04 **Holiday Easter**
13.04.26 Summer term begins
15.05.26 Family Coffee Morning
22.05.26 Shared Learning
09.06.26 Family Coffee Morning
13.06.26 School Fete
03.07.26 Shared Learning
10.07.26 Leavers' Prom
17.07.26 Last Day of Summer

Welfare

HAF programme

The Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) is a funded initiative that provides fun activity and food provision for children aged reception to year 11 who are eligible for BENEFIT RELATED Free School Meals during the Easter, Summer and Winter Holidays. For more information or to view and book the funded places available this Easter holiday please visit their webpage where all the Easter HAF programmes and activities are listed www.havering.gov.uk/HAF

With **Easter** fast approaching and chocolate eggs being part of the festivities for some of our learners, NHS has put together an oral health info sheet with specific advice on how to snack safely and reduce the impact on oral health (See poster attached o end of newsletter).

Looking ahead to next term, we are hopeful for brighter, warmer weather. Please do think about **appropriate clothing, hats, and sunscreen** so all pupils can enjoy both indoor and outdoor activities comfortably and safely.

We have added the letter for parents sent by Mark Ansell Director of Public Health for havering, following the recent Meningitis outbreak in Kent. Please take a moment to read it for your information and support.

Sign In and Sign Out Procedures

We have now started using our **Inventory system** to sign learners **in** and **out** of school. To help us keep accurate safeguarding and attendance records, we kindly ask parents and carers to follow the updated procedures:

Signing in:
Please sign your child in using the Inventory system if they arrive **after 9:00am** or return from an appointment.

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Signing out:

If your child needs to leave school **before 2:45pm**, please ensure they are signed out through the system.

These steps help us keep all pupils safe and ensure our records remain up to date. Thank you for your support with this

Safeguarding

Support Services for Families

As we approach the Spring half-term break, we are mindful that though we all want the holiday time fun and happiness, it can also be stressful and very busy for many families. There is also the financial burden it can have on us. Below is a list of trusted services that may be helpful:

NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children)

The NSPCC provides support and resources for families, focusing on the safety and well-being of children.

- **Helpline:** 0808 800 5000
- **Email:** help@nspcc.org.uk
- **Website:** www.nspcc.org.uk

MIND (Mental Health Support)

MIND offers support for mental health challenges, providing resources for both parents and young people.

- **Helpline:** 0300 123 3393
- **Email:** info@mind.org.uk
- **Website:** www.mind.org.uk

SCOPE

SCOPE supports individuals and families affected by disabilities, offering practical advice and assistance.

- **Helpline:** 0808 800 3333
- **Email:** helpline@scope.org.uk
- **Website:** www.scope.org.uk

SENDIASS (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice, and Support Service)

SENDIASS provides free, impartial advice for families navigating SEND-related matters.

- **Contact Number**: 01245 204338
- **Email**: send.iass@essex.gov.uk
- **Website**: Essex SENDIASS

Samaritans Havering:

- **Address:** 107 North Street, Romford, Essex, RM1 1ER
- **Phone:** 116 123 (Free to call, available 24/7)
- **Email:** jo@samaritans.org
- **Website:** www.samaritans.org

This branch offers 24/7 emotional support via telephone and email for anyone experiencing distress or needing someone to talk to. Their location is accessible, with some facilities for those with disabilities We encourage parents and carers to reach out to these

organizations if you require support or have questions about your child's well-being. Our school team is

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also here to help—please don't hesitate to contact us if you need further guidance.

Around school this week…

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Friday 27th March 2026

Ravensbourne News

https://twitter.com/LARavensbourne

www.limeacademyravensbourne.org

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Following on from a recent Coffee Morning session, parents have asked for dough recipes:

Non-Edible Doughs

Shaving foam and baking soda (bicarb of soda) - keep adding bicarb to shaving foam until you get a dry dough that forms a ball.

Conditioner and cornflour: 3 cups of cornflour to one of conditioner. Keep adding either ingredient until the chosen consistency.

Edible doughs

Flour, water and colour and/or flavourings

Moon Sands

Flour and vegetable oil - mix until there are fine breadcrumbs
Flour and coconut oil **-** mix until there are fine breadcrumbs

Cornflour or Custard Powder Gloop
Start with cornflour or custard powder, add small amounts of water at a time until there is a thick liquid cornflour which can be picked up and rolled into balls, which then turn into liquid when put on a tray.

Other doughs
Buy or make stretchy pizza doughs
Use bought pastry
Mix Paxo into a sensory dough
Use slices of bread - white or brown - mixed with water to make a dough

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Happy Easter

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No doubt you will have noticed supermarket shelves are stacked high with chocolate eggs, sweets and sticky treats ready for the Easter holiday. It can be hard to resist sugary snacks, but it's definitely worth considering the impact they could have on your teeth. Each time you eat anything sugary, your teeth are under acid attack, producing harmful acids and increasing the risk of tooth decay. This is why it's very important to only eat sugary foods at mealtimes, limiting the amount of time your mouth is at risk.

of your teeth without missing out on all the fun:

•Brush teeth twice a day for two minutes each time with a fluoride toothpaste, and remember to supervise children's brushing if they're under seven years of age •Enjoy chocolate at mealtimes, rather than nibbling throughout the day •When you've finished a meal, eat a small piece of cheese – it will help to neutralise the acids that cause tooth decay

Try swapping traditional children's Easter activities for some more tooth-friendly ones:

•Swap chocolate eggs for cuddly toys or fancy-dress items •Visit a small zoo or animal sanctuary as a special treat for children in the Easter holidays •Pop some mini glow sticks inside Kinder egg containers and organise an Easter egg hunt in the dark

Reducing your sugar intake won't just benefit your oral health but can also improve your general wellbeing. Just remember to keep everything in moderation and stick to a good oral health care routine.

