FAMILIES BULLETIN
15th May

Year 10 End of Year Exams

Year 10 students will be sitting their end of year exams from **Monday 15th June - Friday 26th June**. These assessments are an important opportunity for students to experience formal exam conditions, practise revision strategies, and gain a clearer understanding of their current strengths and areas for development before Year 11.

The end of year exams will help teachers identify where students may need further support and will give students valuable feedback to guide their next steps. They will also be used to help inform **predicted grades for college applications**, making them an important part of students' preparation for their next steps after school.

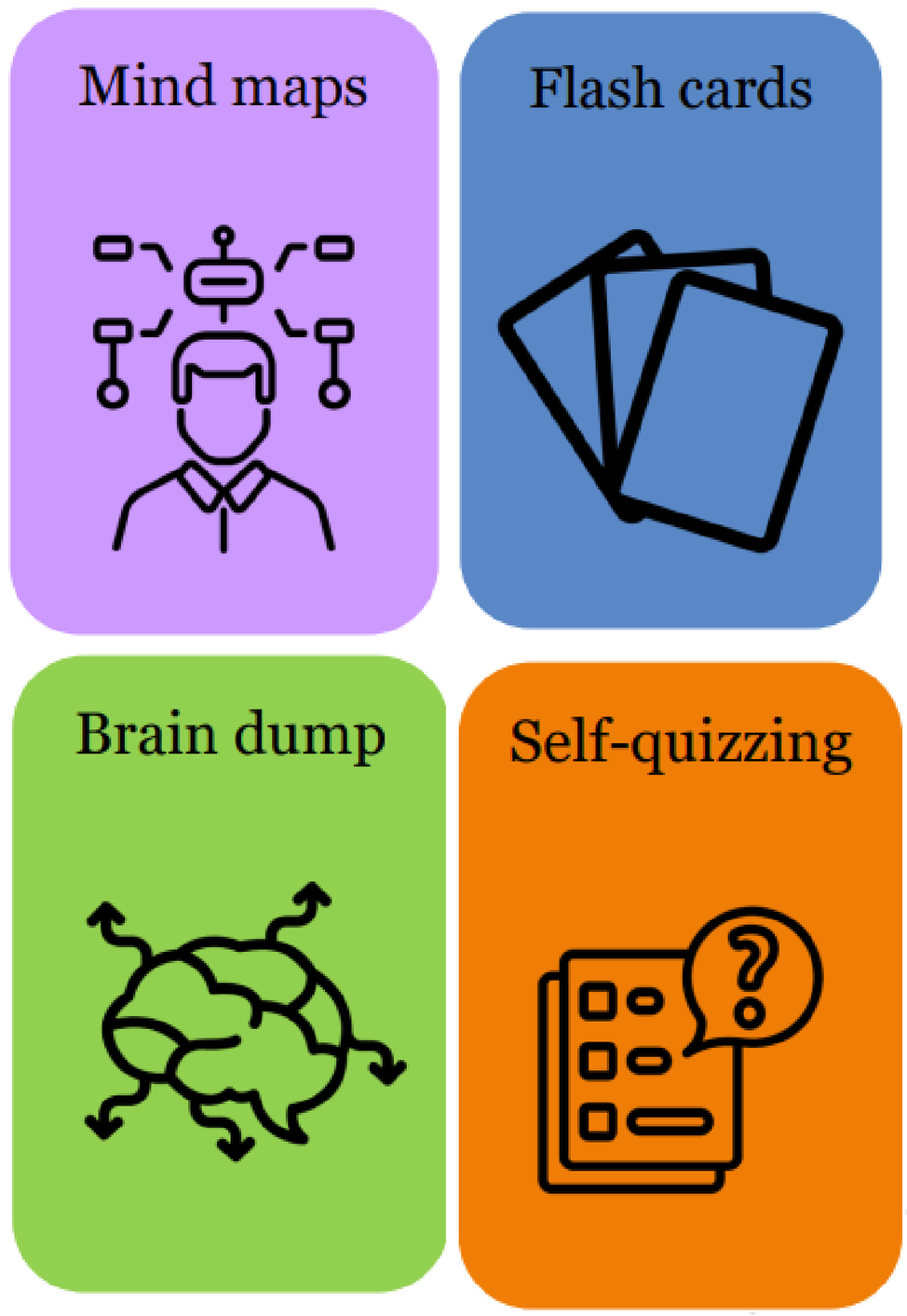
Evidence shows us that students who perform strongly in their mock examinations are more likely to achieve strong outcomes in their final Year 11 exams. Strong preparation at this stage also helps students feel more confident, less stressed, and more positive about their learning as they move into Year 11.

