

Walnut Tree Walk
PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Newsletter

2nd September 2025



Welcome Back!

Welcome back! Another summer holiday has flown by and the start of a new academic year begins! I hope that you all had a wonderful break and are ready for the year ahead.

This letter contains lots of the key information you need for the year ahead.

A big welcome to the new Reception children and families who join us on Thursday, and to the new Nursery children who are starting over the next couple of weeks.

We welcome a few new members of staff including Davina who will be teaching one of the Year 4 classes, and Ellie, who will be working alongside Catherine and the team to support some of our SEN children. Shifa has successfully completed her teacher training with us and we are delighted that she now joins the teaching team. We also welcome two new music teachers - Aiden and George - who will be joining Del to form the new music team. Nicola is starting her new role with us as a Cover Supervisor meaning that she will be covering classes when there is short-term staff absence.

As always, a lot has been happening over the summer. We have had some internal decoration and reconfiguring of space to create the final additional classroom we needed. We are now a fully two-form entry school, with two classes in each year group from Reception to Year 6. The building work in the former School Keeper's House has been delayed slightly for a number of reasons, but will be starting in the next couple of weeks with a planned completion date of January or February. As I mentioned in my newsletter before the summer, we successfully secured government funding to convert the house into our own SEN (Special Educational Needs) provision. This provision will initially be just for the children who already attend our school but who have needs that can be better met with more specialist provision.

We have a new catering provider, Harrisons, which we are really excited about. More information about this on pages 6 and 7.

Class newsletters from your child's class teacher will be emailed out to you on Friday this week. You will then receive weekly 'What we are doing in class' letters each Monday via email.

PE, dance and swimming will all start next week. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate PE kit for their PE or dance sessions (green t-shirts, which are available from the office, along with appropriate trainers and dark grey/black jogging bottoms, shorts or leggings). Children who do not bring in the correct kit will be provided one from our spare kit box. PE days for each class are outlined on page 3 of this letter.

The School Day



Where should children line up in the morning?

All children in Years 1 to 6 will enter via the Fitzalan Street gate. Year 1 to 6 parents will not come in the playground in the morning due to our very limited space and this system allows the school day to start promptly.

Nursery parents will come through the playground so that the children can be handed to the Nursery staff team. Reception children will enter via the Walnut Tree Walk gate. For this first week, parents can come into the playground, but from next week onwards they should be able to come through the gate and line up with their teachers. If Reception children have siblings, they can enter via the Walnut Tree Walk gate and then walk through the playground past the school building to line up.

The school gates will open at 8:45am each morning and the latest a child should arrive is 8:55am. After 8:55am, the Reception gate on Walnut Tree Walk will be locked and any late children must be brought to the Fitzalan Street gate.

What happens if my child is late?

It is really important that children arrive to school on time, and the punctuality at Walnut Tree Walk is generally very good. If you are late bringing your child to school, please ring the buzzer at the Fitzalan Street gate and then bring your child to the main office. You will then need to register your child on the electronic sign in system in the office, giving your reasons for being late. Please note if your child is in Reception class and arrives late, you will not be able to come in through the Walnut Tree Walk gate and will need to walk around to the Fitzalan Street gate and go to the office.

Please note that if your child comes in later than 9:25am (and you have not phoned the school in advance to let us know), you will need to provide a packed lunch. This is because the kitchen are notified of the dinner numbers each morning at that time.

If you are late collecting your child at the end of the day, they will be put into after school club if there is space, or sat in the Senior Leadership Team's office if there is no space. You will be charged for this unless there are exceptional circumstances, although we do understand that sometimes things will be outside of your control. However, please do call the school if you are running late so that we know and so that we can explain this to your child.

Where do I collect my child from at the end of the day?

All parents can enter the playground at the end of the day to collect their children. Reception parents, please use the Walnut Tree Walk gate. You can then either leave through the same gate or walk around to the other side and leave through the Fitzalan Street gate. We ask that parents in other year groups only use the Fitzalan Street gate. The gate will open at 3:30pm once the classes get to their collection points. The Reception gate will open slightly earlier (3:25pm) for Reception parents so that parents with siblings in other year groups have time to collect their Reception child and then get round to the other playground to collect their older child(ren). Please can parents vacate the playground shortly after collection so that our after school clubs can start.

