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ACTON EALING GREENFORD HANWELL NORTHOLT PERIVALE SOUTHALL

# <u>Featherstone High School</u>

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## OPEN EVENING: 26th September 2024, 5 - 7.30pm

Featherstonehigh.ealing.sch.uk
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**Contributors to this edition**: Courtney Western, Verity Adams, Caroline Clancy, Richard Nadal, James Bird (photography), Alex Sturrock (photography)

## SCHOOLS24 EDITORIAL

elcome to a special edition of Around Ealing magazine, brought out for the start of the new academic year.

Not only are we celebrating the success of our borough's schools, with 98% of maintained schools being rated good or outstanding by Ofsted, but this month also marks the start of a new campaign.

We are proud of our schools. We are proud of the people who make our schools great places to be: that's the teachers, the teaching assistants, the caretakers, the parents, the governors, the road crossing patrols; and, of course, the pupils.

We want to celebrate all that they do – these, often unsung, heroes. But we also want to encourage more people to consider a career working in our fantastic schools. Whether in a support role or in teaching – it is an incredibly rewarding job at the heart of what makes our community special, nurturing a new generation who can grow up with a sense of identity and pride.

Schools are more than places of learning. They are networks of people who support and encourage each other to be better people, to have a sense of common bond.

And, as the new term begins, there is no better time to remember these things.

The new academic year also means that many parents and carers will be planning which primary or high school their children will attend next year; and there is lots in this special edition of Around Ealing to help you with that.

#### LEADER, EALING COUNCIL



## **Childcare funding**

You might be able to receive more funding support to help pay for childcare.

Since April this year, eligible working parents of 2-yearolds have been able to access 15 hours of funded (free) childcare per week, 38 weeks of the year.

Well, now, from September, this support has been extended. And 15 hours of childcare funding per week will be offered to eligible working parents of children from the age of 9 months to 3 years of age.

To find out more about the new funding – the terms, conditions and eligibility plus all the other help available, visit **www.childcarechoices.gov.uk** or go to **www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk** for a directory of registered childcare.

If you need help with finding childcare, call the council's Family Information Service on 020 8825 5588, (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm) or email children@ealing.gov.uk

## **Free school meals**

Parents and carers and being reminded that all primary school children who go to state schools in London are entitled to free school meals for the academic year.

With families struggling with the cost of living, the Mayor of London has provided funding to ensure that children of primary school age will be entitled to a free and nutritious school meal, saving families in the borough up to £1,000 across the year.

While all primary school children will receive their free school meal automatically, it's still really important to register them in case they are eligible for extra funding from the government. Go to **ealing.gov.uk** 





## Pupils name new park

Pupils at Brentside Primary Academy are celebrating after a name they suggested for a new park was chosen by Ealing Council.

Students at Brentside High School and Brentside Primary Academy, which are the 2 closest schools to the park, were invited to suggest a new name for the 49-acre space – the same as 30 football pitches.

Perie Park was put forward by Mahad and Taim – a pair of year 4 pupils at Brentside Primary. To distinguish it from nearby Perivale Park, the name was adapted to Pear Tree Park and chosen in recognition of the area's historical roots.

You can read more about the new Pear Tree Park in next month's autumn edition of Around Ealing magazine.

## **Be inspired**

Secondary school pupils are being encouraged to sign up to a free programme that will stretch them academically and give them the confidence to apply to top universities.

St John's College, Oxford University, is offering its Inspire programme to secondary schools in the borough. It aims to raise aspirations and break down barriers for pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Participants get the opportunity to:

- explore subjects they are enthusiastic about in a more structured and deeper way
- gain confidence
- meet people who share a passion for their subject
- receive advice on university admissions

The Ellen Wilkinson School for Girls is a partner school of the St John's Inspire Programme. For more information about signing up for the programme, email: inspire@sjc.ox.ac.uk

**UP FRONT** 

## **Author drops by**

To mark the release of bestselling author David Walliams's new book Astrochimp, his publishers HarperCollins offered a local school a special mural.

Clifton Primary School in Southall gladly accepted, and the mural was painted on to a wall in its playground.

The author himself then popped down to see the artwork and meet the 4 children – Fahad, Diya, Dharmik and Sonali – who had been chosen to help create the piece of art. The children showed him how to use the spray paint cans and paint pens. He also signed and donated 40 books to the school for some lucky pupils to take home.



## Free school uniform

The free School Uniform Store returned to Ealing this summer and will be open again this winter.

It was open daily for 2 weeks in August in Ealing Broadway Shopping Centre after being set up to help families, during the cost of living crisis, to find essential school clothing items ahead of the new school year. Families could choose up to 4 items of uniform for free, without having to make a donation.

You can also make donations yourself, of spare uniform or school items, by taking them to a donation box next to the Flying Tiger Copenhagen shop. For more details, visit www.ealingbroadwayshopping.co.uk

The store will return this winter. Keep an eye on Around Ealing website for more information nearer the time.

## Winning awards

Ealing Learning Partnership, which unites the council and 85 of the borough's schools in delivering educational excellence, has been recognised with a Silver Award for Impact through Partnership in the Pearson National Teaching Awards.

Selected from thousands of nominees, the win highlights the remarkable impact the partnership has on shaping the lives of the young people in their care.

The Pearson Silver award recognises Ealing Learning Partnership as one of the leaders in educational excellence in the UK.

Julie Lewis, director of Learning Standards and School Partnerships at Ealing Council, said: "This supportive network of brilliant educators do not just care about the performance of their own school or the outcomes of the pupils they teach; they care about all of Ealing's children and young people."

Read more: aroundealing.com/news

## **Chess champions**

Secondary school pupils across the borough are being invited to make their move and sign up to a chess competition at Ellen Wilkinson School for Girls.

Entries are now open for the second Ealing

Secondary School Chess Tournament at the school on 1 December. Entry is £20.

Last year the tournament was oversubscribed, with 92 male and female students from 16 different schools signing up for 54 places.

During the summer, 84 girls from primary school age to university graduates also took part in an all-girls competition at the school, attended by chess masters Eunice and Emmanuelle Hng.

