



# West Thurrock Academy

## Newsletter No 21 - 6th March 2026

### The next school holiday is -

**Monday 30th March 2026 - Friday 10th April 2026**

### Upcoming holidays -

Monday 30th March 2026 - Friday 10th April 2026

**Bank Holiday - Monday 4th May 2026**

Monday 25th May 2026 - Friday 29th May 2026

**INSET Day - Monday 1st June 2026**

**INSET Day - Tuesday 2nd June 2026**

### Last day of school -

Friday 17th July 2026 **(2pm Finish)**

### Dates for your Diary -

#### March 2026

9th - Year 2 Chocolate Making Workshop **(Change of Date)**

9th - Year 3 Mini Mask Workshop

10th – Year 5 – First Aid Badge

10th - Cyber Critical (Year 3,4) **(Change of Date)**

12th – Whole School Poetry Competition

18th – Year 2 Trip to Hever Castle

19th – Reception – Science Experiment

19th - Back Stage Opera House Tour (Lion Class)

20th - Comic Relief (Year 3 to Lead)

20th – Year 2 – Forest School Badge

20th - Easter Disco

25th / 26th - Parent Consultations

### This week's attendance levels -

Lynx - 98.3%

Leopard - 98.7%

Cougar - 98.6%

Liger - 98%

**Bobcat - 99% - Key Stage 1 Winner**

Marozi - 98%

**Puma - 99% - Key Stage 2 Winner**

Tigon - 94.8%

Ocelot - 97.9%

Jaguar - 96.8%

Panther - 98.7%

Lion - 98%

### LUNCH MENU – WEEK BEGINNING 9TH MARCH 2026

<b>Monday</b>	Cheese and Tomato Margherita Pizza served with Pasta Salad	The Ultimate Roasted Vegetable and Cheese Pizza served with Pasta Salad	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling - Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit Organic Fruit Yoghurt Chocolate Cookie
<b>Tuesday</b>	Creamy Chicken Curry served with Basmati Rice & Green Beans	Red Kidney Bean & Pineapple Curry served with Basmati Rice & Green Beans	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling - Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit Organic Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Wednesday</b>	Roast Chicken & Yorkshire Pudding served with Roast Potatoes, Sliced Carrots, Broccoli & Gravy	Autumn Squash & Butter Bean Stew served with Yorkshire Pudding, Roast Potatoes, Sliced Carrots & Broccoli	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling - Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit Organic Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Thursday</b>	Italian Beef Bolognese served with Wholemeal Penne Pasta & Sweetcorn	Chickpea & Tomato Bolognese served with Wholemeal Penne Pasta & Sweetcorn	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling - Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit Organic Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Friday</b>	MSC Battered Cod served with Oven Chips, Baked Beans or Garden Peas	Cheese & Potato Whirl served with Oven Chips, Baked Beans or Garden Peas	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling - Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit Organic Fruit Yoghurt Apple & Raisin Muffin

## World Book Day

Yesterday, we celebrated World Book Day. To celebrate World Book Day, we held a Masked Reader themed event! The children were invited to come to school wearing non-school uniform and a mask. Last week, we announced that the best costume from each Key Stage would win a prize. I am pleased to announce that the following children received a prize:

**Overall Winner** - Scarlett / **EYFS Winner** - Taron / **Key Stage 1 Winner** - Emie-Lee / **Key Stage 2 Winner** - Kezia

As stated previously, we have sent out the World Book Day tokens and hope that many of you have already used them to help purchase a book. The tokens can be used in many shops locally including Waterstones and Tesco. If you have yet to use your token but would like to, please ensure you use it before the offer ends on Sunday 15th March.

