

★★★★ Last week's whole school attendance: 94.5% ★★★★★

W WINNS WEEKLY

19.12.2024

Merry
Christmas
AND HAPPY
NEW YEAR

آخر هفته خوبی داشته باشید!
Farsi
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 WB 6.1.2025

- Monday 6th January INSET Day - Staff Only
- Tuesday 7th January Children return
- Thursday 9th January 6PB Ice Skating trip
- Friday 10th January 6ES Ice Skating trip

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

HEAD'S MESSAGE

Dear families,

As we approach the end of term, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been a wonderful term at The Winns. It has been an absolute delight to see our children flourish academically and socially, bringing enthusiasm and energy to every lesson and activity. I have spent lots of time in classrooms and in the playground, observing children learning and playing together over the Autumn term. I can absolutely say that Winns children are amazing - they demonstrate kindness, respect and make us smile every day. They work hard in lessons, challenge themselves and care hugely about each other. Watching them perform so well in their recent concerts was a wonderful way to end a great term. We are very proud of all of them.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to our Winns community for all your support over the Autumn term. Some of you have given up your time to come on school trips, to help out at reading mornings or to prepare for events like our Christmas fair. However, we also very much recognise the support we receive in other ways - making sure children attend school on time every day, helping your child with their homework, attending parents evenings, donating to our food bank - we really appreciate and value all your support.



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HEAD'S MESSAGE (CONT.)

A special shout out to our incredible Friends of the Winns. What an amazing team you are – your tireless dedication to our school is incredible. Our Winter fair was a huge success. The challenge of a very wet and windy Saturday didn't stop our community from coming out and having a great day. Well done everyone – a great achievement. We also had our first ever school quiz this term – another great event which we hope to do again soon.

Over the Christmas holidays, please do encourage your child to continue reading. Building a love of books and reading is one of the most important things we can do to help our children be successful learners. Please do limit screen time. In school, we are becoming increasingly concerned by the number of hours some children are spending playing games on devices or watching YouTube videos which are not always appropriate. Saying no to our children can be difficult. However, it is important that you put in place strict rules about screen time and find other ways to engage them – all our children still love playing family board games, spending time outside, building lego or cooking together or just spending time together as a family.

This term, we are saying goodbye to Ms. Pepper, who is moving to France. She will be very much missed at The Winns by staff and children. Ms. Boakes is currently enjoying her maternity leave after giving birth to a beautiful baby boy called Elliot. We can't wait to meet him!

Wishing you and your family a lovely Christmas break. I hope you are all able to enjoy some quality family time together. Have a great Christmas everyone! See you all back in school on Tuesday 7th January.

Warmest wishes,

Fiona and all the staff team at The Winns

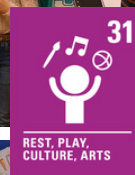


Merry Christmas from Cybi! 🐾

KEY STAGE 2 CHOIR PERFORMANCES

This week, our school choirs showcased their hard work from the Autumn term with fantastic performances in assemblies. The pupils' talent and enthusiasm shone as they delivered a repertoire of songs, highlighting their teamwork and growing confidence.

A big thank you to Ms Helsing, our dedicated music teacher, for her guidance and encouragement. Well done to all our singers – we can't wait to hear more next term!



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YEAR 2 CHRISTMAS CARDS

Well done to Year 2 children who this week have been writing and designing Christmas cards to send to elderly people in local nursing and residential homes. What a brilliant idea to spread some festive joy!



FILMING FOR THE WATERSTONES CHILDREN'S BOOK PRIZE 2025

A small group of our Reception and Year 6 children have been selected for a fantastic opportunity to take part in the filming of the Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2025. This unique project celebrates outstanding new books for young readers and offers our pupils the chance to share their thoughts on the eventual winners.

As part of this experience, the children have received advance copies of the shortlisted books - a real privilege! While the shortlist remains under wraps for now, we can confidently say that there are some incredible stories and illustrations to look forward to. The children are already diving into their reading and will later share their insights and reactions on camera.