PE and Clubs



What day will my child have PE? (starting next week)

Reception (Sharon): PE on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Reception (Chris): PE on Mondays and Wednesdays

Year 1 (Peter): PE on Wednesdays and Thursdays

Year 1 (Aimee): PE on Mondays and Tuesdays

Year 2 (Simon): PE on Fridays (and Thursdays this half term)

Year 2 (Ana): PE on Fridays (and swimming on Thursdays this half term)

Year 3 (Shuhana): PE on Tuesdays (and Mondays this half term)

Year 3 (Luke): PE on Tuesdays (and swimming on Mondays this half term)

Year 4 (Shifa): PE on Thursdays (and dance on Wednesdays)

Year 4 (Davina): PE on Thursdays (and dance on Wednesdays)

Year 5 (Joanne/Sue): PE on Mondays and Fridays

Year 5 (Stephanie): PE on Mondays and Fridays

Year 6 (Connor): PE on Tuesdays and dance on Wednesdays

Year 6 (Tilly): PE on Tuesdays and Fridays

Year 2 and 3 will also have swimming. This half term it is Ana's Y2 and Luke's Y3 classes who will be going, and then after half term it will swap to the other Year 2 and 3 classes. Ana's class will be swimming on Thursday afternoons and Luke's class will be going on Monday mornings. You will receive separate letters about this with a consent form that needs to be returned this week.

When will we be able to book after school activity clubs?

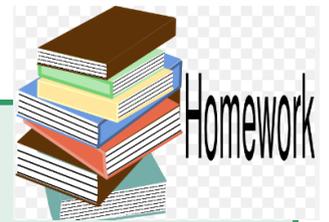
We offer a range of after school activity clubs for children in Years 1 to 6. After school activity clubs will start the week beginning 22nd September and I will write to you about what is on offer and how to apply in the next couple of weeks. They will run in a similar way to how they did last year. If you have booked after school club on a day that you end up getting an activity club for, we will amend the booking for you.

Breakfast and After School Club

The booking system went live earlier this week so hopefully you have all booked the sessions you need. If your child requires food at breakfast club, they must arrive by 8:30am as after that time things start to be packed away.



Working Together



Coffee Mornings

Next week and the week after, we will be holding a coffee morning each morning for each different year group. These are an opportunity for parents to have an informal get together as well as to meet your child's new teacher briefly. For Reception parents, this will be an opportunity for you to meet other parents as I know many of you are new to the school.

PTFA Meeting

We will be having our first PTFA meeting of the year later this month. All parents and carers are welcome to come along to find out about the work of our PTFA and how you can further support our school.

Parent Workshops

We have a number of parent workshops scheduled for the year ahead, including Phonics, how we teach reading, and how we teach maths. The first confirmed workshop will be Phonics for Reception Parents. This is on Friday 19th September at 9am. The dates for the other workshops will be shared later this term.

Parent Conference Meetings

These will be held the week of 13th to 17th October. Appointments will be from 3:45-5:45pm and details of how to book via Scopay will be sent nearer the time.

Homework

All children should be reading at home daily, which is the primary focus of our Home Learning Policy. We only set formal homework in Years 4, 5 and 6. This will be uploaded onto Google Classroom for the children to complete by the following week. We hope that this approach allows flexibility as to when the children complete their work to fit in with everyone's different out of school schedules. Year 4 and 5 will receive one piece of English and one Maths, and Year 6 will receive three pieces of work per week. For any children who do not have access to a device, we can loan Chromebooks. Please contact Nicole in the office if this is the case for your child (in Years 4, 5 or 6).

Term Time Holidays

Term-time holidays will not be authorised unless there are very exceptional circumstances and there has been full attendance for the rest of the year.

Medical Appointment Documentation

Please ensure all appointments are made outside of school hours, where possible. To help us accurately record absences, please email a copy of any medical appointment texts or appointment cards to the school office for confirmation when your child is absent for health-related reasons. This ensures their attendance records are kept up-to-date. When making appointments please ask your doctors for a medical slip or appointment text to give to school.

Other Key Information

Trips

Our school policy is that all children can experience every trip, irrelevant of their parent's financial circumstances. Therefore, when your child's class goes out on a trip, you will be asked to pay a voluntary contribution, if you are able to do so. If you are able to pay, please pay via Scopay using the 'donations' section. You can of course pay more than we ask for if you are able to and would like to contribute towards another child going.

If you need a packed lunch for a school trip, you must let Sharon in the office know at least three days in advance due to regulations regarding allergens. If you would like a packed lunch made by the school for ALL trips that your child goes on this year, please email Sharon shall@wtwschool.co.uk and we will keep a register of this so that you do not need to notify us every time.

Birthdays

Unfortunately, we cannot give out birthday cakes etc so please do not send them in. This is due to the number of pupils with food allergies and intolerances.

