

School Photographer



On Monday 12th October, our school photographer, Van Cols will be in school to take individual pupil photos.

Please make sure your child/children are dressed in their smartest uniform on that day not forgetting their biggest smiles!

Here to Help!

Some families will have possibly been directly affected by COVID-19. If your child has been affected by a bereavement, please let us know so that we can put additional support in place at school.



I am aware that during these unprecedented times many businesses and companies are having to close down. As a result, unfortunately many people are losing their jobs. If you are a family affected in this way, and your financial circumstances have changed, it is imperative that you let us know. There are many entitlements available to families that the school can access on your behalf. Some families may not be aware of these and we are here to signpost you to such services. For example, this might include Free School Meals or Income Support. To find out if you meet the eligibility criteria please use the following link: <https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/content/free-school-meals>

If you need help completing application forms for these services, please contact Mrs Canham, our Family Outreach Worker.

Please remember, we are always here to help and support our school community.

Keeping Children Safe Online

Some advice from the NSPCC for parents, regarding keeping children safe online.

While the internet is a great way for children and young people to stay in touch with their friends, it can also bring risks. Now, more than ever it's important to talk to your child about staying safe online and about the apps and sites they're using.

It can be difficult to know how to start talking to your child about what they're doing online or who they might be speaking to. But talking regularly, like you would about their day at school, will help your child feel relaxed and mean that when they do have any worries, they're more likely to come and speak to you.

Please remember all social media platforms have an age restriction, and most are unsuitable for children under the age of 13 without parental supervision.

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

What is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps?

Under 13	13+	16+	17+
 Roblox  PopJam  FaceTime	 Twitter  Facebook and Messenger  Viber  WeChat  Monkey  Yubo  Dubsash  Instagram	 TikTok  Skype  Google Hangouts  Reddit  Snapchat  Pinterest	 WhatsApp  Telegram Messenger  Tumblr  Line  Sarahah  Tellynium

Uniform Reminders

Polite reminder, uniform orders must be collected on **Thursdays**, between 8.45am - 9.15am or after school between 3.10pm - 3.45pm. Orders not collected each Thursday will need to be collected the following week.



Parents are also reminded that for health and safety reasons, children are **not** allowed to wear hooped earrings in school.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Attendance w/c 28th September 2020

Congratulations to the following classes for achieving the highest attendance percentage in their Year groups:- over 96%.



Year	Class	Attendance %
Reception	Ash	96
Year 1	Cherry & Cedar	98
Year 2	Beech, Elm & Sequoia	100
Year 3	Hazel	100
Year 4	Pine, Palm, Eucalyptus	99
Year 5	Acacia, Baobab, Sassafras	96
Year 6	Oak & Aspen	97



The minimum target for attendance each week as set by the Government is 96%. During the above period our whole school attendance was 97.7%. That's an excellent effort everybody!

A very special well done to children in **Year 2**. All three classes achieved 100% attendance last week, along with **Hazel** class in Year 3. Keep up the fantastic effort children.

SchoolPing-New Communication Tool

To help improve communication we have signed up to a service called **SchoolPing**, which is already used by hundreds of schools across the country to communicate with parents and carers. This system will replace Groupcall which is the current text messaging/email service that we use.



SchoolPing is a free app which sends instant messages straight to your smartphone, wherever you are. If you do not have access to a smartphone, you can also receive messages via email or by logging in to your account on the web. Whether you're at work, at home or on the go, all you need is an internet connection to stay up to date with all of the school's news. We recognise that not all parents/ carers have access to a smartphone or email and so hard copies will still be available upon request.

Invitation letters were sent out to parents last week with details of how to download the app along with individual username and password details. Thank you to those parents who have already downloaded the app. Please note, we will no longer be using Groupcall from Monday 2nd November so please make sure you have signed up to the SchoolPing app before then to avoid missing out on important school messages and information.

Music Lessons

A small number of places have become available for Woodwind and string instruments (Violin/Viola) for children in Years 4 & 5 for the remainder of Autumn term. Lessons cost £30 per term. Should your child wish to start learning, please contact Mrs Rockett in the school office for more information.



Interesting Facts

Earlier this year, a blue plaque was added to the house in Bloomsbury in London, where World War II spy Noor Inayat Khan once lived with her family.



Blue plaques are used to show connection between a place and a famous person or event, and this is the first one to honour a woman of Indian origin.

Noor worked as a secret agent in Paris and is thought to be Britain's first Muslim war heroine in Europe.

