



Downsview Newsletter



<https://www.downsview.croydon.sch.uk/>

6TH MARCH 2026

Respectful Parking - Supporting Our Neighbours and Community

We are very proud to be part of our local community and greatly value the positive relationships we have with our neighbours. We would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents and carers to park considerately when dropping off and collecting children.

Recently, there have been instances of blocked driveways, parking across dropped kerbs and vehicles causing congestion in surrounding roads. This can be very disruptive for local residents and may also create safety concerns for pedestrians and other road users.

Please help us to be good neighbours by:

- Avoiding parking across or opposite driveways
- Not stopping on zig-zag lines or dropped kerbs
- Parking legally and safely, even if it means walking a little further
- Turning engines off while waiting

Your cooperation makes a real difference and helps ensure that our school remains a respectful and valued part of the community.



Thank you for your continued support.

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may know, schools across the country are facing immense pressure due to inadequate funding from the government. Years of under-investment have left buildings crumbling, resources scarce and workloads unmanageable. Per-pupil funding is at its lowest levels since 2010, below international standards - and it shows.

What this means for Croydon schools is:

- **Support staff and teacher shortages meaning increased class sizes**
- **Experienced staff not being replaced**
- **Inadequate provision for children with SEND**
- **Subjects being taught by non-specialists**
- **Reduced curriculum offer and less creative approaches for Croydon children**
- **Restructures and redundancies**
- **Ongoing recruitment and retention crisis**

Please can you sign this petition below and share it far and wide so that Jason Perry, the Mayor of Croydon, is encouraged to take urgent action.

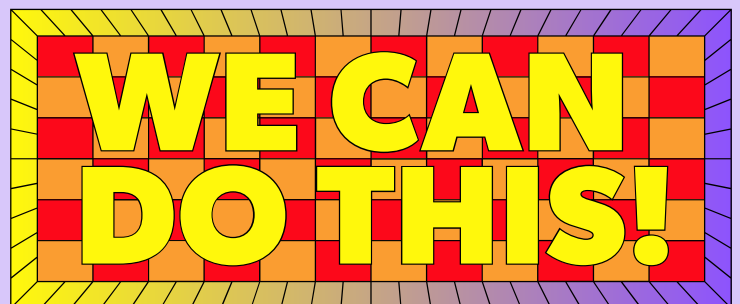
[Fair Funding for Croydon Schools](#)

Thank you for your support



Mr Tierney

National Education Union Representative



2026

DATES FOR THE DIARY

[LINK TO WEBSITE](#)

CALENDAR...



MARCH

[Sustainability Calendar LINK](#)



Fri 13 th	FOD - Mother's Day Gift Shop Mother's Day Event (N-Year 2) 2.30pm-3.15pm
Tues 17 th	Year 6 - CLINK MUSEUM TRIP
Mon 23 rd	Last Week of Clubs Individual photos
Tues 24 th	Individual photos
Tues 24 th	Downsview's Got Talent
Thurs 26 th	Year 5 Trip to London Eye
Fri 27 th	School finishes at 1.15pm for ALL children
Mon 30th March - Fri 10th April - Easter Holidays	

Mon 13th - Fri 17th - Year 4 Cricket Swimming - ALL WEEK	
Tues 14 th	Dance Squad - Regionals
Thurs 16 th	Y1 phonics workshop
Sat 18 th	FOD - Boot Fair
Mon 20th - Fri 24th Year 4 Ladybird Swimming - ALL WEEK	
Mon 27 th	Joey's Birthday week

Fri 1 st	Joeys' Birthday BBQ
Mon 4th Bank Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED	
Thurs 7 th	Year 5 - Come Dine with Me! Year 1 Squirrel - Trip to Pizza Express
Sat 9 th	FOD Jumping Jacks
Mon 11th - Fri 15th Year 4 Dragonfly Swimming - ALL WEEK	
Mon 18th - Thurs 21st Year 4 Goldfinch Swimming - ALL WEEK	
Weds 20 th	Year 2 - Come Dine with Me!
Thurs 21 st	Dare to be Different Day
Fri 22nd May - INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED	

Term Dates

Spring

5th Jan - 27th March 26
Half Term: 16th - 20th Feb
 Easter holidays:
 30th March - 10th Apr 26
Inset day: 5th Jan 26

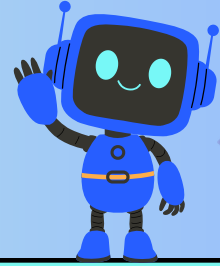
SUMMER

13th Apr - 22nd May 26
Half Term: 25th - 29th May
 1st June - 20th July 26
Inset days: 20th July 26 & 22nd May 26
Bank Holiday: 4th May 26

Autumn

2nd Sept - 23rd Oct 26
Half-term: 26th Oct - 30th Oct
 2nd Nov - 18th Dec 26
Inset days: TBC

How might robots change our daily lives?



