

16th December 2021



This has been an incredibly tough term and we would like to thank you for your continued support. It has been an extremely busy few months and the children have been brilliant at adapting to the changes.

We hope you enjoy spending time with your family over the festive season. We wish you a Merry Christmas and hope that 2022 is a happy and healthy year for everyone.



Outward Bound, Aberdovey - Year 5

In November, our Year 5 children finally got the chance to experience a Walmley Junior School residential. With it being a 5 day trip away from home, it was going to be a challenge. Fortunately, Year 5 were more than ready for it and threw themselves in to all the activities: mountain climbing, gorge walking, den building, campfires, scrambling and canoeing. The staff who attended were so proud of the way our children conducted themselves throughout the week and their excellent behaviour was commended by all the staff at Aberdovey. Having missed out on so much in the last 18 months, this trip was so important to our children, and we are happy to say they made memories to last a lifetime!

Woodlands - Year 3

Year 3 had a fantastic day out at Woodlands Adventure last month and the weather was really kind to us. Lots of children tried archery, an assault course, canoeing and even the zip line over the lake. We certainly saw some competitiveness coming out during canoeing with races and different activities on the water! Most of us stayed clean and dry and there is no doubt the children slept well once they got home. Bring on the next trip!

Start of School Day

Children can arrive anytime between **8.40am – 9.00am**.

End of School Day

Years 3 & 4 – 3.25pm

Years 5 & 6 – 3.30pm

Please can parents remember to socially distance as far as possible whilst waiting at the gate and restrict drop off to **ONE adult only**.

Absence

If your child is absent due to illness, please remember that you need to contact the school office **before 9.30 am** on the first day of absence so that we can ensure our records are up to date. We would then ask that you send a letter to your child's class teacher on their return to school. If your child has a medical appointment, please ensure that the school office is made aware in advance. We would ask you to arrange medical appointments outside the school day wherever possible.

Coronavirus: The NHS advises that the main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child has any of the main symptoms:

- Get a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible.
- Stay at home and do not have visitors until you receive your test result – only leave home to have a test.
- Contact the school office to keep us updated on the situation.

If your child seems to have coronavirus symptoms in school, we will isolate them and may check their temperature. We will contact you to arrange for them to be collected from school and advise you to get them tested. If the test result is negative, they should return to school. If the test is positive, your child should self-isolate for at least 10 days, starting from the date they started to show symptoms. They can return to school after this, as long as they feel well enough.

Hotdog Lunch - Wednesday 19th January

We would like to give the children who normally have sandwiches the opportunity to have a lunch on Wednesday 19th January. If you would like your child to have a lunch, the cost is £2.50. **Payment for Hot dog lunches can now be made using Scopay on-line payment system.** Hot dog lunch can be found in 'Products' then 'Hot dog Lunch'. We are asking for payment to be made in advance, this will ensure your child receives a lunch on that day. Payment should be made no later than **Friday 7th January.**

If your child normally has a lunch on a Wednesday, you do not need to pay

Please see dates below for the rest of the year:

23rd March 27th April 25th May 22nd June

Cake Sale

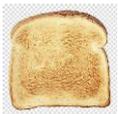
The kitchen will be selling homemade chocolate sponge cake on a Friday morning break. There has been a slight price increase and cake is now priced at 60p. This will start on Friday 7th January. Payment should be paid in advance using Scopay online payment. Cake can be found in 'Products' then 'Cake Friday'. We are asking for payment to be made in advance for the half-term only, this will ensure your child receives cake on a Friday. For the half-term it will be **£4.20**. Payment should be made no later than **Sunday 2nd January 2022.** **Once the deadline date has passed there will be no opportunity to order, so please do not contact the school office to ask.**



Friday 7th January Year 3 will have their cake in the afternoon as they are at the Theatre in the morning.

Toast Sale

The kitchen will be selling toast at break time priced at 40p per slice (2 halves) - max 1 slice per child.



