



# WINNS WEEKLY

3.11.2023

Schönes  
Wochenende!

German  
Have a good weekend!



Headteacher: Fiona Judge / The Winns Primary School, Fleeming Rd. E17 5ET  
020 8527 1872 / [www.thewinnsprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.thewinnsprimaryschool.co.uk) / [office@winns.waltham.sch.uk](mailto:office@winns.waltham.sch.uk)

## DATES FOR DIARIES W.B. 6.11.2023

**Monday 6th November** After-school activity clubs restart

**Tuesday 7th November** Individual Photographs

**Wednesday 8th November** Sibling Photographs

Reception 2024 Parent Tour (appointment only)

**Thursday 9th November** 6PB Class Assembly (9:00am)

Author Visit - SF Said (Book signing @ 3:30pm)

**Closing date for parent governor election**

Please remember to subscribe to [our online calendar](#) so that you receive automatic updates into your own calendar.

## SUMMER READING CHALLENGE - TROPHY PRESENTATION

Keen to celebrate our success in the Summer Reading Challenge, we rolled out the red carpet for some very special guests on Friday morning. Councillor Paul Douglas, Cabinet Member for Public Services, Senior Council Officer, Emma Appleford-John and Stacey McNelis, from Waltham Forest Library Service visited The Winns to present our very own trophy for winning the challenge. At the heart of that success though, is the group of children who visited our libraries over the summer holidays and took part in the challenge and enjoyed every one of the books they read. One of our children read an incredible 24 books across the summer. What an achievement!

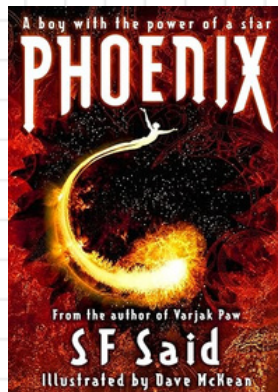
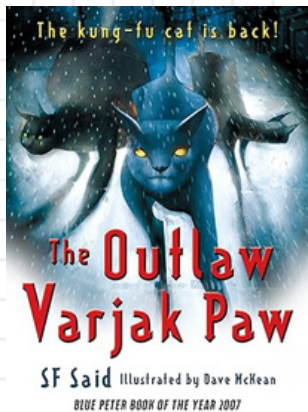
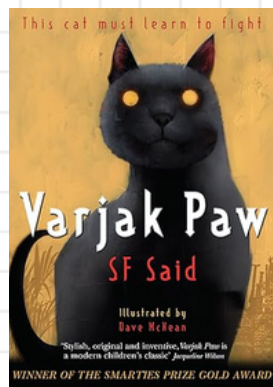
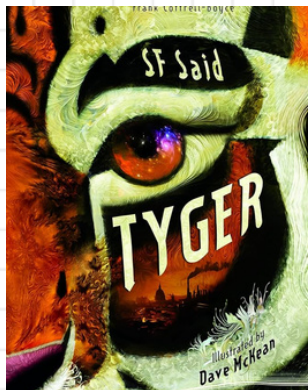
We love books and love reading here at The Winns, so this success will hopefully inspire all our children to read more often, and maybe we can bring the trophy back to The Winns again next year.



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH BLACK BALLET WORKSHOP

A group of Winns children were given a fantastic opportunity this week to take part in a workshop hosted by Black British Ballet and featuring the story 'Onisere and the Ballet Queen'. The children heard the re-telling of the story through dance and drama and were able to show off some of their more flexible ballet poses. They were fortunate to also meet one of the UK's foremost black ballet performers from the 60's and 70's, who showed some of their more 'delicate' moves.

Our children learnt a lot about the origins of British black ballet from its humble beginnings in the 30's and 40's to the successful position it has now in UK ballet.



## AUTHOR VISIT - SF SAID

We have some exciting news! We are going to be hosting a visit by the renowned children's author SF Said on Thursday 9th November. He will come along during the afternoon to deliver two 45 minute sessions with our KS2 children. His sessions will tell the story of how he went from being a young reader, just like the children, to writing best-selling books such as Varjak Paw, Phoenix and Tyger.

