



WINNS WEEKLY

15.12.2023



ਤੁਹਾਡਾ ਸਪਤਾਹਾਂਤ ਅੱਛਾ ਹੋਵੇ!

Punjabi
Have a good weekend!



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

DATES FOR DIARIES W.B. 18.12.2023

- Tuesday 19th December** Year 1 Walk about Walthamstow
The Little Elf Production (Nursery)
Christmas Parties - Reception, Y2, Y4, Y6
FOTW Winter Movie Night Y3 & Y4 (3:30-5:30)
- Wednesday 20th December** Christmas Parties - Nursery, Y1, Y3, Y5
- Thursday 21st December** **No Tea Time Clubs**
Last day of term
- Monday 8th January** INSET Day
- Tuesday 9th January** Children return

Please remember to subscribe to our online calendar so that you receive automatic updates into your own calendar.

GUITAR PERFORMANCES



Striking a Chord: Young Guitarists Hit the Stage!

Last Friday, our talented young guitar players from Years 3 to 6 stole the spotlight during Celebration Assembly. Fingers danced on guitar strings, creating some great Christmas numbers that echoed through Blue and Green Halls. The children's dedication and skill were on full display, leaving their audience in awe. A harmonious celebration of music and achievement that filled the room with joy! Well done.



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OUR VISION IN ACTION

Belonging - Working together as a team is something we talk about often here at The Winns. We are proud to say that all our classes and year groups have worked brilliantly as teams to make our performances such a huge success.

Growing - It is truly amazing how our younger children have grown in confidence. Stepping on to the stage for their Christmas performances have made us aware of how far they have come over the past year.

KS1 & KS2 CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

A Symphony of Talent Unleashed: The Winns Christmas Concert Extravaganza!

Over the past two weeks, The Winns has been full of festive cheer and merriment as children from Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 have taken centre stage for our spectacular run of Christmas concerts. The air has been full of seasonal classics, all sung with dazzling enthusiasm. The stage came alive with heart-warming performances that showcased the talents and enthusiasm of our younger children. Audiences were also left in awe as our older children displayed their remarkable vocal talents too, delivering breath-taking renditions of festive tunes, both old and new. Congratulations to all our children for taking part along with the dedicated support and guidance of our teachers and support staff. But we also need to thank our families for coming along, supporting us and making every performance truly magical. Well done everyone! ([More photos can be found on the school website.](#))



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KS1 & KS2 CHRISTMAS CONCERTS (CONT.)



YEAR 2 WINTER WALK

Year 2 embarked on a winter walk through Lloyds Park on Thursday, embracing the sights and sounds of the outdoors. Over the next few days, the children will use their experience to help inform a piece of writing in class.



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SUPERBLOOM PROJECT UPDATE

Our Gardening club has continued working on the Superbloom project over the last few weeks under the watchful eye of Razen the Raven. Work has finished on the first veg bed and the children are now busy filling the second bed with broad beans. Keep up the great work!



CHRISTMAS LUNCH & FESTIVE JUMPER DAY

In the true spirit of giving, children at The Winns Primary School donned their most colourful and quirky Christmas jumpers on Thursday, spreading festive cheer around the school. This year, their festive fashion was not just a style statement; it was a heartfelt effort to make a difference. The school took part in Christmas Jumper Day, raising funds for Save The Children and contributing to a cause close to our hearts. At the last count, we have raised over £450 - thank you for your generosity! The festive mood reached its peak later in the day as children came together for a spectacular Christmas lunch, with some children commenting that it was the best Christmas lunch ever. No pressure then when it comes to cooking your own Christmas lunch!

OUR VISION IN ACTION

Exploring - Our older children have been taking part in an after school club aimed at developing their debating skills and honing their ability to construct and support an argument. Later in the year, they will put this to the test when competing against other schools across the London region.

Achieving - As well as an action-packed calendar of rehearsals, performances and trips, some of our children have been taking part in assessments in core subjects over the past few weeks to help us monitor their progress and identify areas that we need to work on with them. They have all achieved really well and we take the time to celebrate this in class.



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FOTW WINTER MOVIE NIGHT - YEAR 3 & 4

Friends of The Winns are hosting a Winter Movie Night for our year 3 & 4 children after school on Tuesday 19th December. If you would like your child to attend, please give permission using ParentPay. If you would like to donate towards the cost of juice and popcorn, you send your child with cash on the day, or donate online: <https://thewinns.rallyup.com/years-3-and-4-movie-night>

Brought to you by 

Winns Winter MOVIE NIGHT

3.30-5.30pm, Tuesday 19th December
Free entry @ The Winns Primary School



Donation £2 per child
for popcorn and juice if you can!