Filming will take place in January, and their discussions will feature in the awards ceremony and special content highlighting the winning books. We are immensely proud of our pupils for representing our school in this prestigious initiative and for being such thoughtful and enthusiastic readers. We look forward to discovering the 2025 winners alongside the children when the announcement is made in the new year. Stay tuned for updates on this exciting journey into the world of children's literature!



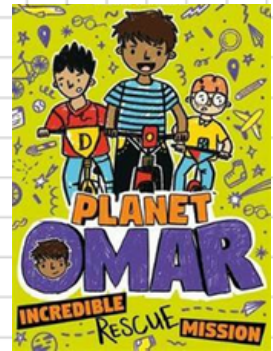
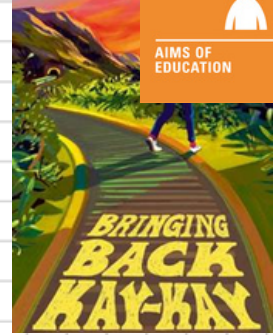
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EXCITING WRITING COMPETITION: THE BOOK THAT REPRESENTS ME

We're thrilled to share details of an inspiring writing competition that encourages children to reflect on books that truly represent them. **The Book That Represents Me** invites children in Years 3 to 6 to write a compelling review of a book in which they feel at least one aspect of their identity is authentically represented.



In 350 words or less, children should explain why other people should read the book, how it makes them feel represented, and why this is meaningful to them. Annotated drawings or graphic novel-style review entries are also welcomed, offering creative ways to express their ideas.

The competition will be judged by a panel from BookTrust, joined by award-winning authors Sharna Jackson and Michael Mann. Teachers in KS2 will share some information with the children ahead of the holiday period to support them in their writing, should they choose to enter the competition. There are some fantastic prizes up for grabs too, that include £3000 worth of inclusive books for our great school library.

At The Winns, we've expanded our range of books celebrating the rich tapestry of cultures, beliefs, and heritages in our community. This competition is a wonderful opportunity for children to celebrate these stories and explore what representation means to them.

Click [here](#) for full details and get started today! 📖 ✨

Travel for Life Top Schools Award Nominations NOW OPEN!

Nominations are now open for the 2023-24 Top School Awards! Whether you've been engaged with the programme for years or only recently joined, it's your chance to showcase your achievements. The awards honour schools for their work in reducing car journeys and encouraging active travel celebrating contributions from students, teachers parents and the wider school community.

To be eligible your school must have achieved something **exceptional** in the 2023-24 academic year. This could be a creative or innovative project or powerful evidence of changing travel behaviours.

Award Categories Include:

*Best NEW School, Long-Term Excellence, Mode Shift Impact,
Best Campaign, Creativity and Innovation, Student Achievement, School Champion.*

The awards event will be held on 19th May 2025 at the Kia Oval and is an action-packed day with lots of engaging activities and pupil networking.

➔ [Please click on this link to make your nomination](#) ←

Last years winners:

Mission Grove Primary: Long-Term Excellence Award
Mayville Primary: Highly Commended, Best Newcomer
Joseph Clarke School: Highly Commended, Best Campaign



schooltavelplans@walthamforest.gov.uk



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FRIENDS OF THE WINNS NEWS

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM FOTW!

A big THANK YOU to everyone who has helped us raise much needed funds this term by supporting, volunteering and donating to Friends of the Winns! Have a great break and we'll see you for some more fun filled fundraising in 2025!



DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING ONLINE?

THEN SIGN UP TO EASYFUNDRAISING!

Easyfundraising is a simple way for you to support the school. Over 7,500 brands will donate to Friends of the Winns for free every time you use the app or browser extension to shop. **It costs you nothing extra!**

Simply sign up here: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofthewinns>



NEED LABELS FOR YOUR CHILD'S CLOTHES?



Then consider using Sitkins.