At 15:30 a book selling and signing session will follow in Red Hall - **open to the whole school**. Here, parents can buy copies of SF Said's books and have them **personally signed**.

So that we can get an idea of how many books to order in for this visit, please click on the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/Dtem6c5jBR>

## REMINDER - AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS

After-school activity clubs restart next week. Any places that you had before half term continue into this half term. If you have not already paid for this half term's clubs (thank you to everyone that has), then please use your ParentPay account to do so, or see the main office for a PayPoint barcode. Thank you!





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## OUR VISION IN ACTION

**Belonging** - With the many activities that our children engage in at lunchtimes, our children play cooperatively, help each other, have a sense of empathy and work together as a team.

**Growing** - Some of our year 6 children attended the inclusive swim festival this week. The children grew their confidence in the water through fun activities and games.

## YEAR 6 SWIMMING FESTIVAL

A group of year 6 children visited Leytonstone Leisure Centre on Friday morning to take part in the Waltham Forest School Games Swim Event. The children had the opportunity to gain confidence in the water by taking part in a series of fun games and activities alongside groups from other schools. As always, the children represented the school fantastically and had a great deal of fun in the process!



## YEAR 6 MULTISPORTS FESTIVAL

On Tuesday, a group of our year 6 children attended the latest event in the Waltham Forest School Games series - Multisports. The event was hosted at the Leyton Score Centre and the children had the opportunity to try a range of sports activities from volleyball to football to squash. All of the activities were run by community sports clubs from the local area. Well done to all of the children who took part, and a big thank you as always to Coach Sim who accompanied the children to the event.

## OUR VISION IN ACTION

**Exploring** - A group of year 6 children attended a multisports festival this week. The children had the chance to explore a range of sports from squash & volleyball, to dance & hula-hooping.

**Achieving** - Many of our children go above and beyond their schoolwork, often producing amazing 'mini-projects' in their own time and sharing these back in class.



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## FRIENDS OF THE WINNS (FOTW) NEWS

### Planning Meeting for the Winns Winter Fair.

The first planning meeting for this year's Winns Winter Fair is **Tuesday 7th November, 8pm in The Bell**. Everybody welcome !

And don't worry if you can't make it Tuesday evening, there will be plenty more opportunities to volunteer and support the event.

You can also get updates and share ideas in the FOTW Whatsapp group here:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/JNFZ6ydVR2X1ngYBShvJKv>



### Support Winns While You Shop Online!

**Easyfundraising** is a simple way for you to help your school raise money. Simply sign up using the link below and choose Friends of the Winns as your chosen charity.

Over 7,500 brands will donate to FOTW for free every time you use the **easyfundraising** app to shop. It costs you nothing extra, so sign up in time for Christmas shopping and help raise more funds to support our children.

Sign up by clicking below:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofthewinns/>

### Sponsorship Boards for the Winter Fair

The Winter Fair on the 2nd of December is fast approaching!

One of the ways in which we raise money for the school is by families agreeing to having estate agents' boards outside their home, advertising the fair.

If you would be open to having a sign outside your property and are not already on our boards mailing list, please email us at [fotwvictoria@gmail.com](mailto:fotwvictoria@gmail.com) by next Wednesday 8th of November with your name and postal address please.

If you are renting and want to take part, you'll just need to get permission from your landlord. The Estate agents arrange for the boards to be put up and taken away.

And for reassurance, your data will be shared with the estate agents solely, so they know where to put and collect the boards. It is all compliant with GDPR regulations and you will not be added to any marketing lists.

Thank you for all your help!

FOTW

## YEAR 1 READING MORNINGS

We are hugely grateful to our Y1 families who have continued to support our Reading Mornings. It's a fantastic experience for the children to get to read with and to a range of grownups and really helps develop their confidence in reading, as well as being lots of fun! Year 1 hold Reading Mornings every Thursday, so please do pop in if you can!





# think measles

## It's not just a kids' problem

Teenagers, young adults and anyone who has missed their MMR vaccination can get measles.

Symptoms such as:

- high fever
- rash – sometimes starting around the ears
- sore red eyes
- cough
- aching and feeling unwell

Remember, if it could be measles – they need to be in an area where they cannot pass the infection to vulnerable patients such as the immunocompromised and pregnant women.



