

The WHPS Weekly

Friday 17th July 2026



GOODBYE TO THE PLAYGROUND!

Dear WHPS Families,

Today has been a day of celebration, reflection and farewells as we marked the end of another successful school year.

We said goodbye to Miss Bones, Miss Efford, Miss Vinter, Miss MacCaulay, Miss Osman Michael and Michelle B, thanking them for the care, commitment and dedication they have shown to our children and the wider school community. We wish them every success and happiness in their next adventures.

We also celebrated our wonderful Year 6 pupils as they reached the end of their journey at West Hampstead Primary School.

Today we also said goodbye to another much-loved part of our school – our old playground! From Monday, the diggers will arrive, and work will continue throughout the summer to transform the space ready for September. This exciting project has only been possible because of the incredible generosity and determination of our school community. To mark the end of an era, our PSA kindly provided boxes of chalk so that every child could leave a colourful message, drawing or memory on the playground before work begins. It was a joyful and fitting way to celebrate the many happy moments shared there over the years.

A few weeks ago, I shared the fantastic news that, through PSA events, charitable donations and fundraising, we had reached an incredible **£30,000** towards our playground project. I am absolutely delighted to tell you that, thanks to the continued generosity of our families and supporters, we have now raised **another £10,000**, bringing our total to **£40,000**.

This achievement is a wonderful example of our value of **Community** in action. By working together, we have shown what can be achieved when everyone contributes towards a shared goal that will benefit children for years to come. It also reflects our value of **Aspiration**—our determination to provide the very best learning and play environment for every child at WHPS.

A special congratulations goes to **Thames Class**, who were our top fundraising class, raising an impressive **£755**. Thank you to every family who has donated, attended events, volunteered their time or supported the project in any way. Every contribution has made a real difference.

If you would still like to support the project, it is not too late. Our Crowdfunder will remain open throughout the summer: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/west-hampstead-primary-playground>

Finally, thank you for your continued support throughout another fantastic year. It has been a privilege to work alongside such a caring, ambitious and supportive community. I hope you all have a wonderful, restful summer break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September as we begin an exciting new school year together.

Have a wonderful summer!

Sam Drake
Headteacher



£10,160

Target: £10,000



262 supporters

38 days left

Donate

Share



£755

Target: £1000



32 supporters

41 days left

Donate

Share

Giftaid Donate with Gift Aid
Make your donation go further

A Goodbye Letter to Year 6!

Well done on reaching the end of primary school

7 Years! Exactly the amount of time that I have been at WHPS. I feel like we've been on that journey together. Some of our children have been here for seven years and it's felt like 7 minutes!

It has been a long and tiring year, but all of the staff have been amazed by your great sense of humour, amazing work ethic and boundless energy this year.

I know that exams can lead to some children (and their parents and teachers) to become anxious. But if you were anxious during SATs you certainly didn't show it! They looked each test in the eye and said... You won't beat me!

Every single child in this room rose to the occasion. You were cool and determined to succeed.

The staff have been so proud of all of you this year. You have tried your very hardest, put all of your energy into striving to do your best, and gained some incredible achievements. No-one, anywhere, could have asked any more of you.

I am very proud to say that our results were again significantly above national this year!

For some of you parents this will be the end of your journey at WHPS... for others with younger children... you are in for the long haul!

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Dinata & Miss Philips for their patience, hard work and dedication towards the children. Ayo, Tania, Nate & Zoe too. I'd also like to thank every member of staff who worked with them from nursery to year 6. Not just helping them with their learning but also helping them feel welcome, happy and safe at our school. **Together we achieve!**

Finally, it's with great sadness that we say thank you and goodbye to Miss Bones for leading the team with such passion and with such determination to ensure that no child is forgotten or limited by any kind of glass ceiling. Miss Bones has always seen the potential of every individual child. Sometimes when they have not seen it in themselves. We will miss her greatly.