Things to Look Out For

Next week, your child's subject teachers will be sharing the key topics to revise, along with revision links and resources to support preparation for each subject.

In tutor time, students will also be building their individual exam timetables and planning their revision so that they can manage their time effectively in the run-up to the exam:

Last term, students were taught how to revise effectively using the **Core 4 revision strategies**. We encourage families to talk to their child about these strategies and support them to use them regularly at home.



How Parents and Carers Can Support at Home

1. Help create a revision routine
Support your child to put together a realistic revision timetable. Short, focused revision sessions are often more effective than long periods of last-minute study. Encourage them to revise little and often in the weeks leading up to the exams.

2. Set aside device-free study time
Allocating a set time each evening where devices are switched off can help your child focus fully on their studies. This routine can reduce distractions and support better concentration during revision.

3. Encourage active revision
Students should be using revision strategies that actively support thinking, recall and the application of knowledge. This may include the Core 4 revision strategies, alongside approaches such as self-quizzing, flashcards, mind maps, practice questions and reviewing feedback from previous assessments. While reading notes or textbooks can help students familiarise themselves with content, this alone does not constitute effective revision. Research shows that active revision strategies, which require students to engage with and retrieve information, are far more effective in supporting long-term learning and exam success.



4. Provide a calm uncluttered space to work
Where possible, help your child find a quiet and organised place to revise. Having the right equipment, resources and revision materials ready can help them make the most of their study time.

5. Support healthy habits
Good sleep, regular breaks, balanced meals and time away from screens all help students to concentrate and manage exam pressure. Encouraging a healthy routine can make a big difference to their confidence and wellbeing.

6. Help with exam readiness
In the days before the exams, encourage your child to check their timetable, pack the correct equipment, arrive punctually and approach each exam with a positive mindset.



A Final Reminder

It is normal for students to feel some nerves before exams, and a little pressure can be motivating. However, we want students to remember that mock exams are part of the learning process. They are not final outcomes, but a valuable opportunity to practise, reflect and improve.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our Year 10 students prepare confidently for this important step in their GCSE journey.

Mr Drumm
Assistant Headteacher - KS4

Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Year Group	Timings
Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May	May Half-Term	All	All Day
Monday 1st June - Friday 5th June	Year 8 Assessments	Year 8	Various
Monday 8th June - Friday 12th June	Year 9 Assessments	Year 9	Various
Thursday 11th June	Staff Twilight - Early Dismissal	All	12:50pm onwards
Monday 15th June - Friday 26th June	Year 10 Assessments	Year 10	Various
Thursday 16th July	Final Day of Academic Year	All	Dismissal Timings TBC

FAMILIES BULLETIN
8st May

BoxClever Brings Macbeth to Life for Year 10

Our Year 10 students were recently treated to an unforgettable theatrical experience as the acclaimed BoxClever Theatre Company visited the school to perform their energetic and accessible rendition of Shakespeare's Macbeth. From the very first moment, the performance captivated students, transforming a classic text into a thrilling, immersive experience that sparked both excitement and understanding.

BoxClever's approach to Macbeth was anything but traditional. With a stripped-back set, creative use of props, and a small but highly versatile cast, the actors seamlessly shifted between roles, bringing Shakespeare's famous tragedy vividly to life. The fast pace, physical storytelling, and moments of direct audience interaction kept students fully engaged throughout.

The production focused on the key themes of ambition, power, and guilt, making the complex language of Shakespeare much more accessible. Students were able to follow the plot clearly while still appreciating the richness of the original text.

One of the highlights of the performance was the opportunity for students to get involved directly. Several volunteers were invited to join the actors on stage, stepping into roles and helping to recreate key scenes. This interactive element not only boosted confidence but also deepened students' understanding of the play.

The excitement in the room was palpable as students cheered on their classmates and became active participants rather than passive viewers.

For many students, this was their first live experience of Shakespeare performed in such an engaging way. The performance helped demystify the language and showed that Shakespeare can be exciting, dramatic, and even funny.