For more information go to [www.nhs.uk/vaccinations](http://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations)

**i**mmunisation  
Helping to protect everyone, at every age



# Bonfire Menu

## Mains

- Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (ve)
- Cheese & Potato Catherine Wheel (v)
- Rocket Bangers

## Sides

- Fountain Mash

## Unlimited

- Pot á Feu(Mine) Peas
- Roman Candle Carrot Batons

## Desserts

- Sparklers Shortbread Biscuit (v)
- Seasonal Fresh Fruit Platter
- Organic Fruit Yogurt



Menus are subject to change based on availability of ingredients



# Autumn/Winter Menu 2023/24



## MONDAY

- CHOOSE FROM**
- Tomato and Basil Pasta ☺☺Y
  - Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (FDA) ☺Y, Cheese ☺ or Tuna ☺
  - Cottage Pie ☺ served with Gravy ☺
- SIDES**
- Creamy Mashed Potato ☺☺
- UNLIMITED**
- Sweetcorn ☺Y
  - Green Beans ☺Y
  - Salad Selection ☺Y
  - Homemade Bread ☺
- DESSERTS**
- Cheese and Crackers ☺ with Fresh Apple Slice ☺Y
  - Organic Fruit Yogurt ☺ with Seasonal Fresh Fruit ☺Y
  - Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA) ☺Y

## SAVE THE PLANET TUESDAY

- CHOOSE FROM**
- Planet Pizza Wedge ☺Y
  - Vegetable Supreme Pizza ☺
  - Squash & Spinach Curry (FDA) ☺Y
- SIDES**
- Skin On Wedges ☺Y
  - Tangy Lemon Rice ☺Y
- UNLIMITED**
- Minted Garden Peas ☺Y
  - Roasted Organic Carrots ☺Y
  - Salad Selection ☺Y
  - Homemade Bread ☺
- DESSERTS**
- Peaches ☺Y and Custard ☺☺Y
  - Organic Fruit Yogurt ☺ with Seasonal Fresh Fruit ☺Y
  - Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA) ☺Y

## ALLERGEN FRIENDLY WEDNESDAY (FDA)

- CHOOSE FROM**
- Red Vegetable Chilli (FDA) ☺Y
  - Jollof Rice (FDA) ☺Y
  - Lemon and Garlic Chicken (FDA)
- SIDES**
- Roast Potatoes ☺Y
  - Mixed Rice ☺Y
- UNLIMITED**
- Fresh Seasonal Broccoli ☺Y
  - Sweetcorn Coblots ☺Y
  - Salad Selection ☺Y
  - Homemade Bread ☺Y
- DESSERTS**
- Caramelised Pineapple (FDA) ☺Y
  - Fresh Fruit Salad (FDA) ☺Y
  - Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA) ☺Y
- Milk ☺☺Y will be available after lunch.

## CLIMATE CHANGE THURSDAY

- CHOOSE FROM**
- Jackfruit Pasta Bake ☺Y
  - Sizzling Stir Fry ☺
  - Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (FDA) ☺Y, Cheese ☺ or Tuna ☺
- SIDES**
- Noodles ☺☺
- UNLIMITED**
- Mixed Vegetables ☺Y
  - Fresh Season Green Cabbage ☺Y
  - Salad Selection ☺Y
  - Homemade Bread ☺
- DESSERTS**
- Creamy Rice Pudding ☺ with a Fruit Compote
  - Organic Fruit Yogurt ☺ with Seasonal Fresh Fruit ☺Y
  - Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA) ☺Y

## FRIDAY

- CHOOSE FROM**
- Spiced Chickpea and Sweet Potato Pilaf (FDA) ☺Y
  - MSC Golden Crumb Fish Fingers ☺ with Lemon Slice
  - Homemade Chicken and Sweetcorn Pie with Gravy
- SIDES**
- Oven Baked Chips ☺Y
- UNLIMITED**
- Baked Beans ☺Y
  - Minted Garden Peas ☺Y
  - Salad Selection ☺Y
  - Homemade Bread ☺
- DESSERTS**
- Fruit and Ice Cream ☺☺Y
  - Organic Fruit Yogurt ☺ with Seasonal Fresh Fruit ☺Y
  - Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA) ☺Y

Please note, all cakes, pastry and pizza bases are freshly made using organic flour. Where halal meat has been requested by the school, it is HFA certified (for equivalent) information on allergens present in this menu is available at [www.walthamforest.gov.uk/schoolmeals](http://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/schoolmeals) or at the school.

