



Underhill School and Children's Centre



0208 449 2423



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[www.underhillschool.co.uk](http://www.underhillschool.co.uk)

# Newsletter

**Be Curious**

**Be Caring**

**Be Confident**

**Be Cooperative**

Friday 12th December 2025

## Heads corner

Dear Parents and Carers,

The last newsletter of 2025 and it's been a a very busy end to the year with lots of excitement and fun! You can see what the children have been doing at school on our website: <https://underhillschool.co.uk/our-curriculum-in-action-1>

The children all had a fantastic time at the Bull Theatre last week and thoroughly enjoyed the production. The performers thought Underhill were the best audience and they loved performing for everyone. A huge thank you to the Bull Theatre and to all the parents and carers who supported on the trips.

We hope you enjoyed the Christmas Fair yesterday. It was lovely to see so many of you there. A massive thank you to our brilliant PTA for all the time effort that they put into the planning and organising, not only the Christmas Fair but all the events we have enjoyed this year. Thank you to everyone who helped on the day as well -it's a real celebration of the Underhill community that so many people help out at these events.

Well done to all the children and adults in Year 1 and Year 2 for their brilliant show this afternoon! We are very proud of the children for working so hard in the rehearsals and for such excellent performances and teamwork. They have set the bar very high for all the performers next week! Thank you so much to everyone who was able to come and watch the show today.

Year 3 to 6 have been working hard up at the church and in their classes practising and rehearsing for the church concert on Monday afternoon (for Year 3 and 4 parents) and Tuesday morning (for Year 5 and 6 parents). They are all very excited to perform next week.

On Sunday, it is the first night of Hanukkah, the beginning the 8 nights of the Festival of Lights. We wish all our families who are celebrating a very Happy Hanukkah!

Have a great weekend!

Nicola Hayles and Jennie Reed  
Co-Headteachers  
Underhill School and Children's Centre





# Attendance

## Absence

Please remember any absences need to be reported daily to

[attendance@underhillbarnetmail.net](mailto:attendance@underhillbarnetmail.net)

Or via the school website

<https://underhillschool.co.uk/attendance-1>

Absences before and after a school holiday may be liable to a fixed penalty notice from Barnet Education welfare team unless medical evidence is provided

Please complete an Absence request form

<https://forms.gle/JK1N3J7hzy2FR1fJ6> for any planned absences of more than 1 day

## Attendance

95-100% Target for all pupils

90-95% Monitored by school, meeting arranged with teacher

85-90% Invited in for meeting with Heads and attendance

Referral Education Welfare Officer may come at any stage and will depend on individual circumstances/case

If you would like a meeting to discuss your child's attendance please call the school office

## House Attendance

House	Last Week	This Week
Air	95.99%	88.9%
Earth	96.19%	95.07%
Fire	95.01%	94.7%
Water	92.97%	92.57%

Class Attendance	Last week	This week
Beech	92.76%	93.5%
1 Oak	89.09%	92.27%
1 Willow	96.72%	91.53%
2 Chestnut	96.6%	94.76%
3 Cedar	96.37%	98.4%
3 Yew	97.39%	99.13%
4 Cherry	96%	87.3%
4 Larch	86.67%	91.25%
4 Sycamore	93.85%	96.06%
5 Holly	95.71%	95.96%
5 Laurel	93.17%	87.77%
6 Elm	94.62%	97.91%
6 Hawthorn	99.06%	95.94%
Total	95.02%	92.76%



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December	Monday 1st - Friday 5th	Assessment week
	Thursday 4th and Friday 5th	Bull Theatre trip
	Friday 5th	PTA own clothes day; bring chocolate for the Christmas Fair
	Tuesday 9th	KS2 Carol Concert rehearsal AM
	Wednesday 10th	KS2 Carol Concert rehearsal PM
	Thursday 11th	PTA Christmas Fair
	Friday 12th	KS1 Nativity 2:30pm
	Monday 15th	KS2 Carol Concert rehearsal AM
	Monday 15th	KS2 Carol Concert for y3-4 parents 1:30pm
	Tuesday 16th	KS2 Carol Concert for y5-6 parents 10:30am
	Wednesday 17th	EYFS Christmas Concert 2:30pm
	Friday 19th	Break up 1:30pm
January	Monday 5th	INSET
	Thursday 15th	Year 5 trip to the Tower of London
	Monday 19th	Choir performance at the O2
	Monday 19th	World Religion Day
	Friday 23rd	National Handwriting Day
	Friday 23rd	Y3 Bake Sale
	Tuesday 27th	Holocaust Memorial Day
	Friday 30th	PTA pre-loved uniform sale