Hot Meals Update

To all families of children who currently receive a **school pack lunch**. As of Monday November 2nd 2020, we will be serving hot meals again. Last week, we trialled serving hot food and we were pleased to provide many children with a hot meal. However, there were a few minor issues that we encountered that we would like to address. This means that next Friday 16th October we will be serving hot food to those children who are currently provided with a school packed lunch.

Children will be allowed to choose from:

Fish & Chips with mixed vegetables

or

Macaroni Cheese with Garlic bread and mixed vegetables.



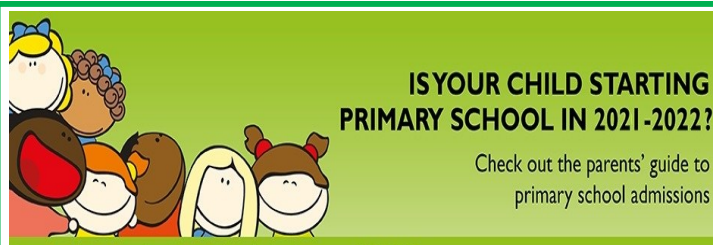
Pudding will be the choice of a yoghurt or a piece of fruit.



Please take the opportunity to share these options with your child in advance.



Reception Admissions 2021-2022



Reminder to all parents with children born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017, who will be due to start Reception in September 2021. The deadline to apply for a Reception place is on **Friday 15th January 2021**. You must apply via the e-admissions portal www.eadmissions.org.uk

This year, due to COVID-19, we will not be able to do the usual tours of the school. However, Mr Jeffery will be holding meetings with prospective parents in the school hall on the dates listed on the calendar below. Please note, only 2 adults will be allowed to attend the meeting. Children are not allowed to attend.

Year 6 Secondary School Applications



Year 6 parents can apply for a secondary school place for the academic year starting September 2021 online at:

www.walthamforest.gov.uk/content/applying-secondary-school-place

If you are unable to apply online you can download the secondary common application form from the website. Instructions for how to submit your paper application are on the back of the application form. The closing date for applications is **31st October 2020**. If you apply after this date, your application will be considered as late.

In the online Starting Secondary School booklet, page 7 of the guide provides full details of Waltham Forest Secondary school Open Evenings. As you will be making a very important decision about your child's education I would urge you to take advantage of the Waltham Forest secondary open evenings available as listed in the booklet. Please note, some schools will be holding their open evening virtually, therefore, please see each school's website for more information.

If your child lives outside the London Borough of Waltham Forest but you still wish to make an application for any of its schools, you will need to apply to the local authority in which you live.

Please note: The parents of children who have an Education Health Care Plan and live in the London Borough of Waltham Forest will be contacted by Special Needs Services regarding your choice of school.

Joke of the Week

Q: Why do fish live in salt water?

A: Because pepper makes them sneeze!



Important Dates for Autumn Term 1 2020

Please note, additional items added to the Autumn calendar or any amendments made each week will always be entered in **BOLD**.

Monday 12th October 2020	Van Cols Individual Pupil photos
Wednesday 21st October	Reception - Year 6 Flu Nasal Spray
Friday 23rd October 2020	Reception Golden Rule Dress - Up Day. Details to follow
Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October	HALF-TERM
Wednesday 4th November 2020	9.30am-10.30am Reception Admissions 2021-2022 Parent meeting
Thursday 6th November 2020	9.30am-10.30am Reception Admissions 2021-2022 Parent meeting
Monday 16th November 2020	3.45pm - 6.00pm Parent Consultations Evening Nursery - Yr6. Details to follow
Tuesday 17th November 2020	3.45pm - 5.30pm Nursery Parent Consultations Evening. Details to follow
Tuesday 17th November 2020	NO BOOSTER CLASSES BECAUSE OF PARENT CONSULTATIONS
Wednesday 18th November 2020	9.30am-10.30am Reception Admissions 2021-2022 Parent meeting
Wednesday 18th November 2020	3.45pm - 5.30pm Nursery Parent Consultations Evening. Details to follow
Thursday 19th November 2020	3.45pm - 6.00pm Parent Consultations Evening Nursery - Yr6. Details to follow
Thursday 19th November 2020	NO BOOSTER CLASSES BECAUSE OF PARENT CONSULTATIONS
Wednesday 2nd December 2020	9.30am-10.30am Reception Admissions 2021-2022 Parent meeting
Friday 4th December 2020	9.30am-10.30am Reception Admissions 2021-2022 Parent meeting
Friday 18th December 2020	End of Term: School closes 2.25pm/2.30pm/2.35pm