



West Thurrock Academy

Newsletter No 5 - 6th October 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 -

Tuesday 10th October 2023 - Flu immunisations (Reception - Yr 6)

Tuesday 17th October 2023 - Mobile Planetarium Experience (Year 5)

Thursday 19th October 2023 - Odd Shoe Day (Year 4 Passport Activity)

Friday 20th October 2023 - Black History Month Museum Exhibition

Monday 6th November 2023 - Friday 10th November 2023 - Poppy Sale

Wednesday 8th November 2023 - School Photos - Individuals

Friday 10th November 2023 - Whole School Remembrance Service

Monday 13th November 2023 - Odd Socks Day

Friday 17th November 2023 - Children in Need

Thursday 30th November 2023 - Panto

Friday 1st December 2023 - Ice Skating Experience

Tuesday 5th December 2023 - Bedtime Stories Event

Wednesday 6th December 2023- Nutcracker - Royal Opera House (Year 3/5)

This week's attendance levels -

Bobcat - 92.6%

Ocelot - 100% (Key Stage 1 Winner)

Lynx - 95.3%

Marozi - 96.7%

Jaguar - 95.3%

Leopard - 95%

Puma - 94.7%

Panther - 95.2%

Cougar - 100% (Key Stage 2 Winner)

Tigon - 98%

Lion - 94%

Liger - 93.3%

LUNCH MENU – WEEK BEGINNING 9TH OCTOBER 2023

Monday	Chicken Pasta Bake	Macaroni Cheese	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Frozen Yoghurt
Tuesday	BBQ Chicken with Rice, Sweetcorn & Green Beans	BBQ Quorn with Rice, Sweetcorn & Green Beans	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Fruit Jelly
Wednesday	All Day Breakfast - Sausage, Bacon, Beans, Scrambled Egg, Hashbrown and Slice of Bread	All Day Breakfast - Veggie Sausage, Veggie Bacon, Beans, Scrambled Egg, Hashbrown and Slice of Bread	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Fruit Cocktail
Thursday	Pepperoni Pizza with Potato Wedges, Sweetcorn and Broccoli	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges, Sweetcorn and Broccoli	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Cocoa Sponge & Cocoa Sauce
Friday	Fish Fingers with Chips and Peas	Omelette with Chips and Peas	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Ice Cream Roll

Census Day -

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who either ordered a free school lunch or paid for one. As stated on last week's newsletter, the lunch numbers on census days have a direct collation to the money the school receives in the next academic year. On Thursday, we had a total of 324 lunches ordered which is around 80 more than we do on a normal day. It is my hope that everyone enjoyed the special lunch and I hope that some who tried a school lunch for the first time may be persuaded to access this service more in the future. I would like to personally congratulate Rejus, Nana and Raghavan who each won an Amazon Tablet as part of our special lunch raffle. These were presented in this morning's celebration assembly.

Photo Permissions -

The school has recently commissioned a photographer to take a range of professional photos for the school to use in a range of different ways. The photographer was onsite last weekend and took hundreds of pictures of the school's building, grounds and facilities. He will be retuning in the next few weeks to take even more photos but this time with the children. To ensure we know which children are able to be in these pictures, we have decided to send out a photo permission form. This form will let the school know who has permission to have their photo taken and also allow parents to say how any photo in the school is used or published. This form will allow staff to know which children can be featured on the school's website, social media pages and in other documents such as the school's prospectus. Please complete the form using the link below as soon as possible.

[Photo Permission Form 23/24 \(google.com\)](#)

Homework -

All homework packs have now been sent home and the homework request form has also closed. If you have yet to request homework but would like to, please make contact with your child's teacher who will be able to support you.

Seesaw-

As outlined in previous messages and letters, we are intending for all classes to use the Seesaw app with the children this year. Seesaw is a secure online learning journal where children can document and reflect on what they are learning in class. In addition to the children being able to share their work with parents, the app also allows for the class teacher and parent to communicate via the message section of the app. It is our hope that this feature will enable further improved communication between school and home. To enable the school to begin creating an account for your child, we require your consent. To provide your consent, please complete the form using the link below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf_3IOxv5GMsdpLQBUrPlovl7qRXWYHTQwlarn15khG_7tSGA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0

It is our hope that we will be able to begin sharing your child's education journey (using Seesaw) after the October half term; however, this will depend on how quickly we receive consent.

PTA Events -

As Mrs Pitcher discussed in many of the Curriculum Meetings, we are looking to complete a range of events this year. The events will require support from parents. As a school, we understand that time is precious and is the main factor that many can not join groups such as the PTA. To address this concern, we are trying to offer a flexible solution which we hope will engage more parents. Parents will be able to choose individual events that they can support with. It is our hope that this will generate more support and allow these community events to take place. Further details about how you can sign up to support an event listed below will be sent out next week by Mrs Pitcher.

Event	When we would need your support
Christmas Fayre	October / November/ December
Mother's Day Sale	February/ March
Easter Disco	February/ March
Father's Day Sale	May / June
Summer Fayre	May / June / July