As a member of **Sitkins fundraising scheme** we receive a 30% donation every time you make a purchase. To order, visit <https://www.stikins.co.uk/> and use the school's fundraising number - 25586 - when making your purchase

OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT

ONLINE DONATIONS - You can set up a regular payment or make a one off donation through the Charities Aid Foundation. All the details can be found here:

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/26249#!/DonationDetails>

Have ideas or feedback for FOTW? Email Karen, Co-Chair of FOTW: fotwchair@gmail.com





Department
for Education

MAKING IT MINDFUL

Christmas PARTY



**DISCO, GAMES, SNOW MACHINE, ENTERTAINERS, GIANT
SLIDE, BOUNCY CASTLES, CRAFTS, SENSORY PLAY,
FACEPAINTING, GINGERBREAD DECORATION AND MANY
MORE FUN ACTIVITIES!**



MON 23RD DEC



**10.30AM - 1PM
2PM - 4.30PM**



**FREDERICK BREMER
SCHOOL E17 4EY**

**BOOK
HERE**



**FREE TICKETS FOR CHILDREN AGED 4 - 11 YEARS WHO RECEIVE BENEFIT
RELATED FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND LIVE IN WALTHAM FOREST**



Department
for Education

Making It Mindful

New Years Party

For children aged 4 – 11 years old and their families



Disco, games, snow machine, entertainers, giant slide, bouncy castles, crafts, sensory play, face Painting and a “healthy snack making” workshop!



Monday 30th Dec



10.30am – 1pm &
2pm – 4.30pm



George Mitchell
Secondary School E10
5DN

Book here



www.makingitmindful.co.uk

Children aged 4 – 11 years who go to school in Waltham Forest and receive benefit related free school meals are eligible to book FREE spaces for themselves and their siblings through the Holiday Activity Programme funding.

Parent/Carer Support Programmes

January - March 2025

A full guide to the programmes available from pregnancy to adulthood in Waltham Forest

[Click here for the full guide](#)



**Best Start
in Life**



BARRACUDAS

ACTIVITY DAY CAMPS

HIGHLY RATED
School Holiday
Camps!!!



AT A SCHOOL NEAR YOU IN **2025!**
EARLY BOOKING OFFER!

LOWEST RATES GUARANTEED
BOOK BY 31ST JANUARY

SAVE UP
TO £100!



✔ OFTSED REGISTERED

- ⊙ 4½ to 14 year olds!
- ⊙ 80+ Activities!
- ⊙ Choice each session!
- ⊙ Specialist Courses!
- ⊙ Flexible bookings!

barracudas.co.uk
 01480 467 567



BARRACUDAS

ACTIVITY DAY CAMPS

Draw your favourite thing
about Christmas!

FESTIVE ANAGRAMS!

EXAMPLE: EVLES = Elves

1. AANSTS ALCUS
2. WASONMN
3. TECPRNES
4. LOPE OTHRN
5. RNDREEEI

Let's count together... in 5s!



SCAN ME!
to see more info
about our camps!

Match the
CHRISTMAS
Essentials!

TREE
GINGER BREAD
PRESENT
STOCKING
SANTA HAT
REINDEER

How many Bells
can you see?

LEFT OR RIGHT

How many to the left?
How many to the right?



Help Santa find
The Sleigh!



ANSWERS



Festive Anagrams:
Left or Right
Reindeers:
Left - 12
Right - 11
Count Together
in 5s:
10, 20, 25, 35.

visit barracudas.co.uk
or call 01480 467 567



HEY!
I'm BILLY Barracuda!
Merry Christmas!
It's great time to
spend with family
and friends!

FUN FACT
The first song
played in space:
Was "Jingle Bells"
in 1965

ALL ABILITIES ARE WELCOME

Junior

BADMINTON

PROGRAMME

to

FRIDAY 24 JANUARY
FRIDAY 27 JUNE 2025

From 5pm to 7pm

Aged

8 to 17

FREE



weekly sessions taking place at



Walthamstow Leisure Centre,
243 Markhouse Road,
London, E17 8RN

The Waltham Forest Sport and Leisure Team have partnered with GLL and Feel Good Accredited Club Black Arrows Badminton Club to launch a new Junior Badminton Programme aimed at boys and girls aged 8 to 17

Online registration is required limited spaces are available

Contact Feel.Good@walthamforest.gov.uk for more information

TO REGISTER

SCAN
QR CODE



BETTER



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Currently, children are growing up in an immediate and throwaway culture when it comes to content that's consumed online. So much material is now deliberately created to be shorter in nature – and may often contain hidden elements such as advertising, or extreme political and cultural views. With complex algorithms built to keep people on their phones and engaging with social media content, it's becoming increasingly difficult to reduce time spent on these platforms.