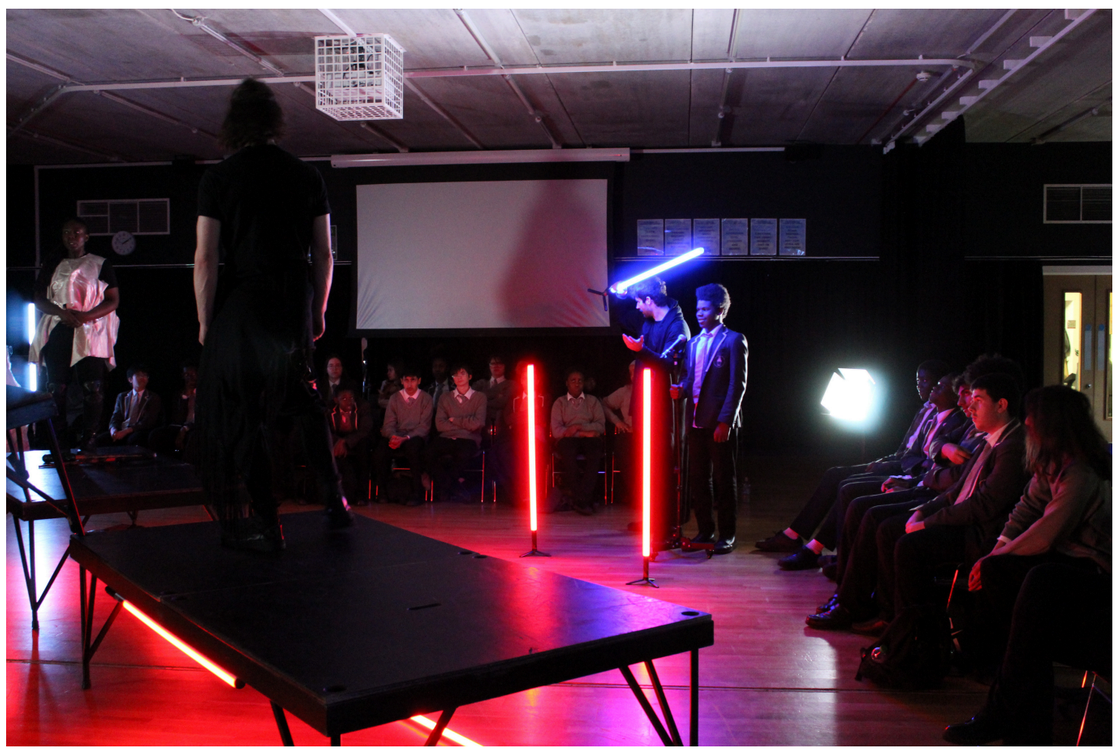
Teachers noted a noticeable increase in enthusiasm during subsequent lessons, with students more willing to discuss characters, themes, and key moments from the play.

Feedback from students:

"It helped me understand the story and will help me with my GCSEs"

"I loved how they involved us — it felt like we were part of the play."

"The acting was amazing, especially the way they switched characters so quickly."

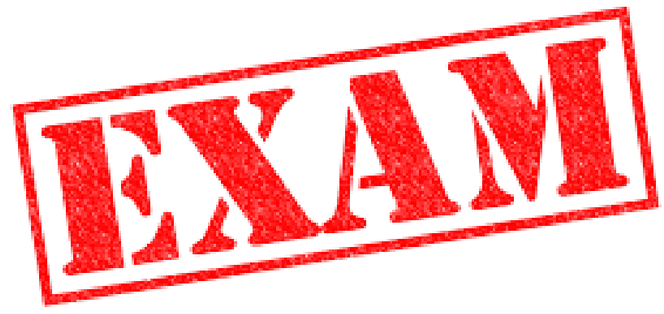




Year 11 News: GCSE, OCR & BTEC Examinations – Important Information for Parents

Overview
As we approach the start of the GCSE and vocational examination period, this article outlines key arrangements and the support in place for our Year 11 students during the coming weeks.