WEEK 1



Helping to support climate action

Be a Forest Eco Ranger by choosing at least one plant based dish a week.

Provider of excellent quality, freshly cooked, tasty, nutritious school meals. We are working to reduce sugar content of our desserts in line with current healthy living advice.

National School Meals Week 6-10 November



### OCTOBER

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

### NOVEMBER

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

### DECEMBER

M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

### JANUARY

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

### FEBRUARY

M	T	W	T	F
				1
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	

### MARCH

M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

- ☺ Vegetarian
- ☺Y Vegan
- ☺ Gluten Free
- ☺ Dairy Free
- FDA Free from the 14 declarable allergens



# Autumn/Winter Menu 2023/24



MONDAY

SAVE THE PLANET  
TUESDAY

ALLERGEN FRIENDLY  
WEDNESDAY (FDA)

CLIMATE CHANGE  
THURSDAY

FRIDAY

**CHOOSE FROM**

Tomato & Vegetable Pasta Bake  
Bubble Crumb Salmon Fillet  
60/40 Burger (FDA) in a Bun

**SIDES**

Jacket Wedges

**UNLIMITED**

Fresh Seasonal Organic Carrots  
Green Beans  
Salad Selection  
Homemade Bread

**DESSERTS**

Strawberry Mousse  
Organic Fruit Yogurt with Seasonal Fresh Fruit  
Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA)

**CHOOSE FROM**

Vegetable and Chickpea Curry (FDA)  
Cheese and Potato Whirls  
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (FDA), Cheese or Tuna

**SIDES**

Creamed Potatoes  
Mixed Rice

**UNLIMITED**

Fresh Seasonal Broccoli  
Sweetcorn  
Salad Selection  
Homemade Bread

**DESSERTS**

Carrot Cake and Custard  
Organic Fruit Yogurt with Seasonal Fresh Fruit  
Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA)

**CHOOSE FROM**

Cajun Bean Kebab (FDA)  
Jacket Topped Bolognese (FDA)  
Tangy Moroccan Turkey Tagine (FDA)

**SIDES**

Mixed Rice

**UNLIMITED**

Rainbow Roasted Veggies  
Salad Selection  
Homemade Bread

**DESSERTS**

Fruit Jelly Pot (FDA)  
Fresh Fruit Salad (FDA)  
Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA)

Milk will be available after lunch.

**CHOOSE FROM**

Roasted Vegetable Biryani  
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (FDA), Cheese or Tuna  
Homemade Cheddar Cheese and Sweetcorn Quiche

**SIDES**

Parsley Steamed Potatoes

**UNLIMITED**

Garden Peas  
Mixed Vegetables  
Salad Selection  
Homemade Bread

**DESSERTS**

Chocolate Cracknel and Custard  
Organic Fruit Yogurt with Seasonal Fresh Fruit  
Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA)

**CHOOSE FROM**

Sticky Tofu with Rice Noodles  
MSC Golden Crumb Fish Fingers with a Lemon Twist  
Hot n Kickin Chicken (FDA)

**SIDES**

Oven Baked Chips

**UNLIMITED**

Baked Beans  
Sweetcorn  
Salad Selection  
Homemade Bread

**DESSERTS**

Cheese and Crackers with Fresh Apple Slice  
Organic Fruit Yogurt with Seasonal Fresh Fruit  
Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA)

Please note: all cakes, pasty and pizza bases are freshly made using organic flour. Where halal meat has been requested by the school, it is HPA certified (or equivalent) information on allergens present in this menu is available at [www.walthamforest.gov.uk/schoolmeals](http://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/schoolmeals) or at the school.