## What's been happening at Underhill this fortnight?

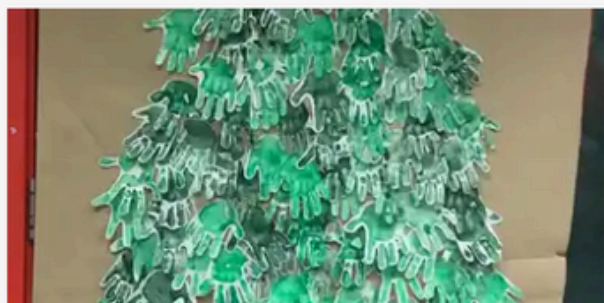
### 28.11.25 Phonics in Blossom



The children have been having lots of fun practising their phonics. This week, they have been focusing on the phoneme /k/. In this activity, they matched the picture to the word and then practised writing the words.

They are making great progress!

### 5.12.25 Christmas fun in Nursery!



Conker class have been getting ready for Christmas this week. The cheeky elf has made an appearance and has been sent to the thinking chair several times!! The elf has not been following the class rules and one day he threw all the crayons on the floor. The children were very disappointed with his behaviour. We had a lot of fun making our Christmas door.

The children wanted to make a Christmas tree and we decided to make our own Christmas tree using handprints. The adults in Conker

Class underestimated the amount of handprints needed by a lot! It took an extra day of hand printing to complete the tree.

How many handprints do you think we used?

There were definitely more than 45.

### 12.12.25 Christmas fun in Reception!



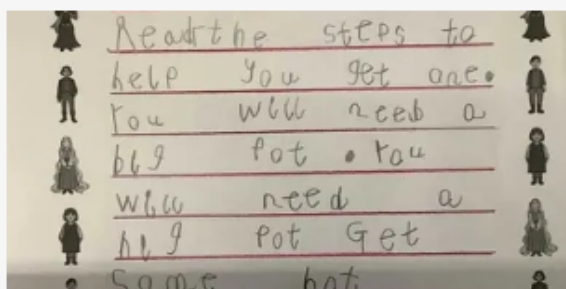
Beech class have created a wonderful 'Dazzling Door for December' by decorating paper plate templates covered with sticky back plastic. They chose different circular confetti shapes in a variety of colours and placed them on the sticky surface. The children loved doing this and were really focused on creating their own colourful patterns with a sprinkle of glitter on the top too to finish off the effect! This activity supports their physical development as they manipulate the art resources using their fine motor skills. We are very proud of our door, we hope you are dazzled too!





## What's been happening at Underhill this fortnight?

### 12.12.25 Instruction writing in Year 1



We have had a fantastic week in year 1 and the Christmas season is in full flow. We are incredibly proud of the children and the hard work they put into learning their songs for the Christmas performance- which they performed beautifully.

In English we have been continue to look at the story of Repunzel and have published instructions on how to catch a witch. In maths we have been working on finding out doubles and near doubles and using that knowledge to help us solve a range of addition problems.

### 5.12.25 Busy rehearsals in Year 2



We've been very busy rehearsing in Year 2 for our show Bethlehem Ballroom! We've been learning all our lines and trying on our costumes. It was great going to the show at the Bull Theatre so we could see how actors put on a show. It gave us lots of confidence.

This half term, we have read The Night Gardener written by The Fan Brothers. It is about a young boy called William who wakes up one morning to find the Chestnut tree in the street outside his house has completely transformed. The children have fully immersed themselves, analysed the text and gathered ideas ready to write a diary entry next week.

### 5.12.25 Year 3 visit the Bull Theatre!



On Wednesday, we went to the Bull Theatre to watch 'Alice in Wonderland & the Stolen Christmas List'. The children who performed were amazing - incredible voices and fun dance moves. They were very inspiring. The children loved the show, especially when Santa made an appearance at the end!

### 12.12.25 A festive week in Year 4!



Year 4 have had a festive filled week this week. They have been enjoying rehearsing in the church ready for the carol concert next week. They have also been decorating the classroom doors making the school look very bright and colourful. In English, they have been writing up their reports all about polar bears and have learnt lots of interesting facts about them. We have also been busy baking and the children have baked their own biscuits!



