



Yardley Primary School Newsletter October 2024



9th October 2024

Our Year 6 classes have been busy mapping the streams of Epping Forest today...thankfully the rain stopped early on.





Pupil premium and free school meals

If your child is eligible for free school meals, we would like to encourage you to register them.

In London, all state-funded primary school pupils get free school meals in 2024/25 through a separate scheme funded by the Mayor of London. But we still urge you to apply for free school meals if your child is eligible.

Why register for free school meals?

Children who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them if you prefer them to have packed lunches. But registering them is still important because for every child registered for free school meals, the school gets an extra **£1,480** through 'pupil premium' funding. Those children who qualify for FSM are never identified as such in class.

Every child registered for free school meals makes a big difference to the school and to the education we provide to all the children. These include additional:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

There are also benefits to the parents of children who qualify for FSM in the form of supermarket vouchers to cover the school holidays and priority spaces at holiday clubs and other activities run by Waltham Forest.

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

If you receive these benefits, your child may be eligible:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit) if you have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on - but not if you receive Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit, if your earned income after tax is £616.67 per month (£7,400 per year) or less.

Your child may also get free school meals if you receive any of these benefits and your child is younger than the compulsory age for starting school **and** in full-time education.

How do I register?

All the details on how to apply can be found here

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

If you think that your child may qualify and you haven't registered already, please do so.



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Non-uniform days - Wednesday 16th October and Wednesday 30th October

In the build up to the Harvest Festival assemblies on Thursday 31st October we will be having 2 non uniform days on the above dates. In return we would like donations of canned food, cereals, biscuits, crisps, rice, pasta, pasta sauces etc. to go to local food banks. Alongside the food donations, we would also like to make a donation to a local animal shelter so we would also encourage donations of cat/dog food and cat litter. Children can bring in donations on both the non-uniforms or any day in between.

Parents are invited to the harvest festival assemblies and these take place at 9.15am for key stage 2 pupils and 2.30pm for Reception and key stage 1 pupils. Entry will be through the hall doors as usual.

Traffic in and around the school

Firstly, no parents should be driving into the school before or during the school day. This particularly refers to parents driving into the school grounds to drop children off at breakfast club. Parents should park outside the school and walk in.

We have also had more complaints about parents driving and parking irresponsibly on the streets around the school. Please do not park over people's driveways, even for a short while. If you have been affected by this then I suggest you contact the Waltham Forest traffic enforcement team on 0203 092 0112 as other than politely reminding people, I have no jurisdiction over inconsiderate parking.

Police Talk

There are currently:

250 gangs in London

17 gangs in Waltham Forest

3500 known gang members in London but true figure probably double that

25 missing juveniles daily in Waltham Forest (mainly not coming home on time and reported as a missing child) of which 10 are still missing at 7am following morning

PC David Sparks, our local police engagement officer, will be holding a workshop for year 5 and 6 parents in the school hall on Tuesday 10th December at 6pm. This session is aimed directly at parents to help give them an insight into Gangs, Grooming, Drugs and social media that might help them spot signs from their young people and is a very informative evening over 2 hours. It involves watching 3 different short videos and then open discussions with the parents about these areas that their children will come face to face with and maybe how to deal with differently or how to get help.

Other notes

We started the sporting year off well with the Year 2 girls' cross-country team winning individual and team gold prizes. We have also entered Year 4 boys' football, Year 6 girls' football and Year 6 boys' table tennis events.

A reminder that our half term is week beginning 21st October whilst most of the country has the week after.

School is also closed to pupils on Friday 18th October for an INSET day.

Two dates for when we come back.

Weds 30th October – flu vaccinations

Fri 8th November – Individual pupil photos

Regards

Mr Evans/Headteacher