

Leytonstone School Newsletter

Spring Term 2025



Dear Families,

We have come to end of another busy but productive term at Leytonstone School. And what a term it has been! As you will see from this newsletter there have been so many amazing things taking place.

We wish you all a restful break, a happy Easter to families celebrating and look forward to welcoming pupils back on Wednesday 23rd April

Y10 & Y11 Pupils take on Model United Nations

And just like that, conference season is already over for our Year 10 and Year 11 students on the Model UN programme.

The Year 10 students attended their first ever conference hosted by the American School in London last February 2025. The students spent a full day debating and negotiating resolutions on a range of topics including deforestation, child protection and the education crisis. Our Year 10 students stood their ground well!

The Year 11 students (and two brave Year 10!) on the programme attended their conference at the London School of Economics in March 2025. They spent an entire weekend in specialised committees trying to solve issues ranging from European defence, the rebuilding of health systems in post conflict zones, to the issue of humanitarian aid in Myanmar. Our Leytonstone School students definitely shone bright at this conference and even brought back an award for 'best research paper'.

Forthcoming Dates—Summer Half Term 1 2025

Bank Holiday Monday—Monday 21st April

INSET Day—Tuesday 22nd April

Y8 Parents Evening—Thursday 24th April

Y10 Parents Evening—Thursday 1st May

Bank Holiday Monday—Monday 5th May

May Half Term — Break up on Friday 23rd May



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Culture Day Celebrations

In January Pupil Parliament arranged a range of events to celebrate the wonderful cultures that are represented here at Leytonstone! This year we decided to go bigger and better than ever before, and we expanded our celebrations across the month. We organised workshops so that students could try out different cultural crafts such as origami, henna design and martenitsa, which are decorations used in places like Bulgaria, Romania and Greece to welcome spring. We decorated the school with flags from around the world, and worked with the global ambassadors to run a bake sale full of international treats - we raised an amazing £310! The canteen also helped with the delicious Mexican and Japanese food that they provided.

Throughout the month, students sent in contributions to our Culture Day Art Competition, with some outstanding entries. The overall winner of the £20 voucher was Ruoqi W, with some chocolate going to our incredible runners up, Maisha A, Iris D and Luca M. We are really proud to now be displaying all this beautiful art that expresses who we are as a community. This theme of community felt stronger than ever on Culture Day itself, when we had our photo booth, assemblies and catwalks to show off our best cultural dress, and danced our lunch break away with a performance from the incredible steel pan player, Rahmel Lee. We feel so proud to be part of Leytonstone School, and to share these special moments together .



Winning artwork by Ruoqi



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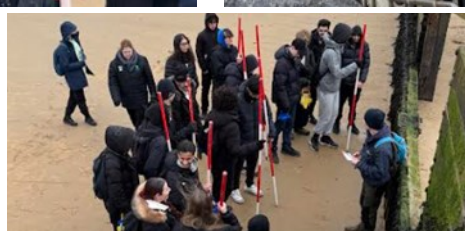
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International women's Day

In March Pupil Parliament designed and delivered assemblies to mark International Women's Day, with the theme for 2025 being 'Accelerate Action'. Jamie-Abigail P, Henry S, Remy L, Rajeevan V and Colby G-B spoke passionately about the need to speed up the fight for gender equality, and gave students suggestions for how to tackle everyday sexism. The audience were then asked to write a pledge to explain how they were going to contribute towards the fight for true gender equality.

Jamie-Abigail P and Harrison B later hosted a panel discussion event, welcoming Waltham Forest Councillor Kizzy Gardiner, who was the first maternity cover MP, as well as Reverend Sarah Moss, an assistant priest at St Andrew's Church next to school. Ms Middleton, Head of Year Seven at Leytonstone, also joined the event to share her experiences. The group had some powerful discussions about expectations on women in the modern day, as well as the impact that 'toxic masculinity' can have. We are really proud of the team for representing the school so well!



Year 11—Geography trips

Year 11 have made both our school and their families proud with their fieldwork in physical and human geography. In Walton on the Naze, they collected data comparing a managed versus an unmanaged beach, testing their hypotheses. While some results were unexpected, they showed great determination and insight.

