

1st December 2023

Christmas POP-UP Shop

A huge 'Thank you' to everyone who came to our Christmas Pop-Up Shop today. All of your donations and purchases helped to raise funds for school which your children will benefit from, and we'll let you know the grand total in the next Newsletter at the end of December.

Children in Need

All of our pupils really enjoyed the non-uniform day. Thank you for all of your contributions which totalled £509.

Bikeability

22 of our Year 6 children took part in their Bikeability Level 1 and 2 training over the course of this week. The Bikeability cycle training equips our children with vital life skills. Pupils not only learn to cycle safely on the road, they gain independence, social skills and a sense of wellbeing. Our children all demonstrated their maturity and resilience. We are extremely proud of all they have achieved this week!

Anti-Bullying Week

From the 13th- 17th November, WJS joined forces with the Anti-Bullying Alliance, and other schools across the country, to celebrate Anti-Bullying Week 2023! The theme this year was 'Make a Noise'. At the beginning of the week, we wore odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique. Throughout the week, we got involved with some activities such as writing a poem, reflecting on when 'banter' can be hurtful and raising awareness around bullying in order to stop it. It is important to speak up and talk to a trusted adult. We choose respect and unity.

Sports Competition News

Football Team - On 9th November, the Year 6 football team kicked off their league games with a tough match against Hill West. Considering it was their first time playing together as a team, they can be very proud of how they played by showing teamwork, perseverance and good sportsmanship. Walmley took the lead with a fine goal from a corner by Charlie but were eventually defeated 4-1. The next game will now be after Christmas due to the poor light.

Year 3/4 Multi-skills – On Monday 13th November, a group of Year 3 and Year 4 children attended the Multi-skills Tournament at Bishop Vesey. All children represented our school with enthusiasm and perseverance. It was great to see everyone's confidence grow as children improved their throwing, catching, dribbling and jumping skills across 10 fun activities.

SEND Coffee Afternoon

On Wednesday 29th November, parents and carers of children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) were invited for a coffee afternoon to meet specialist teachers from Pupil School Support (PSS) and the Communication and Autism Team (CAT) who support children and staff at Walmley Junior School. It was great to see so many people attend and we look forward to our next SEND event.



Attendance and Punctuality

Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. Evidence shows that the children with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results. It can be difficult to know when to keep children off school due to illness. Please visit the NHS website below if you are unsure.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)



Allergies

Due to a number of allergies in school, please can we remind all parents and carers that school is a **nut-free zone**. Any foods containing nuts should **not** be sent in for lunch or a snack. This also extends to packed lunches when on trips.

Start of School Day

Children should arrive anytime between **8.40am – 8.55am**. **Please remember that children need to be in school by 8:55am and the gate then closes. If they arrive after this time, they will be recorded as late.**

End of School Day

Years 3 & 4 – **3.25pm**

Years 5 & 6 – **3.30pm**

Parking

Once again, we would ask parents who drive to school to park in a considerate and safe way. This week the Birmingham City Council Traffic Enforcement Officers observed the traffic at collection time and unfortunately had to issue **two warnings and two penalty charge notices to parents**. Please remember that our children's safety is always our top priority.

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). 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**. 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. Menus are available to view on the school website.

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.

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.

Lost Property

Please come into school and check the lost property rack for items your child may have lost. Unfortunately, there are some really nice coats and uniform without names.

After Christmas we will dispose of all clothing, either by donating it or putting it in the skip to raise funds for the Air Ambulance.

Dates for the Diary

Autumn Term 2023

1 st December	Christmas Pop-Up Shop
4 th December	Hour of Code Week
11 th December	Year 3 dress rehearsal for grandparents 2.15pm
11 th /12 th December	Year 4 Balaji Temple visit
12 th December	Year 3 Christmas show parents 9.15am
14 & 15 th December	Fire Service to visit Year 4
15 th December	Year 3 Theatre trip – Peter Pan
18 th December	Christmas Jumper Week (add a Christmas item to your uniform)
19 th December	Year 5 Carol Service at the church 6.30pm
20 th December	Christmas Lunch Day
21 st December	Break up for Christmas
22 nd December	Teacher Training Day

Spring Term 2024

8 th January	School Open
25 th January	Young Voices concert
9 th February	Break up
19 th February	School Open
4 th March	Book Week
20 th March	Parents' Evening 1
21 st March	Parents' Evening 2
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