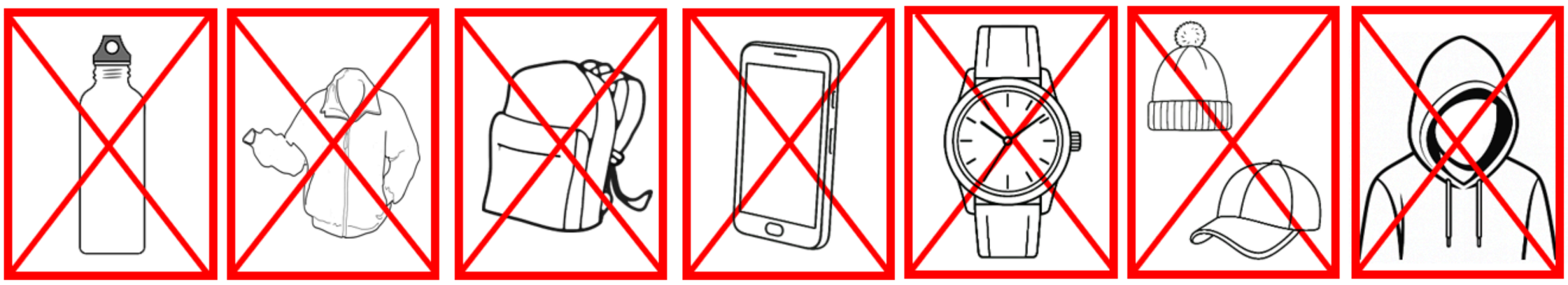
Exam Timetables
All students received their individual exam timetables in March. A parent overview timetable has also been shared to show the dates and times of all examinations and can also be found here: Year 11 Summer Exam Timetable. We are legally bound to begin exams promptly.



Exam Protocol
Students are expected to attend school each day in full school uniform, including on Core PE days.

Any breach of examination regulations may place not only an individual student's examination at risk, but also the examinations of other students. The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) reserves the right to disqualify students from examinations where regulations are not adhered to.

Our usual high standards of behaviour apply throughout the examination period. Any breach of examination regulations may result in disqualification from examinations and the loss of eligibility to attend the Year 11 Prom.



Attendance & Punctuality
Students must arrive at school by 8:25am to attend the pre-exam briefing and enter the exam room calmly and on time.

Fruit and healthy snacks will be available before morning exams.

Late entry is at the discretion of the Exams Officer, and students who arrive after the scheduled start time may not be allowed to sit the exam.

Students with 25% or 50% extra time should carefully check afternoon exam end times, as some exams may finish after the normal school day.

Exam Equipment
Students must bring the following equipment in a clear pencil case or plastic bag: black pens (x2), pencil, ruler, rubber, sharpener, calculator, maths set and highlighters (questions only).







Water must be in a clear bottle with no label. Electronic devices, watches and personal items must be left in lockers and pockets must be completely empty.

Exam Support in School
Students will receive Pre-Paper Preparation Sessions (PPPs) with their subject teachers shortly before each exam. These sessions focus on exam technique, knowledge review and confidence-building.

May Half-Term Interventions
Subject intervention sessions will run during May half-term and are open to all students.

Dates: Tuesday 26th – Friday 29th May. Sessions run from 10:00–11:30 and 12:00–13:30. Lunch will be provided for students attending both sessions in one day.

Attendance earns intervention reward points and Prom points.

Wellbeing During Exams
The exam period can be stressful for students. Parents play a vital role in supporting wellbeing by helping students balance revision, rest, nutrition and relaxation.

Helpful resources for supporting exam wellbeing:

- NHS – Helping your child beat exam stress: https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/advice-for-parents/help-your-child-beat-exam-stress
- GOV.UK – Coping with exam pressure: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coping-with-exam-pressure-a-guide-for-students/coping-with-exam-pressure-a-guide-for-students
- YoungMinds – Parents guide to exam stress: https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/exam-time/

Final Reminders
Students should not be taken out of school during the examination period. Medical and dental appointments should be avoided as exams cannot be rearranged.

Mr Drumm
Assistant Headteacher - KS4

THE SKILLS FOR YOUR FUTURE

FREE* Courses for Levels 1 & 2 Maths and English

ONLINE

Functional Skills
University of West London

This intensive 5–7-week course prepares you for GCSE-equivalent qualifications in Maths and English. After an in-person assessment, you will study via live online classes with a specialist tutor. Classes are delivered during evenings and weekends. Open to eligible London residents over the age of 19. Please scan the QR code to find out more.