Just before the holidays, Year 11 headed to the corporate hub of Canary Wharf to examine the impacts of regeneration on people and the environment. To contrast this, they also collected data in Canning Town. Students did an excellent job interviewing the public, with many happy to share their views. It was clear they enjoyed being out in the field, and their enthusiasm was contagious.

On behalf of the Geography Department, we'd like to wish all students the best of luck in their exams and future endeavours. Keep up the fantastic work!



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Sustainability Club

Sustainability Club has been hard at work making a difference and working toward our EcoSchools application! We kicked things off with creative upcycling projects, giving old materials a new life. The students have loved watching their seeds sprout and grow, seeing firsthand how small actions can lead to big, green changes!

We have been sorting through recycling to ensure our school is doing its part to reduce waste and even had a special guest lecture from our site team about what they do to ensure the recycling process runs smoothly at Leytonstone (Thanks Sean, Dave and Adam!)

Now, we're gearing up for Earth Day with exciting assemblies to raise awareness and inspire action. Stay tuned for more eco-friendly initiatives, and keep an eye on our rewilding project where we will be planting wildflowers and helping wildlife to thrive!

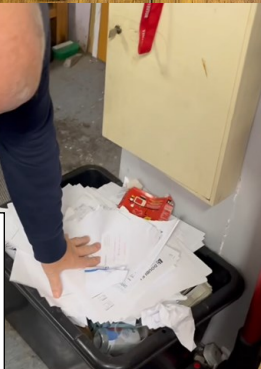


Future rewilding zone



Poster created by a student!

Our recycling expert Dave explains to the students about recycling at Leytonstone



World Book Day Celebrations

Had you walked in Leytonstone School on 6th March 2025 you might have been a little confused about the unusual dress code of our teaching staff. You might have spotted Snape patrolling the corridor, Harry Potter evading his clutches, Miss Trunchbull make the rounds, Scrooge teaching English in his night attire plus a host of other fantastic costumes.

These were only part of the events organised for World Book Day. Students enjoyed seeing their teachers dress up. Groups of Years 7s and 8s enjoyed an inspiring creative writing workshops by Nikki Sheehan who gave them plenty of tricks and ideas about how to create a narrative. Lucky winners of the Golden Ticket where gifted chocolate and a small prize – Willy Wonka would have approved! Students asked teachers about their favourite book, enjoyed a form time quiz. Of course students were given a book token to redeem against a World Book Day Book. This fun event is part of our literacy drive and aims to highlight the joy and importance of reading and literacy.



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UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge Success

Congratulations to all the pupils who took part in this year's UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge. Their hard work and problem-solving skills were on full display, and we are incredibly proud of their achievements.

A special mention to the following pupils who received awards:

Gold – Laurie V.

Silver – Hannah B, Billy C, Iris F, Vitalii H, David M, Alex P

Bronze – Rowan A, Nian B, Arlo B, Ollie G, Khalid I, Soren J, Joe Joe J, Kenneth L, Imran M, Angelo M-G, and Jacob T

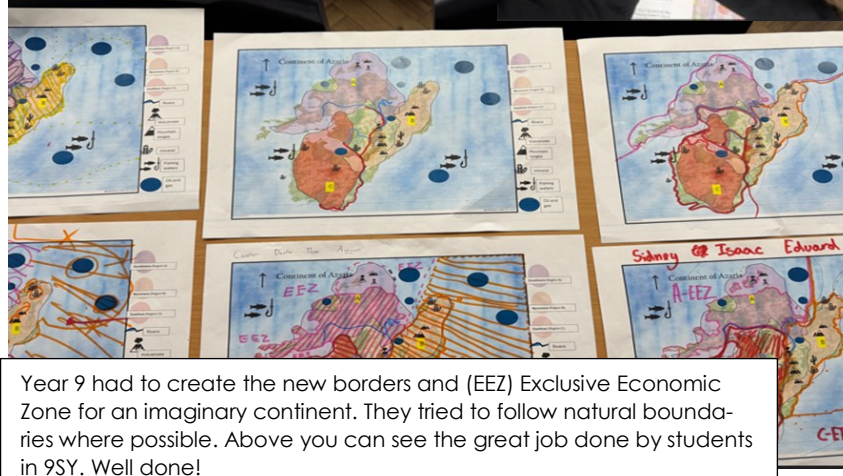
All things Geography

It's been an exciting and enriching term for Geography, with students diving into a variety of fascinating topics. Here's a roundup of the amazing work happening across year groups:

Year 8 have been exploring global development, creating fantastic presentations on country profiles. They also had the chance to participate in the notorious trade game, where they represented LIC, MIC, and HIC countries. It was a competitive experience as countries scrambled to make the most money based on the resources they had – and things definitely got intense!