WEEK 2



Helping to support climate action

Be a Forest Eco Ranger by choosing at least one plant based dish a week.

Provider of excellent quality, freshly cooked, tasty, nutritious school meals. We are working to reduce sugar content of our desserts in line with current healthy living advice.

National School Meals Week 6-10 November



OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
M T W T F	M T W T F	M T W T F	M T W T F	M T W T F	M T W T F
2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3	1	1 2 3 4 5	1 2	1
9 10 11 12 13	6 7 8 9 10	4 5 6 7 8	8 9 10 11 12	5 6 7 8 9	4 5 6 7 8
16 17 18 19 20	13 14 15 16 17	11 12 13 14 15	15 16 17 18 19	12 13 14 15 16	11 12 13 14 15
23 24 25 26 27	20 21 22 23 24	18 19 20 21 22	22 23 24 25 26	19 20 21 22 23	18 19 20 21 22
30 31	27 28 29 30	25 26 27 28 29	29 30 31	26 27 28 29	25 26 27 28 29

- Vegetarian
- Vegan
- Gluten Free
- Dairy Free
- FDA Free from the 14 declarable allergens

# Autumn/Winter Menu 2023/24



MONDAY

SAVE THE PLANET  
TUESDAY

ALLERGEN FRIENDLY  
WEDNESDAY (FDA)

CLIMATE CHANGE  
THURSDAY

FRIDAY

**CHOOSE FROM**

Pasta Neapolitan  
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (FDA), Cheese or Tuna  
Beef Bolognese

**SIDES**

Wholewheat Spaghetti

**UNLIMITED**

Fresh Organic Carrots  
Sweetcorn  
Salad Selection  
Homemade Bread

**DESSERTS**

Apple Crumble and Custard  
Organic Fruit Yogurt with Seasonal Fresh Fruit  
Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA)

**CHOOSE FROM**

Smoky Vegetable and Bean Jambalaya (FDA)  
Mac n Cheese  
Sweetcorn & Mixed Pepper Frittata

**SIDES**

Potato Puffs

**UNLIMITED**

Green Beans  
Roasted Cauliflower Florets  
Salad Selection  
Homemade Bread

**DESSERTS**

Shortbread Biscuit with Orange Slice and Milk  
Organic Fruit Yogurt with Seasonal Fresh Fruit  
Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA)

**CHOOSE FROM**

Roasted Stuffed Pepper (FDA)  
Veggie Hotpot (FDA)  
Meatballs in a Spicy Italian Sauce (FDA)

**SIDES**

Sliced Potatoes  
Mixed Rice

**UNLIMITED**

Fresh Seasonal Broccoli  
Mixed Vegetables  
Salad Selection  
Homemade Bread

**DESSERTS**

Fruit Smoothie (FDA)  
Fresh Fruit Salad (FDA)  
Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA)

Milk will be available after lunch.

**CHOOSE FROM**

Creamy Korma  
Roasted Vegetable Tagliatelle  
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (FDA), Cheese or Tuna

**SIDES**

Coconut Rice

**UNLIMITED**

Sweetcorn  
Roasted Organic Carrots  
Salad Selection  
Homemade Bread

**DESSERTS**

Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Sauce  
Organic Fruit Yogurt with Seasonal Fresh Fruit  
Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA)

**CHOOSE FROM**

Power Burger (FDA) in a Bun  
MSC Golden Crumb Fish Fingers with a Lemon Twist  
Herby Chicken (FDA)

**SIDES**

Chipped Potatoes

**UNLIMITED**

Baked Beans  
Garden Peas  
Salad Selection  
Homemade Bread

**DESSERTS**

Artic Roll or Ice Cream  
Organic Fruit Yogurt with Seasonal Fresh Fruit  
Seasonal Fresh Fruit (FDA)

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WEEK 3



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National School Meals Week 6-10 November



OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
M T W T F	M T W T F	M T W T F	M T W T F	M T W T F	M T W T F
2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3	1	1 2 3 4 5	1 2	1
9 10 11 12 13	6 7 8 9 10	4 5 6 7 8	8 9 10 11 12	5 6 7 8 9	4 5 6 7 8
16 17 18 19 20	13 14 15 16 17	11 12 13 14 15	15 16 17 18 19	12 13 14 15 16	11 12 13 14 15
23 24 25 26 27	20 21 22 23 24	18 19 20 21 22	22 23 24 25 26	19 20 21 22 23	18 19 20 21 22
30 31	27 28 29 30	25 26 27 28 29	29 30 31	26 27 28 29	25 26 27 28 29

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# RECEPTION CLASS ADMISSION 2024

Do you have a child who was born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020?

