



Weekly Bulletin - 19th December 2025

Click the link for each item to head straight to the relevant information.

Upcoming dates for diaries

- Friday 19th December - final day of Autumn term
- Monday 5th January - INSET Day - staff only
- Tuesday 6th January - Children return

Dates and event information

- Provisional **dates for diaries** for the whole academic year, including class assembly dates. ([click here](#))

Information from outside agencies and organisations

- Top tips for parents and carers about **AI toys** from the National College ([click here](#))
- Information about Waltham Forest's **Winter Holiday Activity and Food programme** for children eligible for Free School Meals ([click here](#))
- Waltham Forest **Educational Psychologist Service Parent Advice** sessions ([click here](#))
- Waltham Forest **Community Drop In Sessions** ([click here](#))
- Information about the **Feel Good Centre's children's birthday party** options ([click here](#))
- Information about a **free digital drawing club** for children with SEND ([click here](#))
- Information about on **online course from Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities** ([click here](#))
- Information about a new space for children to develop their creative skills, **Creative Cabin** ([click here](#))
- Information about **MB Community's Winter Camp for children**, taking place either side of the Christmas Bank Holiday ([click here](#))

The Winns Primary School

Calendar Dates Academic Year 2025-26

Please note, these dates are subject to change.

December 2025

19th – Last day of Autumn term

January 2026

5th – Inset Day (staff only)

12th – ASC start

February 2026

6th – Dress Up for Digits Day

9th – Children's Mental Health Awareness Day

10th – Safer Internet Day

16th-20th – Half Term Holiday

March 2026

6th-13th – British Science Week

18th– Eid Celebration

20th – ASC finish

wb 23rd – Parental Consultation meetings

27th – Last day of Spring term

April 2026

13th – First day of Summer term (staff & children, no Inset day)

20th – ASC start

22nd – Earth Day

May 2026

4th – Bank Holiday (school closed)

wb 11th – KS2 SATs (Y6)

22nd – ASC finish

wb 25th – Half Term Holiday

June 2026

Pride Month

wb 1st – No ASC

wb 1st & 8th – Multiplication Tables Check (Y4)

1st – Inset day (staff only)

3rd-5th – Y5 Residential to The Hive

wb 8th – Phonics Screening Check (Y1)

wb 8th & 15th – Creativity Weeks (art work displayed at Summer Fair)

8th – ASC start

16th – Y1, 2, 3 Sports Day

17th – Y4, 5, 6 Sports Day

24th - Class Photos

25th – Young Enterprise

July 2026

4th – FOTW Summer Fair

9th – Y6 Leavers' Production (after school)

8th – End of year reports sent home

10th – ASC finish

14th – Leavers’ BBQ

17th – Leavers Assembly

17th – Final day of the Summer term

20th – Inset day (staff only)

Class Assembly Dates

Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Wed 21st Jan – 3CS	Thurs 5th Mar – 3NM	Thurs 23rd Apr – 1AS	Thurs 11th Jun - Pine
Thurs 29th Jan – 5JH	Thurs 12th Mar – 6AM	Thurs 30th Apr – 5BB	Thurs 18th Jun - 4LT
Thurs 5th Feb – 2CS	Thurs 19th Mar – 2JS	Thurs 7th May – 2ML	Thurs 25th Jun - Cedar
Wed 11th Feb – 6ES	Thurs 26th Mar – 4KB	Thurs 21st May – 1BH	Thurs 2nd Jul - 1GB
Thurs 12th Feb – 4EB			Thurs 9th Jul - Elm

Christmas Parties (more information to follow direct from each year group team):

Tuesday 16th December - Y2, 4 & 6

Wednesday 17th December - Nursery, Reception, Y1, 3 & 5

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EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE

Speak confidentially
with an educational
psychologist about
your child

DATES

**Wednesday afternoon
(12:30–2 pm) or evening
(3:30–5 pm)**

24th September 2025
8th October 2025
12th November 2025
10th December 2025
14th January 2026
11th February 2026
18th March 2026
22nd April 2026
20th May 2026
10th June 2026
8th July 2026

PARENT ADVICE SESSIONS

Who is it for?

- Parents and carers living in Waltham Forest

What can I expect?

- A free 30-minute session with an EP by phone or online via Teams

How to book?

