

Reception Dinosaur Workshop

This week the children had lots of fun digging up dinosaur fossils from the past. They also got to dig up and examine fossils that were even older than dinosaurs from under the sea!

They met two dinosaurs - Poppy the Parasaurolophus who was a herbivore and Jake the Tyrannosaurus Rex who was a carnivore! They even got to stroke Poppy!



Makaton — Sign of The Week

A small number of children at Chase Lane benefit from using alternative ways of communicating as spoken language is not as easy for them. Makaton is a way of using signs to complement spoken words. This year in our newsletter we are introducing 'Sign of the Week'. This week's sign is 'Computer'.

Click on the link below to view how to make the sign for computer.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rCCFq9XmVAg>



2024 Is a Leap Year

If you count the squares on your new 2024 calendar you will get 366 days, instead of the usual 365. Do you know why? It's because 2024 is a leap year! A quirk of time and science that occurs roughly every four years to account for the fact that it actually takes 365.25 days for Earth to make a complete orbit around the Sun.

Here are some fun leap year facts :

- February usually has 28 days but in a leap year it has 29
- Every year divisible by 4 is a leap year
- But every year divisible by 100 is NOT a leap year
- Women often choose this day to propose marriage to men
- Getting married in a leap year is considered bad luck in Greece, so one in five engaged couples try to avoid it



Attendance 15th January - 19th January 2024

Well done to the following classes for achieving the highest attendance percentage in their Year Groups :- over 96%. The minimum target for attendance each week as set by the Government is 96%.

| Year group | Class | Attendance |
|------------|----------|------------|
| Year 1 | Pine | 98% |
| Year 2 | Acacia | 98% |
| Year 3 | Sycamore | 98% |
| Year 4 | Hawthorn | 100% |
| Year 5 | Sequoia | 93.5% |
| Year 6 | Oak | 96% |



During the above period our overall school attendance was **96.3%**. Congratulations to **Hawthorn class** for achieving **100%**.

Big Garden Birdwatch Weekend



Today Mr Jeffery did an assembly on the RSPB Big School Birdwatch which some pupils at Chase Lane will be taking part in over the coming weeks.

This weekend it's the Big Garden Birdwatch. Last year in the UK over half a million people took part, counting a whopping 9.1 million birds! Click the link below for more information and details about how you can take part:

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch/submission>

Diversity & Inclusion Meeting 6th February



Dear Parents/Carers

On **Wednesday 7th February at 11.00am**, I will be holding a meeting for parents to share our curriculum and how we make links to ensure that we reflect the diversity within our school community. I also hope to share some of the work that children have produced with you. This is also a time where you can share and ask any questions linked to

Diversity and Inclusion at Chase Lane.

If you would like to attend this meeting, please register your interest by clicking 'yes' in the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Q3SUDy46EWOUfbig9KI5sh4Yfy3kntEofPFpsIB8tJUQ05QNV0xUE5LWFFQRIZUTlg1RFNMTUFSNS4u>

A link to the meeting will be sent to anyone that wishes to attend on the morning of the meeting.

Ms Butt, Assistant Headteacher

Parents Forum

Our Parents' Forum consists of a group of parents who volunteer to attend termly meetings in school whereby parents can share their views and ideas about different areas of school life. It is hoped that a parent from each class will be at each meeting, together with Mr Jeffery & Mrs Dasilva.

These meetings are intended to be an informal discussion forum.

The next Parents' Forum will take place in school on **Tuesday 27th February at 2.30pm - 3.15pm**.

If you are free to spare approximately 45 minutes to attend, please advise the Office Manager, Mrs Dasilva by email at:

chaselanepri@clpaltham.org.uk by midday Monday 26th February.



Chinese New Year

Below is the menu that the kitchen staff will be serving on **Thursday 8th February**, to celebrate for Chinese New Year.



