



Walnut Tree Walk
PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Newsletter

13th January 2023



Dates for your Diary

January	<p>Tues 17th: Year 5 to Horniman Museum</p> <p>Thurs 19th: Reception Assembly (both classes).</p> <p>Fri 27th: Year 1 Class Assembly (Peter)</p>
February	<p>Fri 3rd: Year 2 Class Assembly (Joanne)</p> <p>Fri 10th: Year 5 Class Assembly</p> <p>Monday 13th to Friday 17th February is the half-term holiday</p> <p>Mon 20th: Children return to school</p>
March	<p>Mon 13th: Road Safety Workshops for Years 1 and 2</p> <p>Mon 20th - Fri 24th: Cycle Training for any Year 5 children who would like to take part. I will write to you with details of this nearer the time.</p> <p>Wed 22nd: Year 1 to Natural History Museum (Elio)</p> <p>Wed 23rd: Year 1 to Natural History Museum (Peter)</p> <p>Thurs 23rd: Year 6 (Tilly's class) to Junior Citizens Workshop</p> <p>Thurs 30th: Year 6 (Connor's class) to Junior Citizens Workshop</p> <p>Fri 31st March: Last day of term. School finishes at normal time. No After School Club on this day.</p>

Breakfast and After School Club

The booking for next half-term (Feb/March) will go live at 10am on Tuesday 31st January. Please ensure you book all the sessions you need then. Any questions about this, please see Sharon.

Messages

Happy New Year!

I hope you had an enjoyable break and the New Year has started well for you all. The children, as always, have made a great start to the term. A big welcome to the many new children and families who joined last week.

Activity Clubs

We currently have spaces in KS2 Yoga Club on Mondays and KS2 Dance Club on Wednesdays. Please contact Sharon in the office if you would like your child to join one of these clubs.

Welcome to AJ, Kassandra and Shahanara

We welcome back Shahanara who worked with us in Year 1 last half term. Shahanara will be working across Years 1 and 2, starting next week. We also welcome AJ who joins us in Talsia's Year 3 class, and Kassandra who is working in Aimee's Year 2 class.

Attendance

We know that there were a number of sickness bugs before Christmas which meant that absences were unavoidable. However, as we start the new year, please can you support us to try and improve attendance. Good attendance very closely correlates with good outcomes. Children who do not attend school regularly fall behind their peers and do not achieve as well as they should, impacting negatively on their life chances. In addition, children who regularly miss school can experience more difficulties with their confidence and wellbeing, including developing and maintaining friendships. A reminder that holidays must not be taken during term time.

Building Update

As you know, we have a temporary boiler in our playground due to problems with our boilers and chimney flue. As always with a building this age, nothing is straightforward so the work has taken longer than we hoped.

This work should be completed by the end of January and then, all being well, the scaffolding and the temporary boiler will be removed.

Free School Meals

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

What is pupil premium funding?

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces

At Walnut Tree Walk Primary School we get an extra £1,385 for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money makes a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- 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 (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

Free School Meals (continued)

Your child might also be eligible if you're in a household with no recourse to public funds (NRPF), subject to a maximum income threshold. This is for children of:

- British National (Overseas) passport holders
- Spousal visa, work visa, or student visa holders
- Those with no immigration status
- Families with a right to remain in the UK under Article 8 of the European Convention of Human Rights
- Families receiving support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 who are subject to a no recourse to public funds restriction
- Certain failed asylum seekers supported under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Universal infant free school meals

Currently, pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to a free school meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You shouldn't confuse UIFSM with free school meals and the pupil premium.

If your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 and is eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, you should still register because we'll receive the extra pupil premium funding.

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

How do I register?

You only need to register once at the school.

To register, please see Sharon in the school office or contact Sharon by email shall@wtwschool.co.uk

If you are unsure whether you are entitled, all we need is your (the parent) full name, Date of Birth and National Insurance number and then we can run a check.

More information

For more information about pupil premium go to our website, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.