Monday - Year 3
Tuesday - Year 4
Wednesday - Year 5
Thursday - Year 6

The sale of toast will start the first week back. Payment should be paid in advance using Scopay online payment. Toast can be found under 'Products' then 'toast'. We are asking for payment to be made in advance for the half-term only, this will ensure your child receives toast on their nominated day. For the half-term it will be **£2.80**. Payment should be made no later than **Sunday 2nd January 2022.** **Once the deadline date has passed there will be no opportunity to order, so please do not contact the school office to ask.**

Week commencing 3rd January Y3 & Y4 will have their toast on Wednesday 5th January and Y5 & Y6 will have their toast on Thursday 6th January 2022.

Lunch Menus

When we return to school after half term we will be on **Week 1**. Menus are available to view on the school website.

Dinner Money

Dinner money is £12.50 per week (i.e. £2.50 per meal). If you prefer to pay for the half-term in advance, it will be **£82.50** for Wednesday 5th January to Friday 18th February 2022. Please ensure that payments are made promptly using our online system. Outstanding dinner money invoices are sent by email and we must remind you that dinner money **should always be paid in advance not arrears**. We hope that your child will have school dinners, but please remember to give the school office one week's notice in writing of any changes to your child's lunch arrangements.

School Enquiry Email – Urgent Messages

Can we please ask parents with urgent messages for teachers, that need to be passed on the same day, to ring the school office on 0121 351 1346. The enquiry email address is not set up to deal with urgent messages and we cannot guarantee your message will get to the teacher.

Water Bottles

Please provide your child with a named water bottle. The children always have access to water and they will need their bottle in school every day to keep them sufficiently hydrated. Please do not send them in with squash. We do have water bottles in the school office which can be purchased for 50p.

Earlybirds Bookings

A reminder if you need to make an emergency booking it must be made before 12 o'clock on that day. In addition, if you cancel an Earlybirds session after 12 o'clock, you will have to collect your child from Earlybirds as they may have already been taken there at the end of the day by a member of the Earlybirds team.

Payments to school

Can we please remind parents that we are a cashless school, and all payments should be made using our online payments system <https://www.scopay.com/walmley-jun> We do not hold any cash in school and therefore cannot refund any payments made in cash that subsequently need to be returned. **Please note that any cash payments made that need to be returned will sit on your child's account for you to use for a future trip/event.**

School Website

Please remember to look at our school website www.walmley-jun.bham.sch.uk regularly, as it gives lots of helpful information, including all letters that we send out.

Dates for the Diary

Spring Term 2022

4 th January	Teacher Training Day
5 th January	School Open
7 th January	Year 3 Theatre Trip
10 th January	Young Voices – Resorts World Arena – Postponed until Spring/Summer 2022
14 th February	Height & Weight – Year 6
16 th & 17 th February	Parents' Evening
18 th February	Break up for Half Term
28 th February	School Open
5 th April	Coventry trip – Year 4
8 th April	Break up for Easter

Summer Term 2022

25 th April	School Open
2 nd May	Bank Holiday
27 th May	Break up for Half Term
6 th June	Teacher Training
7 th June	School Open
20-24 th June	France trip – Year 6
21 st July	Break up for Summer Holidays

Autumn Term 2022

5 th September	Teacher Training
6 th September	School Open
21 st October	Break up for Half Term
2-4 th November	Whitemoor Lakes trip – Year 4
7-11 th November	Outward Bound trip – Year 5
31 st October	School Open
16 th December	Break up for Christmas

Spring Term 2023

3 rd January	Teacher Training
4 th January	School Open
17 th February	Break up for Half Term
27 th February	School Open
31 st March	Break up for Easter

Summer Term 2023

17 th April	School Open
1 st May	Bank Holiday
26 th May	Break up for Half Term
5 th June	Teacher Training Day
6 th June	School Open
21 st July	Break up for Summer Holidays
24 th July	Teacher Training Day
25 th July	Teacher Training Day

Autumn Term 2023

4 th September	Teacher Training Day
5 th September	School Open
27 th October	Break up for Half Term
6 th November	School Open
21 st December	Break up for Christmas
22 nd December	Teacher Training Day

Spring Term 2024

8 th January	School Open
9 th February	Break up
19 th February	School Open
21 st March	Break up for Easter
22 nd March	Teacher Training

Summer Term 2024

8 th April	School Open
24 th May	Break up for Half Term
3 rd June	Teacher Training Day
4 th June	School Open
19 th July	Break up for Summer
22 nd July	Teacher Training Day