IN-PERSON

Functional Skills
London South East Colleges

With campuses across Greenwich and surrounding areas, study for your Functional Skills qualifications close to home. Courses are usually free for qualifying students.

*For qualifying students.

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. XR43098

ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

BETTER



LET'S GET READY FOR THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE!

The Summer Reading Challenge returns to the library this July!
All you need is your library card to join in and earn prizes.

Need to join? It's FREE! Ask an adult to visit your local library with proof of address, or get them to visit:
https://www.better.org.uk/library/users/sign_up

SIGN UP

ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

BETTER

SPINE FESTIVAL 2026

A free spoken word and arts festival
for children and families

MAGIC & IMAGINATION

16 MAY – 30 JUNE



Woolwich Centre Library
Saturday 30 May | 2.30-4pm
Dropin Session | Age 7+

FUN & CREATIVE session with multidisciplinary artist **Steve Glynn** a who specialises in plasticine modelling as the "Plasticine Man" He runs fun, hands-on workshops for young people everyone to enjoy!

applesandsnakes.org/spine #spinefestival

APPLES AND SNAKES

Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

BETTER the feel good place

Produced by Apples and Snakes in partnership with: ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

APPLES AND SNAKES LTD. CHARITY NUMBER: 294030

SPINE FESTIVAL 2026

A free spoken word and arts festival
for children and families

MAGIC & IMAGINATION

16 MAY – 30 JUNE

Join us for free creative events and performances that will inspire children and families to ignite their magic and imagination. For ages 0-11 years.

Get involved!

For more informationabout the festival and poetry competition, speak to the library staff.

applesandsnakes.org/spine
#spinefestival

Fancy yourself a poet?

Submit to our poetry competition online for a chance to win a prize and meet Simon Mole! For 7-11 years. Head to our website for more.



Simon Mole
SPINE2026 Ambassador & Competition Judge

APPLES AND SNAKES

Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

JOHN LYON'S CHARITY

GO ALL IN.

Produced by Apples and Snakes in partnership with Brent, Bromley, Camden, Greenwich, Hammersmith and Fulham, Harrow, Kensington and Chelsea, Lewisham, Merton, Newham, Sutton, Tower Hamlets, Wandsworth and Westminster Libraries across London.

APPLES AND SNAKES LTD. CHARITY NUMBER: 294030

BETTER

ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

Half-Term @ The Woolwich Centre Library

A range of fun & free events/activities for all to enjoy

Saturday 23 May | 1.30-3pm
Family Session: Face Painting Fun

Monday 25 May | All Day
Bank Holiday: Library Closed

Wednesday 27 May | 10.30-11.30am
Family Session: Crafting Fun!

Wednesday 27 May | 2-3pm | All Ages
Family Session: Recycle Junk Modelling

Thursday 28 May | 11am-6pm
Black Female Entrepreneur Greenwich:
African Pop-Up Market Day

Thursday 28 May | 2-2.30pm
Family Session: TT Kids Mini- Party

Thursday 28 May | 2-3pm & 3-4pm | Age 7+
Easy Coding - Lego Robotics*

Friday 29 May | 11am-2pm
Explore Learning: 11+ Exam Taster Session

Friday 29 May | 4-5pm
Family Session: Half-Term LEGO Builds

Saturday 30 May | 2.30-4pm | Drop-in | Age 7+
SPINE Festival: Steve Glynn
a multidisciplinary artist who
specialises in plasticine
modelling as the "Plasticine Man"
He runs fun, hands-on workshops
for young people to enjoy!



FREE Holiday Meals | 12noon | Mon-Fri

Booking - register at the Children's Library Desk

Core Activities:

