



# West Thurrock Academy

## Newsletter No 13 - 15th December 2023

### Holiday Dates -

**Christmas Holidays** - Monday 18th December 2023 - Friday 5th January 2024

**February Half Term** - Monday 12th February 2024 - Friday 16th February 2024

**Easter Holidays** - Friday 29th March 2024 - Friday 12th April 2024

**May Half-Term** - Monday 27th May 2024 - Friday 31st May 2024

**INSET Day - Friday 21st June 2024 and Monday 24th June 2024**

**Last Day of Summer Term** - Friday 19th July 2024 - 2pm Finish

### Dates for your Diary -

Tuesday 9th January 2024 - Animal Encounters Workshop (Year N/R/1)

Monday 15th January 2024 - Seasons Workshop (Year 1)

Friday 19th January 2024 - Young Voices 2024

Wednesday 31st January 2024 - African Dance Workshop (Year 2/3/6)

Thursday 1st February 2024 - Whole School Poetry Competition

Friday 2nd February 2024 - Swimming Gala

Monday 5th February 2024 - Chinese Lion Dance (Year R/5)

Tuesday 6th February 2024 - Internet Safety Day

Monday 26th February 2024 - Internet Safety Workshops

Monday 26th February 2024 - Internet Safety - Zoom Parent Session @ 8pm

Thursday 29th February 2024 - Author Visit - Anna Kemp

Friday 1st March 2024 - Author Visit - Anna Kemp

Thursday 7th March 2024 - World Book Day - Alice in Wonderland themed

### This week's attendance levels -

Lynx - 97.1%

Leopard - 95%

Panther - 95.4%

Lion - 94.5%

Bobcat - 95.5%

Marozi - 95.2%

Bengal - 97.6%

Cougar - 95.1%

Liger - 95%

Ocelot - 94.3%

Jaguar - 95%

Puma - 96.5%

Tigon - 94.9%

### LUNCH MENU – WEEK BEGINNING 8TH JANUARY 2024

<b>Monday</b>	Tuna Pasta Bake with Mixed Vegetables and Broccoli	Macaroni Cheese with Mixed Vegetables and Broccoli	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Ice Cream Tub
<b>Tuesday</b>	Beef Chilli Con Carne with Rice, Green Beans and Bread	Quorn Chilli Con Carne with Rice, Green Beans and Bread	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Fruit Cocktail
<b>Wednesday</b>	Toad in the Hole with Mash, Peas and Cauliflower	Quorn Toad in the Hole with Mash, Peas and Cauliflower	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Ice Cream Roll
<b>Thursday</b>	BBQ Chicken Pizza with Crispers, Garlic Bread and Sweetcorn	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Crispers, Garlic Bread and Sweetcorn	Ham Baguette, Tuna Baguette or Cheese Baguette with Potato Crispers	Apple Crumble & Custard
<b>Friday</b>	Plant Burger in a Bun with Chips, Beans and Sweetcorn	Meat Free Sausage Roll with Chips, Beans and Sweetcorn	Ham Baguette, Tuna Baguette or Cheese Baguette with Chips	Angel Delight

### **Christmas Message -**

I wanted to start by thanking all of our children and families for the gifts and cards that we, the staff, have received during the past week. It is our hope that the children have really enjoyed the festive season here at school. We have been able to cram in so many activities in such a short period of time. Schools are special places full of amazing children and staff; however, a school at Christmas can be extra special. Many of us will remember past Christmases with joy and happiness. It is our hope that the WTA Team have played a small part in Christmas 2023 being one of those that people remember. On behalf of my entire team, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I will see you all again in 2024 where the opportunities and experiences will continue.

### **Returning to school -**

The children are expected to return for the first day of the Spring Term on Monday 8th January 2024.

### **Elfridges -**

This week, the children had the chance to purchase a gift for a family member from our Elfridges shop. Mrs Pitcher worked with a number of parents to prepare a range of gifts that the children could choose from. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Pitcher and those who volunteered. This is the first event arranged by the school's new PTA. Any profit from the sale will be put into school funds which will be used to facilitate experiences and opportunities for all of the children across the school. Further events, including a Mother's and Father's Day sale, will take place in 2024.

### **Performances -**

Over the past few weeks, many of our children have performed to parents, family and friends. The performances have been fantastic and have demonstrated just how amazing our children are! Thank you to everyone who was able to come and watch a show. If your child has yet to perform this year, they will have the chance to participate in a performance in the new year.

### **Clubs**

Tonight the final club of the Autumn Term took place. A letter about new clubs was sent out today. You will be able to sign your child up to one of the clubs on the letter from 12pm on Friday 5th January 2024. If there are spaces in clubs after the registration period, children will be able to choose another club. To register your child for one of the clubs please log onto your Arbor account and follow the instructions. Registration for clubs will close on Wednesday 10th January 2024 at 9:30am. A letter about a club for Reception will be sent out at the beginning of the half term. The new extra-curricular clubs will start on the week beginning Monday 15th January 2024.

### **Dunelm -**

Finally, I would like to thank Mrs Kearns and the staff and shoppers of Dunelm Lakeside for providing gifts for some of our families that qualify for Pupil Premium. Dunelm support local groups and schools every Christmas and this year we were lucky that they chose our community to support. On behalf of the children who received a present, I would like to thank those who made it happen!