SATs are just one part of being a pupil at West Hampstead Primary School. SATs do not test inquisitiveness, thirst for knowledge, or our love of history, geography, French, RE, DT, the arts or sport. All of these aspects are important to us at WHPS. SATs do not test friendship, resilience, manners, tolerance, taking part or trying new things. All of these aspects are important to us as WHPS as well.

We know that even more important to all of us are the friends and adults we have learnt alongside.

I firmly believe that these young people in front of you could... Do anything they want to do. Be anything they want to be. Go anywhere they want to go.

And they've demonstrated that all year. Their boundless energy had no limits!

But when it truly counted... they were where they were meant to be... ready to learn. We are going to miss that unique wandering spirit!

We know that when you leave our school you will continue to shine, and we wish all of you, from all our hearts, the very best for the future. Never stop wandering year 6!



Have a great summer! Sam Drake, Headteacher

A Wonderful End to Another Incredible Year in EYFS

As another fantastic school year draws to a close, we would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been an incredible year for our Nursery and Reception children.

It has been a joy to watch every child grow in confidence, independence and curiosity. From their very first days through to the end of the year, the progress they have made has been truly remarkable. They have embraced new challenges, developed wonderful friendships, discovered new interests and achieved so much in every area of their learning. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them.

Our Reception children are now ready to begin their exciting Year 1 journey. They leave Reception as confident, capable learners, equipped with the skills, resilience and enthusiasm to flourish in the next stage of their education. We know they will continue to shine, and we wish them every success as they move on.

At the same time, we are delighted to welcome our Nursery children into Reception. They have had a wonderful year of learning through play, exploration and discovery, and they are more than ready for this exciting next chapter. We look forward to seeing them continue to grow and thrive in their new classrooms.

One of the highlights of the year was undoubtedly our Sports Day. It was a fantastic celebration of teamwork, determination and fun, with every child giving their very best in each race. The atmosphere was simply wonderful, with children, staff and families cheering one another on throughout the events. It was especially lovely to see such enthusiastic participation in the parents' race a huge well done to our Nursery parents, who stepped up to the challenge and proudly brought home the victory for Nursery!

Thank you to everyone who took part and to all those who came along to clap, cheer and support.

Your encouragement made the day even more special.

None of this would have been possible without the continued support of our wonderful parents and carers. Thank you for working in partnership with us throughout the year, for supporting your children's learning, and for trusting us to be part of their early education. Your encouragement at home makes such a difference, and we are truly grateful.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you goes to our amazing EYFS staff, whose dedication, care and passion make our Nursery and Reception such happy, nurturing places to learn. Together, we have created countless special memories that we will treasure.

We wish all of our families a happy, safe and relaxing summer break. Thank you for being part of such a wonderful year we can't wait to see what next year brings!

The Early Years Team.

















THE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION FOR WEST HAMPSTEAD

Bringing the local community together

ESOL Class for Women only

(English for Speakers of Other Languages)

Improve your English grammar, conversation & writing skills with Qendresa, an experienced ESOL teacher.

Level : Intermediate +



Every Monday from 14th September

14:00 – 15:00



West Hampstead Community Centre

17 Dornfell Street, NW6 1QN



FREE!



Scan to book

or visit

<https://cawh.org.uk/page/activities-for-adults>

info@cawh.org.uk

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THE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION FOR **WEST HAMPSTEAD**

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WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAM 2026

FREE



WEEK 1

Mon, 20th July, 2pm – 5pm

Drama Workshop

A fun, interactive drama workshop with Sasha, building confidence, creativity and communication through play.

Tues, 21st July, 11am – 3pm

Clay Heads

Get messy with Tash' clay workshop.

Thurs, 23rd July, 11am – 3pm

3d Animals with Tash

Bring your favourite animals to life in 3D through art and craft.

Fri, 24th July, 1pm – 5pm

Popsicle Stick Wall Art & Dance

Transform simple popsicle sticks into beautiful works of art with Roshi.