Clothing, jewellery and watches

We do not have a school uniform but it is important that children are dressed in clothing that is appropriate for practical and sometimes messy activities as well as being age appropriate. Children must always be wearing footwear that is suitable for PE or physical activities so trainers are ideal. No crocs or flip flops please. We do advise that parents write or sew their children's names on to their clothing as we have an enormous amount of lost property each term. For Health and Safety reasons, please no jewellery, as accidents can happen. Smart watches such as Apple Watches or any watch that can send/receive messages or that can take photos are not allowed at any time. We do not allow the wearing of any type of makeup or nail varnish.

Scooters and Bikes

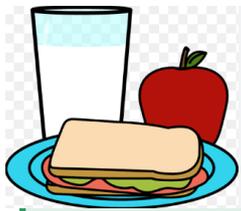
We have very limited bike and scooter storage space considering the number of children we have in the school now so if you live very locally and can take the scooter home with you after drop off rather than leaving it in school, that would be much appreciated. If you live very locally, please leave bikes at home. We are exploring options for how more bike storage can be created.

Nursery parents, please can you leave bikes and scooters in the racks and shelters in the main playground with all of the other bikes and scooters. Reception parents, your children will be shown where to leave their bikes and scooters along the fence to their outdoor space. Again, there is limited space around there so please take any home where possible.

Class Assemblies and Christmas Shows

Each class will do two class assemblies a year - one in the first half of the year (up to Feb half term) and one after. The link to watch these will be sent via your child's Google Classroom account shortly after the assembly. New Reception parents will be sent these login details soon.

For the Christmas Shows, we welcome parents to come into school to see them and look forward to seeing you there - dates for these shows to be confirmed in the next newsletter.



School Meals etc



Lunches, snacks and water bottles

Message from Harrison Catering Services Limited

Welcome to your school catering service

We're proud to partner with your school to deliver fresh, nutritious and exciting meals every day, designed with children in mind and crafted with care.

About Harrison Catering

Since 1994, our mission has remained the same: to help children discover new flavours and develop lifelong healthy eating habits. As an award-winning catering provider, we're passionate about great food and creating positive mealtime experiences.

What's on the menu?

Our menus are thoughtfully created to reflect local tastes and use seasonal, sustainably sourced ingredients whenever possible – including British free-range eggs and fresh UK sourced meat and poultry.

All of our meals:

- Meet the School Food Standards
- Are nutritionally balanced and packed with flavour
- Are tailored to appeal to your diners.

To keep things fresh and exciting, we regularly offer:

- Themed menu days
- Menus linked to classroom topics, celebrations and cultural events

Every meal is an opportunity for us to make food fun and educational!

Allergy and intolerance information

We take food allergies and tolerances seriously. If your child has a diagnosed allergy to any of the 14 recognised allergens, we're here to help.

What to do:

Download and complete our Allergen Management Form.

Return the form to your school office.

Visit our website for full details on our allergy procedures and Management Form:

www.harrisoncatering.co.uk/food-allergies-and-food-intolerances/

Free school meals

For Reception, Year 1 & Year 2:

Every child in these year groups receive free school meals automatically through the government's Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) initiative. No need to apply.

For Years 3 -6:

All pupils in Key Stage 2 receive free school meals under the Mayor of London's Free School meals initiative. No need to apply.

We value your feedback

We welcome feedback. If you have any questions, suggestions or feedback, please feel free to speak with our on-site Catering Manager, we'd love to hear from you. **earn more about Harrison**
To find out more about us, please visit our website www.harrisoncatering.co.uk to discover our delicious recipes to try at home, step by step cooking videos, our sustainability and community initiatives, along with career opportunities. We're proud to be part of your school community and look forward to mealtimes filled with flavour, fun and smiles!

School Meals etc

What's on the menu?