Week 2 Dinner Menu 29th January 2024 – 2nd February 2024

Next week's dinner menu will be **WEEK 2**. Please click the link below to view it: https://walthamforestcatering.co.uk/sites/default/files/2024-01/WFC_Primary_Menu_Winter_Menu_2024.pdf



Bikes & Scooters

Parents/carers are politely reminded to make sure your child/children dismount from their scooters or bikes at the gate and do not ride them on school grounds.

This also applies at the end of the school day, children should not ride their scooters or bikes until they leave the school gates.



Waltham Forest Residents News

Click the links below to view the latest Waltham Forest Residents news:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKWALTHAM/bulletins/3864463>

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKWALTHAM/bulletins/384775c>

Joke of the Week

Q. What do librarians take with them when they go fishing?

A. Bookworms!



Dates for the Diary

Any additions/changes to the diary dates are highlighted in **purple text**

Spring Term 1 - 2024

Monday 8th January - Friday 9th February 2024

Tuesday 6th February

9.00am - 9.30am Reception - Year 2 Preloved Uniform Sale - Community room

Thursday 8 February

Chinese New Year meal

Friday 9th February

9.00am - 9.30am Year 3 - 6 Preloved Uniform Sale - Community room

Half-Term Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February

Spring Term 2 - 2024

Monday 19th February - Thursday 28th March 2024

Monday 19th February

Inset Day - Staff training day. School closed to children

Tuesday 20th February

Children return to school

Tuesday 27th February

2.30pm - 3.20pm Parents Forum (details to follow)

Friday 15th March

6.30pm - 8.30pm PTA Family Bingo night (details to follow)

Monday 18th March

Whole School Parent Consultations (details to follow)

Tuesday 19th March

Nursery Parent Consultations (details to follow)

Wednesday 20th March

Nursery Parent Consultations (details to follow)

Thursday 21st March

Whole School Parent Consultations (details to follow)

Thursday 28th March

Last day of Spring term - school will close 1 hour earlier

Easter Break Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April

Tuesday 2nd April - Friday 5th April

Easter School for Year 6 Week 1 (details to follow)

Monday 8th April - Thursday 11th April

Easter School for Year 6 Week 2 (details to follow)

Summer Term 1 - 2024

Monday 15th April - Thursday 28th March 2024

Waltham Forest College offer a range of FREE courses for adults that will help you to gain the necessary skills and qualifications to further your career or progress on to higher level study. Click the link below for more information:

<https://www.waltham.ac.uk/courses/study-for-free-adult-courses>

Free Courses for Jobs

Any adult aged 19 and over, who does not already have a Level 3 qualification or higher, can study Free Courses for Jobs eligible Level 3 courses for free.

This offer is also available to adults who earn less than the National Living Wage annually or who are unemployed, regardless of their prior qualification level.

Explore our Free Courses for Jobs eligible courses below:

- Accounting (Day) Level 3
- Bookkeeping Level 3
- Childcare and Education (Early Years Educator) Level 3
- Childcare Level 3
- Electrical Installation Level 3
- Engineering Level 3
- Entry to the Uniformed Services Level 3
- General Patisserie and Confectionery Level 3
- Health and Social Care Level 3
- Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Level 3
- Plumbing Level 3
- Professional Cookery Level 3

**VALENTINE'S DAY
HALF TERM SPECIAL**

CHINGFORD LIBRARY **BFF** **HALE END LIBRARY**

Monday 12th February 4-5pm Tuesday 13th February 4-5pm

**BOOKING NOT REQUIRED
DROP IN AVAILABLE**

ACTIVITIES:

- 30 Minutes of Disco
- 30 Minutes of arts

Come and celebrate Love Day, enjoying dancing with your friends and more!

all about dance **SCAN** **WALTHAM FOREST LIBRARIES**

WALTHAM FOREST ADULT LEARNING SERVICE **SKILLS FOR LIFE Multiply**

SUPERMARKET SWEEP
WALTHAM FOREST

**Supermarket Sweep
Family Fun Day**

February 16th and 17th

Join us for fun, learning, and fantastic savings with Multiply's Supermarket Savvy Family Day! Join us on February 16th or 17th for an exciting event aimed at local parents, where families can discover the secrets to smart and budget-friendly grocery shopping.