Have a very happy Easter!

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Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

Mark Ansell
Director of Public Health

Public Health Team
London Borough of Havering
Romford Town Hall, Main Road
Romford RM1 3AR

e publichealth@havering.gov.uk
Date 19/03/2026

www.havering.gov.uk

Dear parent/carer

I am writing to you in relation to the recent outbreak of meningitis in Kent, which has primarily affected university students.

While The UK Heath Security Agency (UKHSA) considers the overall risk to people outside of the Kent area as low, I appreciate that the current situation may be a cause for concern and anxiety for parents and carers in Havering. It is important to note that anyone who has been identified as a close contact of a case of meningitis in the Kent outbreak will have been contacted and followed up by UKHSA for appropriate advice and management.

About meningitis
Meningitis is a broad term used to describe an infection of the lining of the brain and spinal cord. These infections are uncommon but can be very serious if they are not caught and treated early. The Kent outbreak has been associated with a bacteria called *Neisseria meningitidis*, often called Meningococcal disease. The outbreak in Kent has been linked to a particular strain of *Neisseria meningitidis*, called type B (MenB).

Meningococcal disease doesn't spread very easily - the infection is spread through very close contact, which can include prolonged household contact, intimate kissing, or sharing of drinks or vapes.

Signs and symptoms
The most important thing for parents and carers is to know the signs and symptoms of meningitis and to act quickly if they appear:

- a rash that does not fade when pressed with a glass
- sudden onset of high fever
- severe and worsening headache
- stiff neck
- vomiting and diarrhoea
- joint and muscle pain
- dislike of bright lights
- very cold hands and feet
- seizures
- confusion or delirium
- extreme sleepiness or difficulty waking

Many of the early signs of meningitis – vomiting, fever, aches, general tiredness and headaches – are also signs of less serious illnesses. But someone with meningitis will usually become seriously ill in a matter of hours. This is why it is very important to keep checking someone who is ill so you know if they are getting rapidly worse.

remind parents that you can view/read our privacy notices on the Trust website.

Lime Academy Ravensbourne

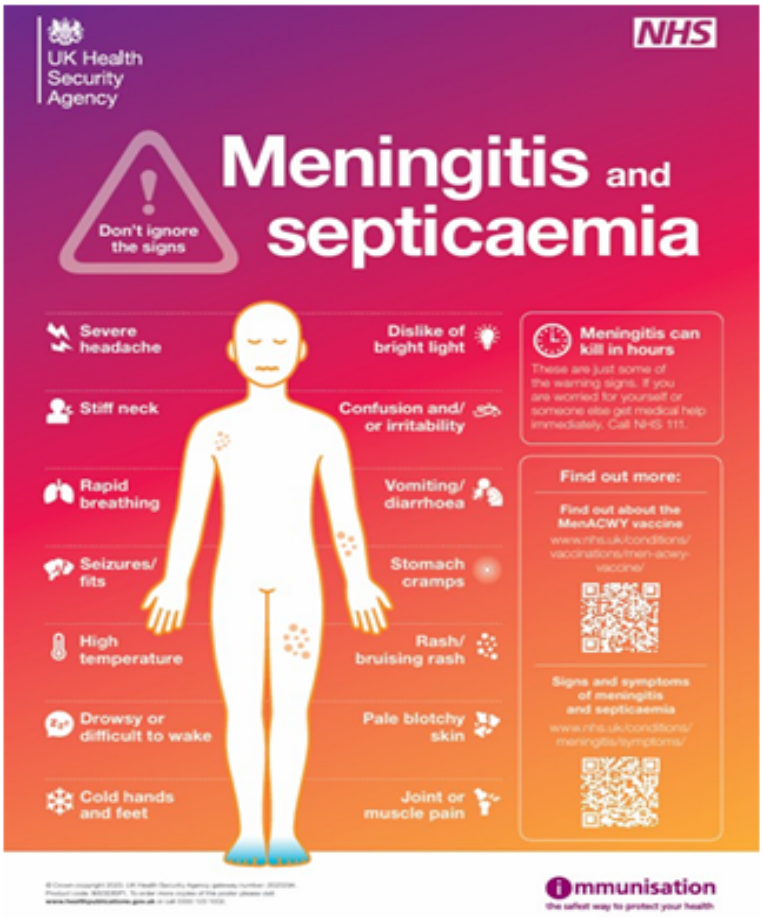
Vaccination
While a MenB vaccine has been routinely offered to children under 2 years since 2015, it is not offered to older children and young people through the NHS. People may choose to access the vaccine privately, but demand is currently extremely high.

A MenACWY vaccine, which offers protection against four other strains of Meningococcal disease is routinely offered to pupils aged 13 and 14 years as part of the in-school immunisation offer, provided by Vaccination UK. Vaccination UK also offers catch-up clinics in the community for those that have missed their MenACWY or other school-aged vaccinations - young people can access this catch-up offer up to the age of 19 (or 25 for young people with SEND).

For more information about meningitis, visit Meningitis - NHS

Yours sincerely,

Mark Ansell, Director of Public Health,
London Borough of Havering



The Havering you want to be part of

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