



The Winns Primary School

Weekly Bulletin - 6th March 2026

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

Upcoming dates for diaries

- wb 23rd March - Parental Consultation Meetings (see separate communication from your child's class teacher)

Dates and event information

- **POLLING DAY - MAY 7th 2026 - PARTIAL CLOSURE**
Please be aware that on Thursday May 7th 2026, Nursery and Reception, including wraparound care, will be closed to children due to the Early Years building being used for local elections. We apologise for any inconvenience that this causes.
- **NELFT School Nurse drop-in sessions** - fill in this online form to book an appointment
🌐 Please fill out this form ([click here](#) for more info)
- KS2 Cross Country event - follow the link for more info ([click here](#))
- Register for places at **Summer Term after school clubs** ([click here](#) to visit our website for further details)
- Provisional **dates for diaries** for the whole academic year, including class assembly dates. ([click here](#))
- Please download the new Eduspot app to receive messages and notifications directly from school to your smartphone ([click here](#) and follow the link to the App Store or Google Play)
- The travelling Book Fair has arrived! Please see the timings below for each year group's opportunity to visit:

Thursday 5th March	Friday 6th March	Monday 9th March	Tues 10th March
EYFS & Year 1	Year 2 & Year 3	Year 4, 5, 6	All year groups / mop-up

Information from outside agencies and organisations

- Top tips for parents and carers about **Creative Ways to Encourage Reading** from the National College ([click here](#))

- Waltham Forest **Mental Health Support Team webinars** for 2026 ([click here](#))
- Waltham Forest **Educational Psychologist Service Parent Advice** sessions ([click here](#))
- Waltham Forest **Community Drop In Sessions** ([click here](#))
- A 50% discount code for **Better Swim School** lessons ([click here](#))
- Information from Waltham Forest about **keeping your child protected from measles** ([click here](#) - external link)
- Parents/Carers of SEND children needed to take part in research ([click here](#))

The Winns Primary School

Calendar Dates Academic Year 2025-26

Please note, these dates are subject to change.

March 2026

5th - Book Fair arrives (see separate communication)

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)

7th - Polling Day - Nursery and Reception closed (including wraparound care)

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

2nd – Y6 Leavers' Production (after school)

4th – FOTW Summer Fair

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 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
	Thurs 23 rd Apr – 1AS	Thurs 11 th Jun - Pine
Thurs 12 th Mar – 6AM	Thurs 30 th Apr – 5BB	Thurs 18 th Jun - 4LT
Thurs 19 th Mar – 2JS	Thurs 7 th May – 2ML	Thurs 25 th Jun - Cedar
Thurs 26 th Mar – 4KB	Thurs 21 st May – 1BH	Thurs 2 nd Jul - 1GB
		Thurs 9 th Jul - Elm

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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

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

1 VALUE ALL READING

When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand, why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Jot down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.

2 WIDEN THE SELECTION

Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.

3 GIFT A BOOK

One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.

4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS

Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school/bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using free resources such as *Authorly* and *Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live*.

5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of this topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.

6 TALK BOOKS

There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.

8 GO DIGITAL

With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, translate, and track their reading goals with resources like *Polytins* and apps like *Goodreads* for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.

9 RECONNECT

There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading focus of 'Go All in' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.

10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Share why you enjoy it. Is it to relax, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.

Meet Our Expert

Carl Pattison is a literacy adviser and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

[@wake_up_weds](https://www.facebook.com/wake_up_weds)

[/www.thenationalcollege](https://www.thenationalcollege.com)

[@wake.up.wednesday](https://www.instagram.com/wake.up.wednesday)

[@wake.up.weds](https://www.tiktok.com/@wake.up.weds)

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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



WALTHAM FOREST MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM WEBINARS 2026

21

January

**Thriving under exam pressure:
tips and strategies**

5-6PM ON MS TEAMS



12

February

**Helping your child navigate big
feelings: evidence-based
strategies**

5-6PM ON MS TEAMS



05

March

**Navigating social media
mindfully**

5-6PM ON MS TEAMS



19

March

**Mental health through a
neurodiversity lens**

5-6PM ON MS TEAMS



09

April

**Why sleep matters: impacts on
mood, stress and resilience**

5-6PM ON MS TEAMS



14

May

**New Start, New Steps: Navigating
the Move from Primary to
Secondary School**

5-6PM ON MS TEAMS



25

June

**New Start, New Steps: Navigating
the move from secondary school
to further education**

5-6PM ON MS TEAMS



Please register your interest for any of our free webinars by scanning this QR code



50% OFF INITIAL PAYMENT

TAKE THE PLUNGE INTO WEEKLY LESSONS

Give your child the gift of confidence and safety in and around the water with Better Swim School.