Positive News

Picture News

[CLICK HERE](#)

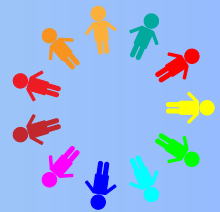
During China's Lunar New Year Gala, one of the world's most-watched TV shows, humanoid robots danced and performed kung-fu moves on stage. The robots could spin, jump, and move in time with music, showing how fast robotics technology is developing. Other Chinese-designed robots appeared at New Year celebrations in New York, USA. The performances have sparked global conversations about how robots might be used in future entertainment and everyday life.

Things to talk about at home:

- Have you ever seen a robot before? Where was it?
- Do you think robots should be used for entertainment, work, or both?
- What are some of the things that people can do that robots can't?
- If you could design a robot, what would it do and why?



Positive NEWS



The US sees a historic decline in coal-fired capacity despite Trump

During Donald Trump's presidency, the US experienced the largest drop in coal-fired power capacity of any presidential term, according to Carbon Brief analysis.

While Trump's aggressive moves to roll back climate policy have been presented by his administration as an opportunity to revive "clean, beautiful, American coal", his record in office shows that the opposite is happening.

According to Carbon Brief, the US's ageing coal plants have been rendered uneconomic by cheaper gas and renewables.

"Trump cannot stop the decline of coal power in the US," Carbon Brief's Simon Evans told Positive News. "Most [US coal] plants are really old and more expensive than gas or renewables, so the most he will manage is to delay the inevitable."

Carbon Brief's analysis follows research showing that **renewables overtook coal as the world's leading source of electricity** for the first time last year, representing a "historic shift" in the global energy transition.

Goal 7:

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.



[CLICK HERE](#)



Creative Ways to Encourage Reading



With reading for pleasure in decline, this practical guide offers ten thoughtful ways to reignite children's enthusiasm for books. From valuing all forms of reading to broadening access to diverse materials, it explores how adults can nurture positive reading habits both at home and in school. Digital tools, audiobooks and augmented reality are also considered as engaging ways to support today's readers.

It also highlights the power of social connection - recommending books, reading together and meeting authors - alongside the importance of modelling reading ourselves. With expert insight from literacy specialist Carl Pattison, this edition provides supportive, achievable ideas to help young people reconnect with reading and see it as a meaningful part of everyday life.



WAKE UP WEDNESDAY LINK



Bicycle Workshop

16th March (After School for 45mins)

Join us after school near the Blue Gazebo on the 16th of March for a hands-on bicycle workshop!

Children (and parents) are invited to learn the basics of bike maintenance, including how to check brakes, cables, chains and tyre pressure to keep bikes safe and road-ready.

If your bike needs a little TLC, bring it along – subject to time and parts availability, we'll take a look and carry out minor repairs where we can.

We look forward to seeing you there and helping everyone ride safely and confidently!



Plastic Free SCHOOLS



STEM WEEK

As part of our Plastic Free Schools challenge, and during STEM Week, the Gardening Club children carried out a Trash Mob in the wooded area of our school. 🌱♻️



Despite daily litter picking by our staff, we still found dozens of plastic items buried in the school grounds.

The children then took the next step: tallying, classifying, and analysing the waste to understand where the plastic pollution is coming from.

Our next step?

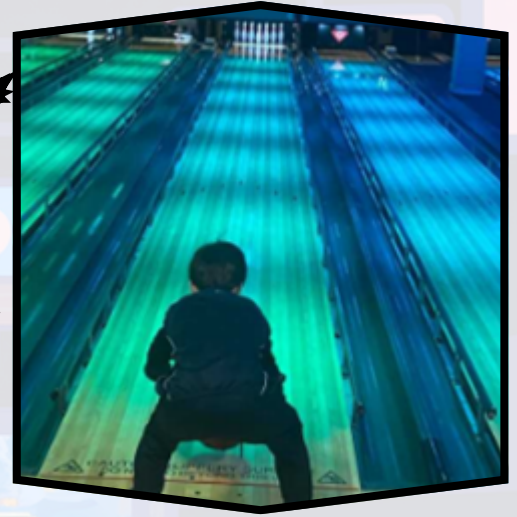
Contacting local politicians to ask for stronger action on plastic pollution.

Unsurprisingly, snack wrappers were the number one item found around the grounds.



Tenpin Bowling

On Monday 3rd March, Mr B and 5 children attended the Croydon school's partnership bowling pentathlon at valley park. The children were given the opportunity to compete for points for their team. The children were able to demonstrate great concentration and hand-eye coordination and soon began to rack up the points for Downsview.