- Call, text or email us using the contact details below



ABOUT US

Our diverse EP team is passionate about working with families and schools to support children and young people aged 0–25 years with their development, learning and emotional wellbeing.



educationalpsychologyservice@walthamforest.gov.uk



07776 589 597

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI TOYS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

TOYS THAT LISTEN AND LEARN

When a toy uses AI, it collects data such as voice recordings, interactions, and background sounds. This information is sent to remote servers, where it is analysed to improve responses. Your child's voice becomes training data, which may be stored indefinitely or shared with third parties.

WEAK SECURITY PROTECTIONS

Some AI toys have poor password protection or open network connections. Others may have microphones or cameras that stay on, even when the toy appears to be off. This can lead to recordings being made without your knowledge, including conversations unrelated to play.

ARTIFICIAL VOICES, REAL INFLUENCE

For very young children, an AI companion may become one of the first voices they interact with regularly. How that voice shows humour, empathy, or authority can shape how a child learns to communicate, if the model is artificial, then part of what is learned is artificial as well.

PRESSURE TO KEEP ENGAGING

Some toys reward repeated use or track engagement, encouraging children to interact more. When children compare how their toys perform, it creates pressure to play more often. This increases the amount of data collected and can make learning feel like competition.

MARKETING THROUGH PLAY

Toys that learn a child's preferences may feed that data into future advertising. A toy that knows a child's favourite colour or hobby could help a company design more targeted marketing to that child and their family.

PLAYTIME AS DATA TRAINING

The information collected from children helps train AI systems. Their voice, emotional responses, and behaviour shape how machines 'understand' people. Play becomes part of a much larger system that influences how future technologies behave.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START WITH A CONVERSATION

Talk to young people. Explain that some toys learn from what they say and do. Help them understand that even friendly technology should have boundaries, and to ask questions about it. Curiosity is healthy, blind trust is not.

SET LIMITS ON USE

Turn off Wi-Fi or Bluetooth when the toy is not in use. Check for updates regularly, as they can change privacy or safety settings. Treat connected toys like any smart device; they should be monitored, updated, and switched off when not in use.

MODEL DIGITAL AWARENESS

Children learn from adults. If they see you checking privacy settings, reading terms, and talking openly about online safety, they are more likely to do the same. Show them how to question technology in a healthy way.

RESEARCH BEFORE YOU BUY

Look for toys that work offline or store data locally. Check for a free or demo version so you can test how it behaves. Read privacy policies to understand what data is collected, where it goes, and whether it's shared with others.

REVIEW PRIVACY SETTINGS

Find out where the data is stored and who has access to it. Some companies sell or share data with advertisers. If the toy connects through an app, check what it requests access to and limit these permissions whenever possible.

BALANCE AI WITH REAL PLAY

AI toys can be fun and creative, but they are not a replacement for real human interaction. Encourage time away from technology with activities that foster emotional and social development. Use AI toys to support learning, not define it.

Meet Our Expert

Claire Hawking is Executive Director of Kompass Education. She advises governments, school trusts, and global organisations on AI governance and safeguarding, helping schools and families understand how technology shapes learning, wellbeing, and the digital future of children.



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COMMUNITY DROP-IN

Our early help community drop-in is here

It's a place where everyone can come to get friendly support and information from local volunteers, community organisations and Waltham Forest Early Help teams in an informal space.

We can help you with information about **local services**, **support for parents**, **community activities**, and **help to use online services** and more.

WALTHAM FOREST

FAMILY HUBS

WELLBEING, CONNECTION, SUPPORT

CAN YOU HELP?

You can find out how to volunteer here:



DROP IN FROM 9.45-11.15AM

FREE DROP IN SESSION, NO NEED TO BOOK

TUESDAY

QUEENS ROAD
FAMILY HUB
215 QUEENS ROAD
E17 8PJ

WEDNESDAY

CHINGFORD
LIBRARY
STATION ROAD
E4 7EN

THURSDAY

WALTHAMSTOW
LIBRARY
HIGH STREET
E17 7JN

FRIDAY

LEYTONSTONE
LIBRARY
6 CHURCH LANE
E11 1HG



Waltham Forest



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WALTHAM FOREST HOLIDAY ACTIVITY AND FOOD PROGRAMME

20 DECEMBER 2025 – 2 JANUARY 2026

WINTER 2025

**ARE YOU AGED BETWEEN 5-16
AND IN RECEIPT OF BENEFIT
RELATED FREE SCHOOL MEALS?**

This winter we have the opportunity for you to try a wide range of free activities, have fun, make friends and enjoy a free meal every day across the borough.