## Tyre Construction Area

This week, all classes in Year 1 to Year 6 had the opportunity to use our new construction area. It has been great to see so many children exploring and engaging with the new area. Look out for our upcoming post on Facebook to see some of what the children built during their time in the space. As of next week, we will begin our breaktime timetable which will see one year group use the space during their breaktimes. The first year group to use it in this way will be **Year 1. This means that the children in Year 1 who intend to use the space next week are encouraged to attend school wearing clothes suitable for outdoor, messy play all week.** We plan to monitor the use of the area over the coming days and weeks and will make changes to ensure we get the most from the space if required.

## Comic Relief – Friday 20th March - Winnie the Pooh Themed Fundraising Day

Year 3 are delighted to be organising an event to raise money for Comic Relief on **Friday 20th March** with a very special Winnie the Pooh themed day across the school! To help us raise money for this fantastic cause, **all children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite Winnie the Pooh character or wearing something to represent the popular children's character.** They can choose to be Pooh, Piglet, Tigger, Eeyore, Owl, Rabbit or any other friend from the Hundred Acre Wood. As part of our charity event, we are kindly asking for a **£1 donation to Comic Relief** for taking part in our non-uniform themed day. Throughout the day, classes will be enjoying a range of Winnie the Pooh themed activities, bringing lots of fun and laughter while learning about the importance of helping others.

In addition to the dress up day, there will also be some exciting fundraising events taking place:

**Guess the Bees in the Honey Jar** - Children can take part in our special competition to guess how many bees are in the honey jar. **50p per guess** A prize will be awarded to the closest guess!

**Winnie the Pooh Raffle** - We will be raffling some lovely Winnie the Pooh items. **50p per raffle ticket.** Winners will be drawn at the end of the day.

All money raised will go directly to Comic Relief, helping to support people facing difficult circumstances both in the UK and around the world. We hope this will be a joyful day filled with kindness, fun and community spirit. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

### **SEND support sessions**

I would like to remind families of the upcoming workshops being held at school to support parents and carers. These sessions aim to help with a variety of needs and are delivered as part of the Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINs) programme. The remaining workshop dates and times can be found below:

**Tuesday 10th March, 9:00 - 10:30** - How to support neurodiverse children with sleep

**Wednesday 18th March, 2:00 - 3:30** - How to support neurodiverse children with eating

We hope to see as many of you as possible at these events, which are designed to support and build understanding of children with neurodiverse needs, or those who may be suspected of being neurodiverse.

### **Parent Consultations**

On Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th March, the school will be hosting our second parent consultation meetings of the year. The consultation meetings are designed to offer you an opportunity to discuss the academic and social progress that has been made by your child(ren) since the last meeting that took place in December with his/her class teacher. Each meeting will last for ten minutes. A letter with further information will be sent out by the middle of next week.

### **Year 5 Easter Egg Raffle – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 5 are excited to announce that they will be holding their annual **Easter Egg Raffle** on the afternoon of **Friday 27th March**.

This is always a delightful event and we are eager to make it a success once again. **Children will have the chance to purchase raffle tickets for just 20p each.** To make the raffle a great success, **we kindly ask that children from every year group bring in a donation of Easter eggs (please, no nuts) in any size or shape.** This will help us create a fantastic selection of prizes!

Donations can be brought in starting now and tickets will continue to be on sale next week. Your support plays a vital role in making this event a success and we truly appreciate your contributions.

### **Disco - Friday 20th March 2026**

We are pleased to announce that the school will be holding a much-anticipated **School Disco on Friday 20th March 2026**. This event is open to **pupils from Nursery to Year 6** and promises an evening filled with fun activities and entertainment. To ensure all pupils can enjoy the disco safely and comfortably, the event will be divided into three sessions:

Nursery, Reception, Caracal and Cheetah: 3:45pm – 4:45pm

Year 1 – Year 3: 5:00pm – 6:00pm

Year 4 – Year 6: 6:15pm – 7:15pm

**Tickets can be purchased exclusively through the school shop on the Arbor App. Each ticket costs £5 and sales went live this morning.**

For more details about the event, please refer to the letter sent out this week or contact a member of the team in the office.