At the end of a very exciting morning of bowling the children were each presented with a special medal which they couldn't wait to show all their friends and teachers back at school. Well done team Downsview!

Zaine said "I had a great time at bowling with my friends!"



Adopt a Tree

A special group of children has been chosen to adopt a young sapling. Each child will take responsibility for nurturing their tree – caring for it during their time at Downsview and helping it grow into a strong, well-established tree.

We've created a dedicated Tree Nursery in a protected area of the school grounds. Next winter, the trees will be planted across different areas of the school, where they can truly take root and thrive.

This initiative will not only increase biodiversity across our campus and help us adapt to increasingly rainy and warmer weather, but – most importantly – it will teach our children about patience, responsibility, and the remarkable journey from sapling to tree.

We hope this experience plants something even more powerful: a lifelong love and respect for trees.

[Click me to watch our reel](#)



This mother's day we celebrate all,

Wonderful women

Close to our heart

This year, we have prepared one choice of gift but can be given to any woman in your life (auntie, grandma, sister, etc.) for any occasion

The children will come and choose the gifts on 13th March.

They will also take them home on the same day.

13th March, Friday



**Each Gift is
£3.50**



Please buy a gift at: www.pta-events.co.uk/dvps/

UNDER THE BLUE GAZEBO

16TH MARCH 3:15-4PM



**Bicycle
workshop**

Children and parents are invited to learn basic bike maintenance, including checking brakes, cables, chains and tyre pressure to keep bikes safe and road-ready.

Bring your bike along for some TLC – time and parts permitting, we'll check it over and carry out minor repairs where possible.

Eco refill

- **Washing up liquid** 100ml **£0.40**
- **Hand wash** 100ml **£0.55**
- **Body Wash** 100ml **£0.55**
- **Shampoo** 100ml **£0.70**
- **Conditioner** 100ml **£0.70**

Bring your own bottle, or get one from us!

**CASH and CARD
payments are now
both accepted**

**Uniform
Sale**

Help us to reuse uniforms and save the environment!

Every item £1 or fill a bag for £5

PLEASE DONATE!

in the red bin outside the office at the recycling point.

**ESPECIALLY
PE KITS!**



For any events, Pay at:

www.pta-events.co.uk/dvps/

CIRCUS 15th JUNE
Roll up, Roll up!
EARLY BIRD - £11.50 each (after £13.50)
EARLY BIRD SINGLE AND ALL FULL PRICE
TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE
REMEMBER - This event is open to the whole community so please invite friends/family! Select adult/guest when booking system asks for class.
www.pta-events.co.uk/dvps/
Gates open: 4.45pm Showtime: 6-8pm

CRAFTS AT DOWNSVIEW CHURCH
All children up to 12 years are welcome to attend our free session with a responsible adult.
10TH MARCH
3:30 - 5:00 PM
THEME: **Easter**

CAN YOUR BOSS HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR DOWNSVIEW?



Does your employer have a match funding scheme?
Are they willing to match fund any of our events?
Turn over for more info

MATCH FUNDING
It won't cost you a penny!

We would be grateful if you could find out if your employer has a match funding scheme. If they are willing to match fund any of our events this could be a really large source of income for Downsview and help us raise money to support the school.

HOW DOES IT WORK?



The employer runs the ice cream stall at the summer fayre.
The stall makes £128 profit.
The employer matches it by donating £128.
The employer can claim this charitable donation as an expense.

And just like magic your volunteering becomes twice as important!

If your employer can help please contact Mrs. Gray

NEW DATES FOR 2026! LIVINGSTONE ROAD PLAY STREET

A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN TO PLAY HAPPILY AND SAFELY IN A STREET CLOSED TO CARS!

SUN 8TH FEB
SUN 8TH MARCH
SUN 12TH APRIL
SUN 10TH MAY
SUN 13TH SEPT
SUN 11TH OCT

1.30 PM - 3.30 PM

CYCLE CHALK SKIP CHAT COMMUNITY

KIDS MUST BE SUPERVISED BY AN ADULT!

[ht tp://bit.ly/3YZGk3b](https://bit.ly/3YZGk3b)
[L RplaystreetCR7](https://www.croydon.gov.uk)

CROYDON
www.croydon.gov.uk

WORLD BOOK DAY!

Decorate a Dolly Peg as your favourite book character!

IF YOU FORGOT TO BRING YOUR BEAUTIFUL CREATION TO CLASS TODAY PLEASE DO IT ON MONDAY!

Return date 6th March

Winners announced: 11th March



JOIN US AT EASYFUNDRAISING

We're registered with easyfundraising, so you can support us for FREE. Over 8,000 retailers donate when you shop through them - at no extra cost to you.

Just sign up and use easyfundraising when shopping online. If you join this month, the school gets £2 plus bonus donations for every new supporter.



