



West Thurrock Academy

Newsletter No 1 - 8th September 2023

Holiday Dates -

October Half Term - Monday 23rd October 2023 - Friday 3rd November 2023

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 -

Friday 15th September 2023 - Forensic Science Workshop (Year 4)

Monday 18th September 2023 - Reception Curriculum Meeting

Tuesday 19th September 2023 - Year 3 Curriculum Meeting

Wednesday 20th September 2023 - Year 1 Curriculum Meeting

Thursday 21st September 2023 - Year 6 Curriculum Meeting

Monday 25th September 2023 - Year 2 Curriculum Meeting

Tuesday 26th September 2023 - Nursery Curriculum Meeting

Tuesday 26th September 2023 - European Day of Languages

Wednesday 27th September 2023 - Year 5 Curriculum Meeting

Thursday 28th September 2023 - Year 4 Curriculum Meeting

Friday 6th October 2023 - World Smile Day

Friday 20th October 2023 - Black History Month Museum Exhibition

This week's attendance levels -

Bobcat - 96.6%

Ocelot - 99.1% (KS1 Weekly Winner)

Lynx - 93.5%

Marozi - 89.9%

Jaguar - 98.3%

Leopard - 88.3%

Puma - 87.9%

Panther - 95%

Cougar - 85.8%

Tigon - 98.4% (KS2 Weekly Winner)

Lion - 93.1%

Liger - 94.6%

LUNCH MENU – WEEK BEGINNING 11th SEPTEMBER 2023

Monday	Tuna Pasta Bake	Tomato & Vegetable Pasta Bake, Mixed Vegetables	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Fruit Cocktail
Tuesday	Chicken Curry with Rice, Sweetcorn & Green Beans	Quorn Vegetable Curry with Rice, Sweetcorn & Green Beans	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Lemon Drizzle Cake
Wednesday	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes, 'Yorkie Pud' and Carrots & Cauliflower	Roast Quorn Fillet with Roast Potatoes, 'Yorkie Pud' and Carrots & Fresh Greens	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Ice Cream Roll
Thursday	Pepperoni Pizza with Potato Wedges	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges, Sweetcorn & Broccoli	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Rocket Lolly
Friday	Beef Burgers with Chips, Mixed Veg & Baked Beans	Veggie Burger Chips, Mixed Veg & Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Frozen Yoghurt

News ...

Welcome back -

It has been fantastic to have the children back in school this week. After the break, the children who have returned have demonstrated that they are focused and ready to learn. Walking around classes this week has been a highlight for me. Seeing the children begin to explore their new curriculums has been great. The children have embraced the changes we have made to our daily practices and many are excited for the opportunities and experiences that they will have the chance to fulfil during the current academic year. The first experience of the year will take place next Friday when the children in Year 4 take part in a Forensic Science Workshop. I have attached a separate document to the newsletter email with a list of other opportunities and experiences already planned for the year - this list will expand as the year continues. Our first experience that parents have the chance to be a part of will take place on Friday 20th October where the parents will be invited to visit the school's Museum Event. Parents will be able to explore a range of exhibitions displaying the work the children have covered during Black History Month.

Drop off and Collection -

Last year, the morning registers were open from 8:40am until 9:00am. Many children arrived within the first ten minutes of this period and had to wait for their formal learning to begin at 9:00am. To ensure that our children maximise their time at school, I would like to remind parents that the registration period will now run from 8:40am and will close at 8:50am. This will mean that learning sessions can begin promptly and we utilise the time the children are in school as effectively as possible. If your child arrives after 8:50am, the gates will be locked and they will need to report to the office as they will be marked as late.

Pick up time will remain at 3:30pm. Last year, concerns were raised by the local safeguarding forum about the number of adults in and around school grounds after school. To mitigate any potential problems, we have decided to lock the red and back external gates at 3:40pm. Staff will also be more present at the beginning and the end of the day. The internal red gates will be reopened at 4:15pm to allow for parents to collect from boosters or clubs; however, the back gates (accessed from Flint Street) will remain closed.

Curriculum Meetings -

During the next few weeks, I will be arranging Curriculum Meetings for each year group. During the week beginning Monday 18th September 2023 and Monday 25th September 2023, the teachers from each year group will hold a Curriculum Meeting. The meetings will allow the teachers to explain all the information linked to curriculum, homework and the expectations for your child's new year group. I will also be at each of the meetings and will discuss a range of matters linked to the school including our new behaviour approach and rewards. Each year group will hold two meetings: one at 9am and one at 6pm. If you are unable to attend either meeting, you will be able to access all the paperwork and presentations on the school's website by Monday 9th October 2023. Please find the dates for your child's year group meeting below:

Nursery	Tuesday 26th September 2023	Reception	Monday 18th September 2023	Year 1	Wednesday 20th September 2023
Year 2	Monday 25th September 2023	Year 3	Tuesday 19th September 2023	Year 4	Thursday 28th September 2023
Year 5	Wednesday 27th September 2023	Year 6	Thursday 21st September 2023		

Tuck -

Due to Tuck Shop Friday no longer being financially viable, it will no longer be available on Fridays. If you wish to provide your child with a healthy snack (a piece of fruit, cereal bar, crackers etc), they will be able to eat this at break time but please remember we are a nut free school. On the last Friday of every half term, we will be providing the children with the opportunity to choose from a range of 'fun' snacks. There will be no charge for the parents on these occasions.