## What's been happening at Underhill this fortnight?

### 5.12.25 Science in Year 5



It's the first week of December and the Christmas spirit is high! Year 5 have had a wonderful start to the festive season. We have been working extremely hard preparing our Christmas concert song, decorating our classroom doors, and fully embracing the festive cheer.

In PSHE, we have been focusing on health and wellbeing, looking closely at the importance of a good night's sleep and practising calming yoga techniques.

In English, we explored letters written during the war and investigated the differences between formal and informal language from that time. The children showed great curiosity when analysing how communication has changed over the years.

In Science, we had so much fun learning about mixtures and separation. The class worked like real scientists, by sieving and separating a range of materials such as sand, pasta, rice and flour to understand how mixtures can be sorted and separated. It has been a busy, exciting and joyful week in Year 5.

### 12.12.25 Year 6 Journalists



This week Year 6 have been busy practising their song for the church performances but they have not let their learning slip! Every child is working hard right up until the end of term. In maths we have been learning all about ratio (including scale factor and proportion). At first it looked really hard but now everyone knows it's all about multiplication it's actually very easy. In English everyone is writing a newspaper article based on a character from our book "A Story Like the Wind". The trick is getting the right tone as a newspaper article has to be both concise and formal. We are going to finish, edit and write up our newspaper articles next week... then we will all take a rest for the winter break. See you in January!





Underhill School and Children's Centre

## CLUBS AT UNDERHILL

Our internal clubs went live on Arbor this week, and we're delighted to see so many children already signed up for next term!

We're also excited to offer a fantastic range of externally run clubs starting in January. All sign-up information for these clubs can be found on our school website here -

<https://underhillschool.co.uk/school-clubs>

ROCK  
STEADY

# ROCK AND POP BAND LESSONS!



### IGNITE THEIR INNER SPARK!

- ✂ Children learn to play an instrument in their very own band.
- 🎵 Fun and inclusive in-school band lessons. No music theory involved.
- 🎤 Follow their musical journey in your Backstage account.
- 📄 Exam-free, Ofqual-regulated Trinity music qualification.
- 🎸 Instruments provided and no experience necessary.

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### Have fun and learn by playing

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Improves wellbeing, confidence, social skills and academic achievement.

### Progress at their own pace

Your child can achieve an exam-free, Ofqual-regulated Trinity music qualification!

### End every term on a high note

Watch your child shine as they perform in their end of term concerts.

£44.88 per month (no payment in August). Money back guarantee for the first month. Cancel at any time.

"His confidence in music, in just over a year, is incredible to see!"  
Minal

"It keeps encouraging us to do more, so it teaches us to never give up."  
Rocksteady pupil

"Socially, it's great - learning skills, performance confidence - the list is endless."  
Maxine

BOOK YOUR CHILD'S  
PLACE ONLINE!



0330 713 0330  
(Mon-Thurs 8am-8pm, Fri 8am-6pm, local rate)  
[info@rocksteadymusicschool.com](mailto:info@rocksteadymusicschool.com)