HARRISON
food with thought

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK ONE	Margherita Pizza Wheat, Milk or Mediterranean Roast Vegetable Pizza Wheat, Milk with a Garlic & Sweet Pepper Pasta Side Wheat Jacket Potato with Baked Beans & Veggie Balls Broccoli / Sweetcorn Chocolate Sponge Wheat, Egg, Milk with Chocolate Sauce Milk	Piri Piri Style Chicken served with Smoky Oven Roast Potato Wedges Red Pepper Pottle with a Piri Piri Style Dressing served with Smoky Oven Roast Potato Wedges Rainbow Ribbon Pasta Wheat with a Mixed Leaf Salad Green Beans / Carrots with Lemon & Thyme Wholemeal Shortbread Wheat or Lemon Gram Flour Shortbread Both served with Fresh Fruit Wedges	Mexican Style Beef Wrap Wheat served with a Vegetable Rice Butternut Squash Frittata Egg, Milk with a Smoky BBQ Style Relish Salphires served with Parsley Potatoes Jacket Potato with Bean Chili Sweetcorn with Chives / Savoy Cabbage Onniamon & Cocoa Traybake Wheat, Egg, Milk	Chicken, Spinach & Cheese Pasta Bake Wheat, Milk Chinese Style Vegetarian Stir Fry served with Noodles Wheat, Egg or Rice Ratatouille Style Vegetables with Fusilli Pasta Wheat Broccoli / Carrots Orange Sponge Wheat, Egg, Milk with Custard Milk	Battered Fish Fillet Wheat, Fish served with Tomato Sauce & Chips or New Potatoes Cajun Style Sweet Potato Fritter served with a Pineapple Relish & Chips or New Potatoes Jacket Potato with Cheddar Cheese & Chives Milk Peas / Baked Beans Strawberry Ice Cream Milk with Apple & Berry Compote
WEEK TWO	Macaroni Cheese Wheat, Milk with a Winter Style Salad Sweet Potato Stir served with Rice Courgette & Lemon Pasta Wheat Vegetable Medley Wholemeal Carrot Cake Wheat, Egg with Custard Milk	Roast Chicken Thigh served with Roast Potatoes Cheddar Cheese & Leek Pinwheel Wheat, Milk served with Roast Potatoes Jacket Potato with BBQ Bean Ragout Salphires Peas / Carrots Vanilla Ice Cream Milk with Pineapple Compote	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans & Cheddar Cheese Milk Salmon Fishcake Wheat, Fish served with a Tomato & Bean Salsa & Herbed Potatoes Pasta Primavera Wheat with a Tomato & Basil Breadstick Wheat, Soybeans Broccoli / Roast Butternut Squash Marbled Sponge Wheat, Egg, Milk with Chocolate Sauce Milk	Beef Bolognese or Vegetarian Bolognese served with Penne Pasta Wheat or Rice Jacket Potato with Butternut & Chickpea Korma Oven Roasted Courgettes / Sweetcorn Lemon Traybake Wheat, Egg, Milk	Chicken Sausage Roll Wheat, Salphires served with Tomato Sauce & Chips or New Potatoes Falafel Bites served with a Sweet Chili Dip & Chips or New Potatoes Pasta Arrabbiata Wheat Peas / Baked Beans Chocolate Shortbread Wheat or Orange Spiced Gram Flour Shortbread Both served with Fresh Fruit Wedges
WEEK THREE	Red Pesto Style Pasta Wheat with a Ribbon Salad Vegetable Biryani Jacket Potato with Cheddar Cheese Milk & Coleslaw Egg, Milk, Mustard Roasted Butternut Squash / Peas Steamed Jam Sponge Wheat, Egg, Milk with Custard Milk	Chana Chicken served with Pilsau Rice Vegetarian Cottage Pie Cheese & Chive Pasta Wheat, Milk Roasted Courgettes / Sweetcorn Orange Traybake with Chocolate Drizzle Wheat, Egg, Milk	Chinese Style Vegetable Curry served with Rice Margherita Pizza Wheat, Milk with Seasoned Oven Roast Potato Wedges Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise Egg, Milk, Fish, Mustard Vegetable Medley Ice Cream Milk served with Spiced Apple Compote	Minced Beef & Vegetables served with a Puff Pastry Top Wheat & Parsley Potatoes Tikka Style Chickpea & Potato Cakes served with Apple & Mint Chutney & Rice Tomato & Basil Pasta Wheat Carrots / Savoy Cabbage Berry Swift Sponge Wheat, Egg, Milk with Custard Milk	Chicken Sausages served with Tomato Sauce & Chips or New Potatoes Cornish Style Vegetable Pastry Wheat served with Chips or New Potatoes Jacket Potato with Baked Beans Peas / Baked Beans Wholemeal Lemon Shortbread Wheat or Cinnamon & Chocolate Gram Flour Shortbread Both served with Fresh Fruit Wedges

Available daily

Please ask the catering manager for food allergen information

Menu Items Available Daily: Salad Selection • Homemade Bread • Fresh Fruit • Yoghurt

WEEK ONE

w/c 1st Sept, 22nd Sept, 13th Oct,
10th Nov, 1st Dec, 5th Jan, 26th Jan

WEEK TWO

w/c 8th Sept, 29th Sept, 20th Oct,
17th Nov, 8th Dec, 12th Jan, 2nd Feb

WEEK THREE

w/c 15th Sept, 6th Oct, 3rd Nov,
24th Nov, 15th Dec, 19th Jan, 9th Feb



Please see page 2 regarding
allergen information provided
on the menu.