Read more: aroundealing.com/news

# Brilliant schools it alladas up

The borough is home to some amazing schools. This is supported by the latest national statistics, which calculates the improvements in children's education.

ot only are 98% of the borough's schools judged to be good or outstanding by Ofsted, including all of the 27 schools inspected in 2022–23, they are also achieving well above the national average on all academic measures.

Ealing Council has been crowned the best performing local authority in the country in 2023 for the progress that pupils made in maths between the end of primary school and end of secondary school (KS2 to GCSE). This is known as the 'progress 8' score and is measured across 8 GCSE subjects.

Its mathematics progress score is 0.66. This means the borough's pupils, on average, made more than half a grade's more progress than their peers nationally in maths between Year 6 and Year 11, according to the latest national league tables. The borough's overall progress 8 score (0.62), was the third highest in the country in 2023. Two of our 16 state-funded secondary schools were in the top 1% for progress 8 nationally. There were 6 of our schools in the top 5%, 9 in the top 10% and 13 in the top 25%.

The provisional data was published by the Department for Education in October 2023 and finalised in February 2024. The statistics are based on summer 2023 exams.

More information can be found on the Department for Education's website, www.compareschoolperformance.service.gov.uk

#### EALING LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

Ealing Council supports local schools and educational institutions through the Ealing Learning Partnership, a collaboration which promotes educational excellence, inclusion and wellbeing for all learners. Partnerships like this between the council and other important local organisations enable headteachers and senior leaders to better represent the borough's children and young people.

Chair of the partnership and headteacher at Hambrough Primary School in Southall, Louise Singleton, said: "The work of the partnership is going from strength to strength. The innovative and collaborative approach by school leaders to school improvement is recognised both locally and nationally. This can be seen across all settings, from the early years, through primary into secondary, extending to our special schools across the borough. We are proud of our pupils, young people, and their achievements."

PROUD TO SUPPORT

# Could you be a governor?

Governors play an important role in our schools and by becoming one, you could transform the lives of children and young people by improving educational standards. Interested?

Chair of governors, Emily Bishop

o become a governor, you just need to make a commitment of your time, have a passion for improving the chances of young people and possess a willingness to learn.

We spoke to the chair of governors at Mayfield Primary School, Emily Bishop, to find out more about what the role involves.

#### 'PASSIONATE ABOUT EDUCATION'

Emily has previously been a teacher at both Coston Primary School in Greenford and Mayfield Primary in Hanwell. She left teaching in 2005 to retrain as a podiatrist but maintained a keen interest in education and became a governor at Mayfield in 2010

She said: "I am really passionate about education, particularly primary education. Personally, I think it's the most important phase. It's fundamental to the rest of a child's educational career, and I wanted to continue to be part of that narrative and decision making."

The governing body is made up of different types of members. Some are parents, voted for by the parents, others are co-opted governors appointed by the governing body who are volunteers with particular skills and experience.

Emily added: "We hold the senior leaders and headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school, but we are also there to support them. Governors don't get involved in the day-to-day running of the school, that's not our role. It's a strategic overview; long-term planning; what we want the school to look like; how we are going to get there. All our decisions are linked to our long-term vision."

#### **OUTDOOR LEARNING**

In discussion with senior leadership, the governors at Mayfield formulated a long-term vision with the school about more outdoor learning. And, in October, the school is looking forward to opening a forest school for reception children, and later for other year groups.

## INTERESTED IN BEING A GOVERNOR?

Full training is provided, and, on average, the total time commitment is around 6 to 10 days per year. If you work, your employer should give you reasonable time off to carry out your duties as a school governor, though not necessarily paid. For more information, go to: **www.egfl.org.uk** or email governors@ealing.gov.uk

Leaders have developed a friendly and welcoming school community. Pupils are happy, resilient and eager to learn.

Ofsted, 2024

Ofsted, 2024

### The Edward Betham CofE Primary School **Open Mornings**

Monday 16th September **Thursday 12th September** Friday 20th September Wednesday 25th September **Tuesday 1st October Thursday 10th October** Wednesday 16th October **Thursday 24th October** Monday 11th November 9:45-10:30am

If your child is due to start school in September 2025 or you are interested in an in-year place, come and see our learning in action. We would love to meet you! Please contact the school office to reserve a place: 020 8578 8928.





The Edward Betham CofE Primary School Oldfield Lane South, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 9JU www.edwardbetham.ealing.sch.uk Edward Betham CofE Primary School o edwardbetham @EdwardBethamSch



### **HOBBAYNE PRIMARY & NURSERY** is a good school with outstanding features.

We offer wraparound childcare from 3 – 11 years of age.

Our recent Ofsted Inspection stated that:

- Pupils' behaviour is exemplary
- The curriculum is broad and ambitious
- Pupils are well prepared for the next stage of their education

RECEPTION OPEN DAYS: We warmly invite you to come and visit our school and see us in action on any of the following dates: — Thursday 26th Sept 2024 — Tuesday 15th Oct 2024 🕒 Friday 15th Nov 2024 🕒 Friday 6th Dec 2024 🕒 Thursday 9th Jan 2025









Our Nursery Tours take place monthly - to book for this or for further information about our In-Year Admissions please contact the main school office.

T: 020 8567 6271 E: admin@hobbayne.ealing.sch.uk www.hobbayneprimary.co.uk Greenford Ave, London W7 1HA



School Open Evening Wednesday, 18 September 2024 17:30-20:30 Headteacher's Talks 17:45 and 18:45 Greenford Avenue, London, W7 1JJ 020 575 9162 www.brentsidehigh.ealing.sch.uk



Tickets are available at www.ticketail.com

### WHERE TEACHING "CAPTIVATES AND INSPIRES PUPILS"

(Ofsted 2020)



Brentside High School Sixth Form in top 10% in UK over three years (ALPS 2023) Find out more by visiting our website

LOOKING FOR A NURSERY OR RECEPTION PLACE FOR 2025? WE'D LOVE TO SHOW YOU OUR FANTASTIC SCHOOL!