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Musical Education



Rocksteady Music Ltd is a registered company in England No. 10101330



## Autumn Term Timetable

02.09.25 – 19.12.25

Inset Days

BEYA & Underhill 01.09.25

All Children's Centres 03.11.2025

## Children's Centres

East-Central Locality

	BEYA A Sure Start Children's Centre	Coppett's Wood A Sure Start Children's Centre	Newstead A Sure Start Children's Centre	Underhill A Sure Start Children's Centre
Monday	<b>Stay and Play</b> 9.30-10.45am 0-5 Years Queenswell Infant School N20 ONQ <b>Stay and Play</b> 3.45-4.45pm 0-5 years Brookhill Nursery School EN4 8SD 08.09.25 – 20.10.25	<b>Stay and Play</b> 9.15-10.30am 0-5 Years <b>Parent and Toddler Yoga</b> 10.30-11am Walkers - 3 Years <b>Baby Massage</b> 2-2.45pm 8 Weeks - Non rollers <b>Booking required</b>	<b>Baby Massage</b> 2-2.45pm 8 Weeks-Non-rollers <b>Booking Required</b>	<b>Childminders</b> 9.30-11.30am Registered OFSTED Childminders <b>Boogie Mites</b> 1.30-2.15pm 0-5 Years
Tuesday	<b>Stay and Play</b> 9.30-11am 0-5 Years <b>Baby Massage</b> 12.15-1pm 8 Weeks-Non-rollers <b>Baby Stay and Play</b> 1-2pm Non-walkers St Margaret's Nursery School EN4 9NT	<b>Stay and Play</b> 9.45-11.15am 0-5 Years Northside Primary School N12 8PJ <b>Baby Stay and Play</b> 1.15-2.15pm Non-walkers	<b>Childminders</b> 9.30-11am <b>Baby Rhyme Time</b> 1-1.45pm Non-walkers Finchley Youth Theatre N2 9ED	<b>Stay and Play</b> 10.30-12pm 0-5 Years <b>Nursery Stay and Play</b> 10.30-11.30 am 2-4 Years-01.10.25, 04.11.25 & 03.12.25 <b>Baby Massage</b> 12-1 pm 8 Weeks-4 Months <b>Booking required</b>
Wednesday	<b>Childminders</b> 9.30-11am 0-5 Years St Margaret's Nursery School EN4 9NT <b>Baby Stay and Play</b> 10-11.30am All Saints N20 9EZ Non-walkers	<b>Stay and Play</b> 9.15-10.30am 0 - 5 Years <b>Shake, Rattle and Roll</b> 10.30-11am 0-5 Years	<b>Outdoor Stay and Play</b> 10-11am Walkers Only Barnwood N2 8LG	<b>Fun Toddler Circuit</b> 12-12.45pm 18 Months-4 Years <b>Baby Stay and Play</b> 1.30-3pm Non-walkers
Thursday	<b>Outdoor Stay and Play</b> 1-2.30pm 0 - 5 Years Hampden Way Nursery School N14 5DJ	<b>Stay and Play</b> 9.15-10.30am 0-5 Years <b>Dance and Movement</b> 10.30-11am Walkers-3 Years <b>Baby Massage</b> 11.30-12.15pm 8 Weeks-Non-rollers <b>Booking required</b>	<b>Stay and Play</b> 10-11am 0-5 Years Under 1's	<b>Stay and Play</b> 9.15-10.45am 0-5 Years <b>Rhyme Time</b> 1.15-2pm 0-5 Years Hope Corner Community Centre ENS 2DY <b>Baby Weighing appointments</b> 1 - 4pm, Under 1's <b>Booking Required</b>
Friday	<b>Stay and Play</b> 9.30-11am 0-5 Years St Margaret's Nursery School EN4 8SD	<b>Perinatal Mums Group</b> 11-12.30pm 6 Week Course <b>Booking required</b> <b>Baby Stay and Play</b> 1.15-2.15pm Non-walkers	No Sessions	<b>Boogie Mites</b> 9.15-10am 0-5 Years <b>Infant Feeding Support Group</b> 12.30-2.30pm Under 1's

Caring for people, our places and the planet

Activities offered weekly unless otherwise stated



I Can



You Can



We Can





Underhill School and Children's Centre

## UNDERHILL CHRISTMAS DOOR COMPETITION



Blossom



Nursery



Beech



1 Willow



1 Oak



2 Chestnut







Underhill School and Children's Centre



3 Cedar



4 Yew



4 Larch



4 Cherry



4 Sycamore



5 Holly







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5 Laurel



6 Elm



6 Hawthorn



Childrens centre



School Office







Underhill School and Children's Centre

# External Adverts



Classes for  
Ages 3-18  
in High  
Barnet &  
East Finchley

**Where Every Spotlight Shines**

**SING. DANCE. ACT**

Book a FREE Taster Class in January!

Fixation Academy of Performing Arts runs weekly drama, dance, singing and musical theatre classes for children aged 3–18. Each session is designed to build confidence and develop real performance skills, from vocal technique and choreography to acting and stagecraft.

Led by experienced teachers, the classes offer a fun and supportive space for young people to progress at their own pace and take part in productions, showcases and, where relevant, graded exams. It's a great way for children to grow, make friends and discover a love for the arts.

Book a free taster session now!

@fixationacademy

More info: <https://fixationacademy.co.uk/children-classes/>

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\*Minimum 2 days. Not to be used in conjunction with other offer codes.

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DFSTED REGISTERED

Trustpilot

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01480 467 567

## **GROW FARM**

### **Maze Garden FUNDRAISER**

The **GROW MAZE GARDEN** is a sensory & pollinator garden that has been designed collaboratively by Y7 students at The Totteridge Academy to increase biodiversity on our agroecological farm. It will be built in 2026... by our community!



**HOW TO SUPPORT  
CLICK HERE**

To **DONATE**, win festive prizes & support the **2026 build!**

Closes on 19 Dec.

**TARGET: £5,000**

