

Dear Year 9 Families,

Welcome back to the Spring term!

I hope this email finds you well. As we reflect on the first half of the academic year, I would like to take a moment to celebrate the many achievements of our Year 9 students. It has been a fantastic start to the year, with students embracing new challenges, developing their skills, and making great strides in their learning.

The students will receive their reports very soon, which provide valuable insights into their progress. We encourage them to take the time to reflect on the feedback provided, to celebrate their successes, and to consider areas for growth as they move into the second term of their Year 9 journey. The report offers an excellent opportunity for students to plan their approach to learning and behaviour (including the pathways process), ensuring they continue to excel in both their academic work and personal development. As well as an opportunity to seek support where necessary.

Below are a few reminders and key info;

Key Reminders for All Families

To ensure a successful year, we want to remind all families of the importance of maintaining high standards in both appearance and preparation.

Uniform, Equipment and Organisation

We strongly suggest that you encourage your child to pack their bag the night before. All students were given a **complimentary Learning wallet** this week to help them with organisation, the wallet should be displayed during line up and out in class.



Please click the link for more information:

<https://www.deptfordgreen.lewisham.sch.uk/page/?title=Uniform+%26amp%3B+Equipment&pid=256>

Phone Policy

We operate a strict "no phone" policy: "See it, Hear it, Lose it." If a student's phone is seen or heard, it will be confiscated until the end of the day.

Monitoring Progress

Please check **Classcharts** regularly—at least once a week—to stay updated on home learning assignments and behaviour points. We also expect a continued commitment from all students to attendance, punctuality, effort, and respect for learning.

Place2Be

Please click the link for more information:

<https://www.deptfordgreen.lewisham.sch.uk/page/?title=Place2be&pid=243>

Safeguarding - Social Media and Getting Home Safely

<https://www.deptfordgreen.lewisham.sch.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding+%40+DG&pid=240>

100% Attendance

Congratulations to the 46 students who achieved 100% attendance this year so far. A special shoutout to Azalea, Rebecca, Michelangelo, Siddiq, Zelick, Gibril, Diana, Amanda, Hani, Qihang, Charlie HB, Ramin, Amira, Sihaam, Treasure, Khadija, Lakaiya, Maysa, Musa, Matthew, Amelia, David M, George, Christine, Samuel O, Desmond, Linda, Diamond, Ava Q, Jones, Harry, Artan, Daisy, Olajide, Ethan, Chardonaye, Adam, Charlie, Chenxi, Goddy, Tay Tay, Dinh, Minh, Callum, Tiana and Leah.

Well done on your exceptional commitment and dedication!

Early Achievements

We want our Year 9 community to stand out as the very best in the school. We truly believe that this year group is driven to be exceptional, and that commitment is evident in the hard work you show every single day.

Ms Mohammed and I are incredibly proud to share an outstanding achievement: you have broken a DG record. For the first time ever, **Year 9 achieved the highest number of positive points in the Autumn term** — even surpassing Year 7, which has never happened before.

This success is a direct reflection of their effort, maturity, and determination. They should be extremely proud of themselves — and we know this is only the beginning.

A special shoutout goes to the students listed below, who are currently leading the way as our top 20 for the start of this term.

Ava Q, Ezra, Nigella, Katie, Chardonaye, Christine, Elijah, Sihaam, George, Samuel GM, Gracie, Artan, Leah, Adam, Jemimah, Olivia, Ife, Zara, Mikko and Amaury.

Keep up the fantastic work!



Headteacher: Ms E Thurston
EDWARD STREET, NEW CROSS
LONDON, SE14 6AN
TEL: 020 8691 3236

E-MAIL: info@deptfordgreen.co.uk

WEBSITE: www.deptfordgreen.lewisham.sch.uk

Important Dates Coming up this Term

Week Commencing 2nd February 2026

Year 9 reports will be issued to all students and parents via email. These reports will include the suggested pathway for your child.

Wednesday 4th February 2026

Year 9 Parents' Evening will take place in person. This is a valuable opportunity for parents and students to discuss progress and next steps with subject teachers. Appointments should be booked via SchoolCloud.

On the same evening, there will also be a **Pathways Fayre**, giving you the opportunity to learn more about the subjects and courses available at Key Stage 4.

Tuesday 10th February 2026

Individual Pathways Interviews will take place. Further details regarding sign-up arrangements will be shared shortly.

Friday 27th February 2026

Deadline for all Pathways forms to be submitted. (Please note that you may have already submitted your form during your individual interview.)

Summer Term 2026

Students will receive the results of their options choices. At this stage, there will be an opportunity to make changes should students have reconsidered their decisions.

Safeguarding - Social Media and Getting Home Safely

As our young people navigate the challenges of growing up, social media is becoming an increasingly prominent part of their lives. While it offers a great way to stay connected with friends, it also comes with certain risks that students will explore in their PSHE lessons. I encourage you to have open, honest conversations with your child about their social media use. Discussing how they interact online, what apps they use, and reviewing any concerns together can help them make safer and more informed choices.

Additionally, I would like to remind you of our expectations for students at the end of the school day. They are to go straight home and change out of their school uniform if they wish to go back out. To ensure everyone's safety, staff are on duty in the local area until 3:30 pm each day. Due to the increasing numbers of people having their phones stolen in the local area, please remind your child of the importance of heading straight home after school and avoiding lingering in the community. This helps us maintain a positive relationship with our neighbours and keeps our students safe.



If you need to get in touch, please see the key contact info below.

Key Contacts

Mrs Burley-Burton HOY	sburleyburton@deptfordgreen.co.uk
Ms Mohammed Pastoral Manager	lmohammed@deptfordgreen.co.uk
Ms Edy Tutor 9ED	ledy@deptfordgreen.co.uk
Mr Fernandez tutor 9FE	ffernandez@deptfordgreen.co.uk
Ms Joauvel tutor 9JO	jjoauvel@deptfordgreen.co.uk
Ms Louchini tutor 9LO	ilouchini@deptfordgreen.co.uk
Mr Ndebele tutor 9ND	endebele@deptfordgreen.co.uk
Ms Sklavounos tutor 9SK	hsklavounos@deptfordgreen.co.uk
Mr Woodgate tutor 9WO	kwoodgate@deptfordgreen.co.uk

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to working closely with you and your child during this important stage of their education. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Burley-Burton



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Emma Thurston
Headteacher