ON SITE WRAP-AROUND CARE 15 & 30 HOUR NURSERY PLACES TO BOOK A TOUR, SCAN THE CODE



www.mayfield.ealing.sch.uk

Mayfield Annary Schoo

12/2

### **MAYFIELD PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL**

- HIGH ASPIRATIONS FOR EVERY CHILD
- VALUES-LED EDUCATION
- NURTURING AND FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT
- WE FOCUS ON DEVELOPING CURIOSITY AND A LIFELONG LOVE OF LEARNING
- FOREST SCHOOL FOR EARLY YEARS

MAYFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL, HIGH LANE, HANWELL W7 3RT TEL. 0208 575 9885

## Turnaround

"While our 'good' rating is definitely something to celebrate, for us, watching those year 6 children leave us in July as the incredible young people that they are, despite everything they lived through; that was the biggest accolade for us as a school team. They are amazing."

EALINGS

hose were the words of headteacher of Hobbayne Primary School in Hanwell, Sharmaine Yoosuf. She and her deputy, Isabelle Tolan, took over at Hobbayne school when it had recently been graded by Ofsted as 'requires improvement'. Now, just a few years later, despite the challenges of the

# enveddell fa

pandemic, it has been transformed. And they are now aiming at achieving an 'outstanding' rating next time around.

Mrs Yoosuf said: "We had parents who had just started their children in reception at a school that was previously rated 'good', so when the 'requires improvement' rating came, it was hard for everyone. We had to really earn their trust as a new team.

"Not only did we have to navigate the challenges of the pandemic, we had the additional scrutiny of monitoring visits from Ofsted and were informed that our next inspection would be put on hold due to the backlog, so we had to live with this rating far longer than we should have.

"Of course, the curriculum is important because its subject knowledge and skills, but COVID-19 taught us how important it is that our children have a voice, so they can tell us if they are struggling, excited or when we're getting something wrong. That's something we've worked really hard at."

#### HIGH PRAISE

When the time finally came for Hobbayne's next inspection, more than 100 children met with the Ofsted inspectors.

Ofsted recognised the high priority given to developing pupils' strength of character and broader knowledge. They praised the way the school's values are interwoven through the curriculum and pupils' attitudes towards learning.

Albie, aged 10, said: "I feel like my teachers have really prepared me for leaving school, going into Year 7 and going into the world. When people ask me to talk about my school it makes me feel really proud."

Read the full story at aroundealing.com/around-ealing

# **Time to apply**

### Applications for children to start high school next year are now being received.

f your child is due to leave their primary school next summer and start year 7 at a high school in September 2025, you will doubtless already have been thinking about where they will go. And there is just over a month until you need to have made a decision.

The recommended date for receipt of applications for high schools is

20 October 2024 or, by the absolute latest, the final, statutory deadline is 31 October 2024.

Choosing which school your child will attend is obviously a big decision and the applications process can sometimes feel daunting.

The council's admissions team does all it can to make the application process as easy as possible. And local high schools hold open mornings and evenings so you can get a feel for them before making a final decision.

But, if you still need some support, you can visit the council's website, contact the schools you are interested in, or speak to your child's current school.

#### SCHOOLS INFORMATION

To find out more about your preferred schools, you can visit the admissions pages on the council's website at **www.ealing.gov.uk/admissions** or, alternatively, you can contact the schools themselves. Each school will also be holding an open morning or evening, which you can find details of on these pages.

#### HOW TO APPLY

You can apply online at **www.eadmissions.org.uk** between 1 September and 31 October 2024. If you are unable to apply online, you can ask your current school for an



application form to fill in and ask it for instructions if anything is not clear. If you choose to apply online, you must not complete a paper application as well.

The Cardinal Wiseman (Catholic) and Twyford (Church of England) high schools require a supplementary information form to be completed to assess denominational commitment and these may be obtained either from the schools themselves, or from the council website at **www.ealing.gov.uk/admissions** 

#### **NEW SCHOOLS**

Any new schools proposed to open in 2025 will be outside the co-ordinated application process. Parents wishing to apply to those schools will need to contact the school direct and apply on the school's application form. Parents are strongly advised to also apply for established secondary schools through the co-ordinated system because there is no guarantee at this point that the new schools will open in 2025.

ANY QUESTIONS? Visit www.ealing.gov.uk/admissions

or you can get in touch with your preferred school. 🔤



#### **HIGH SCHOOL OPEN DAYS**

Please check the individual school websites for further information, including booking appointments and any changes to the published dates below. Please also note that there is no onsite parking at the schools.

#### Ada Lovelace CE High School

Wednesday 25 September 5pm to 8pm. Headteacher talk at 5:15, 6:15 and 7:15pm.

#### Alec Reed Academy

Tuesday 24 September 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Headteacher talk at 5:45 and 7pm. Thursday 26 September, Tuesday 1 and Thursday 3 October 10:30am.

#### Ark Acton Academy

Thursday 10 October 6pm to 7:30pm. Headteacher talk at 645pm. Weekly from Thursday 12 September from 9am to 10am.

#### Ark Soane Academy

Thursday 26 September 5pm to 7pm. Headteacher talk at 5, 5:45 and 6:30pm. Monday 23 to Friday 27 September 9:30am to 11am.

Brentside High School Wednesday 18 September 5:30pm to 8:30pm. Headteacher talk at 5:45 and 6:45pm.

**Dormers Wells High School** Wednesday 25 September 5pm to 7:30pm. Headteacher talk at 5:30 and 6:30pm.

Drayton Manor High School Thursday 26 September 5pm to 8pm. Headteacher talk at 5:15 and 6:30pm.

Ealing Fields High School Thursday 3 October 5pm to 8pm. Headteacher talk at 5, 6 and 7pm.

Elthorne Park High School Wednesday 11 September 5:15pm to 8:30pm. Headteacher talk at 5:30, 6:45 and 7:45pm.

Featherstone High School Thursday 26 September 5pm to 7:30pm. Headteacher talk at 5:30 and 6:30pm.

**Greenford High School** Thursday 3 October 5pm to 7pm. Headteacher talk at 5, 6 and 7pm.

Northolt High School Wednesday 2 October 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Headteacher talk at 6pm. Monday 7 to Friday 11 October and Monday 14 to Friday 18 October 9:15am.

The Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School Thursday 19 September 5pm to 8pm. Headteacher talk at 6pm and 7pm.

The Ellen Wilkinson School for Girls Thursday 19 September 6pm to 8:30pm. Headteacher talk at 6:15 and 7:30pm. Tuesday 10, Tuesday 18, Thursday 26 September and Thursday 3 October 10am to 11am.

Twyford CE High School Thursday 19 September 5pm to 8pm. Headteacher talk at 5:30, 6:30 and 7:30pm.

Villiers High School Thursday 19 September 5pm to 7pm. Headteacher talk at 6:15pm.

William Perkin CE High School Thursday 26 September 5pm to 8pm. Headteacher talk at 5, 6 and 7pm.



## The Ellen Wilkinson School for Girls Prospective Parents' Evening

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024 6:00pm - 8:30pm Head's talk at 6:15pm, 6:45pm & 7:30pm

### **Coffee mornings**

10:00am - 11:00am Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024 Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024 Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024 Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024

> Tours Dates available on request

Places for the coffee mornings and tours are limited and must be booked in advance For all enquiries please email admissions@ellenwilkinson.ealing.sch.uk

### Where girls create their future Year 7 to 13

### " ... a culture where pupils thrive and develop as confident young women." Ofsted 2019

Specialist Places are offered for Students with an identified natural aptitude in: Music; Drama; Visual Arts; Sports and Modern Foreign Languages. Parents/carers may choose to apply for a specialist place for their child in September, for more information see the relevant section on the school website.











PROUD OFOUR SCHOOLS

RECEPTION

hen I visit our schools and look at the statistics, there's no question – our schools are incredible. 98% are rated good or outstanding by Ofsted, performance measures rank Ealing as the best in the country at pupil's progression in maths from primary to secondary school, and academic outcomes remain well above the national average across all key stages.

The borough's special schools have achieved remarkable success, with 100% graded as good or outstanding, surpassing the national average by a whopping 11% – as have our pupil referral units which cater to some of our most vulnerable students. In May, Ealing's learning partnership was recognised as one of the leaders in educational excellence in the UK with a national award.

What I find most extraordinary about this impressive performance is that this has all been achieved at a time when there has been an unprecedented level of pressure on our schools and teaching staff. Dealing with the aftermath of the pandemic, helping children to catch up on vital education they had missed, supporting families to survive the impacts of the cost-ofliving crisis; all the while budgets and external pressure was getting tougher.

Ealing's excellent schools are a direct result of the tireless hard work and excellence of the staff who teach, lead and support them.

That's why, over the next year, we will be celebrating our schools and the often unsung heroes who ensure that every child and young person in the borough has a fairer start. In this and future issues of Around Ealing you will read the stories of just a few of those people who are proud to teach and lead our schools; there are so many more who deserve to be recognised. As the centre of this magazine, this page is the first of a 4-page pull-out. Please share the school heroes on our centrespread with your local school.

As a parent, and as local communities, I hope that we can all join together to share why we are proud to support Ealing schools and the people who make them incredible. **Councillor Josh Blacker Cabinet member for a fairer start** 

### **School dates**

#### **AUTUMN TERM 2024**

- Start of term: Monday 2 September 2024
- Half term: Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November 2024
- End of term: Friday 20 December 2024
- Christmas holiday: Monday 23 December 2024 to Friday 3 January 2025

#### **SPRING TERM 2025**

- Start of term: Monday 6 January 2025
- Half term: Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February 2025
- End of term: Friday 4 April 2025
- Easter holiday: Monday 7 April Monday 21 April 2025

#### **SUMMER TERM 2025**

- Start of term: Tuesday 22 April 2025
- May Day: Monday 5 May 2025
- Spring bank holiday 26 May 2025
- Half term: Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May 2025
- End of term: Friday 25 July 2025
   \*please check with your school for inset days

# **YOUR SCHOOL HEROES**

Our schools have been rated some of the best in the country and we think that is all because of the incredible people who work in or support them. We asked you who you think does a great job and we were inundated with responses – here are just a few.

Jeanne Orr, higher level teaching assistant at Coston Primary School, was nominated for her welcoming, friendly and supportive attitude. A parent shared how grateful she is to Ms Orr for helping her daughter gain confidence and progressing

through her education. She said that if it wasn't for Ms Orr, her daughter would not have the confidence to work as hard as she did and progress further. This once shy and unconfident girl is doing very well academically now in high school. When Ms Orr was told about the parent's comments, she said that she would do anything to help a child.

Amanda Hodge, teaching assistant and school librarian at Fielding Primary School, was nominated for being 'the heart of the school'. She does storytime in the library, is a mentor for pupils, is always positive and ready with a song, and even brings in her pet dogs for the children to cuddle. She also brings in clothes for dressing-up days and does all she can to make school fun.



Maggie Hingley, parent support advisor at Derwentwater Primary School, was

nominated for her dedication to looking after the most vulnerable families in the community. Maggie and her team are committed to making sure children are fed and stable, and parents are taken care of. Among her many undertakings, Maggie runs a popular weekly Conversation Club where parents from all backgrounds get to interact and learn some essential English communication skills. She also assists in running the weekly foodbank (via The Felix Project), providing essentials to families, and the school's breakfast club. These are not small tasks; though she will tell you everything she does is all in the line of duty. She works hard to problem-solve and make families feel welcome and goes to extra lengths to understand their issues.

Martin Gavin, PE higher level teaching assistant at Acton Gardens Primary School, was nominated for 'innovate lessons' that combine fun and positivity with

and positivity with fitness – boosting pupils' confidence as much as their physical health, and encouraging those who aren't keen on sports to get

involved. In addition, he has a passion for inclusivity, including running sessions catering to pupils with special educational needs. The school sports teams have achieved success. That's not all, though. He also runs a breakfast club and an after-school club; and gets staff together for their own activities. The nomination called him 'truly an Ealing school hero.' Judith Kernohan, class teacher at Christ The Saviour Primary School, was

nominated by parents. One wrote: "My daughter loves to go to school every day." This is because of Mrs Kernohan's endless passion, enthusiasm and positivity, as well as the empathy and care she shows to her pupils – and her expectation that they are all kind to each other, too. The nomination adds that she brings 'positive change to the life of kids and helps them grow as responsible and happy citizens.'