1 REDUCE DOOMSCROLLING

It's concerning how common it is for young people to spend hours 'doomscrolling': trawling through social media and aimlessly viewing every post they see, many of which might make them feel sad or anxious. Social media can be useful for keeping in touch with friends and family, as well as staying up to date on current events. However, it's important to use it with a clear purpose, instead of endlessly scrolling through content, which could lead to young people accidentally discovering harmful material.

2 TALK ABOUT THE CONTENT

It's important to keep apprised of the kind of content that a young person is being exposed to. Discussing what they're watching online can help you understand why they're using social media in the first place. Furthermore, ensure that children are aware of hidden content, such as advertising of a product – and that they know how to spot that the creator is being paid to talk about it.

3 FIND POSITIVE ASPECTS

Despite all the concerns, there's plenty of wholesome content on social media. It's worth spending time with children to help them find something suitable and enjoyable. Perhaps you'll even discover a joint interest, and you can enjoy the content alongside the child. As part of this, you should also point out why certain things shouldn't be given attention, explaining why it isn't suitable and why it's been created in the first place.

4 REDUCE SCREENTIME

Young people can sometimes be unaware of the exact amount of time they spend looking at social media. Smart phones don't just have the capacity to monitor screentime; they also record how much time is spent on each app. Consider setting targets to reduce this and support children to meet these goals, gradually reducing the amount of time spent on different apps.

5 FILL THE VOID

Monitoring and reducing screentime can create a lot of free time to fill, and young people can even face withdrawal symptoms when made to step away from their phones. To mitigate this, consider what offline activities you could introduce the child to, and what they would enjoy. This can ensure that young users will permanently cut down on their screentime, rather than temporarily doing so while they know it's being monitored.

6 REDUCE NOTIFICATIONS

One way in which social media platforms keep people coming back is through notifications. The algorithms behind these apps track people's daily habits, including the times of the day where they're most likely to engage with the platform. This data is then used to deliver specifically timed notifications to draw them back in. To avoid young users being exposed to this tactic, simply turn off notifications for the app in their phone's settings.

7 LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD

Overexposure to social media can distort someone's perception of the real world – from body norms to social conventions. This filtered environment can make it hard for young people to distinguish reality from online content, which is now becoming even more difficult with the rise of AI. To mitigate this concern, take time to teach young people how to discern truth from fiction, both on and off social media.

8 DIGITAL DETOX

Encouraging young people to take a 'digital detox', from even just a couple of the apps that they use, can result in an overall reduction of screentime and less exposure to potentially harmful content. Alternatively, rather than avoiding the app entirely, encourage children to take a 'digital detox' from content creators and influencers, and instead, keep in touch with friends and family – which is generally a far healthier use of these platforms.

9 MODEL GOOD BEHAVIOUR

Consider the habits that you're demonstrating to your children. How much time do you spend on your phone? How much do you 'doomscroll'? Comparing your own usage with the child's could put things into perspective for them – or if it turns out that you're also overusing social media, it can turn screentime reduction into a joint mission, which you and the child can work on together.

10 BE CLEAR ON THE "WHY"

Research shows that young people can become addicted to social media. There are many schools that are moving towards being 'phone free' due to the negative impacts of using social media and phones continuously. It's important to explain to young people why managing screentime is important. Set out the benefits and ensure they have all the relevant information, so it's not just seen as a punishment.

Meet Our Expert

John Inley is a senior leader in a Birmingham secondary school and has vast experience in leading schools over the past 15 years – including the development of computing curriculums across primary and secondary schools, writing e-safety policies and supporting schools with computing and e-safety advice.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/top-tips-for-safety-on-social-media>