



26th February 2024

Hello

Pupil Premium

You may have seen the recent announcement that the Mayor of London has extended the provision of free school meals to all primary school children for the 2024-25 academic year. Whilst this is welcome news, it is important to remind parents that if your child qualifies for free school meals, please do still register for this. Even if your child has a packed lunch or is in key stage 1 (who nationally receive a free school meal), registering as eligible has a significant impact on the funding for the school. In recent years it has affected how much the school has received with regards to Covid catch up funding, tutoring provision and other income streams. All the details and how to apply online can be found here

<https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/schools-education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals>

Sports results

We've been busy as usual with sporting events. The girls' table tennis team got well-deserved bronze medals as did our Year 4 boy's football B-team. Our Year 5/6 netball teams took part in the Borough competition, Year 4 took part in a Dodgeball festival and the year 6 Sportshall athletics team reached the quarter final stage of the London Youth Games.



Mayoral Elections – Thursday 2nd May

The election for the Mayor of London is due to take place on Thursday 2nd May and as with previous elections, our canteen will likely be used as a polling station. This means that the school can stay open as usual. However, there will be no hot meal provision that day. Pupils will need to bring in a packed lunch or the kitchen will be able to provide a cold lunch. Please note that there will be no breakfast club or afterschool club on that date so please make alternative childcare plans if required.

Parking

Once again, we have had received complaints from local residents about inconsiderate parking from a small number of our parents. This chiefly concerns parents leaving the cars across residents' driveways whilst they bring their children into the school. It is not acceptable to block people's driveways, however short a time it is, as it is stopping residents leaving for work and other appointments. I have no power or jurisdiction when it comes to traffic issues. I can only politely remind parents to park considerately and



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suggest to those residents affected that they contact Waltham Forest to request they send out the parking enforcement team to monitor the situation.

A reminder as well that people should not be parking on the scout hut driveway at the top of Hawkwood Crescent as it is private property. Please also avoid parking on the grass outside the scout hut/Organic Lea Nursery as significant damage to the verges has already been caused.

85th Anniversary

April 2024 will be the 85th anniversary of the opening of the school. We are planning an exhibition of old photographs and other memorabilia later this year as well as some other themed events. Whilst we have a large amount of material in school, if you have any photos or other items that you think might be of interest then please contact the office at office@yardleyprimary.co.uk.

Year 6 scriptwriting workshop

Our Year 6 pupils are one of 5 Waltham Forest schools taking part in a scriptwriting workshop being delivered by professional writers and actors from the Soho Theatre Company. Over the next 5 weeks, each pupil will write a script and then 2 from each school will be selected to be performed at a special performance in the West End. Finally, the 2 plays from our school will be performed to the KS2 pupils here. We look forward to seeing the results.

PTA

Talking of performances. Key Stage 1 were treated to a visiting pantomime a couple of weeks ago. This was kindly funded by the PTA. They have their event next Friday morning (8th March) where they are going to try something new. They have trainers coming from a local gym and there will be activities in both the KS1 and KS2 playground as well in the hall. These will start at 8.30am and continue until about 9.15am and both parents and children can take part. Pupils can stay and participate if they are with an adult, otherwise they will need to come into school at the usual time. After the activities have ended, parents can bring their child to their classroom. There will also be a coffee truck on site providing refreshments.

Key dates and next October's half term

We set our term dates in line with those agreed by Waltham Forest. This is important as many families have siblings at Chingford Foundation School or Heathcote. You may be aware that some other London Boroughs had different dates for their February half term. It is possible that dates for the October half term will also be out of sync so to clarify, our dates will be as previously published which will be Monday 21st October to Friday 25th October.

Some key dates for the rest of this year

Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May – Year 6 SATS

Friday 14th June – whole class photos

Monday 24th June – KS2 Sportsday

Tuesday 25th June – KS1 Sportsday

Wednesday 26th June – Nursery Sportsdays

Thursday 27th June – Reception Sportsday

(Exact timings for Sportsdays will go out soon)

Weeks beginning 1st and 8th July – Year 5 Swimming (both classes go every day for 2 weeks)

Wednesday 17th July – Year 6 performance

Thursday 18th July – Parents' Evening.

It is **World Book Day** next Thursday (7th March). We won't be doing anything with regards dressing up/costumes on that day and instead will have book related activities in the classrooms.

Regards

Mr Evans