To book your place and find out more scan here:



or visit

WALTHAMFOREST.GOV.UK/HOLIDAYS

Booking is essential on all activities so book early to avoid disappointment

For queries please contact the Waltham Forest Holiday Activity Programme team on:

**WFHOLIDAYACTIVITYPROGRAMME@
WALTHAMFOREST.GOV.UK**





DIGITAL DRAWING



FREE CLUB LOCATION

10 AM–11.30 AM

SATURDAYS
JAN 17TH & 24TH & 31ST

DISCOVER THE MAGIC OF DIGITAL DRAWING!
JOIN US FOR A FUN AND ENGAGING WORKSHOP
WHERE YOU AND YOUR CHILD CAN LEARN NEW
SKILLS, BUILD CONFIDENCE, AND CONNECT WITH
OTHER FAMILIES.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- A SUPPORTIVE AND CREATIVE ENVIRONMENT
- WE PROVIDE ALL THE IPADS AND GUIDANCE
- NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE IS NEEDED
- LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

WHO CAN ATTEND

7–12 YEARS

- ONE CHILD WITH SEND AND ONE PARENT/GUARDIAN PER SESSION
- PARENTS/GUARDIANS MUST STAY WITH THEIR CHILD THROUGHOUT THE WORKSHOP

ST JOHN'S CHURCH HALL
829-837 HIGH RD LEYTONSTONE,
BUSHWOOD, LONDON E11 3BD
ENTRANCE NEXT TO M&S & ALDI

SIGN UP

8 SPACES AVAILABLE!

TO SECURE YOUR SPOT SIGN UP

CONTACT: ideaspace64@gmail.com

PLEASE QUOTE: "DIGITAL DRAWING CLUB"

IF YOU CAN NO LONGER ATTEND, PLEASE DO LET US KNOW
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO WE CAN OFFER THE FREE SPACE
TO ANOTHER FAMILY ON OUR WAITING LIST.



**A CREATIVE SPACE FOR CHILDREN
WITH SEND AND THEIR FAMILIES**

SUPPORTED BY WALTHAM FOREST
FELLOWSHIP SQUARE FUND

Online
Course

strengthening families strengthening communities

Want to get some new ideas to help
you be the best parent you can be?

Enhance your relationship with your children?

Learning at a time that suits you?



6 online
sessions



6 group
discussions



Certificate on
completion

What to expect...

- Information on strategies and child development.
- Hear from other parents.
- Worksheets and hand-outs.
- Videos, quizzes and fun activities.
- Do sessions at a time that works for you.
- Expert help from a real person each week.
- Choose a course that suits your child's age.

Topics covered...

- Healthy relationships.
- Understanding and managing behaviour.
- Enhancing children's self-esteem.
- Emotions and empathy.
- What to expect for the age of your child.
- Being part of a community.

Group discussion...

1. Speak to a course expert and get answers to any questions you might have.
2. Talk about how the strategies are going at home and how to adjust them for you.
3. Address other difficulties relating to parenting.
4. Hear from others about what works for them.



Find out more or register for the course by scanning the
QR code or emailing us at: sfscparent@racefound.org.uk

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one of six

Creative cabin

A new space in
Walthamstow Central
hosting creative sessions
for all ages

After school and holiday clubs:

Sewing and
crochet

Weekly small group sewing lessons

for
adults, including
mums and
babies!

Weekly textile craft sessions for preschoolers

Monthly workshops:

Hand sewing
Machine sewing
Textile art
Crochet and
more



Scan the QR
code to
register your
interest or find
out more by
visiting:



www.oneofsix.co.uk



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WINTER CAMP

Come join us for our Winter Camp! Stay active and have fun with multi-sports, park trips, winter crafts, and dance sessions — plus enjoy a free snack each day
A great way to keep warm, make friends, and try something new this winter!
(Our staff are trained in supporting children with diabetes.)

Location: St Edmund's Centre, 216 Chingford
Mount Road, E4 8JL
Dates & Time: 22,23,29,30 December
10AM-2 pm Cost: £12 per day
(Free if your on free school meal)

Age: open to all children aged 5 - 13



Paid places



HAF places



07432284736 info@mbcommunitycic.com