Year 7 have been delving into the world of geology and, unsurprisingly, they think it rocks! Their enthusiasm and curiosity have made this unit particularly engaging.

Year 9 have been exploring a variety of intriguing topics in their "Strange Geography" unit. From bizarre borders and the geography of Earth's greatest threats, to the mysterious Bermuda Triangle, tornados, and lost places, they've covered a lot of ground. Now, they're turning their focus to the world of ice and the challenges it faces in a rapidly changing climate.



Year 9 had to create the new borders and (EEZ) Exclusive Economic Zone for an imaginary continent. They tried to follow natural boundaries where possible. Above you can see the great job done by students in 9SY. Well done!

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History Trip—imperial War Museum Holocaust Exhibition

This term the History department had the pleasure of taking an excited group of year 9 students on a trip to the Imperial War Museum. They have been learning about the Holocaust throughout term 2, so the History department saw this as a perfect opportunity to take them to the Holocaust Centre for Learning and engage with primary sources and the experienced team the Imperial War Museum have to offer. Students asked intuitive questions and applied the knowledge they had already learned to group discussions led by the museum staff. When walking through the Holocaust centre they were incredibly engaged, looking at the exhibits in detail and with so much understanding and respect. The year 9s had a great day at the museum and were so happy exploring the museum and getting the freedom to see additional exhibits on offer. The trip was not only a treat for the students, but for the Leytonstone Staff who attended (shout out to Mr Kersys-Hull and Mr Muttar for volunteering their time!) and for the History department as a whole in preparation for future trips.



Design & Technology GCSE Practicals—Design Technology pupils have successfully completed their GCSE practicals. The images show a range of architectural work from Graphics, furniture design in RM and garment construction in Textiles. Well done to all pupils!



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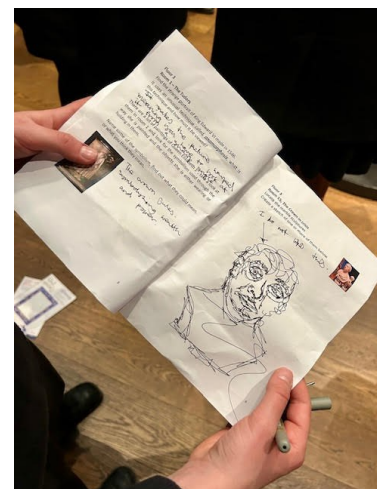
National Portrait Gallery trip—Year 10 GCSE artists visited The National Portrait Gallery in March. They followed a self led exploration of key works and drew and made notes of what they saw. This will influence the direction their own Portrait unit will take later in the term. They behaved impeccably and enjoyed their time learning outside of the classroom.



Competition Winner

Well done to Lucien in year 7 who was the winner of a photography competition by the North London Waste Authority. You can see his artwork below titled 'circle'.

We are super proud of Lucien! Well done!



Careers Week—TED talks

We had a number of different careers come into school during careers week to inspire our pupils about their next steps after secondary school.

Thank you to Ms. Landowska for organising"

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Duke of Edinburgh - Silver & Bronze Training

DofE Silver and Bronze participants had an informative and fun training day this Sunday! With the help of Bright expedition instructors, we covered essential expedition skills—tents, cookers, menus, first aid, and emergency procedures.

We also practiced route planning, map reading, and packing tips to prepare for our upcoming expeditions.



British Science Week

To celebrate science week this year, we had a guest speaker in to speak with pupils during assemblies about careers in science.



HARRY POTTER – WALLA RECORDING

In Spring 2024, Audible and Pottermore Publishing, the global digital Wizarding World publisher, announced brand-new co-productions of the original Harry Potter stories.

Scheduled for release in late 2025, of Harry Potter.

Each of the seven English language audiobooks will be released sequentially for a global audience, and will sit alongside and complement the iconic single-voice English recordings by Stephen Fry and Jim Dale.