This can also be found here:

<https://www.wtwschool.co.uk/our-school-lunches/>

A reminder that we are a water-only school. Every child needs a water bottle in school every day. These can be bought from the school office or you can provide one from home. Please encourage your child to bring it home at least once a week, ideally at the weekend, so that it can be cleaned. As with the children who have school dinners, packed lunches should also only contain water as a drink. For full details of our packed lunch policy, please see our school website. We will continue to provide a piece of fresh fruit for every child across the school to have as a snack at break time. Nursery and Reception children will also receive a carton of milk each day.

If your child is having a packed lunch, it must be sent in with them at the start of the day and not be brought in later in the morning.

Dates for the Diary: Autumn Term

Sep	<p>Wed 3rd: Year 1 to 6 children return, as well as returning Nursery children</p> <p>Thurs 4th: Reception children starting</p> <p>Mon 8th: Reception Coffee Morning, 9-9:45am. This is an opportunity for the new Reception parents to get to know each other.</p> <p>Tues 9th: Year 1 Coffee Morning, 9-9:45am</p> <p>Wed 10th: Year 2 Coffee Morning, 9-9:45am</p> <p>Thurs 11th: Year 6 Coffee Morning, 9-9:45am. This will include discussing the secondary school application process and School Journey. I will also be holding a meeting at 5pm on that day, as shared before the holidays, so please come at either time.</p> <p>Fri 12th: Year 3 Coffee Morning, 9-9:45am</p> <p>Mon 15th: Year 4 Coffee Morning, 9-9:45am</p> <p>Tues 16th: Year 5 Coffee Morning, 9-9:45am</p> <p>w/b Mon 22nd: Activity clubs start. Further details about how to apply for places will be sent out soon.</p> <p>Mon 19th: Phonics workshop for Reception parents, 9-10am</p> <p>Fri 26th: International Day, including event after school (3:30-5pm) where all families are invited to join us. Further details will be sent out soon.</p>
Oct	<p>Mon 13th - Fri 17th: Parent Conference Meetings, 3:45-5:45pm</p> <p>Thurs 9th: Flu vaccination (further details will be sent to you about this nearer the time. This is only for children whose parents request it).</p> <p>Fri 24th: End of half-term. School finishes at normal time and after school club as normal.</p>
Nov	<p>Mon 3rd: Back to school</p> <p>Fri 28th: INSET Day (school closed)</p>
Dec	<p>Fri 19th: End of term. School finishes at 1:45pm. No after school club.</p>
Jan	<p>Mon 5th: Children return to school</p>

Term Dates and INSET Days

Our 5 INSET Days (where school is closed for the children) for this academic year are as follows:

Monday 1st September 2025

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Friday 28th November 2025

Friday 26th June 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

Walnut Tree Walk Primary School School Term and Holiday Dates School Year 2025-2026

Autumn Term 2025: 1st half

Wednesday 3rd September 2025 — Friday 24th October 2025

Please note that the New Reception children will start on Thursday the 4th September.

(Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September 2025 are Staff Inset Days)

Half Term Holiday

Monday 27th October 2025— Friday 31st October 2025

Autumn Term 2025: 2nd half

Monday 3rd November 2025 —Friday 19th December 2025

(Friday 28th November Staff Inset Day)

(School will close at 1.45pm on Friday 19th December)

Christmas Holiday

Monday 22nd December 2025—Friday 2nd January 2026

Spring Term 2026: 1st half

Monday 5th January 2026— Friday 13th February 2026

Half Term Holiday

Monday 16th February 2026— Friday 20th February 2026

Spring Term 2026: 2nd half

Monday 23rd February 2026— Friday 27th March 2026

(School will close at 1.45pm on Friday 27th March)

Easter Holiday

Monday 30th March 2026 — Friday 10th April 2026

Summer Term 2026: 1st half

Monday 13th April 2026 — Friday 22nd May 2026

N.B. Monday 4th May BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED

Half Term Holiday

Monday 25th May 2026— Friday 29th May 2026

Summer Term 2026: 2nd half

Monday 1st June 2026— Friday 17th July 2026

(Friday 26th June Staff Inset Day)

(Monday 20th July Staff Inset Day)

(school will close on Friday the 17th July at 1.45pm)

SUMMER HOLIDAYS FOR THE CHILDREN START Monday 20th JULY 2026