

26th May 2023

SATs Week

We would like to say a huge 'Well done!' to our Year 6 children who worked their socks off to complete their SATs tests this term. They revised hard and gave every test their best, showing great resilience when faced with a particularly difficult Reading paper. This positive attitude should be commended and they enjoyed a well-deserved treat at the end of the week, with a special lunch and chocolate fountain, paid for by our PFA.



Staffing

We are pleased to announce the safe arrival of Mrs Bolger's new baby boy, Rory Mac Bolger. Mother and baby are doing well and we can confirm he is very cute!

Miss Pearson will begin her maternity leave today and we will keep you posted about the imminent arrival. We hope she has time to put her feet up before the little one arrives. However, she has decided to begin her maternity on her due date so we are not sure she will have much time to relax! Class 1's new teacher will be Mrs Fiona Collas, who has enjoyed getting to know the children all this week.

We are happy to announce that Mr. Phil Collis started working with us as our new Site Supervisor. We are really looking forward to him being part of our team.

Grammar School Entrance Exams – Year 5

Registration is now open for parents of current Year 5 pupils who would like their child to sit the entrance test for a place at any of the grammar schools in Birmingham (entry to Year 7 in September 2024).

Registration can be made online by visiting the website below. The closing date for registering is 4pm on 30th June 2023. The test will take place on 16th September 2023.

www.westmidlandsgrammarschools.co.uk

Eco Club

Pupils have planted a range of trees on the field, leaving their legacy on the school. In years to come, when the trees have grown, we will hopefully have a peaceful, green space for outdoor learning. We have also decorated bird boxes, made bird feeders and added bee houses to our trees, encouraging more wildlife to the area. Our club members are very passionate about the work they have done and will go on to be budding Eco Warriors!

A Visit from the Vet

On Tuesday 2nd May, Year 3 had a fantastic visit from a parent volunteer, Miss Davies. We learned all about the role of a veterinary nurse and children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in an operation on dog teddy, Scruffy. I know it will be an experience that children will remember and has inspired some to want to work in the medical profession. Thank you for all the parent volunteers that have offered to give up their time to share their job roles. These experiences are invaluable to pupils.

NSPCC Workshop

We would like to thank all of the parents and carers that came to the NSPCC Online Safety workshop on 28th April. We hope that you found the information useful and it will help to keep your children safer online in the future.

Candy Jar Book Club

Reading for pleasure is a key part of the National Curriculum and something we have always promoted as part of our ongoing development in Literacy. To further engage pupils in a love of books and show how ideas can come to life in a published book, we are in partnership with Candy Jar Books Ltd., a British Publishing company based in Cardiff. There will be many ongoing advantages for your children and the school with this partnership.

In the autumn term, author, Alan Stott, visited Walmley Junior School to talk to the children about writing for pleasure and becoming an author. Whilst here, he set the children his 'Author's Challenge' where children were invited to write a chapter that could be used in his new children's book: the third instalment of 'Those Kids Next Door'.

Children from many schools were invited to take part in this challenge and this half term, Alan returned to Walmley Junior School to announce the winner of his competition. Our very own Jack in Y5 was Alan's winner from across all the schools that took part and Jack's chapter will be published in his next book. Alan will also acknowledge the ideas of Erin and Maisy in Y6 for their brilliant ideas. All children who entered were celebrated and certificates awarded. Well done to all children who took part. What brilliant writers we have!

We will continue to publish children's work termly in the Candy Jar Book Club Magazine. This is a brilliant way of not only promoting writing for pleasure, but also reading for pleasure. See some of the work that the children have produced this term and browse the selection of books on offer, which can be purchased at a discounted rate through school. The next Candy Jar Book Club Magazine will be available to view after half term so watch this space! Why not choose some books for your child to read over the summer holiday?

For more information about our partnership with Candy Jar Books, visit the school website at <https://walmley-jun.bham.sch.uk/parents/reading/>

Sports Competitions

On Wednesday 10th May, a group of Year 3 and Year 4 children competed in a Tennis competition that was held at Sutton Coldfield Tennis Club. It was an enjoyable event where all children showed great perseverance and determination. A great representation of our Walmley Values - well done!

On Thursday 11th May, our wonderful Netball Team played their final game this season. We are so proud of their willing attitude, kindness and superb sportsmanship. What a team – well done, all!

On Wednesday 10th and 17th May, 16 children took part in the Sutton Schools' Tennis Tournament at Sutton Tennis Club. There were lots of schools taking part and some stiff competition. Our teams represented the school really well throughout the heats and should be proud of their hard work. There were no trophies this time, but everyone had a great time. Thank you, team Walmley and also to the players' parents for cheering everyone on.