Waltham Forest Town Hall, Fellowship Square, Forest Road, London E17 4JF

Date: 28th November 2023

Dear Parent,

Re: Book your child for their free winter holiday club

I am pleased to be writing to invite you to book your child onto the free Waltham Forest's Holiday Activity and Food Programme for Winter 2023.

These free holiday opportunities are funded through the government's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, which enables us to provide a holiday programme across the borough for primary and secondary school aged children who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

From Monday 4th December you will be able to visit the website below where you will be able to book your child onto range of sessions from **Tuesday 2nd - Friday 5th January 2024**, at no cost to you. The sessions will include a variety of fun activities, including sports, music, arts and other exciting opportunities to learn and develop skills, alongside a nutritious meal each day.

- To find out more and the places available to book, please visit www.walthamforest.gov.uk/holidays
- To book a place you must enter your unique code: **TWIPSHAF23** for your child when asked for the 'FSM Code' at checkout.
- If you have any queries regarding the holiday activity programme, please email wfholidayactivityprogramme@walthamforest.gov.uk or call 0208 496 3000.

In addition to this free programme, families who are eligible for Universal Credit may be able to claim back up to 85% of their childcare costs. Please visit <https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/universal-credit> to find out more.

Yours faithfully,



Lindsay Jackson
Assistant Director Post 16 & School Operations

Attendance Leaflet for Parents/Carers

Why is school attendance important?

Pupils with good attendance are more likely to do well at school. When pupils miss school, even if the time period is very short, it can lead to gaps in their learning which might make future lessons more difficult for them.

Regular attendance helps pupils to feel part of the school community and enables them to develop good relationships with their peers and other members of the school community. This can have a positive impact on their wellbeing and help them to feel more settled in school.

When a pupil attends school every day, it helps to establish good routines and habits for their later life.

What does the law say?

It is a legal requirement for schools to keep a record of attendance and the reasons for any absences. There are clear guidelines set out by the government about how schools should manage attendance and schools are expected to follow these.

Only the headteacher can officially authorise an absence but, unless there is a concern, other staff will usually do this on their behalf. Parents and carers should provide reasons for absences to enable the school to decide whether or not to authorise the absence based on government guidelines.

Parents and carers must ensure that their child attends school regularly. Failure to do so, without good reason, is an offence, even if they are missing school without your knowledge. Parents and carers of children with unauthorised absences may be subject to a fixed penalty notice/legal action.

What are the different types of absence?

There are two broad categories of absence:

Authorised absence: This is an absence that has been authorised by the school for a legitimate medical, emergency or unavoidable situation.

Typical examples of authorised absence include:

- illness that means a child is too unwell to come to school;
- following NHS advice regarding remaining off school following a period of illness (in the case of certain infectious illnesses);
- an emergency medical or dental appointment;
- the recent death of a close family member;
- religious observance, as long as certain conditions are met.

Unauthorised absence: This is where a pupil's absence is for a reason deemed to be unacceptable by the school or where the reason for a pupil's absence has not been provided and cannot be established.

Some examples of unauthorised absence include:

- looking after a younger sibling;
- time off for birthday celebrations;
- a family holiday (unless there are exceptional circumstances);
- oversleeping;
- shopping trips or days out;
- waiting in for a delivery.

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Why is it important that my child is on time each day?

When children are late to school, they may initially feel unsettled and they might miss important information and activities.

Schools are required to record late arrivals. If pupils arrive after the start of the school day but when the register is still open, it will be recorded as a late mark. If pupils arrive after the register closes (which government guidelines state must be within 30 minutes of the register opening), then their morning mark will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, unless evidence can be provided that there are exceptional circumstances that led to the late arrival.

How does occasional absence affect my child?

Missing occasional days from school may seem unimportant at the time; however, this can have a significant impact on your child in the long term:

% of attendance in a school year	Number of days absent	Weeks missed
98%	4	Less than 1 week
95%	9.5	Nearly 2 weeks
90%	19	Nearly 4 weeks
85%	28.5	Nearly 6 weeks

A pupil with 85% attendance is missing nearly half a term of learning time each school year.

Regular absences can result in poorer outcomes over time. Research shows that pupils who miss between 10% and 20% of school (which is between half and one day per week on average) stand only a 35% chance of achieving five or more good GCSEs, compared to 73% of those who miss fewer than 5% of school days.

Late arrivals also add up over time – being 10 minutes late each day adds up to two weeks of lost learning time over the whole school year.