If so, they are due to start Reception Class in **September 2024**. To make an application please apply online at [www.eadmissions.org.uk](http://www.eadmissions.org.uk) by **15 January 2024**. For more information visit the Waltham Forest Primary Admission page <https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/content/applying-primary-school-place> where you can download a copy of the **Starting Primary School 2024 brochure** which has full details of how to apply for a Reception Class place.



## Hello, we're the Waltham Forest Mental Health Support Team!

We're an early intervention service based in schools in Waltham Forest. We deliver:

- 1-to-1 interventions for parents
- Group interventions for young people, e.g., transitioning to secondary school
- Whole class workshops, e.g., introduction to mental health
- Staff training
- Signposting to other agencies



We were introduced in schools as the government recognised the need for trained mental health staff to support the whole school community.

Our aim is to prevent and support with the early identification of mental health difficulties, to improve understanding of mental health and **reduce stigma**.

### In Primary Schools...

Our 1-to-1 work is with parents where we deliver targeted interventions for children experiencing:

- Anxiety
- Behavioural difficulties

We deliver specific low intensity interventions called Guided-Self Help. These usually last for 6-9 sessions and are based on cognitive behavioural therapy.



*'Why are you called Mental Health Support Team? My child doesn't have Mental Health problems...'*

**We all have mental health**, just as we all have physical health. Our mental health is how we're feeling emotionally and it's a bit like internal weather - it can be sunny, rainy or stormy - it's all normal!

**Our mental health is just as important as our physical health.** It strongly affects our daily lives, including work, study, and how we're getting on with others. Therefore, it is important to take care of our mental health to prevent further problems from arising.

Meet the team working in your school



Carine



Zsofia



Avelyn



### How can you access our support?

You can contact the school's Mental Health Lead (**Mr James Baxter or Ms Marta Brusniak**). After discussing with you, they will support you to fill out a referral form which will be sent to us. We will then be in touch with you within 4 weeks to assess if we are a suitable service for you.



**TREASURE OUR YOUTH**

12TH SEP - 17TH OCT  
AUTUMN 2023

# JUNIOR YOUTH SPACE

**EVERY TUESDAY FROM 4:15PM - 6:30PM**

IT'S FREE! (BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL)

**FOR 9 - 12 YEAR OLDS**

**WALTHAMSTOW FAMILY HUB**  
313 BILLET ROAD  
WALTHAMSTOW, E17 5PX

ART AND CRAFTS  
GAMING & TRADITIONAL GAMES  
MULTI SPORTS  
TEAM COMPETITONS

HOT MEALS PROVIDED  
FUN TASTER ACTIVITIES

FOR MORE INFO → CALL 0208 496 3511  
EMAIL: NICOLA.GEORGE@WALTHAMFOREST.GOV.UK

**SPACE 4 ALL**

Waltham Forest

## Neurodiversity Social Club

Wednesdays 7.15 - 8.45pm

Young People age 10 - 17  
Bring your own games  
Parents must attend  
Siblings welcome

Upcoming Dates:  
26 Jul, 20 Sept, 18 Oct,  
22 Nov, 6 Dec 2023  
17 Jan, 21 Feb, 20 Mar, 17  
Apr, 22 May, 5 Jun, 19 June,  
17 Jul, 18 Sep, 16 Oct 2024

Advance Registration required  
<http://bit.ly/3YCqskE>

The Mill, 7-11 Coppermill Lane, E17 7HA.  
(Mission Grove Car Park - free after 5pm)