Huge congratulations to our Year 5/6 Girls' Football Team who won the league this week after beating Boldmere Primary School 5-3. Next up for the girls is the cup quarter finals. Well done - we are so proud of your achievements!

WJS Summer Holiday Club

After the success of previous summer holiday club programmes, we are pleased to inform you that we plan to run a holiday club again this year. Letters have been sent to all children so please speak to the school office if you have any questions.

Holiday Club – Monday 24th July to 28th July (one week only)

Option 1 – 8.00am – 4.00pm £20 Option 2 – 9.00am – 3.00pm Price: £16

Activities: Children will have a variety of activities to participate in, including outside games, computer time, cooking, football, rounders, tennis, basketball, a quiz, Xbox games and fun on the Bouncy Castle! We know the children like the water fun activities too!

Sports Day

This will take place during the morning of Tuesday 27th June – **Years 3 and 4: 9.00-10.30 am** and **Years 5 and 6: 10.45-12.00** and parents are welcome to attend. However, could we please ask you not to cross the running track or ask your child to come over to you. If the weather forecast is bad, we aim to notify you of our cancellation by text the day before if possible.

School Timings – reminder

Children should arrive anytime between **8.40 a.m – 8.55 a.m.**

They will finish the day as follows: Years 3 & 4 – **3.25 p.m.** Years 5 & 6 – **3.30 p.m.**

Attendance

A polite reminder to all parents to keep routine appointments such as dentist and opticians outside of school hours. If your child is absent from school, you must inform the school office by telephoning to explain why your child is off that day, giving key details including symptoms of illness if they are unwell, by 9.30 am on the first day of the absence. Please help your child to build their resilience and work ethic by sending them to school if they only have a mild cough/cold.

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 by a member of the Earlybirds team.

After-School Clubs - Summer 2

A reminder for parents that After School Clubs will start the second week back after the May Half Term Holiday and run for 6 weeks.

Hotdog Lunch - Wednesday 28th June

We would like to give the children who normally have sandwiches the opportunity to have a lunch on Wednesday 28th June. If you would like your child to have a lunch, the cost is £2.60. **Payment for Hot dog lunches should be made using Scopay online 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 **Thursday 15th June. Please only pay £2.60 for the June Hotdog lunch and refrain from making overpayments as it causes issues on our payment system. If your child normally has a lunch on Wednesdays, you do not need to pay.**

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.**

Dinner Money

Dinner money is £13.00 per week (i.e. £2.60 per meal). If you prefer to pay for the half-term in advance, it will be **£88.40** for Tuesday 6th June to Friday 21st July. Please ensure that payments are made promptly using our online system. Outstanding dinner money invoices are sent by email and we wish to remind you that dinner money **should always be paid in advance not arrears. Please remember if your child has a meal every day and is going to France to pay £13 less**

across the Summer 2 Half Term. 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. The Summer Term 2 will start on Week 1 of the menus.

Free School Meals

Changes have been made as to how we collect information for Free School Meals. You no longer have to come into school to complete paperwork and bring in evidence as it is all done by simply registering online at <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham>. You only ever need to register once and school will automatically be updated of eligibility or any changes of eligibility; this information is data protected as per the terms shown.

Sunny Weather

Now that the warmer weather is here, please send your child into school with a hat and sun cream so that they are protected at playtimes and for outdoor lessons. As always, they should also have a drinks bottle so that they can stay hydrated throughout the school day. Thank you.

Dates for the Diary

Summer Term 2023

26 th May	Break up for Half Term
5 th June	Teacher Training Day
6 th June	School Open
8 th June	Year 6 Mosque Visit
16 th June	Father's Day Service (in school) – Year 4
19 th -23 rd June	France Trip – Year 6
27 th June	Sports Day Juniors
29 th June	School Disco (5.30-7.00pm)
30 th June	Sutton Park Collaboration Day – Year 6
5 th July	Year 6 Secondary Induction Day and Year 2 Junior Induction Morning
17 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Dress Rehearsal PM- for grandparents
17 th July	Parents' Evening
18 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly PM – For parents
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



Newsletter

Walmley Junior School, Walmley Ash Road,
Walmley, Sutton Coldfield, B76 1JB
T: 0121 351 1346 F: 0121 313 0194
W: www.walmley-jun.bham.sch.uk
E: enquiry@walmley-jun.bham.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr. S. Pearson

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