Learn more on our website:
bit.ly/wf-supermarket-sweep

SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS

for young people

7

You may have been lucky enough to have unwrapped a smartphone at Christmas, or you might be eagerly anticipating getting a new one at some point during this year. Whether it'll be your first ever phone or an upgrade on your old model, it's always useful to have a refresher about how to set it up and adjust the settings to keep yourself – and your valuable personal info – safe and secure. We've collected some expert tips to help you enjoy your smartphone in the healthiest way possible.

NEVER SHARE YOUR PASSCODE

Alongside face or fingerprint recognition, your passcode is crucial to unlocking your phone and accessing your apps and personal information. You shouldn't give it out, even to close friends – after all, you wouldn't hand them a key to your house and let them go in for a nosy around! If a friend wants to use your phone, ask them why and make sure you can see what they're doing with it.

RESPECT PARENTAL CONTROLS

If you're allowed to have a smartphone, it's because your parents or carers feel that you're mature and responsible enough to use it safely. They might set controls and boundaries on your device – not to spoil your fun but to help you avoid hazards like too much screen time or costly in-app purchases. Following these rules means you can enjoy using your phone while respecting their wishes.

TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT

Whether it's to listen to music, play games, create content or chat with friends, using a smartphone should be fun. If you're ever feeling anxious, worried or scared about going on your phone, then something isn't right. It's important not to ignore these feelings; instead, talk to a trusted adult about what's happening and how it's making you feel.

STAY ALERT

Two words: look up. It might sound obvious, but it's so easy to get immersed in what we're looking at or listening to on our phones that we can become unaware of our surroundings – or who might be around us. People often walk with their head down, focusing on their phone, and forget to check for obstacles in their path, cars or other pedestrians coming towards them, which is clearly dangerous.

DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS

Phones offer a vast amount of content and the chance to chat with friends whenever we feel like it, which can make it difficult to take time away from the screen. If that's something you struggle with, you could try setting time limits on certain apps. Putting our phones down for a while gives us more time to interact with others or do something physical that helps keep us fit and healthy.

IGNORE UNKNOWN NUMBERS

There are some scammers who might call or text asking you to share personal data or to click on a link and provide your details. Some may claim to be from a genuine company, but trustworthy businesses don't spontaneously call or message to ask for your information. It's safest to ignore calls or texts from unknown numbers, and never give your personal details out over the phone.

ONLY USE AGE-APPROPRIATE APPS

Before downloading a new app or game, check what age rating it has. Don't feel pressured into getting a particular game or app just because your friends are using it. If it's intended for older people, there's a definite risk that it could include content (which is violent or frightening, for instance) or language which isn't suitable and may leave you feeling upset or disturbed.

REMOVE TEMPTATION

A good night's sleep is so important for concentration, mood and overall health. Unwinding properly before going to bed – which means not staring at a screen late at night – can often improve sleep quality. Put your phone on charge overnight, but not in your room. This means you'll have a lot less temptation to check any notifications, reply to messages or get caught up scrolling on social media.

THINK ABOUT OTHERS

Watching videos, listening to music or calling someone can all help to pass the time while we're on the bus, waiting in a queue or walking down the street. It's important to remain mindful of other people, though: they might not want to hear your tunes or your conversation. Likewise, if you're calling from a public place then don't forget that anyone could overhear something personal about you.

SWITCH OFF GEOLOCATION

In your phone's settings, you'll be able to disable geolocation for individual apps and photos: this means that people online (including strangers) can't see information about where you are when you share or post a pic. On the subject of images, it's also important to ask permission before taking or sharing a photo of someone – and don't share embarrassing images of your friends with others.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and consulted out research for the Australian government comparing Internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 17.01.2023