#### Thomas Doherty, headteacher at Holy Family Catholic Primary School,

was nominated for his dedication and commitment to the welfare and development of the students. His efforts extend far beyond the typical responsibilities of a headteacher, illustrating his genuine care and passion for the school community. Mr Doherty is always responsive to parents' concerns and suggestions and has designed various activities and educational opportunities to create an inclusive environment, reflecting the diversity of the school community. Under Mr Doherty's leadership, the school has achieved numerous accolades. consistently receiving outstanding evaluations during inspections. His vision and guidance have driven the students to grow and excel in all aspects of their education.

#### Shelagh O'Shea, headteacher at Belvue Primary School, was nominated

by parents. One wrote: "Shelagh is

about to retire after 38 years of teaching and 34 years at Belvue. She is incredible and has changed the lives of so many SEN children and their families, including my own 2 daughters. A pure diamond for Ealing and will be greatly missed."

#### Nominate school heroes

You can still nominate school heroes. Find out more at aroundealing.com/news/ school-hero and keep an eye on Around Ealing to see more of your nominations.



# SCRAPPING THE GREEN PEN

This year, Ealing Council's education team has been supporting schools across the borough introduce a revolutionary method of problem solving and trying new techniques in classrooms called 'spirals of enquiry'.

reenwood Primary School in Northolt decided to give it a try and consider how it could have an impact on the children across the school most at risk of not meeting their targets in English. The school recently adopted a new approach to feedback in English lessons, ditching the green pen used for marking. Instead, the teacher leads whole-class feedback discussing and challenging any misconceptions or misunderstandings together in the moment.

Although it reduced the teacher's workload (no longer having to mark a huge pile of books after school), they started the 'spirals of enquiry' and asked: was it working for all the children? And, in a busy school, how could staff use the latest research to support those children who are struggling in English lessons?

The process started with every

member of staff, from teaching assistants to the headteacher, interviewing 3-6 pupils to hear what they had to say. In total, 20% of the school's children took part.

#### 'IT WAS REALLY EMPOWERING'

"One of the best parts of this process for me was hearing that when they were asked, every single child could identify a member of staff that they felt believed in them. That's incredibly important," said headteacher Karen Silvester.

Looking at the results, groups of staff identified that although the new approach to feedback was working it shouldn't be one-size-fits-all; they needed to adapt to different age groups or abilities.

"With this in mind, we decided to try applying some research," added assistant headteacher Rob Butler. "It was really empowering because we were, literally, all learning together: children and staff at all levels of the school."

#### THE RESULTS?

It has changed what English lessons look like in classrooms, with pupils supported in a tailored way but also working as a whole class to better understand how to improve their written work. However, this process has also had a big and noticeable impact on the children's motivation and confidence.

Karen explained: "We made important discoveries, like some of the resources that are specifically designed for learners who struggle the most were actually holding them back. And, by removing these structures and being more flexible in our teaching, these children now have far higher expectations and belief in themselves."

#### **SCHOOLS**

Namanveer with his head of year Jenny Moses

Students anxiously opened up envelopes at schools across the borough in late August to find out their A-level and GCSE results.

# **Results days**

f you or someone you know opened their results last month, we hope you got what you wanted and, if you didn't, there are always lots of options available – so, if you haven't already done so, talk to your teachers or UCAS for advice on clearing for university or college places.

If you're considering an alternative route, you can find out about becoming an apprentice by dropping an email to apprenticeships@ealing. gov.uk or calling 020 8825 6234. Or check out workealing.com

Many students across the borough are going into jobs or apprenticeships and have all done themselves proud.

As we went to press, the percentage of A-level results in local schools of grade B or above was provisionally standing at just over 57% – which is ahead of both the national (53%) and London (56%) figures.

You can find out the final results for our borough in A-levels and GCSEs by visiting Around Ealing website (see box on this page for links).

#### 'SO EXCITED'

We heard from some A-level pupils at Featherstone High School on the big day. Namanveer achieved 4 grades of A\* and is off to Kings College London to study computer science. He said: "I'm so pleased with my results. I want to thank my teachers for all of their hard work."

Ammara is off to become a medical student at University College London (UCL) after getting the grades she wanted. She said: "I've worked hard and so have my teachers who were very determined to help me and support me."

She will be joined at UCL by 2 others. Nashat will be studying mechanical engineering and said: "I'm very happy I've secured my place at UCL. I studied hard and I had great friends and teachers here to support me."

Hana, former head girl at the school, will be doing law at UCL, and said: "I was so excited to find I'd got

the grades I needed to be able to go to study law. This school was a great choice for me."

cyber security. He

Priya opening her results an apprenticeship at Sky, working in

Ammara opening her results said: "I'm so glad that my hard work and determination has paid off."

Priya did well at BTEC and is off to Greenwich to

study criminology. She said: "I worked hard because my teachers and my friends really encouraged me and pushed me to do my best. I would like to thank every single teacher."

Headteacher Nathan Walters said: "We are delighted so many of our students have achieved their dreams and ambitions in achieving their grades."

#### More info

 A-level results: aroundealing.com/news/ a-level-results-2024

■ GCSE results: aroundealing. com/news/gcse-results-2024

# Moments like these, are why I foster.

### **Could you Foster?**





ealingfosteradopt.co.uk



CHANGE THE FUTURE



# 'I can do anything'

When 13-year-old Bethany was diagnosed with autism last year she felt alone, but joining Ealing Youth Social Network has given her confidence, friendship and opportunities she never expected.

aling Youth Social Network (YSN) was set up by the council and Ealing Mencap last year to give a voice to 13 to 23 year-olds in the borough with additional needs and disabilities.

The group regularly meets to discuss topics such as accessing leisure facilities when you have additional needs, and they have also been sharing their ideas and experiences with Ealing Council managers through a mentoring programme.