As part of the production Leytonstone School was selected to work with Audible to record location sounds / background school voices. 40 of our pupils were amazing in helping to bring these stories to life. Leytonstone School became Hogwarts for the day. The pupils were phenomenal using their voices to shout, speak and sing.

We are so proud of them and the amazing opportunity and they will all be a part of history in the recordings.



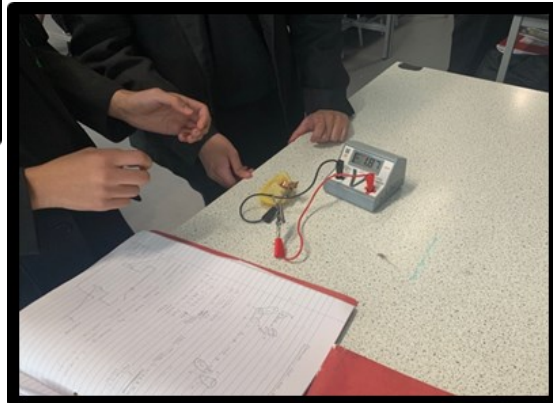
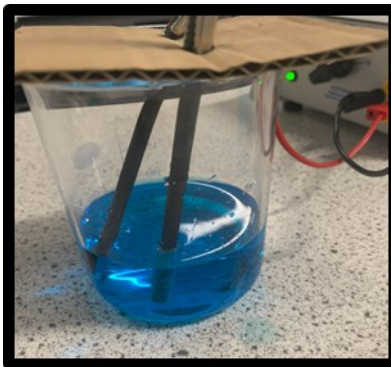
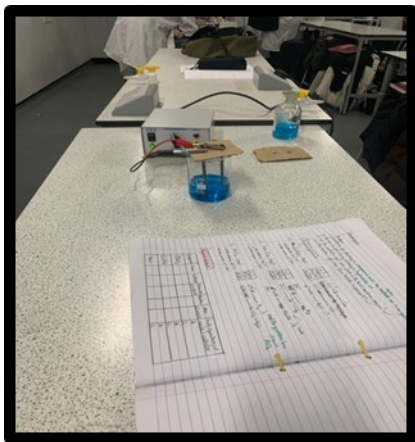
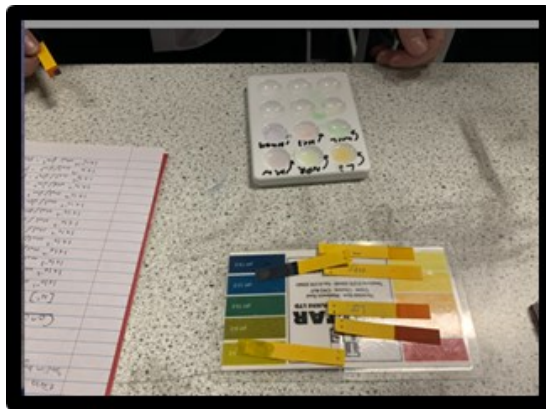
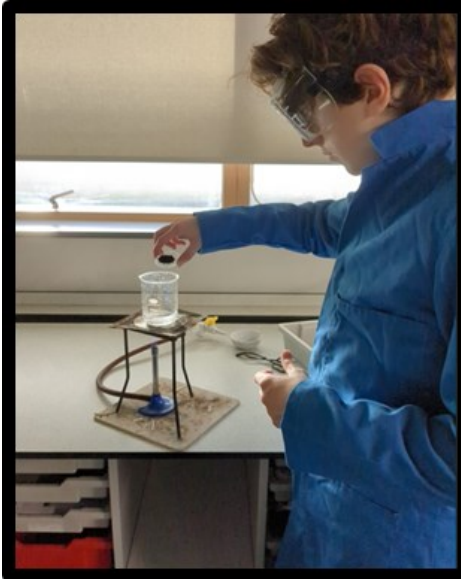
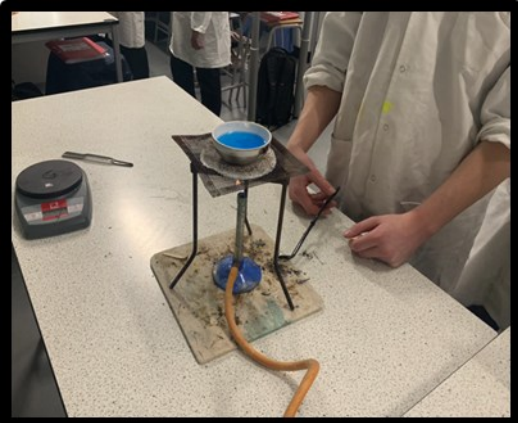
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Year 10 Chemistry: Y10 triple Chemists were doing all sorts of experiments this spring term! They were focusing on Electrolysis, acids and alkalis, making salts and lemon batteries.



