



# West Thurrock Academy

## Newsletter No 22 - 13th 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

- 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 - Easter Disco
- 25th - Parent Consultations
- 26th - Parent Consultations
- 26th – Year 4 Trip to Rock Up
- 27th - Easter Raffle (Year 5 to Lead)
- 27th – Nursery – Treasure Hunt

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

### This week's attendance levels -

Lynx - 95%

Leopard - 97.7%

Cougar - 94.7%

Liger - 99%

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

Marozi - 98.7%

Puma - 95.5%

Tigon - 95.9%

Ocelot - 93.6%

Jaguar - 95%

**Panther - 99.3% - Key Stage 2 Winner**

Lion - 95.3%

### LUNCH MENU – WEEK BEGINNING 16TH MARCH 2026

<b>Monday</b>	Oven Baked Macaroni Cheese served with Homemade Garlic Bread & Mixed Salad	Lentil & Tomato Pasta Bake served with Homemade Garlic Bread & Mixed Salad	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling - Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit Organic Fruit Yoghurt Lemon Shortbread
<b>Tuesday</b>	Chicken Enchiladas Served with Mexican Rice & Sweetcorn	Spinach & Chickpea Enchiladas Served with Mexican Rice & Sweetcorn	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling - Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit Organic Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Wednesday</b>	Homemade Pork Sausage Roll served with Herby Diced Potatoes & Baked Beans	Homemade Vegan Sausage Roll served with Herby Diced Potatoes & Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling - Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit Organic Fruit Yoghurt Fruit Jelly
<b>Thursday</b>	Classic Beef Lasagne served with Roasted Carrots & Wholemeal Bread & Butter Fingers	Cheese & Aubergine Lasagne served with Roasted Carrots & Wholemeal Bread & Butter Fingers	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling - Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit Organic Fruit Yoghurt
<b>Friday</b>	MSC Fish Fingers served with Oven Chips & Garden Peas	Homemade Baked Vegetable & Chickpea Samosa served with Oven Chips & Garden Peas	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling - Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise	Freshly Cut Fruit Organic Fruit Yoghurt Chocolate Sponge & Chocolate Sauce

### **In School Poetry Competition**

This week, the children in every class had the opportunity to perform a poem. As part of our annual Poetry Competition, every class performs two poems. The first poem is performed by a small group of children from the class whilst the second is a large group consisting of every child in the class. After watching all of the entries, the children returned to their classes to vote on who they felt performed the best. The scores have been submitted and I will be announcing the winners next week. I would like to congratulate all of the children for their outstanding performances.

### **Thurrock School's Poetry Competition**

Yesterday, children from Year 2 and Key Stage 2 represented the school at the Thurrock Poetry Competition. This is the first time the school has ever entered. Considering how much the children enjoy our own Poetry Competition and as it is the National Year of Reading, we decided to enter into three group poems. During the competition, the children performed a poem which they have been practising over the past few weeks in front of children and families from other schools and a panel of judges. The children were fantastic and performed their poems with such enthusiasm and passion - Well done!

### **Tyre Construction Area**

This week, Year 1 had the opportunity to use our construction area. Next week, it will be the turn of **Year 6. This means that the children in Year 6 who intend to use the space next week are encouraged to attend school wearing clothes suitable for outdoor, messy play all week.** As stated previously, 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 final workshop 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:

**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**

This week, we sent out a letter with more details about the upcoming Parent Consultation event. 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. The Arbor booking system for this event is live. If you have yet to book an appointment, please do so as soon as you can to ensure you have the best chance of booking a time slot that works for you and your family.

## **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 still be purchased until 3:30pm on Wednesday 18th March. These can be purchased through the school shop on the Arbor App. Each ticket costs £5.**

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.