In the spring, the YSN helped put together a youth conference attended by students from 7 schools.

#### 'IT'S AMAZING'

Bethany, a student at Greenford High, was unsure about joining the network but said: "I think it's amazing, to be honest. From the first meeting, I felt safe to talk and meeting other people who have additional needs was very good."

Before joining the network Bethany found socialising challenging. She said: "I didn't really have a lot of friends and I didn't speak up in class if anyone was rude to me."

#### A CONFIDENCE BOOST

A turning point for Bethany was giving an anti-bullying presentation at the conference to an audience of more than 100 people. YSN staff helped Bethany to prepare for her presentation in which she shared her ideas on how to start talking to people and encouraged people to share their experiences of bullying.

She said: "It's really helped with how to speak to someone, even how to ask for water. It's made me feel more confident. What has really helped was doing the presentation in front of other people. Now I think that if I could do that, I can do anything."

Proud mum Rebecca says she has noticed a big change in her daughter. Bethany has taken part in social activities and Rebecca said it's even given her the confidence to sign up for swimming lessons, which she would not have done before joining the YSN. Read more: aroundealing.com/news



# St Augustine's



An Outstanding all-through independent Catholic School. Boys also in the Nursery. Places available for 2024/25.

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"Values of kindness,

respect and

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Good Schools Guid January 2024

## OUR GIRLS WILL CHANGE THE WORLD.



Outstanding education in an inclusive, warm and dynamic environment. Preparing pupils for the most prestigious senior schools in London and beyond.

Open Days • Saturday 12 October

Thursday 14 November

### SCAN TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST



GOOD SCHOOLS GUIDE

y

@durstonhouse

CHOOLS

Independent Day School for Girls and Boys aged 3-13 in Ealing, West London

# **Voices heard**

"The impact on students, both academically and personally, has been remarkable," said a headteacher at a local high school that has introduced a new mentoring programme.

aniel Coyle is headteacher at Cardinal Wiseman in Greenford, which brought in the mentoring to support and empower its students from African-Caribbean and mixed heritage in 'a concerted effort to understand and address societal challenges that have historically hindered many individuals'.

The school has group sessions and 1-to-1 support, as well as older students mentoring younger students. It also involves families, school staff and governors in the process.

Assistant headteacher Siara Mirza added: "Engaging positively with parents and carers is a crucial part of our mentoring programme and regular communication between school staff and parents has helped us build trusted relationships.

"Our students know they're respected, and voices are listened to as an important part of this process."

"We have engaged in debates, studies, training, and self-education on issues of racial equality," said Daniel. "We strive to ensure that the history, culture, and experiences of our community are reflected in our teachings."

"We are already seeing the impact," added Siara. "Students feel more confident, valued and have a sense of belonging. They are also taking ownership of their learning with better participation in lessons and better relationships with staff. We are proud that, not only their emotional wellbeing has significantly improved, but so have their targets and progress grades."

#### **BOROUGHWIDE PROGRESS**

The story at Cardinal Wiseman is just one example of work taking place across the borough.

In 2022, the findings of the independent Ealing Race Equality Commission, set up by Ealing Council, were published in a report. Among the recommendations in the report was for the council, schools and other organisations to work together to close the gap in educational attainment

RTSTOOHS for black Caribbean pupils, cut the number of exclusions from school, make changes to the curriculum and provide training for staff.

PROUD

SUPPORT

Last year, a citizens' tribunal then met to hear details of progress on how the impact of racial inequality was being tackled in schools.

- Some of the changes have included: ■ 220+ school staff from 75 schools having dedicated training
- 85% of schools' curriculums refreshed to become more inclusive
- 10 new black parent forums

■ 15% increase in black Caribbean pupils achieving reading, writing and maths at the expected standard at Key Stage 2

Julie Lewis, the council's director of learning standards and school partnerships, said: "Schools have really engaged with the race equality programme in an open and enthusiastic way."

Read the full story at aroundealing.com/ around-ealing 🔤



#### OPEN EVENING Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 5pm - 8pm

community school.

Come and visit our high-achieving, hugely over-subscribed

- Consistently in top 5% in UK for student progress over last 10 years with a full, flexible and balanced curriculum
- Over 200 Greenford students go on to university every year, many to Russell Group universities and some to Oxbridge and America
- Strong commitment to extra-curricular activities including sport, music and trips

### Headteacher Mia Pye will talk to parents at 5pm, 6pm and 7pm in the Hall.

If you would like to visit the school during the working day, please see our website or phone **020 8578 9152** for a list of available tours. Please note that there is no parking on the school site except for disabled visitors.

- Lady Margaret Road, Southall UB1 2GU
- 🖵 www.greenford.ealing.sch.uk 🏾 🎔 @ghsofficial



## Havelock Primary School

is a 2-form entry primary school located in Southall. We have a thriving nursery that offers 30-hour provision for working parents. In 2021 we opened a state-of-the-art, purpose built Additional Resourced Provision (ARP) for pupils with Autism and Speech and Language Needs.

We have created a unique approach, aligned to the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools initiative, that promotes our Havelock 5Rs, that enable our pupils to leave school well prepared for the next stage of their education:

- Resilient
- Respo
- ReflectiveResourceful
- Responsible
- Relationships



# Preparing for change

The transition from primary to secondary school is a big change for many children, but there are ways parents and carers can help to make the switch a smooth one.

avigating the switch to a new school can be scary and challenging, for anyone, but it doesn't need to be. There are lots of resources available, and that in itself can be overwhelming. It can be hard to know where to turn to get advice that's right for you and your child without being bombarded with information.

So, we've put together a list of some helpful websites, from reliable sources, to help you sail through this important milestone.