Y7 Practical homework.

Pupils in Y7 were set a practical homework to complete. Please see some of the amazing experiments that were carried out at home.



Mieke V.D sharing her successful chromatography experiment.



Dulcie N brought in a shark jaw with teeth to show to her class and team science.



Bran H sharing his success with one of the homework practical pieces of the elephant's toothpaste.

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All things sports

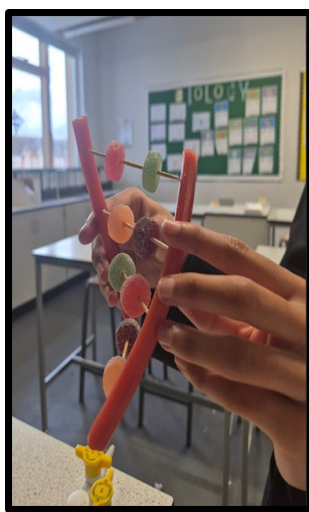
The spring term sees the culmination of the basketball season at half term and the football season just before Easter. This year two of our teams got to the basketball finals. The Year 7 boys played Frederick Bremer in a very close game and won by 2 points, 33-31. Terell was MVP (most valuable player) scoring 16 points, along with other excellent performances from Louis and Arthur W. The Girls Yr 10/11 team also reached their final, playing Holy Family College. In an even closer game they won by 1 point, 19-18. This time Lucy was the MVP, scoring 6 points and playing a fantastic all round game.

With the football season finishing this week the stand out team has been the Year 7 boys team. After a great season they reached the final of the borough competition. A solid 2-0 victory against Heathcote crowned them Yr 7 champions. Two goals from Jibreel won the game but there were excellent performances from both Arthur W and Arthur E as well. At the time of writing the Yr10 boys team are also due to play in their final. Best wishes to them and Mr Riley.

Another mention needs to go to the Year 8 Netball team led by Ms Cheney. They have a really good chance of reaching the semi finals which take place after Easter after some excellent performances so far this year.

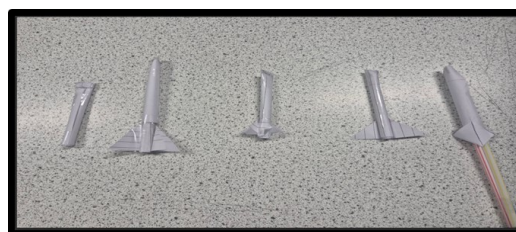
My thanks go to all the students and staff for their efforts in making these games happen. Especially all the non-PE staff like Mr Leitch (Yr7), Mr Conway-Allen (Yr9) Mr Riley (Yr10) and Miss Cheney. Their help has a huge positive impact for the students involved.

Happy Easter



STEM Club

Pupils who took part in STEM club after school, were able to build paper rockets and create DNA structures.



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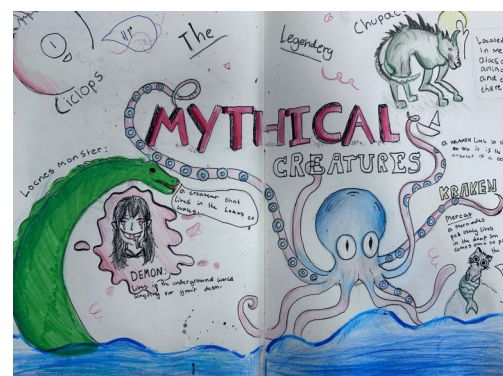
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ART

Year 7 Art — Year 7 have been looking at artists who are inspired or use animals within their practice. Varying from Da Vinci and Hirst to mythology.



Year 8 Art—Year 8's have been learning about different animation techniques such as rotoscoping and stop frame animation. In their classes they have each created a frame that their teacher then put together as an animated gif. They are also designing and making characters to animate

48 students took part in stop frame animation workshop with an award winning animator. Students learnt how to produce plasticine characters and various animation techniques.