Waltham Forest Parent Forum  
The Mill  
MAYOR OF LONDON  
Waltham Forest

# SEND LEGO CLUB

FREE SESSION FOR SEND FAMILIES  
1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH (EXCEPT AUGUST)  
10.30-12.30  
REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED  
NO NEED TO BOOK, JUST POP ALONG!  
LEYTON FAMILY HUB, 215 QUEENS  
ROAD, LONDON, E17 8PJ  
FOR MORE INFO CALL 07528 433640 OR 07794 298496

WALTHAM FOREST PARENT FORUM  
Waltham Forest

## Waltham Forest Parent Forum Support Groups

- Walk & Talk
- Coffee & Chat
- Meet & Eat
- Evening Zoom Support Group
- Dads Group

**Do you want some support?**  
Free online and in person support groups for parents and carers of children and young people with SEND (0-25)  
No need to book, just pop along!

**Support Groups offer:**  
Emotional Support  
Support with Challenges you may be facing  
Empowerment  
Information Sharing  
Reduced isolation

**More information and dates:**  
[www.walthamforestparentforum.com/support](http://www.walthamforestparentforum.com/support)  
[walthamforestparentforum@live.co.uk](mailto:walthamforestparentforum@live.co.uk)  
07794 298496/07528 433640



## Is your Child in School today? Information for Parents/Carers



**BACME**  
YOUTH & FAMILY RESILIENCE SERVICE

The greater your attendance, the greater your achievement



### School Attendance

One of Waltham Forest's top priorities is for all children to enjoy learning, experience success and realise their full potential. Regular attendance has a positive effect on the motivation and attainment of children. We believe that children who attend school regularly are more likely to feel settled in school, maintain friendships and gain the most benefit from their learning.

It is vital that children develop regular attendance habits at an early age. Therefore, we encourage parents who have children of nursery, primary and secondary age children to send their children to school to every session that is available to them.

#### Why is it important for children not to miss school?

Most parents want their children to get on well in life. Nowadays, it is more important than ever to have a good education behind you if you want opportunities in adult life. Children only get one chance at school, and your child's chances of a successful future may be affected by not attending school or alternative provision regularly. If

- Struggle to keep up with school work. In a busy school day it is difficult for schools to find the extra time to help a child catch up.
- Miss out on the social side of school life – especially at primary school. Poor attendance can affect children's ability to make and keep friendships; a vital part of growing up.

Setting good attendance patterns from an early age, from nursery classes through primary school, will also help your child later on.

Being on time is also vital. Arriving late at school can be very disruptive for your child, the teacher, and the other children in the class.

Some parents may be trying but finding it hard to get their children to attend school.

### What might the impact of poor attendance be on your child?

Research has shown that children who are not in school are most vulnerable. Those children who play truant are more likely to offend than those that do not. Research also shows that:

- Less than 40% of pupils in secondary schools with an average of 17 days or more absence get 5 good GCSEs (grades 9 – 5) compared to more than 90% in schools with an average of less than 8 days absence.
- In primary schools less than 65% get good results in Maths and English in schools with an average of 15 days absence compared to around 90% in schools where the average is less than 8 days. Many parents are surprised how quickly their children accumulate 15 days absence.

### What does the law say? Parental Responsibility

It is important that everyone works together to help children obtain the best possible start in life with a good education. We all need to work in partnership so that all children have good school attendance and do not miss out on essential learning.

By law, all children of compulsory school age between 5 and 16 must get a suitable, full-time education. As a parent, you are responsible for making sure this happens, either by registering your child at a school or by making other arrangements which provide a suitable full-time education. (Section 7 of the Education Act 1996).

Once your child is registered at a school you are responsible for making sure he or she attends regularly.

If your child fails to attend regularly even if they miss school without you knowing the Local Authority (LA) may take legal action against you.

### What happens if your child does not attend school regularly?

The LA is responsible for making sure that parents fulfil their responsibilities. Parents are responsible for making sure that their child attends school regularly and any alternative provision arranged for them. It is a parent's responsibility to notify the school of the reason for any of their child's absences and highlighting any areas of concern they may have so they can be addressed quickly.

If you think you might need to take your child out of school, discuss the reasons with the school as soon as possible. Reasons such as family bereavement or taking part in an agreed religious observance would be acceptable for short absences. Unacceptable reasons for missing school include shopping and birthdays and holidays.