#### **HELPFUL TOOLS**

Ealing Grid for Learning (EGfL) is the council's communication channel with the borough's schools and provides information to staff, governors and parents. This site offers a particularly useful year 6 to 7 transition guide, just search 'school transition'. Go to: www.egfl.org.uk

The YoungMinds website is full of advice and information to give young people the tools to look after their mental health. It also offers great advice to parents and professionals to enable them to provide valuable support to the young people in their lives. Go to: www.youngminds.org.uk

There are lots of brilliant, bitesize sections to navigate; such as school myths, making friends, coping with classwork and more. The best thing is there are short videos you can watch too, including Year 7: a day in the life, so you can hear experiences directly from young people. This isn't the friendliest of URLs to have to type, but once you get to the site you will be greeted with lots of friendly information. Go to: www.bbc.co.uk/ bitesize/groups/c5vpkq1l934t

Change is difficult, often more so if your child has special educational needs, but the National Autistic Society website has some great tips about preparing for change – for all audiences. Go to: www.autism.org.uk/ advice-and-guidance

#### HANDY TIPS

Common worries about starting secondary school can include: friendships, bullying, homework – the list goes on. These are all very normal worries. Netmums has put together a great list of handy tips to help parents, carers and pupils settle into the new term. Go to: www.netmums.com/ child/starting-secondary-school

# From Nursery to Post-16

### Ofsted: GOOD with OUTSTANDING features

At Alec Reed Academy, we believe that all children, regardless of background or ability, can succeed and we do all we can to ensure this happens. Children can start in the Nursery at 3 and stay until they leave at 18, or join in Year 7 or Post 16. The Academy is housed in an iconic, spacious, light and modern building with extensive grounds including a large nature reserve which we are developing into an outdoor learning centre using a generous donation from our sponsor, Sir Alec Reed.

### Quotes from Ofsted 2023:

- Pupils at this school are safe and happy. They work hard and they are well prepared to take the next steps in their education, employment or training.
- Pupils behave well in lessons. They listen to their teachers and take pride in their work.
- Pupils are very respectful of others including those from different backgrounds and with different abilities.

Why not see for yourself what makes our Academy such a special place to be, by coming to one of our open days? Or, if you can't make it to an open day, we'd still love to show you around, so please call to arrange a convenient date.

#### **OPEN DAYS**

- **Nursery**: Wednesday 16th October 10am and 1.30pm
- **Reception**: Tuesday 15th October 10am and 1.30pm
- Secondary: Tuesday 24th September 5:30pm
- Post 16: Tuesday 15th October 5.30pm

Bengarth Road, Northolt UB5 5LQ enquiries@alecreedacademy.co.uk Tel: 020 8841 4511 www.alecreedacademy.co.uk f /alecreedacademyofficial Ø @AlecReedAcademy







As children across the borough begin a new school term, more of them than ever are expected to be making the journey on foot, by bike or scooter.

ince Ealing Council's school streets programme began back in 2020, almost 30 of the borough's schools have signed up to the scheme.

Part of being a school street means the roads around a school are closed to most vehicles at school opening and closing times, helping children arriving or leaving to be safer from traffic.

Most pupils live within a 20-minute walk or a short cycle ride to school.

Most primary school aged children in the borough live within 1 mile of their school, more than 80% of secondary school students live within 2 miles.

Expanding the number of school streets is part of the council's commitment to fight the climate crisis, cut air pollution and support active forms of travel for residents of all ages.

#### LEADING THE WAY

Perivale Primary School, in Federal Road, was one of the first to join the scheme. Headteacher, Daniel Upfield, said: "So many of our families are walking, scooting and biking here. Parents and children talk to one another more along the way too, it encourages social interaction.

"The roads around the school are quite narrow and I think children would feel less safe travelling to school if the school street wasn't in place – and I expect more would travel by car."

#### 'KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE'

Blair Peach Primary School, in Beaconsfield Road, Southall, became a school street last year as a measure to help keep its children safe. Headteacher, Neil Crosbie, said: "The impact of this scheme has been fantastic. It has been brilliant to see children walk to school safely.

"It's important to be a part of something much bigger than just our street and our school. This is about changing mindsets about walking to school and keeping children safe."

Transport for London also offers a school travel accreditation scheme that helps schools and nurseries. It aims to inspire young Londoners to travel to school sustainably, actively, responsibly and safely by championing walking, scooting and cycling. Go to **travelforlife.tfl.gov.uk** 

For more about school streets go to: **www.ealing.gov.uk** 



### **Gardening Service**

Our new gardening service offers older people help with:

- Lawn mowing and edging
- Strimming
- Trimming hedges
- Shrub pruning
- Weeding and tidying
- Planting bulbs and shrubs
- Tidying up leaves
- Jetwashing driveways and paths
- Basic fencing

£30 per hour

Areas covered - Greenford, Northolt, Southall, Perivale, Hanwell, Acton & Ealing

**Contact:** 020 8194 4698 gardeningservice@ageukealing.org.uk



## **Wellbeing Day Centre**

You can always be sure of a warm welcome at Age UK Ealing's Day Centre.

For older individuals seeking enhanced well-being and independence, services include:

- Wellbeing classes with tailored exercises for all abilities
- · Games, recreational activities and day trips
- Art & craft workshops
- Social connection and interaction
- Breakfast and lunch included

#### 🖀 Johnson Hall, Greenford Community Centre

🕎 Mondays and Thursdays, 9am - 3.30pm

£35 per day

**Contact:** 0208 578 2712 – Option 1 daycentre@ageukealing.org.uk

### **Digital Inclusion**

Our **free** classes help older people feel safe using technology and motivate them to enjoy the benefits of using the internet.

We have separate 6-week programmes for Beginners and Improvers at Greenford Community Centre, Perivale Hive Library and Ealing Central Library.

We also run free Drop-Ins at **Greenford Community Centre** every Monday (excluding bank holidays) from 1pm-3pm.

**Contact:** 020 8578 2712 - Option 8 digitalinclusion@ageukealing.org.uk

age UK

### **Volunteers** wanted

Can you help us help older people in our local community?