Year 9 Art—Year 9 are completing their 'Weird and Wonderful' unit by making 3D ceramic heads. They used the pinch pot technique to make two pots joined together. Their designs were inspired by fears, nightmares, dreams or aspirations to create these. Also, they have been inspired by the work of Chinese American artist Yi Chen. Students used mirrors, dippen ink pens and Indian ink to create distorted self portraits.



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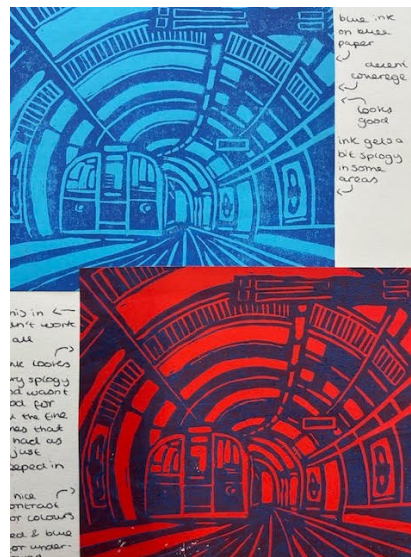
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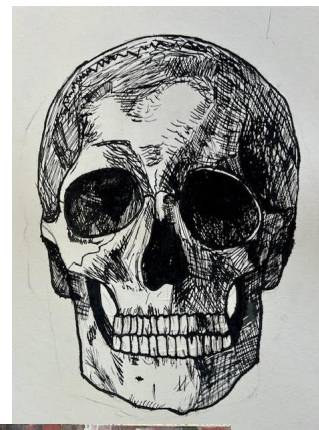
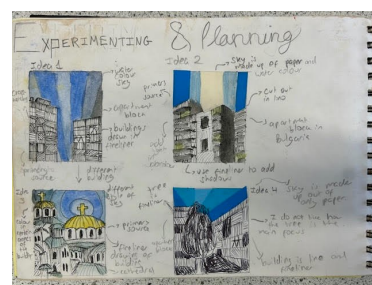
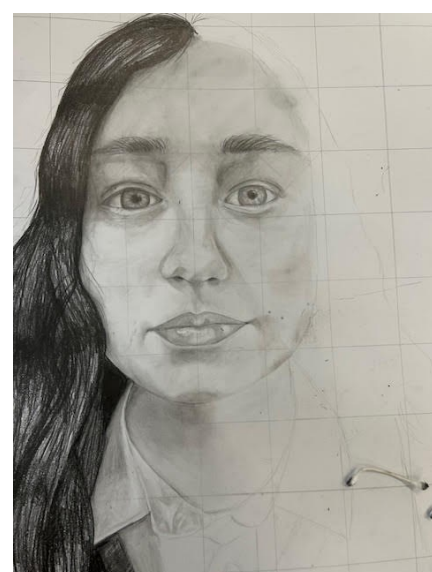
ART



GCSE Year 11 are busy preparing for their final 10 hour art GCSE exam in April. Lots of experimenting and recording happening!



Year 10 are well underway in their 'Portrait' unit, they have been creating excellent recordings, such as these observational, gridded self portraits and some more experimental sketches.



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BREAK THE CYCLE

WALTHAM FOREST

BE THE CHANGE

KIDS

Easter

Holiday CLUB

Scan to book

AGE 7-16

14th-17th April 2025 10AM-2PM

**Leytonstone School, 159 Colworth Road,
Leytonstone E11 1JD**

DRAMA/SINGING • GAMING • MULTI SPORTS • Ice-skating
ARTS AND CRAFTS • GROUP GAMES • CHILL ZONE
FREE FOR CHILDREN ELIGIBLE FOR BENIFITS BASED FREE
SCHOOL MEALS • PAID PLACES AVAILABLE • HOT MEALS

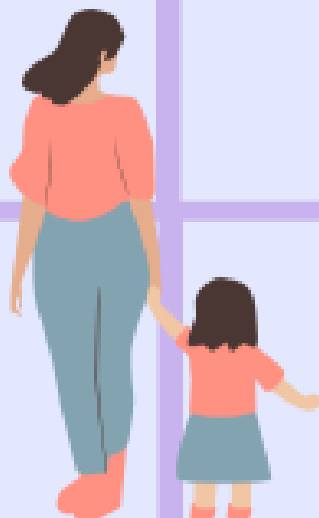
More info: www.breakthecycle.org Call: 07535280467