MARCH

- 8th - Street play
- 10th - Crafts at Downsview Church
- 11th - Dolly peg competition winners announced
- 13th - Wonderful Women gift shop

Every Friday, we have a ice cream sale and a Minimal Eco Refill shop 3:15 pm

COMING SOON

**active future
Croydon**

EASTER HALF PROGRAMME

7th Apr - 10th Apr
Ages 4 - 12

Fun-filled days packed with activities
Multi-sports, dance, games, free play, creative play, and outings

10AM - 5PM - PAID PLACEMENTS
10AM - 2PM - FREE VOUCHERS

Nutritious hot meals are provided daily
Friendly, trained staff who care

The Crescent Primary School,
Croydon, CR0 2HN

Build confidence, make new friends, and get ACTIVE!

How to sign up
Follow the link or scan the QR Code for paid placements

- FREE Vouchers will sent directly by schools to eligible families.
- Paid HAF places can be booked here: <https://shorturl.at/pNM4T>

afcroydun@activefuture.info 07958457085 @activefuturecroydon

**BUY 1 GET 1
FREE**

USE CODE
CPFCWSCHOOLS
AT CHECKOUT

ENJOY MATCHDAY ACTIVITIES!

- Player signing session
- Face painting
- Arts and crafts
- Football activities
- And more!

EMPOWERMENT MATCH

ADULTS FROM £9
JUNIORS £5

PALACE v FOREST
SUN 15 MAR • 14:00 GMT
VBS COMMUNITY STADIUM

CLICK HERE TO SECURE YOUR TICKETS

50% OFF INITIAL PAYMENT

TAKE THE PLUNGE INTO WEEKLY LESSONS

Give your child the gift of confidence and safety in and around the water with Better Swim School.

Join weekly lessons with Better Swim School and get 50% off your first payment with code SCHOOL50.

Better Swim School

Terms and conditions apply. Offer open to new customers only for school children aged between 4 - 12 years. Offer ends on 07/08/2026. Full terms at better.org.uk/offer-terms. Better is a registered trademark and trading name of GLL (Greenwich Leisure Limited), a charitable social enterprise and registered society under the Co-operative & Community Benefit & Societies Act 2014 registration no. 27793R. Registered office: Middlegate House, The Royal Arsenal, London, SE18 6SX. Inland Revenue Charity no. XR43398.

BETTER

Eco Living Fest!

A bi-monthly event run for the community by the community

**SAT 21 ST MARCH
1-4PM
HOLY INNOCENTS CHURCH HALL
SOUTH NORWOOD
192A SELHURST ROAD
SE25 6XX**

free entry

**ELECTRICAL REPAIR • KIDS ZONE
LEARN CLOTHES MENDING & DARNING
BICYCLE REPAIR • SWEET & SAVOURY VEGAN FOOD & DRINKS • ENERGY ADVICE • ETHICAL FINANCIAL SERVICES RANKINGS • CLOTHES SWAP • CLEANING & BODY CARE REFILLS
FOOD GROWING INFO & ADVICE • PLANT-BASED DIET INFO & ADVICE • DROP OFF TERRACYLE ITEMS**

**FREE WORKSHOP
WONDERFUL WEEDS
IDENTIFY THE USEFUL ONES IN YOUR GARDEN WITH ROY VICKERY**

Learn more about our events and how to get involved at sustaintheath.org or email sustainablethorntonheath@gmail.com



NURSERY

SPACES STILL AVAILABLE FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

ADMISSIONS

To Apply please [click here!](#)



SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!

Schools are constantly having to work to very tight budgets and we rely greatly on the kind generosity and support of our parents.

Each school year we ask parents if they are willing to contribute to the School Fund. This voluntary contribution allows the school to purchase additional resources for the children and this year we would love to purchase some additional equipment for our outdoor learning areas.

We would like to suggest a minimum contribution of £30 per family.

Your contributions are greatly appreciated and can be made on-line using the Magicbooking website.

Please log into your account, go the E-Shop and select the item School Fund 25-26



GDPR AND DATA PROTECTION AT DOWNSVIEW



At Downsview, GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) is taken very seriously to ensure that all personal information about our pupils, staff and parents is handled securely and with respect.

We collect important data such as contact details, medical information, and academic records, and it is essential that this information is protected from misuse or unauthorised access.

By following GDPR guidelines, Downsview maintains the trust of our school community, ensuring that personal data is only used for legitimate purposes and shared appropriately.

We also respect the rights of individuals to access, correct, or request the deletion of their information.

Upholding GDPR helps us create a safe and secure environment for everyone and ensures we meet legal requirements around data protection.

Please click on link to view the GDPR page on our website:

[GDPR Privacy Notices and Data Protection Policies](#)