Get moving with the
Spencer Stage School.

WEEK 2

Mon, 27th July, 2pm – 5pm

Drama Workshop

A fun, interactive drama workshop with Sasha, building confidence, creativity and communication through play.

Tues, 28th July, 11am – 3pm

Arts & Crafts and Capoeira

Create a Paper Flip Flop Design with Roshi and get moving with Senzala London.

Wed, 29th July, 11am – 3pm

Beaded Wire Sculptures

Bend, twist and decorate wire with colourful beads to create unique sculptures, with Tash.

Thurs, 30th July, 11am – 3pm

Make your own Tote Bag

Textile Art with Tash.

All workshops are aimed at children aged 6+. The sessions take place at the West Hampstead Community Centre. Please get in touch via email for more information and to book your free place: candypeople@cawh.org.uk



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WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAM 2026

FREE



WEEK 4

WEEK 3

Mon, 3rd Aug, 2pm - 5pm

Drama Workshop

A fun, interactive drama workshop with Sasha, building confidence, creativity and communication through play.

Tues, 4th Aug, 11am - 3pm

Nature Photo Frames

Make your own Nature Photo Frame with Tash.

Thurs, 6th Aug, 11am - 3pm

Landscape Painting

A Landscape Painting workshop, run by Roshi, inspired by David Hockney.

Fri, 7th Aug, 1pm - 5pm

Picasso Portrait Art & Dance

Get inspired with Roshi's Cardboard Portraits and learn new moves with the Spencer Stage School.

Mon, 10th Aug, 2pm - 5pm

Drama Workshop

A fun, interactive drama workshop with Sasha, building confidence, creativity and communication through play.

Tues, 11th Aug, 11am - 3pm

Textile Art & Capoeira

Summer themed Tote Bags with Roshi and cool Capoeira moves with Senzala London.

Thurs, 13th Aug, 11am - 3pm

Pop Art & Capoeira

Roy Lichtenstein inspired Pop Art with Roshi, followed by an energetic Capoeira class with Senzala London.

Fri, 14th Aug, 1pm - 5pm

Watercolour & Dance

Introduction to Watercolour by Janine and new dance moves with the Spencer Stage School.

All workshops are aimed at children aged 6+. The sessions take place at the West Hampstead Community Centre. Please get in touch via email for more information and to book your free place: candypeople@cawh.org.uk



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Summer Reading Challenge

Library Pop-Ups!

Free stories, games and fun
at your local parks!

Ready,
Set,
Read!



 Pop-Up Location	 Date(s)	 Time
 Talacre Gardens	Tuesday 21st July Tuesday 25th August	3pm – 5pm
 Polygon Road Open Space	Wednesday 22nd July Thursday 27th August	3pm – 5pm
 Kilburn Grange Park	Wednesday 22nd July – Wednesday 26th August (weekly)	3pm – 5pm



Summer Reading Challenge is
for children aged 4–12.



Any questions? Email us at
libraries@camden.gov.uk

Share your feedback!

Scan the QR code to
take our short survey.



 Camden



THE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION FOR **WEST HAMPSTEAD**

Bringing the local community together

A Life in Brushstrokes

- The George MacMillan Collection

CAWH ART SALE

CAWH is proud to present a charity art sale celebrating the life and prolific legacy of the late **George MacMillan**, a true chronicler of our neighbourhood. With characteristic generosity, George donated his entire body of work so that it could do what he always believed art should do: bring people together and give back to the community he loved.



Art Sale Launch - Friday 17th July

19:00 - 22:00

Gallery Open Day - Saturday 18th July

10:00 - 16:00



West Hampstead Community Centre

17 Dornfell Street, NW6 1QN



17th July - £6

18th July - FREE ENTRY



Scan to book

or visit

cawh.org.uk/events/99/details

info@cawh.org.uk

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