Your child's school is responsible by law for reporting poor attendance to the LA. As a parent, you are committing an offence if you fail to make sure that your child attends school regularly, even if they are missing school without your knowledge. You run the risk of being issued with a penalty notice or being taken to court.

If you do not make sure your child goes to school regularly, we may issue a Penalty Notice of up to £120. Waltham Forest Council could also take legal action against you. The LA may decide to prosecute a parent. If this happens:

- Parents can be fined up to £2,500 and/or given a prison sentence of up to three months for failing to ensure that their child attends school regularly.
- Magistrates can also impose at their discretion a Parenting Order, which means that the parent has to attend a counselling and guidance programme, usually a parenting class or direct the Local Authority to apply for an Education Supervision Order. The order puts a child of compulsory school age, who is not being properly educated, under Local Authority Supervision.

### What about authorised absences?

There may be times when your child has to miss school because she or he is ill. This is to be expected and for the odd day off sick you should follow the school's procedures for notifying illness. Children may also have to attend a medical or dental appointment in school time. However, you should try to make routine appointments such as dental check-ups during the school holidays or after school hours. Any absence must be requested as far in advance as possible. Absences can only be authorised by the school.

**The law does not grant parents the automatic right to take their child out of school during term time.**

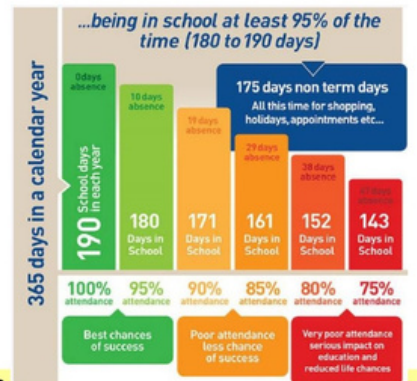
#### What can you do to help?

If you suspect that your child may be missing school or is unhappy at school, you should contact the school as soon as possible so that you can work with them to resolve any difficulties. Make sure your child understands that you do not approve of them missing school but be on the alert for any particular reasons for non-attendance, such as bullying or problems with school work and discuss these with the school. If your child is ill or absent for any other reason, contact the school on the first day of absence. Follow the school's procedures for notifying absence, and always let the school know of any days that your child is unable to attend.

Make sure your child arrives at school on time for both the morning and afternoon sessions.

Take an interest in your child's education. Ask them about their day and praise and encourage their achievements at school.

Co-operate with any support, such as a Parenting Contract offered by Local Authority.



**Behaviour, Attendance and Children Missing Education Service (BACME) have a team of officers who work with all schools in Waltham Forest.**

The Behaviour, Attendance and Children Missing Education Service is responsible for:

- Helping children and parents to overcome and remove obstacles that stop children attending school regularly.
- Supporting schools in raising their school attendance levels.
- Legally enforcing school attendance where appropriate.
- Providing advice and guidance on all matters relevant to school attendance.
- Issuing licences for children in entertainment or part-time employment, and licences for chaperones (these are responsible adults who care for children involved in entertainment if the parents are not available)

Should have any questions about your child's school attendance, please email on: [BACME-Referral@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:BACME-Referral@walthamforest.gov.uk) with your name and contact number and an officer will contact you within 3 working days.





# Help your child grow and thrive! **Family Learning**



Our family learning programme delivers a variety of courses, workshops and events both in person, online and at different venues in Waltham Forest - courses and workshops are free for families.

## List of upcoming courses / workshops

Course Title	Venue	Date	Time	Day
Create a seasonal wreath	Wood Street Library E17	11.11.2023	1:30 - 3:30 pm	Saturday
Create a seasonal wreath	Hale End Library E4	18.11.2023	10:30-12:30pm	Saturday
Create a baby keepsake box (Non crawling babies are welcome)	Leyton Family Hub	22.11.2023 - 06.12. 2023	10am - 12:00 pm	Wednesday

If you have any questions regarding family learning activities, please contact  
- [cherie.cowan-smith@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:cherie.cowan-smith@walthamforest.gov.uk) Curriculum Manager Family Learning