#### Our current volunteer roles include:

For those aged 16+: Fundraising Volunteers Day Centre Helpers For those aged 18+: Telephone and Visiting Befrienders | IT Digital Inclusion Champion | Exercise Class Assistant | Receptionist | Coffee Morning Assistant | Administration Assistant | Frontline Customer Service

**Contact:** 0208 578 2712 – Option 3 volunteer.co-ordinator@ageukealing.org.uk

We strongly encourage volunteers from all backgrounds and identities to get in touch. Everyone is welcome here. Marcus helps residents enrol onto courses

# Ham while you learn'

Apprenticeships are a great way for young people to enter the working world, but don't just take our word for it. Hear first-hand from 17-year-old Marcus, who made the jump from apprentice to full-time employment.

arcus, who lives in Southall, became an apprentice fresh out of school at 16. He had always liked the idea of an apprenticeship. He said: "I learn better by doing things rather than just listening to someone talk about them, so hands-on learning suits me. An apprenticeship also allowed me to continue my educational journey without racking up huge debts."

Marcus joined the council as a project monitoring apprentice in the council's adult learning team. He completed his apprenticeship with flying colours, gaining a NVQ Level 3 in Business Administration and moving into full-time employment within a year.

#### FINDING CONFIDENCE THROUGH APPRENTICESHIPS

Marcus's experience as an apprentice was – in his words – 'amazing'.

"It was a bit daunting going straight into the working world from high school at 16," he said. "I was a little nervous about what the workplace would be like, how I would fit in, and whether I would be able to manage everything.

"As an apprentice, I supported residents with their training and upskilling needs. Speaking to residents, colleagues, and partners really helped boost my confidence. I also became friends with my colleagues – one of the reasons I chose to stay in my team."

Marcus has now moved into a new job as a curriculum support officer in

the adult learning team. He said: "My new role is going well. My favourite part of the job is helping people find work. I support residents, help them upskill, and eventually get them into a job."

#### ANY WORDS OF WISDOM?

Now that Marcus has completed his apprenticeship, we asked him what advice he would give to others that may be considering this route.

"College, sixth form, and university really is not for everyone," said Marcus. "I know it wasn't for me. I would really recommend that everyone considers an apprenticeship, as well as the 'standard' route. For me, the best part is you earn while you learn."

Visit ealing.gov.uk/apprenticeships 🔤

# Let's go, Ealing

The award-winning Ealing Half Marathon is returning once again to the town's streets and parks and will take place on Sunday, 29 September.

p to 4,000 runners are expected, along with thousands of spectators and hundreds of volunteers. Many of the runners are raising money for charity.

The race starts outside Walpole Park at 9am. The 13.1-mile course will then cover parts of the Montpelier, Pitshanger and central areas of Ealing before reaching Hanwell and then returning to Ealing and Walpole Park via Uxbridge Road.

#### **ROAD CLOSURES**

To ensure the safety of participants and spectators, all the roads that the event passes through will be closed to traffic at some stage during the event.

And, to minimise any disruption

to residents, the race organisers will close roads as the lead runner approaches and attempt to re-open roads no later than 15 minutes after the last runner has passed by in Montpelier, Pitshanger and central Ealing. All other areas remain closed until the times stated to allow runners to return to Walpole Park safely.

The first roads will close from 6am on race day and it is anticipated that all roads will re-open by 1pm. See the table on the facing page for times. Affected buses that operate in the area will be on diversion from 6:30am until 1pm.

Your co-operation and patience are also asked for while moving around the course route before the race has started, as course checks are carried out and equipment is put in place.

#### More info

 For more about Ealing Half Marathon or to contact the organisers, visit www. ealinghalfmarathon.com

 For enquiries about road closures, phone 020 8825 5000 or visit www.ealinghalfmarathon. com/resident-information/

### **Get involved**

If you would like to be one of the 700 volunteers and earn a free place in next year's race, register at www.ealinghalfmarathon.com/ volunteer

#### HALF MARATHON



Contains Ordnance Survey Data © Crown copyright database right 2013					T ONDERGROUND STATION			
Road	Full Closure (from)	Estimated Reopening	Road	Full Closure (from)	Estimated Reopening	Road	Full Closure (from)	Estimated Reopening
Church Lane	06:00	12:55	West Road	08:30	10:20	Greenford Avenue	08:30	12:10
Culmington Road (part closure up to No60)	06:00	12:55	Helena Road	08:30	10:20	Home Farm Road	09:00	11:45
Culmington Road (remaining)	08:00	12:55	Mount Avenue	08:30	10:20	Westcott Crescent	09:00	11:45
Churchfield Road	08:00	12:55	Woodfield Road	08:30	10:20	Cuckoo Avenue	09:00	11:45
Broomfield Road	08:00	12:55	Pitshanger Lane	08:30	10:35	Borders Road	09:00	11:45
Uxbridge Road (part)	08:00	12:55	Curzon Road	08:30	10:35	Cuckoo Lane	09:00	12:00
Longfield Avenue	08:30	12:20	Meadvale Road	08:30	10:40	Church Road	09:00	12:00
Gordon Road	08:30	12:15	Pitshanger Park	09:00	10:40	Bunny Park	09:00	12:00
Carlton Gardens	08:30	09:50	Woodbury Park Road	09:00	10:45	Alwyne Road	09:00	12:00
Carlton Road (part)	08:30	09:50	Scotch Common (part)	09:00	10:50	Manor Court Road	09:00	12:10
Castlebar Road (part)	08:30	09:50	Kent Avenue	09:00	10:50	The Avenue	09:00	12:15
Eaton Rise	08:30	10:00	Cleveland Road (part)	09:00	10:55	Lavington Road	09:00	12:55
Montpelier Road	08:30	10:20	Wimborne Gardens	09:00	10:55	Kingsdown Avenue	09:00	12:55
Mount Park Road	08:30	10:05	St Stephens Road	09:00	11:00	St Aidans Road	09:00	12:55
Aston Road	08:30	10:10	St Stephens Avenue	09:00	11:00	Elers Road	09:00	12:55
Woodville Road	08:30	10:10	Argyle Road	09:00	12:10	Mattock Lane	09:00	1255
Park View Road	08:30	10:15	Courtfield Gardens	09:00	12:10			
Hillcrest Road	08:30	10:15	Drayton Bridge Road	08:30	12:10			

## Cost of living do you need help?





- What support is available?
- 2

3

Are you claiming all the benefits you're entitled to?

If you're struggling - reach out



www.ealing.gov.uk/costofliving 020 8825 7170

EALING COUNCIL