What about medical appointments?

We understand that pupils need to attend medical and dental appointments and that it is not always possible to arrange this outside of school time. However, we would request that any non-emergency appointments are made for outside of the school day as this keeps the disruption to a minimum and ensures that they do not miss important lessons.

Why won't the school usually authorise absence for a family holiday?

We recognise that family vacations during the school holidays can be expensive and that booking a cheaper term-time holiday might be tempting. However, headteachers can only authorise leave during term time if there are exceptional circumstances, even if your child has an excellent attendance record or if you believe that the reason for the absence is justified.

Parents and carers should plan their holidays around school holidays and avoid asking for permission to take their children out of school unless it is absolutely unavoidable.

there are exceptional circumstances, then a request can be made to the school using our absence request form by clicking the link <https://tinyurl.com/yc6r989n> or contacting the school office.

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Requests for term-time absences should be made as soon as possible. However, we recognise that in some rare instances, this will not always be possible.

Requests for term-time absences will be considered on a case-by-case basis taking the facts, circumstances and any supporting evidence into consideration. Leave of absence due to exceptional circumstances is at the discretion of the headteacher. This includes the length of time that the leave will be granted for.

What is school refusal?

If your child is refusing to go to school, this is known as 'school refusal'. There are a number of different reasons for school refusal, including general anxiety, worries about leaving home, problems with friends or peers, academic problems and depression. Sometimes, the cause can be a combination of different factors.

If your child is refusing to attend school, you should let us know immediately so that we can work together to put a plan in place to deal with any underlying issues and get your child back into school. The longer school refusal goes on, the more difficult it is to address.

How do I request an absence in advance?

If you want to request authorisation for a planned absence, please use our absence request form which can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/yc6r989n>.

Paper copies of this form are also available from the school office.

Please submit any requests as early as possible as we may need to ask for additional information before we can consider your request. Please do not make any plans until you have been told the outcome of your request.

Please be aware that we can only approve absences that are for exceptional circumstances so will be unable to authorise family holidays in most cases.

How do I report an unplanned absence to the school?

Unexpected absences should be reported to school by:

Using the absence link <https://tinyurl.com/vmemsv6v> or you can call the school office. If there is no answer please leave a clear message stating your child's name, class and the reason for the absence.

Please report any absences by **9am** or as soon as you become aware that your child will be absent.

In the case of illness, the absence will usually be authorised unless there are grounds for concern that the illness may not be genuine or that it might not be sufficient to require time off school. In these cases, the school may ask for additional evidence, such as a doctor's note, appointment card, hospital letter or medical report. The school will not ask for this additional evidence unnecessarily.

If you do not provide a reason for your child's absence, we will contact you to find out why they are not in school. Unexplained absences will be recorded as unauthorised.

Who should I contact if I have any questions or concerns about my child's attendance?

Allison Tokeley

[The information in this leaflet is based on our attendance policy which can be found on the school website or paper copies provided upon request.]

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NELFT School Nurse 2023

Drop in sessions:

School health team are providing sessions offering advice and support on a range of topics including:

Healthy Eating

Head Lice

Hygiene- hand washing and oral; health

Bed wetting

Hearing and vision

Height- weight management

Emotional health

Or any other health related concerns you may have regarding your child

Available to all parents and pupils

If you would like to arrange an appointment please contact Allison Tokeley
on 0208 527 1872 or email Allison.tokeley@winns.waltham.sch.uk



Please follow our Facebook page- NELFT Waltham forest school nursing

Your school nurse is

Jessica Boateng

The next drop in session is:

Thursday 21st December 2023

Place: The Winns Primary School

Time 9-10.30am

**OMEGA
SPORTZ**



Omega Sportz

Winter Activity Camp

@ Ainslie Wood Primary School

140 Ainslie Wood Road

E4 9DD



Waltham Forest

Arts & Crafts

**Winter Fun for Children
Aged 5-12**

2nd Jan – 5th Jan

Hot lunch Included



Animal Workshops

ALL DAY: 9:00 – 16:00 £35
AM: 9:00 – 13:00 £25 or free for FSM
PM: 12:00 – 16:00 £25 or free for FSM

Bouncy Castle

Science Experiments

Free half-day spaces

for kids who qualify for Free School

Meals: Book Here

Dance

Ball Sports

**Book Here for
paid spaces**

Team Games

And sooo MUCH MORE!!!

Site Phone: 07706254498 (Camp Only)

Head Office: 07444592073

www.omegasportz.com

info@omegasportz.com

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