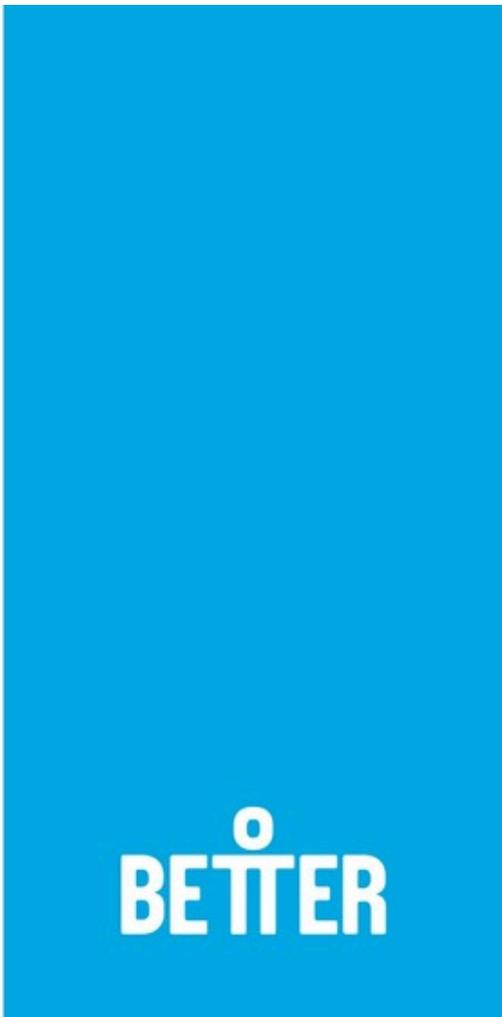


Join weekly lessons with Better Swim School and get 50% off your first payment with code SCHOOL50.



Terms and conditions apply. Offer open to new customers only for school children aged between 4 -12 years. Offer ends on 07/08/2026. Full terms at better.org.uk/offer-terms. Better is a registered trademark and trading name of GLL (Greenwich Leisure Limited), a charitable social enterprise and registered society under the Co-operative & Community Benefit & Societies Act 2014 registration no. 27793R. Registered office: Middlegate House, The Royal Arsenal, London, SE18 6SX. Inland Revenue Charity no. XR43398.

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NELFT School Nurse Drop-In Sessions 2026



March 5th and April 16th

9:30 – 10:30 AM

The Winns Primary School



The School Health Team will offer advice, support on healthy eating, behavioural problems, head lice, hygiene (hand washing and oral health), bed wetting, hearing and vision, height and weight management, emotional health, and any other health-related concerns. All parents with children aged 5+ are welcome! Arrange an appointment by completing <https://forms.office.com/e/VFjjs6hqc7> and Allison will contact you.

School Nurse Drop In

All information shared with the school nurse will be treated with strict confidentiality and will not be shared with parents, carers, or school staff without the student's consent. The only exception to this is if there is a concern that the student or someone else may be at risk of harm, in which case appropriate safeguarding procedures will be followed to ensure safety and wellbeing.

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

* Required

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Dear parent/carer,

We are putting together a group of children who would like to compete at the borough Cross Country competition which takes place on Saturday 14th March at Chingford Plains (Bury Road, E4 6AR).

The children would need to run a mile (1.6km - around 15 laps of the two pitches in our playground) over potentially muddy terrain.

Registration for the event will start at 9:15am. The boys race will begin at 10am with the girls race following as soon as all boy runners have finished. I anticipate that the event will be complete by 11am.

As the competition takes place on a Saturday, we would need you to bring your child to the competition. The 97 bus terminates at Chingford Overground station which is a 5 minute walk from the Plains. There is also a pay and display car park at Bury Road. There may not be a member of school staff present, but one of our parents has kindly offered to organise a WhatsApp group for anyone that is interested in their child competing. The link to the WhatsApp group is here: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/CH0FDH0HTeWBmPxK8HtkFy> and can also be found in the Weekly Bulletin.

Register here: [Waltham Forest School Sports Network - Cross Country competition \(March 2026\) – Fill in form](#)

Thank you for your support,

Mr Jonathan Jones

Assistant Head

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