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Beezee Adults Age 18+ 21 April - 7 July 10am - 12pm The Pandalas Centre E4 8YD	Beezee Families Age 5-15 21 April- 14 July 5.30pm - 7.30pm Leyton Sports Ground E17 3PW	Triple P Age 0-12 7 May - 2 July 9.30am-11.30am South Grove Primary School E17 8PW	Calm Parents Calm Children Age 4-11 24 April - 22 May 7.30pm - 9.30pm Online	Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities Age 0-18 25 April - 25 July 9.30am-12.30pm Queens Road Family Hub E17 8PJ	Connective Parenting Sessions Age 0-25 3 May - 10 May 9.30am-11.30am Online
Cygnal Teens Age 12 - 18 28 April - 12 June 5pm - 7.30pm Queens Road Family Hub E17 8PJ	Triple P Stepping Stones Age 0-12 10 Jan - 14 March 12.30pm-2.30pm Leytonstone Library E11 1HG	HENRY Preparation for parenthood 20 weeks - Birth 14 June - 21 July 7.30am - 9pm Online	Beezee Families Age 5-15 21 April- 14 July 5.30pm - 7.30pm Walthamstow School for Girls E17 9RZ	Parent support programmes are a chance to: + Increase knowledge and understanding of children's development and needs + Build positive relationships + Share ideas and concerns about being a parent + Improve behaviour and communication + Meet other parents + Reduce parenting stress	
Connective Parenting Sessions Age 0-25 9 June - 14 June 9.30am-11.30am Online	HENRY Healthy Families Programme Age 0-5 15 May - 8 July 1pm - 3pm Queens Road Family Hub E17 8PJ	Beezee Families Age 5-15 21 April - 14 July 5pm - 7pm Chingford C of E Junior School E4 7BP	Beezee Adults Age 18+ 21 April- 7 July 5.30pm - 7.30pm Leyton Sports Ground E17 3PW		
Beezee Adults Age 18+ 21 April - 7 July 1pm - 3pm Walthamstow Family Hub E17 7JN	Triple P Babies Age 0 - 9 months 29 April - 24 June 10am - 12pm Queens Road Family Hub E17 8PJ	Raising Resilient and Confident Children Age 4-11 30 April - 14 May 10am - 12pm The Junction E11 4LP	Cygnal Primary Age 5-11 1 May - 12 June 9.30am - 12pm Queens Road Family Hub E17 8PJ		
EarlyBird Age 0 - 5 12 May - 14 July 9.30am - 12pm Queens Road Family Hub E17 8PJ	EarlyBird Age 0 - 5 29 April - 15 July 9.30am - 12pm Queens Road Family Hub E17 8PJ	Hallow Bumps 20 weeks - Birth 1 May - 25 June 1pm - 3pm Queens Road Family Hub E17 8PJ			
• Descriptions of all courses can be found on the following pages • All sessions are weekly unless otherwise stated • All programmes are fully funded by the London Borough of Waltham Forest		HENRY Healthy Families Right From The Start Age 0-5 7 May - 2 July 10am - 12pm Leytonstone Library E11 1HG			

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COMMUNITY DROP-IN

Our early help community drop-in is here

It's a place where everyone can come to get friendly support and information from local volunteers, community organisations and Waltham Forest Early Help teams in an informal space.

We can help you with information about **local services**, **support for parents**, **community activities**, and **help to use online services** and more.

WALTHAM FOREST

FAMILY HUBS

WELLBEING, CONNECTION, SUPPORT

CAN YOU HELP?

You can find out how to volunteer here:



DROP IN FROM 9.45-11.15AM

FREE DROP IN SESSION, NO NEED TO BOOK

TUESDAY

QUEENS ROAD
FAMILY HUB
215 QUEENS ROAD
E17 8PJ

WEDNESDAY

CHINGFORD
FAMILY HUB
5 OAKS GROVE
E4 6EY

THURSDAY

WALTHAMSTOW
LIBRARY
HIGH STREET
E17 7JN

FRIDAY

LEYTONSTONE
FAMILY HUB
2-8 CATHALL RD
E11 4LF



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