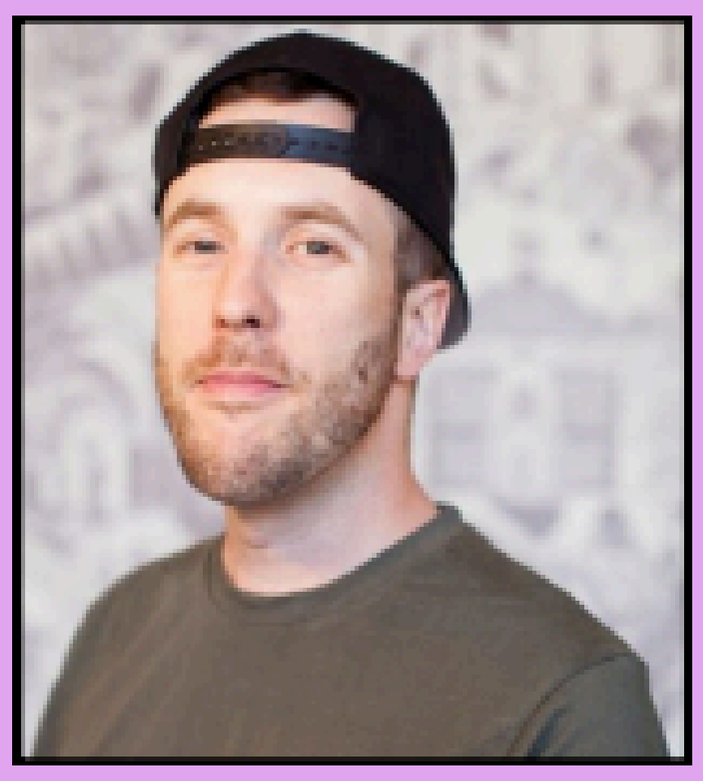
Monday/Thursday/Saturday | Rhyme Time | 10am & 11am
Tuesday | Story Time & Rhyme Time | 10.30am & 11am
Thursday | RASCALS After School Craft Club | 4.30-5.30pm
Friday | Messy Morning & Rhyme Time | 10.30 & 11.30am
Saturday | Lego Club | 3.30pm
Sunday | Rhyme Time | 12.30-1pm
Sunday | Messy Afternoon | 2.30-3pm

Part of the
National Year of Reading 2026
GO ALL IN.

BETTER the feel good place
ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

WHATEVER YOU'RE INTO, READ INTO IT.

Discover your local library | Woolwich Centre Library



paulcree.co.uk

National Year of Reading: Poetry Workshops

Mondays 8, 15, 22 & 29 June | 5-6.30pm

Join Paul at the library for a National Year of Reading workshop for local adults.

Across four sessions, explore a new form of Poetry each week and take part in engaging writing activities designed to spark creativity.

The workshop culminates in a supportive final session where participants can share their work or perform and celebrate their progress.



SIGN-UP AT THE LIBRARY DESK

GO ALL IN.

National Year of Reading 2026

BETTER the feel good place

ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

Woolwich Centre Library

JOB CLUB

Starting 1 June | Mondays | 12.30pm-2.30pm

Helping people develop employability skills and confidence in finding work (including Apprenticeships). Support includes CV writing, job searches, analysing Job Ads, online applications, interview preparation, email / digital skills and understanding the UK workplace

ESOL CLASS

Assessments: Wedensday 20 May | 10-12pm
Every Wednesday | 10-12pm

Topics include everyday conversation, pronunciation, reading and writing practice, How to complete forms and applications, health and wellbeing, shopping, travel, work skills, digital literacy, and understanding life in the UK. Sessions are adapted to learners' needs to encourage confidence, communication, and community integration



BETTER the feel good place

ROYAL Borough of GREENWICH

LOTTERY FUNDED

Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

KINTH SQUARE

WOW TIME SHOW

TOURING LIBRARIES ACROSS LONDON & BEYOND (2026)

A gentle theatre experience for ages 0–5

CALM | SENSORY | EXPLORATORY



Friday, June 5 | 11:00 AM
Peckham Library
112 Peckham High Street
London SE15 5JR
Part of the Southwark Festival of Words

Saturday, June 6 | 11:30 AM
Kilburn Library (Brent)
42 Salusbury Road
London NW6 6NN

Wednesday, June 10 | 2:00 PM
Ipswich County Library
Northgate Street
Ipswich IP1 3DE

Thursday, June 11 | 11:00 AM
Canada Water Library
21 Surrey Quays Rd
London SE16 7AR

Friday, June 12 | 11:00 AM
Battersea Library
265 Lavender Hill
London SW11 1JB

Saturday, June 13 | 11:30 AM
Woolwich Centre Library
35 Wellington St
London SE18 6HQ
In the main Children's Library

Friday, June 26 | 1:00 PM
Idea Store Whitechapel Library
321 Whitechapel Road
London E1 1BU

A calm, sensory, non-verbal performance created especially for babies, toddlers and the adults who share their world.

Step into a soft and imaginative space where everyday objects spark wonder.